

2024

ENGLISH

*(Skill Enhancement Course)*

**Paper Name: Grammar and Composition Skills**

Paper Code: ENG-SEC-131

*Full Marks: 45*

*Time: Two Hours*

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

*Answer in English*

1. Answer the following questions as directed 1x4=4

(a) They (live) in this town for five years.

(Use the correct form of the verb)

(b) Which of the following modal verb expresses a strong obligation?

- i. Can
- ii. Should
- iii. Most
- iv. Might

(c) \_\_\_\_\_ books are on the table. (Fill up the blanks)

- i. Much
- ii. Many
- iii. Some
- iv. Several

(d) Rina said that she (visit) the Taj mahal the previous year.

(Use the correct form of the verb)

2. Answer the following questions. 2x3=6

(a) Atul said to Ramu "Do you know how to swim"? "Yes" said Ramu. (Change into indirect speech)

(b) How are new words typically formed in the English language?  
Name any two common methods.

(c) What is skimming?

**3. Answer the following questions (any three) 5x3=15**

(a) What are modals? Explain with examples.

(b) Write short note on the word formation process in English.

(c) Discuss briefly three techniques of reading skills?

(d) Explain the three types of conditional sentences with suitable examples.

(e) What are determiners, and how do they function in noun phrases?

**4. Attempt question no (A) and any one from (B), (C), 10x2=20 and (D).**

**A.** Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

1. Today's woman is a highly self-directed person, alive to the sense of her dignity and the importance of her functions in the private domestic domain and the public domain of the world of work. Women are rational in approach, careful in handling situations and want to do things as best as possible. The Fourth World Conference of Women, held in Beijing in September 1995, had emphasized that no enduring solution of society's most threatening social, economic and political problems could be found without the participation and empowerment of the women. The 1995 World Summit for Social Development had also emphasized the pivotal role of women in eradicating poverty and mending the social fabric.
2. The Constitution of India had conferred on women equal rights and opportunities political, social, educational and employment with men. Because of oppressive traditions, superstitions, exploitation and corruption, a majority of women are not allowed to enjoy the rights and opportunities, bestowed on them. One of the major reasons for this state of affairs is the lack of literacy and awareness among women. Education is the main instrument through which we can

narrow down the prevailing inequality and accelerate the process of economic and political change in the status of women.

3. The role of women in a society is very important. Women's education is the key to a better life in the future. A recent World Bank study says that educating girls is not a charity, it is good economics and if developing nations are to eradicate poverty, they must educate the girls. The report says that the economic and social returns on investments in education of girls considerably affect the Human Development Index of the nation. Society would progress only if the status of women is respected and the presence of an educated woman in the family would ensure education of the family itself. Education and empowerment of women are closely related.
4. Women's education has not received due care and attention from the planners and policy makers. The National Commission for Women has rightly pointed out that even after 50 years of Independence, women continue to be treated as the single-largest group of backward citizens of India. The role of women in overall development has not been fully understood nor has it been given its full weight in the struggle to eliminate poverty, hunger, injustice and inequality at the national level. Even, when we are at the threshold of the 21st century, our society still discriminates against women in matters of their rights and privileges and prevents them from participating in the process of national and societal progress.

Various committees and commissions have been constituted before and after the Independence to evaluate the progress in women's education and to suggest ways and means to enhance the status of women. The female literacy rate has gone up in the 20th century from 0.6 percent in 1901 to 39.29 percent in 1991 but India still possesses the largest number of illiterate women in the world. The Female Literacy Index for the year 1991 shows that there are eight states which fall below the national average. The most populous states of

the country, UP, MP, Bihar and Rajasthan fall in the category of most backward states as far as female literacy is concerned.

5. The prevailing cultural norms of gender behaviour and the perceived domestic and reproductive roles of women tend to affect the education of the girls. Negative attitudes towards sending girls to schools, restrictions on their mobility, early marriage, poverty and illiteracy of parents affect the girls' participation in education.
6. Women's political empowerment got a big boost with the Panchayati Raj Act of 1993 which gave them 30 percent reservation in Village Panchayats, Block Samities and Zila Parishads throughout the country. The National Commission for women was also set up in 1992, to act as a lobby for women's issues.
7. The educational system is the only institution which can counteract the deep foundations of inequality of sexes that are built in the minds of people through the socialization process. Education is the most important instrument of human resource development. Educational system should be used to revolutionize is the traditional attitudes and inculcate new values of equality.

- (a) Mention two attributes of a modern woman.
- (b) Why is the empowerment of women necessary?
- (c) Which factors adversely affect the education of girls?
- (d) What benefits are women getting due to the enactment of the Panchayati Raj Act of 1993?
- (e) Pick out words from the passage which mean the same as each of the following:
  - a) cruel and unfair
  - b) remove

**B.** Write an application for the post of an English teacher in a school.

**C.** Write a letter to the editor of a national daily highlighting the problem of price rise in your state. Sign the letter as Ankit/Ankita.

**D.** Write a precis of the following passage:

Trees give shade for the benefit of others, and while they themselves stand in the sun and endure the scorching heat, they produce the fruit of which others profit. The character of good men is like that of trees. What is the use of this perishable body if no use is made of it for the benefit of mankind? Sandalwood, the more it is rubbed, the more scent does it yield. Sugarcane, the more it is peeled and cut up into pieces, the more juice does it produce. The men who are noble at heart do not lose their qualities even in losing their lives. What matters whether men praise them or not? What difference does it make whether they die at this moment or whether lives are prolonged? Happen what may, those who tread in the right path will not set foot in any other. Life itself is unprofitable to a man who does not live for others. To live for the mere sake of living one's life is to live the life of dogs and crows. Those who lay down their lives for the sake of others will assuredly dwell forever in a world of bliss.

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