

**CERTIFICATE PROGRAMME IN  
FUNCTIONAL ENGLISH (CFE)**

**Term-End Examination**

**December, 2011**

**BEG-004 : ENGLISH IN DAILY LIFE**

*Time : 3 hours*

*Maximum Marks : 100*

*Note : All questions are compulsory.*

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :

The Solar Cooker

Slow and steady wins the race. This proverb is best illustrated by the working of a solar cooker. The solar cooker is like a calm, unemotional person. It cannot be hurried into doing its job. It is good to keep this in mind.

It is best to get initiated into solar cooking by cooking a pot of rice. For one thing, rice is a staple food in our country and secondly, the change in its appearance on cooking is so very obvious that you can use it as a benchmark. Place the rice and twice its volume of water in the pot and keep it in the oven, close the glass cover and position the cooker so as to face the sun. Fix the mirrored lid at such an angle that the reflected sunlight falls on the glass. Let us assume it is a

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clear day with a blue sky. If you open the glass cover and the pot lid after about an hour, you will find the rice grains starting to rise in the water. If you return to the cooker after another hour, you will find the rice fully and uniformly cooked and it has risen to the full volume. The rice cooked in a solar cooker is better looking and has a better consistency than the rice cooked in a pressure cooker.

There is no fear of the rice getting burnt or over cooked in the solar cooker. The only noticeable effect may be, if the sun is really hot and you have left the rice too long, that the surface has a dry appearance which is not all that objectionable. Each of the four cooking pots in the cooker will take about 250 grams of material yielding double the weight of cooked food. Thus each cooker will yield 2 kg of cooked food, which will be enough for 4-5 people.

As a rule of thumb, you can figure that cooking food will take about twice as much time as in a conventional cooker/oven. But you need not attend to the cooker all the time. You can come back later in the day and the rice will be cooked to perfection and then stay hot until you take it out. The latter feature is important. In a conventional cooker, after cooking is done, the food gets cold and we have to reheat it. This problem is completely solved in a solar cooker.

The food stays warm in the cooker. The solar cooker doubles up as a hot case. For those who like to have their dinner early, the solar cooker would be ideal. The rice is cooked and remains hot in the solar cooker.

(a) Answer the following questions by choosing the correct answer, (A), (B) or (C). 5

(i) According to the passage, the staple food in our country is :

(A) maize

(B) rice

(C) wheat

(ii) Rice in a solar rice cooker cooks :

(A) slowly

(B) fast

(C) without water.

(iii) The word 'staple' means :

(A) plenty

(B) delicious

(C) regular

(iv) The solar rice cooker :

(A) only cooks the rice

(B) cooks the rice and keeps it warm

(C) cooks the rice and burns it

(v) When the rice is being cooked in a solar cooker :

(A) you must keep on stirring it;

(B) you must keep on adding water;

(C) you can close the lid and come back after one or two hours.

(b) State whether the following statements are True or False : 10

- (i) The solar cooker works with the help of the heat from the sun.
- (ii) The solar cooker cooks the rice very fast.
- (iii) Rice is not eaten by many people in India.
- (iv) After cooking, the rice does not remain the same but changes its shape and size.
- (v) If you leave the rice in the solar cooker for a long time, it gets burnt.
- (vi) The pressure cooker cooks rice faster than a solar cooker.
- (vii) The solar cooker can cook food up to ten people.
- (viii) The volume of rice increases when cooked in a solar cooker.
- (ix) After cooking, the rice cools down in the solar cooker.
- (x) The solar rice cooker is a useful cooker for any household in India.



- (d) Mr. Gupta has been our principal \_\_\_\_\_ 1998.
- (i) from           (ii) since
- (iii) for           (iv) during
- (e) All the students like this teacher because he is good \_\_\_\_\_ Maths.
- (i) at               (ii) in
- (iii) on           (iv) for

3. Fill in the blanks with appropriate words from the box given below :

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Spectacular unique potential conservation  
occasionally.

- (a) We do not get much rainfall here. It only rains here \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) There is a painting in this museum which is \_\_\_\_\_, it is really the only one of its kind.
- (c) As we drove in our car across the mountains, we came across \_\_\_\_\_ valleys and forests.
- (d) Each and every citizen of the country is responsible for the \_\_\_\_\_ of our forests and wildlife.
- (e) A good teacher brings out the \_\_\_\_\_ of a student to its full extent.

4. Fill in the blanks in the paragraph below with the correct form of the words given in brackets. 10

Holidays are (example) enjoyable \_\_\_\_\_ (enjoy) times, especially for children and the summer vacation is no exception. Usually, a holiday trip is \_\_\_\_\_ (plan) by the parents and soon, the tickets are \_\_\_\_\_ (book) either by bus or by train. And then, the whole family becomes busy with \_\_\_\_\_ (Pack) : Clothes, shoes, books, CDS and food items go into different suitcases and bags. Sweets and snacks are \_\_\_\_\_ (prepare). The \_\_\_\_\_ (distribute) of these items begins among all the members as soon as the journey starts. And to these are \_\_\_\_\_ (add) tea and coffee to make the meal complete. And if it is hot weather, you can see people \_\_\_\_\_ (carry) water bottles and soft drinks. Once the holiday is over, the family is back and it is time to \_\_\_\_\_ (pack) all the bags. For some time, especially the children are in a state of \_\_\_\_\_ (depress) and \_\_\_\_\_ (disappoint), but soon these emotions disappear when they get back to school.

5. Look at the following statements. Frame questions beginning with the word given. 5

(a) Ravi's parents are taking him to the new cinema.

Where ..... ?

- (b) The sun shines very brightly at midday.  
When .....
- (c) The colour of leaves is green because they  
contain chlorophyll.  
Why .....
- (d) The shape of the earth is round.  
What .....
- (e) Tea is made by brewing tea leaves.  
How .....

6. Complete the sentences choosing the correct form of the verb (i), (ii) or (iii). 10

- (a) The furniture \_\_\_\_\_ being moved to the  
new showroom.  
(i) are (ii) is (iii) am
- (b) If the glass had fallen from the table, it  
would probably \_\_\_\_\_.  
(i) have broken  
(ii) break  
(iii) had broken
- (c) The postman \_\_\_\_\_ arrived before  
you leave.  
(i) will (ii) may (iii) will have
- (d) Bharath realised that he \_\_\_\_\_ a  
mistake.  
(i) had made  
(ii) will make  
(iii) may make

- (e) Rohan is late. He \_\_\_\_\_ the bus.
- (i) must have missed
  - (ii) had missed
  - (iii) miss
- (f) Once you reach Shimla, you \_\_\_\_\_ taken to a hotel.
- (i) will be
  - (ii) will
  - (iii) will have
- (g) After we rechecked the totals, the results \_\_\_\_\_ clear.
- (i) are
  - (ii) became
  - (iii) got
- (h) The guests had to \_\_\_\_\_ ready before leaving for the function.
- (i) become
  - (ii) get
  - (iii) have
- (i) The women who were not \_\_\_\_\_ from the scheme, wrote to the minister.
- (i) benefit
  - (ii) benefitting
  - (iii) benefitted
- (j) Take an umbrella with you, \_\_\_\_\_ it rains.
- (i) unless
  - (ii) in case
  - (iii) so

7. Choose the correct word : Polite or Impolite and write it against the appropriate statements. 5

- (a) Would you mind passing the salt please ?
- (b) Don't you know how to do things properly ?
- (c) Could you please bring us some water ?
- (d) May I leave a bit early sir ?
- (e) Conductor ! Change please. Fast !

8. Transform these sentences into passive or active voice as shown. Begin your answer with the word given. 5

- (a) The conductor issues the tickets.  
Ans : The tickets .....
- (b) The criminal was sentenced to death, by the judge.  
Ans : The Judge .....
- (c) Krishnadevaraya ruled over the Vijayanagar Kingdom for many years.  
Ans : The Vijayanagar Kingdom .....
- (d) The snow was cleared by the tourists.  
Ans : The tourists .....
- (e) The teacher has already marked the attendance.  
Ans : The attendance .....

9. Description : (About 150 words) 10

Friendship is a common thing that is found all over the world. Describe what makes friendship so special.

Also, describe a good friend of yours and say how you became friends, what things you share, what activities you do together and what makes your friendship special.

10. Letter writing : (About 100 words) 10

You shop at the local shopping area in your town/city which, you feel, needs a lot of improvement. Write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper, explaining :

- (a) What you like about the shopping area;
- (b) What are the things/aspects that need improvement in the area;
- (c) Suggest how the local shopping area can be improved.

Use the correct letter format and write around 100 words.

11. Essay Writing : (200 words). 15

Nowadays, many people all over the world, are working from home. Write an essay of about 200 words explaining the advantages and disadvantages of working from home. which type of jobs are suitable for working from home and what type of people are best suited for working from home.

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