

**BACHELOR OF COMMERCE**  
**First Semester**  
**ENGLISH**  
**(BCM-01)**

**Duration: 3Hrs.**

**Full Marks: 70**

**(PART-B: Descriptive)**

**Duration: 2 hrs. 40 mins.**

**Marks: 50**

**1. Answer the following questions (any two):**

**2×2=4**

- a) Why and how did literacy spread in the sixteenth century?
- b) Give two harmful effects of a poor body image.
- c) Who is the author of the essay "Meditation upon a Broomstick"? On whose style and manner of meditation the essay is based on?

**2. Define any three of the following.**

**3×2=6**

- |               |                  |
|---------------|------------------|
| a) Body Image | b) Communication |
| c) Kinesics   | d) Empathy       |

**3. Answer the following questions (any five):**

**5×3=15**

- a) How would you deal with your emotions with respect to internal and external changes in the body?
- b) Why was the crowd of Burmans excited when it appeared that the elephant was going to be shot in George Orwell's *Shooting an Elephant*?
- c) Give the points of similarities and differences between critical and creative thinking.
- d) What is the central idea of the poem *The Daffodils* by William Wordsworth?
- e) Give a list of energy giving, body building and protective food.
- f) Change the voice of the following:
  - i. Switch off the light.
  - ii. The lock had been broken by the thief.
  - iii. One should keep one's promises.

g) Make sentences of any three idioms from the following:

- i. get into hot water      ii. In the good books of      iii. in black and white  
iv. Left no stone unturned      v. Out of pocket

4. Answer the following questions (any two):

2×5=10

- a) Does Orwell want to shoot the elephant in *Shooting an Elephant*? Why does he shoot it finally?  
b) What does Wordsworth compare himself to in his poem *The Daffodils*? Why? Is the comparison effective?  
c) "Surely mortal man is a broomstick!" Bring out after Swift, the main points of comparison between a human being and a broomstick.  
d) Describe how William Blake compares the creator of the tiger to a blacksmith, his poem italicize.

5. Write a precis of the following passage.

5

The great advantage of early rising is the good start it gives us in our day's work. The early riser has done a large amount of hard work before the other men have got out of bed. In the early morning the mind is fresh, and there are few sounds or other distractions, so that the work done at that time is generally well done. In many cases the early riser also finds time to take some exercise in fresh morning air, and this exercise supplies him with a fund of energy that will last until the evening. By beginning so early, he knows that he has plenty of time to do thoroughly all the work he can be expected to do, and is not tempted to hurry over any part of it. All his work being finished in good time, he has a long interval of rest in the evenings before the timely hour when he goes to bed. He goes to sleep several hours before midnight, at the time when sleep is most refreshing, and after a sound night's sleep rises early next morning in good health and spirits for the labours of a new day.

It is very plain that such a life as this is far more conducive to health than that of the man who shortens his waking hours by rising late, and so can afford, in the course of the day, little leisure for necessary rest. Any one who lies in bed late, much if he wishes to do a full day's work, go on working to a correspondingly late hour, and deny himself the hour or two of exercise that he ought to take for the benefit of his health. But, in spite of all his efforts he will probably not produce as good a result as the early riser, because he misses the best working hours of the day. (316 words)

Or

**Write a paragraph of Any One of the following topics-**

- a) Noise pollution      b) United we stand, Divided we fall      c) Friendship.

### **6. Comprehension**

Although Birbal was Akbar's favourite minister there was a group of ministers that were jealous of his growing popularity and disliked him intensely. They outwardly showered him with praise and compliments, but on the inside they began to hatch a plot to kill him.

One day they approached the king's barber with a plan. The wicked barber readily agreed to help them in return for a large amount of money. The next time the king required his services, the barber started a conversation about the emperor's father who he also used to serve. He sang praises of his fine, silky-smooth hair. And then as an afterthought he asked the king that as he was enjoying such great prosperity, had he made an attempt to do anything for the welfare of his ancestors?

The barber also mentioned that he knew of a magician who could come of help. The magician could send a person up to heaven to enquire about his father's welfare. But of course this person would have to be chosen carefully; he would have to be intelligent enough to follow the magician's instructions as well as make on-the-spot decisions. He must be wise, intelligent and responsible. The barber then suggested the best person for the job – the wisest of all ministers, Birbal.

The king was very excited about hearing from his dead father and asked the barber to go ahead and make the arrangements immediately. He asked him what was needed to be done. The barber explained that they would take Birbal in a procession to the burial grounds and light a pyre. The magician would then chant some 'mantras' as Birbal would ascend to the heavens through the smoke. The chanting would help protect Birbal from the fire. The king happily informed Birbal of this plan. Birbal said that he thought it a brilliant idea and wanted to know the brain behind it. When learning that it was the barber's idea, he agreed to go to heaven on condition that he be given a large sum of money for the long journey as well as one month's time to settle his family so that they had no trouble while he was gone. The king agreed to both conditions.

In the duration of this month, he got a few trustworthy men to build a tunnel from the funeral grounds to his house. And on the day of the ascension, after the pyre had been lit, Birbal escaped through the concealed door of the tunnel. He disappeared in to his house where he hid for a few months while his hair and beard grew long and unruly. In the meantime his enemies were rejoicing as they thought that they had seen the last of

Birbal. Then one day after many, many months Birbal arrived at the palace with news of the king's father. The king was extremely pleased to see him and ready with a barrage of questions. Birbal told the king that his father was in the best of spirits and had been provided with all the comforts except one.

The king wanted to know what was lacking because now he thought he had found a way to send things and people to heaven. Birbal answered that there were no barbers in heaven, which is why even he was forced to grow his own beard. He said that his father had asked for a good barber. So the king decided to send his own barber to serve his father in heaven. He called both the barber and the magician to prepare to send him to heaven. The barber could say absolutely nothing in his own defense as he was caught in his own trap. And once the pyre was lit he died on the spot. Nobody dare conspire against Birbal again.

**Answer the following questions after reading the passage given above:**

- a) Which life skills are the characters in this passage lacking in? Why do you think so? 2
- b) Which characters possess which life skill in the above given passage? Why do you think so? 2
- c) Give words similar in meaning from the passage to the words given below : 2  
Length of time, reliable
- d) How did Birbal set a trap for the Barber? 2
- e) Do you think Akbar was foolish? Why? 2

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*(The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions)*

**Duration: 20 minutes**

**Marks – 20**

**PART A- Objective Type**

**Multiple Choice Questions**

**1×20=20**

*Identify the letter of the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ script is the earliest known writing system in the world.  
(a) Hieroglyphics (b) Cuneiform  
(c) Kinesics (d) None
2. The audience in mass communication is –  
(a) Homogenous (b) Monogamous  
(c) Heterogeneous (d) Polygamous
3. \_\_\_\_\_ consists of the usage of overworked, troublesome and exhausted words and phrases, which usually cause a considerable amount of misunderstanding and confusion.  
(a) Roundabout verbiage (b) Semantic barrier  
(c) Poor grammar and composition (d) Poor vocabulary
4. \_\_\_\_\_ serve the personal needs of the people and provide need satisfaction to individuals.  
(a) Attitudes (b) Values  
(c) Emotions (d) Resistance to change
5. A word that is pronounced the same as another word but differs in meaning is called-  
(a) Synonym (b) Homophone  
(c) Acronym (d) Allophone
6. At the end of Maupassant's *The Necklace*, Mathilde realizes that the original necklace was paste jewellery worth –  
(a) 500 francs (b) 1000 francs  
(c) 800 francs (d) 200 francs

7. In the poem *The Daffodils*, Wordsworth compares the 'dancing' daffodils to –
- (a) the clouds (b) the waves  
(c) the vales (d) the hills
8. Don't disturb me. I \_\_\_\_\_ my homework.
- (a) do (b) did (c) am doing (d) have done.
9. Which of the following word means 'a cannon'?
- (a) Ordinance (b) ordnance  
(c) order (d) ordeal.
10. His attitude towards his subordinates is \_\_\_\_\_.
- (a) Imperial (b) Imperious  
(c) Imperialism (d) Emporium
11. I \_\_\_\_\_ him since we met a year ago.
- (a) haven't seen (b) hadn't seen (c) didn't see (d) saw
12. When I \_\_\_\_\_ my dinner I went to bed.
- (a) have (b) had (c) have had (d) had had
13. The noun form of the verb 'confide' is \_\_\_\_\_
- (a) Confident (b) Confidence (c) Confidential (d) Confide
14. Which is the appropriate prefix for the word 'throne'?
- (a) extra (b) con (c) ambi (d) de
15. The antonym of Genuine is-
- (a) Fiction (b) Fictitious (c) True (d) Fact
16. Which of the following is **not** the synonym of Amiable is-
- (a) Cordial (b) Affable (c) Enmity (d) Genial
17. The darkest cloud has \_\_\_\_\_ silver lining.
- (a) a (b) an (c) the (d) none of these.
18. The setting of the essay *Shooting an Elephant* is –
- (a) India (b) Lower Burma (c) Upper Burma (d) Sri Lanka
19. Empathy is sympathy. True/ False
20. Johann Gutenberg developed movable type printing. True/ False