

2021

COMMUNICATIVE ENGLISH — MAJOR

Paper : CC-5

(English Comprehension and Composition)

Full Marks : 65

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

*Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words
as far as practicable.*

1. Write a précis of the following passage and assign a suitable title : 8+2
- Climate scientists generally agree that the safe limit for the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere is 350 parts per million. During the nineties (90s), CO₂ emissions rose by 0.9 percent. Between 2000 and 2007, they rose by 3.5 per cent. According to the UN Development Programme, we need to cut emissions by 50 per cent worldwide by 2050, in comparison with 1990s levels, to prevent runaway climate change.
- But the International Energy Agency estimates that emissions will actually increase over the next fifty years, by up to 100 per cent. So far, international attempts to control emissions have failed. The Kyoto Protocol, initially adopted in 1997, did nothing to stop them rising by the same amount as they were supposed to fall because of it. But Kyoto looks impressive alongside Copenhagen in 2009 and Cancun in 2010. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate change is not doing a very good job of coordinating things. James Hansen of NASA's Goddard Institute warns that if the use of coal as a source of energy isn't phased out in the developing world by 2030, we'll face droughts, heatwaves and ferocious forest fires. We are already going through a mass extinction of life, the worst since the disappearance of dinosaurs.
2. Write an expansion or a composition on **any one** of the following topics (word limit **400-500** words) : 15×1
- (a) An apple a day keeps the doctor away.
 - (b) One good turn deserves another.
 - (c) The book I love the most. Write about your favourite book – a novel, a volume of essays, scientific monograph etc.
 - (d) Ban on plastic : Environment vs Economy
 - (e) Women empowerment starts at home— Just implementing laws are not sufficient, they need to be strong and effective
 - (f) The era of Digitalisation.
3. Write an article on **any one** of the following topics (**450-500** words) : 15×1
- (a) Media's duty is to inform public and not to manufacture opinion.
 - (b) Online schooling : Future of education?

Please Turn Over

- (c) Thoughts Winter Brings to Mind.
- (d) Globalization vs Nationalism.
- (e) Five books you need to read.

4. Write a dialogue between two people based on **any one** of the following situations (400 words) : 10×1
- (a) A waiter and a diner at a restaurant.
 - (b) Two friends talking about a film they both watched recently.
 - (c) A service provider and a mobile network telecom service user talking about new schemes and offers.

5. Read the passage below and answer the following questions :

I think a big part of the problem is our culture's seemingly boundless enthusiasm for Charles Darwin. In 2009, on the two hundredth anniversary of Darwin's birth and the 150th anniversary of his *On the Origin of Species*, there were over 750 commemorative events in forty-five countries. As Stephen Shapin noted in the *London Review of Books*, there were the 'Darwin-themed' T-shirts, teddybears, bobbleheads, tote bags, coffee mugs, fridge magnets, mouse mats, scatter cushions and pet bowls; the "Darwin Loves You" bumper-stickers, the "Darwin is my Homeboy" badges and the "I love Darwinism" thongs. Darwin-mania was everywhere!

It is interesting to speculate why Darwin's ideas are so enduringly popular. Perhaps because they offer a simple and reassuring rationale for apathy : things are as they are because that's the best way for them to be.

- (a) Answer the following : 2×3
 - (i) Why was 2009 important in marking a milestone with respect to Charles Darwin?
 - (ii) Name the Darwin merchandise that was available to commemorate the milestone.
 - (iii) Why are Darwin's ideas so enduringly popular?
 - (b) Summarise the passage in your own words. 5
 - (c) Assign a suitable title to the passage. 2
 - (d) Write the synonyms of the following : (1×2)
 - (i) rationale
 - (ii) apathy.
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