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# St. Clare College

Autonomous, Bengaluru

Roll No:

Date: / /

UG END SEMESTER EXAMINATION-DECEMBER 2024

BCOM/BBA/BCOM TTM – I SEMESTER

GEC 124: GENERAL ENGLISH I

TIME: 3 hours

MAX MARKS: 80

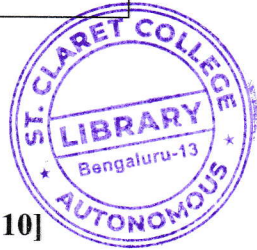
This paper contains THREE printed pages and TWO parts

**Instructions:**

1. Verify and ensure that the question paper is completely printed.
2. Any discrepancies or questions about the exam paper must be reported to the COE within 1 hour after the examination.
3. Students must check the course title and course code before answering the questions.

**PART-A**

(Literary Component)



**Answer FIVE questions. Each answer carries TWO marks.**

**[5 x 2 = 10]**

1. How does Foxie pay respect to its master in the poem, *Fidelity*?
2. Why does Stephen Spender feel the maps in the elementary school classrooms are meaningless in the poem, *An Elementary School Classroom in a Slum*?
3. How does Sudhanya, the ghost, not know what he looks like in the short story, *I am a Ghost*?
4. Why didn't Mr. Foreman like the new vicar, in the short story, *The Verger*?
5. Give an instance that shows that Lencho was 'an ox of a man' in the story, *A Letter to God*.
6. Why did the narrator of the short story, *My Financial Career* want to see the bank manager?
7. How does Thomas Carlyle define 'sincerity' in Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's speech, *Who Can Be Called a Great Man*?

**Answer any FOUR questions. Each answer carries FIVE marks.**

**[4 x 5 = 20]**

8. Discuss the character of Sudhanya in the short story, *I am a Ghost*.
9. Comment on the title of the poem, *Fidelity*.
10. How did the post office employees react to Lencho's letter to God?
11. Elaborate on the qualities of a great man listed by Dr B.R. Ambedkar.
12. How does Vaidehi's mother's saree serve as a link between the past and the present in the poem, *My Mother's Saree*?
13. Do physical appearances reflect circumstances? Explain with reference to the poem, *An Elementary School Classroom in a Slum*.

**Answer any TWO questions. Each answer carries TEN marks.**

**[2 x 10 = 20]**

14. Do you agree with Ambedkar's distinction between an eminent individual and a great person? Explain.
15. Illustrate how William Wordsworth immortalizes the irreplaceable affection of a pet dog, in the poem, *Fidelity*.
16. Why does Albert Edward Foreman call himself 'obstinate-like'? Illustrate with examples from the story, *The Verger*.

**PART-B**

**(Language Component)**

**17. Read the passage and answer ALL the questions given below.**

Marie Curie was one of the most accomplished scientists in history. Together with her husband, Pierre, she discovered radium, an element widely used for treating cancer, and studied uranium and other radioactive substances. Pierre and Marie's amicable collaboration later helped to unlock the secrets of the atom. Marie was born in 1867 in Warsaw, Poland, where her father was a professor of physics. At the early age, she displayed a brilliant mind and a blithe personality. Her great exuberance for learning prompted her to continue with her studies after high school. She became disgruntled, however, when she learned that the university in Warsaw was closed to women. Determined to receive a higher education, she defiantly left Poland and in 1891 entered the Sorbonne, a French university, where she earned her master's degree and doctorate in physics. Marie was fortunate to have studied at the Sorbonne with some of the greatest scientists of her day, one of whom was Pierre Curie. Marie and Pierre were married in 1895 and spent many productive years working together in the physics laboratory.

A short time after they discovered radium, Pierre was killed by a horse-drawn wagon in 1906. Marie was stunned by this horrible misfortune and endured heartbreaking anguish. Despondently she recalled their close relationship and the joy that they had shared in scientific research. The fact that she had two young daughters to raise by herself greatly increased her distress. Curie's feeling of desolation finally began to fade when she was asked to succeed her husband as a physics professor at the Sorbonne. She was the first woman to be given a professorship at the world-famous university. In 1911 she received the Nobel Prize in chemistry for isolating radium. Although Marie Curie eventually suffered a fatal illness from her long exposure to radium, she never became disillusioned about her work. Regardless of the consequences, she had dedicated herself to science and to revealing the mysteries of the physical world.

**Questions:**

**[5 x 1 = 5]**

- a) What did Marie Curie discover with her husband, Pierre?
- b) What challenges did Marie face regarding her education in Poland?
- c) In which year did Marie Curie enter the Sorbonne?
- d) How did Marie Curie feel after Pierre's death?
- e) True or False: Marie Curie was the first woman to receive a Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

**18. Choose the appropriate option from the bracket.**

**[5 x 1 = 5]**

- a) His character is \_\_\_\_\_ (in-/irr-) corrigible.
- b) Yes, we did have our disagreements but that's water \_\_\_\_\_ (below/under) the bridge.



- c) Voldemort tried to kill his archenemy, but all his efforts ended in \_\_\_\_\_.  
(vein/vain)
- d) The university has asked the candidates to \_\_\_\_\_ (send/upload) the files today.
- e) The \_\_\_\_\_ rode his horse through the woods all night. (night/knight)

**19. Rewrite the following sentences in passive voice.**

**[5 x 1 = 5]**

- a) They will announce the results tomorrow.
- b) The teacher explained the lesson to the students.
- c) Someone has repaired the computer.
- d) They are building a new library in the city.
- e) The manager will review the applications next week.

**20. Change the following sentences into reported speech**

**[5 x 1 = 5]**

- a) She said, "I am going to the store."
- b) He asked, "Did you finish your homework?"
- c) They said, "We will meet you at 5 PM."
- d) John said, "I can't find my keys."
- e) The teacher said, "You should read this book."

**21. Do as directed:**

**[5 x 1 = 5]**

- a) She finished the project early. (Identify the clause)
- b) \_\_\_\_\_, she scored the highest marks in the class. (Add a subordinate clause and complete the sentence.)
- c) He will be traveling to London next month. (Underline the verb phrase)
- d) The tall man opened the door for the elderly woman. (Underline the noun phrases)
- e) They are running a marathon. This sentence has a verb phrase. (True/False)

**22. Write an essay on ONE of the following topics.**

**[1 x 5 = 5]**

- a) The importance of mental health awareness.
- b) The role of sports in personal development.

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