

Bachelor of Fine Arts - Ist Sem.

Paper-VII: Communication Skills in English-I

Time Allowed—Three Hours] [Maximum Marks—35

Note :— ALL questions are compulsory.

READING SECTION

- I. Read the passage carefully and answer the following questions by selecting the most appropriate option :

BREAK THE MOULD

Ever wondered what 'out-of-the-box thinking' is ? According to Wikipedia it means "... to think differently, unconventionally or from a new perspective." Basically, it is about smart thinking that will make you stand apart from the crowd. It is about coming up with novel solutions that no one else have thought of.

Naturally, an out-of-the-box thinker will belong to the core group that companies want to retain. To become one of them you need to take these steps :

Only a fool thinks that she/he knows it all. Learning not only means gaining knowledge but also developing our minds with it. A free and liberal mind will have more chances of tapping innovative solutions/ideas than a closed one.

Try out new ways to deal with problem. Your style of handling crisis may deliver results, but it is still crucial to adopt new ways. Once when you tread unknown paths,

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you will find new opportunities to stumble up something innovative.

Doing job half-heartedly is as bad as not doing it at all. Remain focussed and persistent in your efforts and do not give up halfway.

Listening is an integral part of being a smart thinker. Hear carefully what your colleagues say in discussions and meetings. Analyse whether your idea can be enhanced by their suggestions.

Your attitude goes a long way in making you who you are. Do not dismiss other people's opinions outright. Remember every brain is a potent hub of new ideas.

- (a) 'Out-of-the box thinking' according to the author, basically means :
 - (i) thinking new ideas
 - (ii) thinking new ideas as soon others think of them
 - (iii) thinking ideas that stand apart
 - (iv) thinking novel ideas that can change perspective.
- (b) What does learning mean :
 - (i) gaining knowledge
 - (ii) developing minds
 - (iii) innovative thinking
 - (iv) gaining knowledge and developing minds ?

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- (c) Choose the option that correctly matches the paragraph titles with the order in which paragraphs appear :

Paragraph Number	Paragraph Title
• Para 3	(A) Adopt New Ways
• Para 4	(B) Pay Attention
• Para 5	(C) Push Yourself
• Para 6	(D) Be open to new ideas

- (i) DCBA
- (ii) DACB
- (iii) BACD
- (iv) CBAD

- (d) Who has more chances of tapping innovative solutions :

- (i) closed minds
- (ii) intelligent mind
- (iii) free and liberal mind
- (iv) smart mind ?

- (e) What makes you who you are :

- (i) Reading
- (ii) Learning
- (iii) Intelligence
- (iv) Attitude ?

- II. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow :

TWEEL, THE LATEST IN TYRES

The pneumatic tyre has been around for over a hundred years. The original wheel was straight off the buggy. Wooden spokes and wooden rim with a solid rubber covering the rim. The tongas in India still use such wheels.

The Michelin brothers, Andre and Edouard, were the first to use an air-filled tyre. It was used for the first time

on a race car built by the Michelin brothers.

After the introduction of the pneumatic tyre, with a cross ply construction, the Michelin company came out with the radial tyre. This was further improved by the tubeless tyre, which is the ultimate in tyre technology today.

Michelin engineers at their Technology Centre in the US are working on a revolutionary concept called the 'tweel'.

While tyres are usually mounted on a metal rim to make a wheel, tweel is a combination of a tyre and a wheel. And guess what, it is not pneumatic—it contains no air.

This revolutionary wheel, which is a rubber tread bonded to the hub with flexible spokes, is a single unit wheel but in four pieces. The hub is made of polyurethane as one unit and the spokes are flexible. They are fused with the tread, which can change shape and absorb shocks and retain its original shape with the greatest of ease and almost instantly. Then a sheer band and finally a rubber layer is wrapped around the circumference. This is what touches the tarmac and provides the grip expected of a tyre.

Even without air, tweel still has all the characteristics of conventional tyres, like road holding, load-carrying capacity, comfortable ride and resistance to real hazards. The tweel has been driven over the spikes that the police use at road blocks, and it kept going. Of course, the torture test will be Indian road conditions.

The advantage with tweel is that you will neither have to carry a spare wheel nor will you be changing a dirty muddy wheel on the way to a party on a dark rainy night. No more punctures! As regards the tread, it will last two

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to three times longer than the current radial tyres we are used to. And now hear this. When it does wear out it can be retreaded like the conventional tyre, claims Michelin. A typical tyre in use today has 23 components, the tweel has just four. This could reduce the cost of production eventually. Certainly three times the lifespan of today's tyres, the tweel will be cost-effective, too. It will also eliminate the installation of air-pressure monitors (air-checkers) which will soon be mandatory on all new vehicles in the US.

Michelin has high expectations from the tweel. Apart from its acceptance by manufacturers of passenger cars the tweel will find usage in the aircraft as well.

H. Kishie Singh, The Tribune (Modified).

1. Who were the first to use air-filled tyres ?
2. What is a hub ?
3. What is a 'tweel' ?
4. Explain the meaning of following words :
 - (a) conventional
 - (b) retreaded.
5. What characteristics tweel has of conventional tyres ?

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WRITING SECTION

III. Write a letter to your landlord asking him to carry out some urgent repairs in the house in which you live.

OR

You have misbehaved with a friend. After the incident you are greatly disturbed. Write a letter to your friend apologising for your behaviour.

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IV. You are Suresh Menon from Sunder Tractors Ltd. New Delhi, write a complaint letter to M/s Chopra Printers about anomalies in the 2000 copies of your Annual Report printed by them.

OR

You are Raman Ahuja from Etop Chemicals, Jaipur write a letter to Mr. Rajnish Gupta of Ludhiana refusing him the information demanded by him about the shares of your company as it is against company rules.

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V. As the President of Leo Club, prepare a public notice for 'Diwali Mela' welcoming small artisans and traders to put up their stall.

OR

As an Executive Manager of call centre prepare a public notice inviting young graduates for jobs in your call centre.

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VI. On the basis of your reading of the passage make notes on it, in points only using headings and sub-headings in a suitable format :

In 1995, the then World Bank Vice President, Ismail Seragelding said – "If the wars of this century were fought over oil, the wars of the next century will be fought over water."

With World Water Day being celebrated on March 22 every year, it is deeply disturbing to realise that with each passing day our deepest worry is the future of the planet's fresh water supply. Imagine taking shorter showers, shallower baths and using minimum water for washing, cooking, cleaning and gardening.

Only three per cent of the world's water is fresh water. The remaining 97 percent is too salty for humans and most animals to use. The situation in Chennai should serve as a glaring example of how grave the problem of water shortage is in our country.

Rainwater harvesting and water recycling are two solutions which should be seriously looked at and if found feasible, actively implemented. Speaking on rainwater harvesting, Mr. Rudolf D'Souza of EFIE explains, "Rainwater is the purest form of water (apart from distillation). Mumbai is blessed with abundant rainfall spread over a reasonable period. We get a lot of rain, but yet we do not have water, because we allow almost all of it to flow into the sea. It will not matter how much rainfall we get if we do not utilise this resource. So we need to look at this free source of pure water differently."

Rainwater harvesting begins with a simple idea. Rain gutters are already collecting the water that falls on your roof. To harvest that water all that is needed is to change the direction of the flow so that instead of running onto the ground, the water flows into a storage tank.

The quality of the water itself makes the investment worthwhile. Rainwater typically has very low hardness levels, which reduces the use of soap and detergents and eliminates the need for a water softener. Stored rainwater also is a good standby in times of emergencies such as power outages or during periods of extreme drought. "And because it does not have to be treated, pumped or distributed through a complex network, rainwater harvesting

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saves energy and the use of chemicals", explained Rudolf. Many State Governments have already made rainwater harvesting mandatory for all new buildings.

Speaking on the current problem Rudolf adds, "we actually need to make a habit of conservation : Only 20 percent of the piped water is used for drinking, cooking and bathing, where that quality water is required; and 80 per cent is wasted – like in flushing the toilet/gardening/washing the car and so on. How many people collect water discharged from the washing machine and use it for flushing ? You can save 100 liters of water that way. Simple things like fixing leaking taps, using adjustable short flushing systems can conserve water.

EFIE aims to highlight the message that today water resources are scarce and hence safeguarding measures are needed. If each person consciously saved two litres of water a day – we could save millions of litres of water every day.

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VII. Do as directed :

- (i) Her words spurred him to action. (Change the voice)
- (ii) The passenger said to the conductor, "give us our fares back". (Change the Narration)
- (iii) Being late. Lata had to run. (Transform the sentences into one)
- (iv) As I (play) in the garden, I (see) a strange thing. (Use the correct tense)
- (v) Neither Susan nor Kate _____ present today. (Insert the correct verb as per subject verb agreement)

5×1=5

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