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**BMD 161101**

Roll No. of candidate

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**2016**

**B. Des 1st Semester End-Term Examination**  
**COMMUNICATION SKILLS**

Full Marks –100 Pass Marks – 35 Time – Three hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks  
for the questions.

All questions are compulsory.

1. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions given below :  $1 \times 12 = 12$

Galaxies are the major building blocks of the universe. A galaxy is giant family of many millions of stars, and it is held together by its own gravitational field. Most of the material universe is organized into galaxies of stars together with gas and dust.

There are three main types of galaxy : spiral, elliptical and irregular. The Milky Way is a spiral galaxy, a flattish disc of stars with two spiral arms emerging from its central nucleus. About one-quarter of all galaxies have this shape. Spiral galaxies are well supplied with the interstellar

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gas in which new stars form : as the rotating spiral pattern sweeps around the galaxy it compresses gas and dust, triggering the formation of bright young stars and in its arms. The elliptical galaxies have a symmetrical elliptical or spheroidal shape with no obvious structure. Most of their member stars are very old and since ellipticals are devoid of interstellar gas, no new stars are forming in them. The biggest and brightest galaxies in the universe are ellipticals with masses of about  $10^{13}$  times that of the Sun, these giants may frequently be sources of strong radio emission, in which case they are called radio galaxies. About two-thirds of all galaxies are elliptical. Irregular galaxies comprise about one-tenth of all galaxies and they come in many subclasses.

Measurement in space is quite different from measurement on Earth. Some terrestrial distances can be expressed as intervals of time, the time to fly from one continent to another or the time it takes to drive to work, for example. By comparison with these familiar yardsticks, the distances to the galaxies are incomprehensively large, but they too are made more manageable by using a time calibration, in this case the distance that light travels in one year. On such a scale the nearest giant spiral galaxy, the Andromeda galaxy, is two million light years

away. The most distant luminous objects seen by telescopes are probably ten thousand million light years away. Their light was already halfway here before the Earth even formed. The light from the nearby Virgo galaxy set out when reptiles still dominated the animal world.

- (i) The word 'major' in line 1 is closest in meaning to
- (a) intense                      (b) principal  
(c) huge                         (d) unique
- (ii) What does the second paragraph mainly discuss ?
- (a) The Milky Way  
(b) Major categories of galaxies  
(c) How elliptical galaxies are formed ?  
(d) Differences between irregular and spiral galaxies.
- (iii) The word 'which' in the sentence 'spiral galaxies are well supplied with the interstellar gas in which new stars form,' refers to
- (a) dust                         (b) gas  
(c) pattern                      (d) galaxy

- (iv) According to the passage, new stars are formed in spiral galaxies due to
- (a) an explosion of gas
  - (b) the compression of gas and dust
  - (c) the combining of old stars
  - (d) strong radio emissions
- (v) The word 'symmetrical' in the sentence "The elliptical galaxies have a symmetrical elliptical or spheroidal shape with no obvious structure," is closest in meaning to
- (a) proportionally balanced
  - (b) commonly seen
  - (c) typically large
  - (d) steadily growing
- (vi) The word 'obvious' in line the sentence "The elliptical galaxies have a symmetrical elliptical or spheroidal shape with no obvious structure," is closest in meaning to
- (a) discovered
  - (b) apparent
  - (c) understood
  - (d) simplistic

(vii) According to the passage, which of the following is not true of elliptical galaxies ?

- (a) They are the largest galaxies.
- (b) They mostly contain old stars.
- (c) They contain a high amount of interstellar gas.
- (d) They have a spherical shape.

(viii) Which of the following characteristics of radio galaxies is mentioned in the passage ?

- (a) They are a type of elliptical galaxy.
- (b) They are usually too small to be seen with a telescope.
- (c) They are closely related to irregular galaxies.
- (d) They are not as bright as spiral galaxies.

(ix) What percentage of galaxies are irregular ?

- (a) 10%
- (b) 25%
- (c) 50%
- (d) 75%

(x) The word 'they' in the sentence "By comparison with these familiar yardsticks, the distances to the galaxies are incomprehensively large, but they too are made more manageable by using a time calibration, in this case the distance that light travels in one year," refers to

- (a) intervals
- (b) yardsticks
- (c) distances
- (d) galaxies

(xi) Why does the author mention the Virgo galaxy and the Andromeda galaxy in the third paragraph ?

- (a) To describe the effect that distance has no visibility.
- (b) To compare the ages of two relatively young galaxies.
- (c) To emphasize the vast distances of the galaxies from Earth.
- (d) To explain why certain galaxies cannot be seen by a telescope.

- (xii) The word 'dominated' in the sentence "The light from the nearby Virgo galaxy set out when reptiles still dominated the animal world," is closest in meaning to
- (a) threatened
  - (b) replaced
  - (c) were developing in
  - (d) were prevalent in
2. (i) Rewrite each sentence using a form of the word in brackets, so that they have similar meanings. Example : It's expensive. (*cost*) :  
*It costs a lot.*  $1 \times 5 = 5$
- (a) It's too expensive for me. (*afford*)
  - (b) It's not worth buying. (*waste*)
  - (c) Can I borrow Rs. 1000.00 from you ?  
(*lend*)
  - (d) He bought that jacket for Rs. 2000.00.  
(*pay*)
  - (e) It's cheap. (*cost*).

(ii) Identify the roots prefixes and suffixes of the following words :  $1 \times 6 = 6$

- (a) unnatural
- (b) indiscipline
- (c) dishonesty
- (d) disapproval
- (e) unselfish
- (f) outdated.

(iii) Fill in the blanks with appropriate verbs in such a manner that the verb is in agreement with the subject.  $1 \times 6 = 6$

Once upon a time, kings or queens ..... sworn in with great deal of pomp and ceremony. In that sense, US president-elect Barack Obama's inauguration in January ..... harked back memory of those times. Obama's swearing in ..... brought millions of people to Washington to celebrate the new American President. What ..... remarkable ..... the number of people who ..... expected to brave the inhospitable Washington weather to stand in long queues and listen to the president.

(iv) Write the antonyms of the following words : 1×4=4

- (a) Export      (b) Introvert  
(c) Affirm      (d) Add

(v) Transform the following sentences with given clues : 1×5=5

(a) As the weather was fine, we went out for a picnic.

The weather being .....

(b) How beautiful is the moonlit night !

The moonlit night .....

(c) We have helped the victims with food as well as money.

Not only .....

(d) This is the sweetest song I have ever heard.

No other song .....

(e) He has grown rich, he wants more money.

In spite of .....

(vi) Change the following sentences into passive forms :  $1 \times 4 = 4$

(a) The fisherman caught the fish.

(b) When I was young my uncle looked after me.

(c) They destroyed the restaurant.

(d) The news surprised me.

3. (a) "Communication is considered as the backbone of an organization." Keeping in mind the above statement, throw some light on the importance of effective professional communication skills.  $10$

(b) Write short notes on the following :  $5 \times 2 = 10$

(a) Kinetics

(b) Physical barrier

5. (i) Transcribe the following words using IPA symbols :  $1 \times 4 = 4$

(a) cat

(b) most

(c) shower

(d) table

(ii) Underline the diphthongs of the following words : 1×4=4

- (a) both                      (b) paid  
(c) jury                        (d) sure

6. (a) An International Airline has invited applications for some vacancies of flight attendants. Write an application for one such post giving full details to the Personnel Manager. 8

(b) Prepare a Resume to be attached along with the above mentioned application. 6

(c) What is the basic difference between CV and Resume ? 6

7. Write an essay on any *one* of the following topics within 500 words each. 10

(a) Why do people go to the cinema instead of watching a movie at home ?

(b) Has the television become obsolete ?

(c) Environmental degradation caused by human activity.