

**Exam. Code : 107401**

**Subject Code : 2178**

**B.Sc. (Biotechnology) 1<sup>st</sup> Semester**

**COMMUNICATION SKILLS IN ENGLISH**

**Paper—BT-7**

Time Allowed—3 Hours]

[Maximum Marks—50

**Note :— ALL questions are compulsory.**

1. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :

Although stage plays have been set to music since the era of the ancient Greeks, when the dramas of Sophocles and Aeschylus were accompanied by lyres and flutes, the usually accepted date for the beginning of opera as we know is 1600. As part of the celebration of the marriage of King Henry IV of France to the Italian aristocrat Maria de Medici, the Florentine composer Jacopo Peri produced his famous Euridice, generally considered to be the first opera. Following his example, a group of Italian musicians, poets and noblemen called the Camerata began to revive the style of musical story that had been used in Greek tragedy. The Camerata took most of the plots for their operas from Greek and Roman history and mythology, writing librettos or dramas for music. They called

their compositions *opera in music or musical works*. It is from this phrase that the word 'opera' is borrowed.

For several years, the centre of Opera was Florence, but gradually during the baroque period, it spread throughout Italy. By the late 1600s, operas were being written and performed in Europe, especially in England, France and Germany. But, for many years, the Italian opera was considered the ideal, and many non-Italian composers continued to use Italian librettos. The European form de-emphasized the dramatic aspect. New orchestral effects and even ballet were introduced under the guise of Opera. Composers gave in to the demands of singers, writing many operas that were nothing more than a succession of brilliant tricks for the voice. Complicated arias, recitatives and duets evolved. The aria, which is a long solo, may be compared to a song in which the characters express their thoughts and feelings. The recitative, which is also a solo, is a recitation set to music whose purpose is to continue the story line.

- (i) This passage is a summary of :
- (a) an opera in Italy
  - (b) the Camerata
  - (c) the development of Opera
  - (d) Euridice

(ii) According to this passage, when did modern opera begin ?

- (a) in the time of the ancient Greeks
- (b) in the fifteenth century
- (c) at the beginning of the sixteenth century
- (d) at the beginning of the seventeenth century

(iii) What was the Camerata ?

- (a) a group of Greek musicians
- (b) musicians who developed a new musical drama based upon Greek drama
- (c) a style of music not known in Italy
- (d) the name given to the court of King Henry IV.

(iv) The author suggests that Euridice was produced :

- (a) in France
- (b) originally by Sophocles and Aeschylus
- (c) without much success
- (d) for the wedding of King Henry IV

(v) From what and by whom was the term 'Opera' derived ? 2×5=10

2. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow :

Gandhi does not reject machinery 'as such'. He observes, "How can I be against machinery, when I know that even this body is a most delicate piece of machinery ? The spinning wheel is a machinery, a little tooth-pick is a machine. What I object to is the craze for machinery, not machinery as such. The craze is for what they call labour-saving machinery. Men go on 'saving labour' till thousands are without work and thrown on the open streets to die of starvation. I want to save time and labour, not for a fraction of labour, but for all. Today, machinery merely helps a few to ride on the back of millions. The impetus behind is all is not philanthropy to save labour but greed. It is against this constitution of things that I am fighting with all my might. The machine should not tend to atrophy the limits of man. Factories run by power driven machinery should be nationalized, state controlled. The supreme consideration is man."

- (i) What does Gandhi object to ? 2
- (ii) What according to him does 'saving labour' result in ? 2
- (iii) What is the supreme consideration ? Why ? 2
- (iv) Give meanings of the following words : 4  
might, impetus, philanthropy, starvation.

3. Write a letter to the Director, Health Services, apprising him of the fact that doctors are not always available at the village dispensary.

OR

You have a pen-friend living in the Netherlands who is interested in environmental affairs. Write a letter to her describing environment-related activities in your country. 10

4. Your college is organising a debate on *Internet has done more harm than good*.

Imagine that you are the Head boy of your college. Prepare a notice to be put on the college notice-board, giving the date, time and venue etc.

OR

On the basis of your reading of the passage make notes on it, in points only using headings and sub-headings in the suitable format.

Although speech is the most advanced form of communication, there are many ways of communicating without using speech, signals, signs, symbols and gestures may be found in every known culture. The basic function of a signal is to impinge upon the environment in such a way that it attracts attention, as, for example, the dots and dashes of a telegraph circuit. Coded to refer to speech, the potential for

communication is very great. Less adaptable to the codification of words, signs also contain meaning in and of themselves. A stop sign or a barber pole conveys meaning quickly and clearly. Symbols are more difficult to describe than either signals or signs because of their intricate relationship with the receiver's cultural perceptions. In some cultures, applauding in a theatre provides performers with an auditory symbol of approval. Gestures such as waving and hand shaking also communicate certain cultural messages.

Although signals, signs, symbols and gestures are very useful, they do have a major disadvantage. They usually do not allow ideas to be shared without the sender being directly adjacent to the receiver. As a result, means of communication intended to be used for long distances and extended periods are based upon speech. Radio, television and the telephone are only a few. 10

5. Do as directed :

- (i) They are building a new ring round the city.  
(Change the voice)
- (ii) The vegetables had been cooked too long.  
(Change the voice)
- (iii) Steve said that he was living in London.  
(Change the narration)

- (iv) "Please don't tell anybody what happened." Jackie said to me. (Change the narration)
- (v) My grandfather \_\_\_\_\_ (die) before I was born. I \_\_\_\_\_ (never/meet) him. (Use the correct tense)
- (vi) I don't know Carol's husband. I \_\_\_\_\_ (never/meet) him. (Use the correct tense)
- (vii) The house was very quiet when I got home. Everybody \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to bed. (Use the correct tense)
- (viii) I \_\_\_\_\_ (leave) now. I've come to say good bye. (Use the correct tense)
- (ix) A building was destroyed in the fire. It has now been rebuilt. (Join the sentences to form a single sentence)
- (x) Some people were arrested. They have now been released. (Join the sentences to form a single sentence)

1×10=10