

University of Information Technology & Sciences (UITS)
Faculty of Science and Engineering

Department of Computer Science and Engineering

Program: B.Sc. in CSE

Term Final Examination, Autumn 2024

Course Code: GED 0232111

Course Title: Communicative English

Time: 3(Three) hours

Marks: 50

(Answer all questions)

Q.No. Read the passage carefully and answer questions no. 1, 2 and 3: Marks

The beginning of the story of pencils started with a lightning. Graphite, the main material for producing pencil, was discovered in 1564 in Boirowdale in England when a lightning struck a local tree during a thunder. Local people found out that the black substance spotted at the root of the unlucky tree was different from burning ash of wood.

It was soft, thus left marks everywhere. Chemistry was barely out of its infancy at the time, so people mistook it for lead, equally black but much heavier. (It was soon put to use by locals in marking their sheep for signs of ownership and calculation.)

Britain turns out to be the major country where mines of graphite can be detected and developed. Even so, the first pencil was invented elsewhere. As graphite is soft, it requires some form of encasement. In Italy, graphite sticks were initially wrapped in string or sheepskin for stability, becoming perhaps the very first pencil in the world.

(Then around 1560, an Italian couple made what are likely the first blueprints for the modern, wood-encased carpentry pencil. Their version was a flat, oval, more compact type of pencil.) Their concept involved the hollowing out of a stick of juniper wood. Shortly thereafter in 1662, a superior technique was discovered by German people: two wooden halves were carved, a graphite stick inserted, and the halves then glued together – essentially the same method in use to this day. The news of usefulness of these early pencils spread far and wide, attracting the attention of artists all over the known world.

Although graphite core in pencils is still referred to as lead, modern pencils do not contain lead as the “lead” of the pencil is actually a mix of finely ground graphite and clay powders. This mixture is important because the amount of clay content added to the graphite depends on intended pencil hardness, and the amount of time spent on grinding the mixture determines the quality of the

lead. The more clay you put in, the higher hardness the core has.

Many pencils across the world, and almost all in Europe, are graded on the European system. (This system of naming used B for black and H for hard) a pencil's grade was described by a sequence or successive Hs or Bs such as BB and BBB for successively softer leads, and HHH and HHHH for successively harder ones. Then the standard writing pencil is graded HB.

In England, pencils continued to be made from whole sawn graphite. But with the mass production of pencils, they are getting drastically more popular in many countries with each passing decade. As demands rise, appetite for graphite soars. According to the United States Geological Survey (USGS), world production of natural graphite in 2012 was 1,100,000 tonnes, of which the following major exporters are: China, India, Brazil, North Korea and Canada.

When the value of graphite was realised, the mines were taken over by the government and guarded. One of its chief uses during the reign of Elizabeth I in the second half of the 16th century was as moulds for the manufacture of cannon balls. Graphite was transported from Keswick to London in armed stagecoaches. In 1751 an Act of Parliament was passed making it an offence to steal or receive "wad". This crime was punishable by hard labour or transportation.

1. Scan, identify and write down only True if the statement agrees with the information, False if the statement contradicts the information or Not Given if there is no information on this: [4×1=4]

- a) Italy is probably the first country of the whole world to make pencils. ✓
- b) Germany used various kinds of wood to make pencils. ✗
- c) Pencils are not produced any more since the reign of Elizabeth. ✓
- d) Graphite was transported to London using heavily guarded stagecoaches. ✓

2. Scrutinize the passage and carefully answer the following questions. [4×1=4]

- a) How did people initially use graphite?
- b) Where were the first pencils invented?
- c) What is the significance of the "B" and "H" grading system for pencils?
- d) Why was graphite so valuable during the reign of Elizabeth I?

3. Summarize the given passage in your own words. (Word limit: 150 words)

[1×4=4]

Write one synonym and one antonym of the given words and make one sentence with the following base words: (any five)

[5×1=5]

✓ Disperse, ✓ Frivolous, ✓ Ephemeral, ✓ Gratify, ✓ Haphazard, ✓ Inclement, ✓ Judicious, ✓ Lengthen

5. Rewrite and correct the following paragraph using appropriate spellings, punctuation marks and capitalizations where necessary:

[5×0.5=2.5]

The tiger's roar was so loud it could be heard all through the jungle. "Do you think it's coming this way?" Timmy whispered to his sister. "I don't think so" she said uncertainly. Timmy's heart was pounding in his chest as they crept carefully through the Bushes. Then, out of nowhere two tigers appeared

6. Rewrite the following sentences using the correct form of verbs:

[5×0.5=2.5]

- a) He called me while I drive the car.
- b) No sooner had I am heard the bell I open the door.
- c) Neither the stars nor the moon is visible last night.
- d) That you finished reading the novels were unknown to me.
- e) She had completes the task yet.

7. Make an Outline and write an essay on any one of the following topics (320 words):

[1×10
(3+7)= 10]

- a) Examination Phobia
- b) Plastic Pollution

8. Assume that you are Sohan and have completed your major in CSE. Now you are looking for a suitable position for you in any renowned company. Radiance Pvt. Ltd. located at Gulshan, is looking for suitable candidates for the post of Data Analyst to help the business. The recruiting news was published in The Daily Star on 01.12.24. Now write down a cover letter along with a CV to apply for the post of Data Analyst.

[1×8=8]

9. Suppose, you are the IT manager of Capmark Pvt. Ltd. You have identified several cyber security vulnerabilities in the company's systems. As the IT Manager, write a memorandum to all the IT officers of your company outlining the risks and to take immediate necessary actions to enhance IT security of your company.

[1×5=5]

10.

Give an appropriate title and write down a story based on the following picture. (180 words).

[1×5=5]

