

**I B.Tech. Regular Examinations, June -2005**

**ENGLISH**

**( Common to Civil Engineering,Electrical & Electronic Engineering,Mechanical Engineering,Electronics & Communication Engineering,Computer Science & Engineering,Chemical Engineering,Electronics & Instrumentation Engineering,Bio-Medical Engineering,Bio-Medical Engineering,Information Technology,Information Technology,Electronics & Control Engineering,Mechatronics,Computer Science & Systems Engineering,Electronics & Telematics,Metallurgy & Material Technology,Electronics & Computer Engineering,Production Engineering,Aeronautical Engineering,Instrumentation & Control Engineering and Bio-Technology)**

**Time: 3 hours**

**Max Marks: 80**

**Answer any FIVE Questions  
All Questions carry equal marks**

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1. Assume that you are the Public Relations Officer of an Indian Railways working at Vijayawada. You are going to meet a panel of reporters who will ask you about a recent major accident near Vijayawada in which the engine of an express train derailed, crushing a lot of people to death. It is uncertain whether technical fault or human error is responsible for the accident. Write a list of questions and answers that are likely to figure at the press meet.
2. Computers are reducing mankind to machine dependent dummies. Give your views for and against this statement.
3. Write about the pioneering work done by Sir C.V.Raman on science in India which led to the establishment of the Raman Research Institute in Bangalore.
4. Enumerate the various achievements of H.J.Bhabha.
5. Write a formal report on the congestion of road traffic in your town. Identify the major problems and suggest technical and legal solutions. Prioritise your recommendations.
6. Write an essay on the globalisation and liberalization policies of India and their effect on our economy.
7. (a) Read the following passage and answer the questions on it.

From 'apparel to aerospace', 'steel to software', the pace of technological innovation is quickening. No longer can companies afford to miss generation of technology and expect to remain competitive. Adding to the pressure, innovations are increasingly crossing industrial boundaries: a new fibre developed by the textile industry has the potential for building materials and medical equipment. Some companies are adept at using a diversity of technologies to create new products that transform markets. But many others are blundering because they rely on a technology strategy that no longer works in such

a fast-changing environment. The difference between success and failure is not how much a company spends on research and development (R&D), but how it approaches it. There are two possible approaches. Either a company can invest in R&D that replaces an older generation of technology the 'break through' approach or focus on combining existing technologies into hybrid technologies the 'technology fusion' approach. It blends incremental technical improvement from several previously separate fields of technology to create products that revolutionise markets. In a world where the old maxim. 'one technology, one industry' no longer applies, a singular break-through strategy is inadequate. Companies need to include both the fusion and breakthrough approaches in their technology strategy. Relying on breakthrough alone fails because it focuses the R&D efforts too narrowly, ignoring the possibilities of combining technologies. Yet many western companies still rely almost exclusively on the breakthrough approach. The reasons are complex: a distrust of outside innovations and 'not-invented-here' engineering and arrogance and aversion to sharing research results.

- i. What is the meaning of the word 'floundering'?
  - ii. What happens if a company does not innovate?
  - iii. Do the western companies avoid the technology fusion approach?
  - iv. Does the passage approve of a mixing of the two approaches? Answer yes or no.
  - v. Give a synonym for the word 'pace'.
  - vi. Huge spending on R&D leads always to success. Is this correct according to the passage?
  - vii. Why is breakthrough approach preferred by the western companies?
  - viii. The tone of the passage is
    - A. humorous
    - B. neutral
    - C. satirical
- (b) A list of words is given below. Use the words to fill the blanks in the text, changing the form if necessary.

Educate	Equipment	Debate	Ignorance
Women	Throw	Purpose	Deal

Women's right to \_\_\_\_ is neither a question to solve, nor a problem to \_\_\_\_ with. Education is an \_\_\_\_ of life to understand its meaning and \_\_\_\_, not an ornament to wear and \_\_\_\_ . What type of education \_\_\_\_ should receive is not the point to be \_\_\_\_ by us, but it is to be decided by women only. Those days of \_\_\_\_ and confusion are gone when women were shut in the darkness of traditional absurdities.

8. (a) Re-write the following sentences correcting the errors in them.
- i. Why you are talking like that?
  - ii. He just do not know anything about music.

- iii. His brother-in-laws are going abroad.
  - iv. My cousin brother is coming tomorrow.
- (b) Put the accent marks at the right place in the following words:
- i. female
  - ii. editorial
  - iii. bottom
  - iv. delay
- (c) Give antonyms of the following:
- i. simple
  - ii. prefix
  - iii. rough
  - iv. tragedy
- (d) Give one-word substitutes of the following:
- i. A place where animals are kept
  - ii. A subject in which you learn about stars and planets.
- (e) Supply appropriate preposition/article in the following sentences:
- i. She was drowned in \_\_\_\_ Arabian Sea.
  - ii. Buying a Benz car is \_\_\_\_my means now.
  - iii. I have no money.
  - iv. He is \_\_\_\_young man.

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**Time: 3 hours**

**Max Marks: 80**

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1. Imagine that you are the principal of a big academic institution that has a clinic and a hostel attached to it. You wish to computerize the admissions, academic procedures and routine office work. You are going to be questioned by the president of the Non- Teaching Employees of the institution who is alarmed about retrenchment of his colleagues. Prepare a set of questions and clarifications that are appropriate in this context.
2. Write an essay on the availability and use of Non-Conventional Energy sources in India today.
3. Trace the career path of Srinivasa Ramanujam, the Indian mathematical genius, highlighting the significance of his achievement.
4. Give an account of the research excellence of Meghnad Saha.
5. Write a report on the suitability of constructing a new residential colony in your town. One of the sites, A, is outside the town, the other, B, is closer to the town and well- connected to all the necessary amenities. Justify the choice of the site chosen by you.
6. Attempt an essay on the importance of communication skills - oral and written- for both students of engineering and those practising the profession.
7. (a) I received my first taste of maturity about five or six years ago, but yet I can remember every detail. How old was I? About twelve. I used to go to Hines Veterans Hospital to play the piano, entertain the boys and give them cigarettes. Twelve years is a very young age; I was innocent of the things life entailed.

One night in December, I entered the Hines Hospital with the purpose of entertaining the patients. I hopped up onto the movable piano ensemble, and

the head nurse wheeled me along the corridor to ward A. Each ward contained forty boys, and as we entered the first ward, I saw forty heads duck under the covers. The room was silent. Suddenly, one of the patients peeked out from beneath the covers and yelled, “Hey fellas, it’s only a kid”. In almost perfect unison, each man lifted his head from underneath his blanket. They greeted me with enthusiasm. I played a few ballads on the piano, and then with a sudden bang, I burst into a red-hot boogie-woogie piece. The sounds of loud appreciative applause and shouts clamouring for more came like the first sight of a “welcome” mat. I played two additional boogie-woogie pieces and I stopped.

I reached for a large box filled with cigarettes and proceeded to distribute them to the veterans. One of the veterans had paralyzed hands, and he asked me to light his cigarette clumsily, I pushed the cigarette between his lips and lit it for him. I lingered a few moments to exchange polite conversation with him. He said, “You know, honey, you’re the prettiest girl I’ve seen in a long time”. I was flattered; I blushed and walked away. Later, my young mind started to function when a nurse mentioned to me that he was blind. The head nurse asked me to play for a patient down the hall. He was in a private room, and only the hopeless patients had private rooms. The piano was pushed just outside the room. He could see me but I could not see him. He requested boogie-woogie and with my throbbing thumb, I played boogie as though my blood kept in rhythm with each beat of music. How my thumb ached! The beat, beat, beat of the pain again called out, “you are pretty; he is blind” “you are pretty; he is blind”. My thoughts were confused and I desperately wanted to stop playing. But I had to continue. Just at that moment, the head nurse whispered to me: “you may stop now. He can’t hear you any more”. That night I left the hospital with my first taste of maturity. I did not like it; it was bitter.

- i. Are the people that the narrator entertained boys or old men?
  - ii. What is meant by a red-hot boogie-woogie piece?
  - iii. Is the word “honey” a term of abuse or endearment?
  - iv. Why did the head nurse ask the narrator to stop playing?
  - v. What was the narrator’s response that night to her experience in the Hines Hospital?
  - vi. Give a synonym for the verb ” hopped” .
  - vii. In the sentence, “I saw forty heads duck under the covers?” , is the word “duck” used as a noun or a verb?
  - viii. What is the feeling evoked in the readers by the passage? Choose from
    - A. hatred
    - B. pathos and
    - C. humour.
- (b) A list of words is given below. Use the words to fill the blanks in the passage below, changing the form of the word, if necessary.
- Duty                  remind                  temptations                  soul

Face            poison            exhorts            beloved

Gandhiji has done his \_\_\_\_; he has warned us of the perils and \_\_\_\_ that confront us, and he has delivered his \_\_\_\_ unto his maker. It now remains for us to do our duty as we have been \_\_\_\_ in the broadcasts of Nehru and Patel. Let us first get the atmosphere rid of the \_\_\_\_ which permeates it; let us \_\_\_\_, as the Prime Minister \_\_\_\_ us to do, all the perils that encompass us?.. not madly or badly, but in the way that our \_\_\_\_ teacher taught us to face them?.

8. (a) Correct the errors in the following sentences:
- None of my friends are intelligent.
  - It is in 1997 that we first flew to the United States.
  - Children visiting the park are amused by the monkeys play in the cages.
  - Ram's salary is much larger than Ramesh.
- (b) Put the accent marks at the right place in the following words.
- certain
  - consist
  - examination
  - affect
- (c) Give antonyms of the following.
- top
  - probable
  - finish
  - satisfaction
- (d) Give one-word substitutes of the following:
- one who looks at the bright side of things,
  - A number of stars grouped together
- (e) Supply the appropriate preposition / article in the following sentences:
- What are you waiting \_\_\_\_ ?
  - \_\_\_\_ Godavari flows through several states.
  - He is \_\_\_\_union office\_\_\_\_ bearer.
  - He has been writing \_\_\_\_the past two hours.

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1. Modern technologies are mostly Western imports. With technology, a foreign culture too arrives. Is this culture eroding our ancient Indian culture? Discuss giving your views.
2. How does training form the axle of the industrial wheel? How is modern training better and different from the old methods of training?
3. Give an account of the way Salim Ali became a famous ornithologist of India.
4. Outline the achievements of Dr. Bhatnagar.
5. Write a report on the feasibility of starting a new shopping mall in your town /locality. Consider the competition from supermarkets and other shopping malls. Make a survey (imaginary) and present extracts of interviews.
6. Attempt an essay on your idea of technical education in India in the next 30 years.
7. (a) Read the following passage and answer questions on it:

Few men have influenced the development of American English to the extent that Noah Webster did. Born in West Hartford, Connecticut, in 1758, his name has become synonymous with American dictionaries. Graduated from Yale in 1778, he was admitted to the bar in 1781, and thereafter began to practice law in Hartford. Later when he turned to teaching, he discovered how inadequate the available school books were for the children of a new and independent nation. In response to the truly American textbooks, Webster published "A Grammatical Institute of the English Language", a three-volume work that consisted of a speller, grammar and a reader. The first volume, which was generally known as "The American Spelling Book" was so popular that eventually it sold more than 80 million copies and provided him with a considerable income for the rest of his life. While teaching, Webster began

work on the “Compendious Dictionary of the English Language” which was published in 1806.

In 1807, Webster began his greatest work, “An American Dictionary of the English Language”. In preparing the manuscript, he devoted ten years to the study of English and its relationship to other languages and seven more years to the writing itself. Published in two volumes in 1828, it became the recognized authority for usage in the United States. Webster’s purpose in writing it was to demonstrate that the American language was developing distinct meanings, pronunciations and spellings from those of British English. He is responsible for advancing simplified spelling forms, such as honor for honour and color for colour. In 1840, Webster brought out a second edition of his dictionary, which included 70,000 entries instead of the original 38,000. This edition has served as the basis for the many revisions that have been produced under the Webster name.

- i. Which of the following would be the best title for the passage?
  - A. Webster’s work
  - B. Webster’s Dictionaries
  - C. Webster’s life
- ii. Give a synonym for the word ‘inadequate’.
- iii. In how many volumes was An American Dictionary of the English Language published?
- iv. What was Webster’s purpose in writing “An American Dictionary of the English Language”?
- v. Why did Webster write “A Grammatical Institute of the English Language”?
- vi. How many years did it take for Webster to write his famous dictionary?
- vii. Which edition of Webster’s dictionary contained more number of words?
- viii. What is the meaning of the word “bar” as used in the passage?

- (b) A list of words is given below. Use the words to fill the blanks in the passage that follows, changing the form of the word if necessary

fools	life	deception	chaste
saint	cheat	incompetent	gentleman

Appearances are generally \_\_\_\_\_ and we are liable to be misguided. In every walk of \_\_\_\_\_, we see deception. We see many \_\_\_\_\_ acknowledged as wise, many wise discarded as \_\_\_\_\_ and many \_\_\_\_\_ esteemed as honest. A beautiful woman is regarded as \_\_\_\_\_ and a well-dressed handsome man taken for a \_\_\_\_\_. Any man with a smiling face who is clad in saffron is immediately accepted as a \_\_\_\_\_ of immense value.

8. (a) Re-write the following sentences, correcting the errors in them.
- i. I love dancing as well as listen to music.
  - ii. After you will return from New York, I will come and see you.
  - iii. The only good thing bout these pens are their colour and their size.

- iv. A tallest man I have ever seen lives in my village.
- (b) Put the accent mark at the right place in the following words.
- i. defeat
  - ii. contamination
  - iii. conduct (as verb)
  - iv. teaching
- (c) Give antonyms of the following:
- i. wild
  - ii. superior
  - iii. sharp
  - iv. Interior
- (d) Give one-word substitutes of the following:
- i. The study of birds
  - ii. One who believes in god
- (e) Fill the blanks in the following sentences with appropriate articles or prepositions
- i. The more, \_\_\_\_ merrier
  - ii. What are you waiting \_\_\_\_?
  - iii. What \_\_\_\_ beautiful painting this is!
  - iv. I learnt Hindi \_\_\_\_ five years.

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1. Modern technology is proving to be a boon in many ways, but a bane in some others. Elaborate this in an essay not exceeding 200 words.
2. Training in modern industry is different now and has a professional touch to it. Write a brief essay, building it around your lesson.
3. Give an account of I.C Bose's life and experiments which culminated in the construction of an Institute of Science in Calcutta in 1917.
4. Bring out the role played by the renowned Dr. Bhatnagar in starting several national laboratories in the country.
5. Write a format report on the feasibility of starting a new newspaper in your town, either in English or regional language. You may consider such factors as competition pricing, marketing etc. Imagine that you conducted a survey and you may include, in your answer, some sample questions and graphics.
6. Attempt an essay on the role of engineers of various branches of engineering in making India a prosperous country.
7. (a) Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

The news that the Indian Railways are going to incur a shortfall of Rs. 1000 crore in their resources generation and will, therefore, have to seek budgetary support to that extent? will not surprise many. That's a scenario that has been played out for years now and the outcome too has been predictable ? with the railway budget doing its duty by doling out public money. But it is time to look at the problem differently, in view of the current concerns of government in economizing its charity and the feeling that the Railways have to stand on its legs.

The Railways have, over the last few months, continued to experience a shortfall of Rs. 85 crore per month, a feature that could add to their woes if it

continues. Fall in expected goods traffic, in the rate per tonne and also a dip in passenger traffic have contributed to the shortfall. All this may not be new concerns for the Railways; the relevant point, however, is how the system and the government hope to tackle it. Clearly, budgetary support should be considered only in the last instance; after various measures to both reduce expenditure and raise resources have been tried out. Consider subsidies on passenger traffic - the expenditure which really digs into the government's coffers. In fact, passenger traffic subsidy accounted for nearly 90% of the railway's losses in 1992/93, with freight traffic subsidies taking up the rest.

Freight traffic subsidy cuts should prove more easy if this year's budget exercise is any indication. Till now sixteen commodities were subsidised. In 1993/94, budget subsidy on four was removed. Prices did not rise, there was little protest and now the Railways ought to do more. Reduction in passenger subsidies is more tricky given the dependence of such a large population, mostly poor, on the system and most governments have been reluctant to do much. Passenger rates have been hiked very few times and that too only in recent years.

One area where the Railways could do a lot more pruning is in shutting down uneconomic branches. For instance, it was found that in 1992/93, 114 branch lines contributed a loss of Rs.121 crores. To its credit, however, the railways have been looking around for sources of funds other than the budget.

- i. How did the railways usually meet the short fall in their resources generation?
  - ii. Give a synonym for 'scenario'.
  - iii. What is the meaning of 'pruning' as used in the passage?
  - iv. What reasons are cited in the passage for the shortfall?
  - v. Why do the government and railways not raise passenger fares?
  - vi. What was the reaction of the public to the removal of the subsidy on some freight items?
  - vii. Are the railways depending only on the budget to meet the annual shortage?
  - viii. What is the average monthly shortfall of railways?
- (b) A list of words is given below. Use the words to fill the blanks in the text that follows. Change the form of the word if necessary.

Academic	pattern	large	advance
Emphasis	era	tradition	leaders

India had a \_\_\_\_\_ of excellence in science in the pre-independence \_\_\_\_\_. We may recall the work of J.C.Bose, P.C Ray, Ramanujan and Saha. Almost all of this work was carried out in \_\_\_\_\_ institutions, with centers of excellence built around outstanding \_\_\_\_\_ and generally operating under modest budgets. When Bhabha started activities in atomic energy, a new \_\_\_\_\_ of supporting science and technology activities was involved. This pattern involved substantial government spending, \_\_\_\_\_ multi-disciplinary teams, a strong \_\_\_\_\_ on

technology and the pursuit of specific goals. This was indeed the pattern the industrially \_\_\_\_ countries had used for projects in defence.

8. (a) Correct the following sentences:
- i. The African countries are poor, isn't it?
  - ii. Too many ill-equipped hospitals is coming up in rural India.
  - iii. Either you or he are coming to me tomorrow.
  - iv. I am having a big house in Chennai and a small one is my village.
- (b) Put the accent marks at the light place in the following words.
- i. post
  - ii. academic
  - iii. decline
  - iv. academy (as noun)
- (c) Give antonyms of the following:
- i. praise
  - ii. sinner
  - iii. ruly
  - iv. human
- (d) Give one-word substitutes of the following:
- i. One who does not believe in god.
  - ii. A place where dogs are kept.
  - iii. One who is present everywhere
  - iv. A place where money is coined
- (e) Supply the appropriate preposition / article in the following sentences:
- i. Richa is \_\_\_\_ model and \_\_\_\_artist
  - ii. What did she hit him \_\_\_\_?
  - iii. What are you thinking \_\_\_\_?

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