TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT

Office of the Dean

April - May 2025

Full Marks: 100

Pass Marks: 50

Time: 3 Hrs.

BBA / BIM / BBM / First Semester / ENG 201 / ENG 206: English - I

Candidates are required to answer the questions in their own words as far as practicable.

Group "A"

Brief Answer Questions: [10 × 2 = 20]

1. How has human desire been defined in "Not the Non-existent"?

2. Why does the narrator feel pressured to shoot the elephant? (Shooting and elephant).

3. What does Virginia Wolf mean by the metaphor "Angel in the House"? (Professions for Women)

4. Change the form of words as suggested:

   science (adj.), expert (adverb), miserable (noun), perception (verb)

5. Why does the Parrot call himself a "twice born"? (The Parrot in the Cage)

6. What is foreshadowing? Give an example from the text you have studied.

7. What do the following phrase mean: *devil is in the details*, and, *too much ink on something*?

8. Correct the errors with comparatives and superlatives in the following sentences:

   a. He did a great deal more badly in the athletics competition than his teachers had expected.

   b. You may think you know the answer but I'm afraid you couldn't be wronger.

9. Select the correct word in the following sentences:

   a. One of my colleagues gets to work by walking or cycling on *alternative/alternate* days.

   b. At the monthly farmers' market, they sell only locally grown *products/produce*.

10. Put the verbs in brackets into the past simple or present perfect:

    a. I _____ (study) in Paris for six years until my parents moved to Rome.

    b. This is not the first time I _____ (taste) shark meat.

Group "B"

Short Answer Questions: (Attempt any SIX Questions)   [6 × 5 = 30]

11. How does the speaker make a connection between life, time and death in "The Clock Tower"?

12. Correct the modal verbs in these sentences:

    a. Surely you mustn't be retiring this year? You look so young!

    b. You mustn't make up your mind about the job offer yet if you don't want to.

    c. How lovely to see you, Bill! And this should be your wife, Betty?

    d. After many failed attempts, they could rescue the trapped miners.

e. I've just seen the weather forecast and it could not be warm enough for a barbecue after all.

13. Why does the persona in "The Lunatic" call himself "an iconoclast of ugliness"? Explain.

14. What does Gary Snyder mean by the phrase "practicing the wild" in his essay "The Etiquette of Freedom"?

15. Replace the words in italics with a suitable *prefix*:

   a. The *(across)* .... continental express is a luxurious way to travel.

   b. Police have been *(wrongly)* ....informed about the whereabouts of the suspect.

   c. *(with)* ....operation between several countries meant that emergency aid arrived quickly.

   d. London's Heathrow is one of the world's busiest *(between)* ....national airports.

   e. I think we have *(too little)* ....estimated the strength of the opposition.

16. Use the following words in the correct form to complete the sentences a-e:

   intervene, prevent, threat, manage, predict

   a. It's true to say of most illnesses that .... is better than cure.

   b. .... in the affairs of others is usually inadvisable.

   c. Several supporters of the visiting football team were arrested for .... behaviour.

   d. Do you think this amount of work is .... in such a short space of time?

   e. What are your .... for the next general election? Who would you say is going to win?

17. Complete sentences a-e with the verb in brackets in the passive form and an appropriate ending from 1-5:

   a. A soundtrack can (hear)

   b. Extras (often/hire)

   c. An easel can (find)

   d. A premiere (organise)

   e. Rehearsals (always/hold)

   1. for crowd scenes in films.

   2. to publicise a film.

   3. on a film.

   4. before a show's first night.

   5. for musicals.

Group "C"

Long Answer Questions:(Attempt any THREE Questions)   [3 × 10 = 30]

18. "The Stronger" by August Strindberg dramatizes invisible conflict between two characters, Mrs. X and Mrs. Y? What do you think the conflict is? What does Strindberg intend to show in the drama?

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19. You work for an educational organization based in Chitwan that organizes trips for children. Your manager recently put you in charge of a group of teenagers on a wildlife holiday, led by professional guides. Your manager has now asked you to write a report on the holiday, saying whether it had sufficient educational value for teenagers, outlining any problems and saying whether it would be suitable for other age groups.

20. Susan Sontag clearly argues that the notion of beauty has degraded. Still, she believes that beauty is a source of power. If so, why does she object to women's striving to attain it?

21. Because of easy availability of internet, the children have become obsessed with online/offline games and gadgets. However, this has deteriorating effect on spontaneous creativity and personal health. Suppose you have noted down three strategies to address this problem. Write a five-paragraph essay which two strategies you think would be more effective, giving reasons in support your answer.

Group "D"

Comprehensive Answer / Case / Situation Analysis Questions: [4 × 5 = 20]

22. Read the following case carefully and answer the questions that follow:

TechNova Solutions, a mid-sized tech company, had been experiencing financial strain after a series of underperforming product launches. To address the increasing expenditure, the CEO decided cost-cutting was essential. Since a large portion of the company's budget was tied to human resources, the leadership decided to downsize staff. A clear target was the AI Research Unit — a team focused on experimental projects that had recently shown minimal output and was utilizing significant resources.

This unit, located in the R&D building's third floor, had been working on prototype-level innovations that hadn't progressed beyond theoretical development. Most of their projects could be absorbed into other departments, and closing this unit promised major cost savings. The team of about thirty-five researchers and engineers reported to Dr. Nina Kapoor, the lead scientist. As the unit was to be shut down, Nina's position would also be dissolved.

However, several key issues complicated the process. First, the company had a "redeployment-first" policy rather than layoffs. This meant HR was responsible for placing AI unit members in other open roles where feasible. While some roles were available, it was uncertain how many would match their qualifications. Second, the AI team had a reputation for being inflexible and siloed. Other departments saw them as resistant to collaboration and change, with quality and productivity often called into question. Nina herself was widely viewed as technically brilliant but ineffective as a leader. Hence, other managers were hesitant to accept reassigned staff from the unit.

Several high-level meetings were held involving department heads, the director of HR, the internal communications manager, and a labor consultant to plan the closure. Initially, the leadership debated whether Nina should be involved in these meetings, eventually deciding her inclusion would be politically more appropriate. Throughout the meetings, Nina reacted emotionally, often crying, which made discussions awkward. All participants were told to maintain strict confidentiality until the plan was finalized. Still, rumors rapidly began to circulate that the AI unit was being dissolved.

Eventually, a strategy was outlined. On Tuesday morning, the HR director and a senior VP would meet with AI unit staff to inform them. Staff with redeployment offers would

be told about new roles; others would be offered an enhanced severance package. Following that, a company-wide memo would be released, and team-specific meetings would occur later that day to clarify the news. A press release would be sent to external stakeholders in the afternoon.

On Sunday evening, two days before the announcement, the planning team met with the CTO, Mr. Rajiv Jain, and the COO, Ms. Tanya Rao, to present the finalized plan. To the group's surprise, both executives objected strongly. They demanded exact numbers of layoffs and redeployments, but the team couldn't give definite figures due to constantly shifting internal vacancies. Furthermore, Ms. Rao rejected the idea of the company-wide letter being signed by the CEO, insisting the communication must not give the impression that leadership was avoiding accountability. They halted the plan until revisions were made.

Meanwhile, word had already spread internally. The AI unit staff suspected the closure and began rallying support. One team member sent an internal message across the company's Slack workspace:

"We are long-time innovators now facing termination without fair warning. We're starting a support fund for our affected colleagues. Contributions welcome."

On Tuesday, AI unit employees arrived in black attire, wearing symbolic circuit-themed armbands. Screensavers in the lab displayed "Innovation Deserved Better." Confused coworkers and visiting clients noticed the somber mood. When no official communication came, tensions grew. On Wednesday, frustration turned emotional. One employee broke down, and soon others followed suit. HR was contacted, and the director arrived to find a team in collective distress. She instructed everyone to go home while she worked with the CTO to rapidly reassign ongoing projects.

On Thursday, TechNova officially announced the closure of the AI Research Unit.

Questions:
  a. What were the reasons for the spreading of rumours regarding the layoffs of the observation ward staff (AI unit in new context)?
  b. What does the organization's situation suggest about the importance of communication at all levels?
  c. Ideally, how should this situation have been handled without probably losing the organization's reputation?
  d. Can Artificial Intelligence ever replicate or replace Emotional Intelligence in human interaction? Discuss.

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