



First Term Test - Grade 12 - 2019 1434

Index No. General English - II Three hours only

Instructions

▶ Answer all the questions

Part A – Reading (50 marks)

(01) Read the passage given below in which some words are given in bold type. Then, underline the meaning that is most appropriate to the context for the words given in bold type from 1 to 5. (10 marks)

James lived with his wife Sandra and their children in a town near Bangalore. He was young, but he did not like to work. Two or three days a week, he went to town and did some **odd** jobs. The rest of the time, he played with his children and their friends.

His wife was angry with him. 'Why don't you **get** a job like your friends?' she scolded him. 'You only earn **enough** to buy us food, but there are so many other things we need. The children need books for school, all of us need cloth, the house needs repairing. But you are too lazy to do anything.'

'But what can I do?' James wondered. 'I cannot work in a mill because I do not know how to **run** machines. I cannot be a teacher because I am not **good** at studies.'

'And you cannot work in a shop because you cannot count,' said Sandra.

'And I cannot cut or stitch clothes, so I cannot be a tailor. I always know I am good for nothing,' said James. He was very sad.

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|------------------|---------|------------|-------------------|------------|
| 1. odd | small | strange | temporary | minor |
| 2. get | obtain | have | take | find |
| 3. enough | a lot | plenty | sufficient amount | a little |
| 4. run | control | operate | manage | go quickly |
| 5. good | well | interested | clever | fond of |

(02) Study the text given below and do the activities given below. (10 marks)

The Effects of Stress

There is a famous expression in English: "Stop the world, I want to get off!" This expression refers to a feeling of panic, or stress, that makes a person want to stop whatever they are doing, try to relax, and become calm again. 'Stress' means pressure or tension. It is one of the most common causes of health problems in modern life. Too much stress results in physical, emotional, and mental health problems.

There are numerous physical effects of stress. Stress can affect the heart. It can increase the pulse rate, make the heart miss beats, and can cause high blood pressure. Stress can affect the respiratory system. It can lead to asthma. It can cause a person to breathe too fast, resulting in a loss of important carbon dioxide. Stress can affect the stomach. It can cause stomach aches and problems digesting food. These are only a few examples of the wide range of illnesses and symptoms resulting from stress.

Emotions are also easily affected by stress. People suffering from stress often feel anxious. They may have panic attacks. They may feel tired all the time. When people are under stress, they often overreact to little problems. For example, a normally gentle parent under a lot of stress at work may yell at a child for dropping a glass of juice. Stress can make people angry, moody, or nervous.

Long-term stress can lead to a variety of serious mental illnesses. Depression, an extreme feeling of sadness and hopelessness, can be the result of continued and increasing stress. Alcoholism and other addictions often develop as a result of overuse of alcohol or drugs to try to relieve stress. Eating disorders, such as anorexia, are sometimes caused by stress and are often made worse by stress. If stress is allowed to continue, then one's mental health is put at risk.

It is obvious that stress is a serious problem. It attacks the body. It affects the emotions. Untreated, it may eventually result in mental illness. Stress has a great influence on the health and well-being of our bodies, our feelings, and our minds. So, reduce stress: stop the world and rest for a while.

1. Do the following statements agree with the information given in the text? (6 marks)
In boxes (1)–(3) write True, False or Not Given

True	If the statement is correct
False	If the statement is wrong
Not Given	If there is no sufficient information on this

Statements	
1. Stress is the only cause for the health problems in modern life	
2. Only physical effects of stress are given in the second paragraph	
3. Watching TV can cause stress	

2. Underline the best option out of the four options given. (4 marks)

- 1) According to the first paragraph
 - a. Stress is only physical
 - b. Stress is only psychological
 - c. Stress is physical and psychological
 - d. Stress was not found in the past

- 2) The third paragraph in the text describes,
 - a. Causes of stress
 - b. Signs of stress
 - c. Cure for stress
 - d. Effects of stress

(03)

Read the text and answer the questions.

(30 marks)

In front of the house there was a beach. Peter liked to stretch on the sand when the sun was warming it. From the back door of the house he would walk along a path as far as the sand, and stand at the water's edge looking at the sea. When nothing very interesting was happening on the water, he would go down on his knees and take a handful of sand. Through his fingers ran the sand until only small stones and shells were left. Then, with a large sweep of his arm and with as much strength as he could muster, Peter would throw **them** as far as he could.

At other times, he would go on his back and gaze up at the clouds, his hands idly searching the sand at his sides. He never stopped playing with the sand and feeling it run through his fingers, however much he was absorbed by the changes in the clouds.

Occasionally some fishing boats came close enough to the beach for Peter to see what the fishermen were doing. Then with his hands clasped he would look and look, while his whole body moved with the boat from side to side. When the fishermen drew in their nets or cast them into the water, Peter would do the same with an imaginary net of **his** own from his place on the beach. On this small beach, Peter had a world of his own.

1. Do the following statements agree with the information given in the text? (12 marks)

In boxes (1)–(6) write True, False or Not Given

True	If the statement is correct
False	If the statement is wrong
Not Given	If there is no sufficient information on this

Statements	
1. When the sun was warming the sand, Peter liked to lie there.	
2. Looking at the sea was also one of Peter's habits.	
3. Peter loved to collect small stones and shells in the sand.	
4. Peter was very much interested in playing with the sand.	
5. Peter moved onto the boat when it came close enough to the beach.	
6. Peter too, like the fishermen, cast his net into the water.	

2. Underline the correct response. (10 marks)

- 1) This passage is mainly about
 - a. the fishermen
 - b. the beach
 - c. Peter's love for beach
 - d. the Peter's house by the sea

- 2) Peter took a handful of sand
 - a. when something special was happening on the water
 - b. when something special was happening on the beach
 - c. when nothing interesting was happening on the beach
 - d. when nothing interesting was happening on the water

- 3) Peter was on his back on the beach to
- to stretch on the sand
 - to search the sand at his sides
 - to feel the sand run through his fingers
 - to look at the clouds
- 4) The word which is closest in meaning for **ran** is
- dripped
 - glided
 - swept
 - dropped
- 5) The small stones and the shells left in Peter's hand were
- put in his collection at home
 - thrown away
 - buried in the sand
 - put in his pocket to play with later

3. Who or what do the following pronouns in bold print refer to? **(6 marks)**

- it (first paragraph)
- them (first paragraph)
- his (third paragraph)

4. Write one word for the phrase, selecting from the passage, which means the same as it. **(2 mark)**

- not real, but created in the mind

PART B — DIALOGUES (25 marks)

(04) How do you respond in each of the following situations? Write only one sentence or question for each, beginning with the word/s given. **(5 marks)**

- You could not attend the English seminar last Friday. How do you request your friend to lend his/her notes?

“Could you

- Your friend looks so sad today and you want to know why.

“What’s

- One of your friends invites you to his or her birthday party next Sunday. You accept it with great pleasure.

“I’d

4. Your friend has scored low marks at the term test. How do you advise him/her?

“You’d better

5. An old woman is getting into a bus with a great difficulty and you wish to help her.

“Can

(05) **Mr. Amal Perera wants to meet Mr. Ajith Kumara, the Director of AGD company. Complete the missing parts of the dialogue between Amal Perera and the receptionist. Do not use more than two sentences/ questions in each blank. (5 marks)**

Receptionist : Hello, how can I help you?

Amal : Hello, Mr. Ajith Kumara please?

Receptionist :at the moment. He’s visiting a factory.

Amal : I see! back in the office?

Receptionist : I’m not sure. I don’t know how long he’s going to stay there.

Amal :? Will he be free then?

Receptionist : Just a moment. I’ll check. No, he’s having lunch with a designer.

Amal : Till what time , do you know?

Receptionist : Erm.....well. after 2. 00 p.m.

Amal : Are you sure?

Receptionist : Definitely, he’ll be back in the office for the rest of the day.

Amal : OK. I’ll phone back then. Thank you.

Receptionist : That’s alright. Good bye.

(06) **Your family is planning to go on a trip to Nuwara Eliya during the next school vacation. You want to stay at Pinidiya Holiday Resort for two days. You are speaking to the manager of the Holiday Resort to get the information you need. Write out the telephone conversation you will have with the manager. Each one should speak at least five times. (15 marks)**

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PART C — WRITING SKILLS (65 marks)

(07) **Select any five words from the list of nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs given below and use each one of them in a meaningful sentence. You may use the verbs in any tense. Do not change the form of the other words. (10 marks)**

Nouns	permission, protest
Verbs	request, collect, export
Adjectives	deadly, delicate, friendly
Adverbs	finally, carefully

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