

No. of Printed Pages : 10 **FEG-1/BEGF-101**

BDP/BCA/BTS

Term-End Examination

December, 2023

FEG-01/BEGF-101 : FOUNDATION COURSE

IN ENGLISH—1

Time : 2 Hours

Maximum Marks : 50

Note : *Answer all questions.*

1. (a) Read the following passage and answer the questions given below it :

At the time of my visit, before the Chinese walked into Tibet, the Mansarovar area was known to be dangerously bandit-ridden. Helpless pilgrims from India were frequently waylaid by gangs and robbed

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and beaten up, and sometimes even killed. I had been warned by Gelong repeatedly of the risk of moving around unarmed and alone, but had thought it was only *his* way of making the trip a little more exciting for us.

However, one morning, attended by Gelong while burning for nests among a patch of furze bushes, I fancied I noticed a slight movement some distance ahead but paid no heed to it. When we got closer to the spot there suddenly popped up from his ambush a grimy ferocious-looking ruffian with an ugly dagger in his belt and matchlock slung over his shoulder. He promptly started shouting and gesticulating with alarming truculence which it was perhaps just as well I didn't

understand. I have never seen a living human turn so pale as Gelong did upon the bandit's challenge; the expression 'white as a sheet' seems no wild exaggeration. He was visibly shivering with fright and begged me again and again in terrified undertones to flee from this '*kharab admi*'. I realized that it was now too late to think of any such action, and in any case it would have been futile as we had an endless open plain before us and no help within thirty miles. Luckily at that moment I suddenly remembered my shooting-stick (a seat, as used by cricket umpires) which Gelong was carrying. In a loud voice I ordered him to hand it to me quickly. I pretended it was a gun and mimicked loading it with a cartridge drawn from my pocket with deliberate ostentation. I take it that the

bandit was unfamiliar with a contraption of this kind with its shining metal parts. He looked visibly concerned when I opened and closed the seat with a noisy klick-klackening loaded the 'gun' and sloped it over my shoulder like the real thing. It was now my turn to shout back sentiments which I am glad (for his own sake) the ruffian did not understand! Fortunately the bluff worked : the man's truculence subsided at once; he turned away sullenly and made off. I marched back to the camp with mock bravado, apprehensive all the time of a bullet following us behind, and thankful for a happy ending to a most uncomfortable situation.

(Source : *The Fall of Sparrow*

by Salim Ali)

Answer the following questions :

- (i) Was the writer a traveller in the Mansarover area or a permanent resident there ? Pick out the sentence from the passage which indicates your answer. 1
- (ii) The writer used to move about alone, unarmed and often hunting for bird nests. What do you think his main interest lay in ? 1
- (iii) Who do you think Gelong is ? Give evidence from the text in support of your answer. 2
- (iv) What actions of Gelong suggest that he was terribly frightened of the bandit ? 2
- (v) Why did the writer decide not to run away ? Discuss. 2

(vi) What did the writer do to make the bandit believe that he (the writer) had a gun ? 2

(b) Match the words in Column A with their meanings in Column B : 5

There is one extra item in the meaning column :

| Column A | Column B |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| (i) bandit | (1) a device or a piece of machinery |
| (ii) ambush | (2) looking dull and unpleasant |
| (iii) sullen | (3) useless action |
| (iv) futile | (4) an armed robber |
| (v) contraption | (5) attacking people after hiding and waiting for them |
| | (6) acting in an angry and aggressive manner |

(c) Make sentences of your own with the following *five* words/phrases : 5

(i) way laid by gangs (para 1)

(ii) exciting (para 1)

(iii) paid no heed (para 2)

(iv) terrified (para 2)

(v) unfamiliar (para 2)

(vi) ruffian (para 2)

(vii) uncomfortable (para 2)

2. (a) Fill in the blanks with a/an, the : 5

I immediately went round to the Boma to make complaint about way I had been treated. There was young district officer there whom I know well. He took me to his office. He listened with sympathy to my story and began

thumping table in his indignation.
He said, 'Look here, Kenneth, if ever you
want anything just come along to me and I
will give you note'.

(b) Change the following sentences into
passive voice : 5

(i) A terrible cyclone destroyed the
village.

(ii) The cyclone rendered several people
homeless.

(iii) The Chief Minister of the state is
going to give Rupees 1 lac to each of
the families of the victims.

(iv) Several NGO's are feeding the
homeless victims.

(v) They are giving food and clothes to
them.

3. Write a paragraph or two (of about **150** words) on any *one* of the following topics : 10

- (i) Eliminating stress from our lives
- (ii) We are still lonely despite social media
- (iii) The rights of animals are as important as human rights
- (iv) The cultural activities I enjoy watching or doing

4. Write a dialogue on any *one* of the following. Take at least 10-15 turns : 10

- (i) You think a blended-learning programme offers you a better education than a complete face-to-face programme. Your friend disagrees. Explain your point of view as well as the point of view of your friend.

- (ii) You and your friend are going on a trek up the mountains. Discuss about the things you need to carry in terms of clothing, food, equipment, shoes and any other items you can think of.