

**I/GENG (R) (All Streams)**

**2014**

**( 1st Semester )**

**GENERAL ENGLISH**

**( Common for Science, Home Science,  
Arts and Commerce )**

**FIRST PAPER**

**( Language and Writing/Communication Skills )**

**( Regular )**

**Full Marks : 75**

**Time : 3 hours**

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

**UNIT—1**

**1. Answer any two of the following questions :**

**10×2=20**

- (a) "It is in our national interest to keep English as the medium of instruction at all levels of education." Comment.

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**( Turn Over )**

- (b) Describe the process of communication indicating the role of each constituent element.
- (c) What do you mean by the term 'barriers to communication'? Explain, in detail, at least five barriers to communication.
- (d) What is e-mail communication? Highlight the techniques for writing an effective e-mail.

Or

As a publishing manager of Zomi Publishing House, Aizawl, draft an e-mail to an author expressing your appreciation of the manuscript and your effort to get the book published within two months as desired by him.

UNIT—II

2. Fill in the blanks using the correct form of the verbs given in brackets. :  $1 \times 5 = 5$
- (a) You, and not I, — (was/were) trained to do that.
- (b) Either he or I — (is/are/am) to present a paper in the seminar.
- (c) The wages of sin — (is/are) death.

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(d) The chief, with his elders —  
(receives/receive) a large amount of  
money.

(e) Not only John but also his friends —  
(has/have) helped that old woman.

3. Rewrite the following as directed : 1×5=5

(a) He is an eloquent speaker.  
(Name the part of speech of the  
underlined word)

(b) My elder brother is — M.P.  
(Supply suitable article)

(c) This is my daughter — I am proud of.  
(Add suitable relative pronoun)

(d) Pu Zuala fought —.  
(Add suitable adverb)

(e) Reading the Bible is what keeps me  
going.  
(Identify the subject and the  
predicate)

4. Change the following as directed : 1×5=5

(a) The criminal was arrested by the police.  
(Change into past perfect tense)

(b) Thangteü's father suffered from fever.  
(Change into present perfect  
continuous tense)

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( Turn Over )

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(c) By whom are you taught grammar?  
(Change into active voice)

(d) Has your father beaten you?  
(Change into passive voice)

(c) Did you send this letter?  
(Change into passive voice)

5. Change the speech of the following sentences : 1×5=5

(a) He said that he was glad to be there that evening.

(b) She requested them to wait there till she returned.

(c) The teacher said to the student, "Take off your cap."

(d) He asked Meriam, "How is your father?"

(e) Dr. Nidhi said, "Let us wait for them."

UNIT—III

6. (a) Respond to the following advertisement : 10

Applications in plain paper are invited for the post of a higher secondary school principal. The candidate should be a Master Degree holder with M. Ed. Degree and must have at least 5 years' teaching

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experience. Starting salary is ₹ 20,000 p.m. Age should be between 25-35 years. Apply to the President, Managing Board, Little Flower Higher Secondary School, Mission Veng, Aizawl, Mizoram. Provide resume.

Or

(b) As the President of Y. M. A, Dawrpui Branch, you have witnessed a fire accident at Millennium Centre, Dawrpui, Aizawl. Write a report on the incident.

Or

(c) Assuming that you are an unemployed graduate, planning to set up a steel manufacturing unit and wish to avail of loan facility, draft a technical proposal for the production of an item of your choice, seeking loan from the Branch Manager, SBI, Main Branch, Aizawl. Provide necessary details.

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

Without a knowledge of grammar it is impossible for you to write correctly; and, it is by mere accident if you speak correctly. And pray, bear in mind that all well-informed persons judge of a man's mind (until they

have other means of judging) by his writing or speaking. The labour necessary to acquire this knowledge is indeed not trifling. Grammar is not like Arithmetic, a science consisting of several distinct departments, some of which may be dispensed with. It is a whole, and the whole must be learned, or no part is learned. The subject is abstruse; it demands much reflection and much patience but, when once the task is performed, it is performed for life, and in every day of that life it will be found to be a source of pleasure or of profit or both together. And, what is the labour? It consists of no bodily exertion; it exposes the student to no cold, no hunger, no suffering of any sort. The study need subtract from the hours of no business, nor indeed, from the hours of necessary exercise. The hours usually spent in the tea and coffee shops and in the mere gossip which accompany them—these wasted hours, of only one year, employed in the study of English grammar would make you a correct speaker and writer for the rest of your life.

I learned grammar when I was a private soldier on the pay of six pence a day, under the most difficult conditions. And if I, under such circumstances, and without parents or

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friends to advise or encourage me, accomplished this undertaking, what excuse can there be for any youth, however poor, however pressed with business, or however circumstanced as to room or other conveniences?

(From *Advice to Young Men*  
by William Cobbett)

Questions :

- (a) (i) Write the summary or the abstract. 5  
(ii) Make notes. 5

Or

- (b) Make a précis of the given passage in one-third of its original length. Supply a suitable title. 10

UNIT—IV

Oral Communication : 15 marks  
(To be conducted in the college)

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