

U.G. DEGREE (C.B.C.S.S.) EXAMINATION, MAY 2013

Second Semester

Common Course—English

CRITICAL THINKING, ACADEMIC WRITING AND PRESENTATION

(Common for all U.G. Programmes except B.A. English (Three Main), B.A. Animation and Graphic Design and B.A. Multimedia)

Time : Three Hours

Maximum Weight : 25

Part A

Answer all questions from this part.

Each bunch of four questions carries a weight of 1.

Choose the correct answer from the following :—

I. 1 "He is a good doctor because he cured your mother". This is an example of :

- (a) rational thinking.
- (b) emotional thinking.
- (c) limited rationality.
- (d) ethical thinking.

2 What is the logical conclusion that follows from these premises ?

- (i) X is the father of Y.
- (ii) X is the grandfather of Z.
- (a) Y is the father of Z.
- (b) Y is the uncle of Z.
- (c) Y might not be the father of Z.
- (d) Y is the grandfather of Z.

3 Arguments in geometry are examples of :

- (a) Deductive reasoning.
- (b) Inductive reasoning.
- (c) Inductive analogy.
- (d) Critical reasoning.

4 Which of the following can help in developing critical thinking abilities ?

- (a) Meditation.
- (b) Criticizing.
- (c) A questioning attitude.
- (d) Reading books on philosophy.

II. 5 Emotional appeals tend to be the strongest in :

- (a) Introductions.
- (b) Conclusions.
- (c) Refutations.
- (d) Theses.

Turn over

- 6 Which of the following statements is not correct ?
- (a) 'Logicians are humourless people' is an argument.
 - (b) An argument is always backed by reason.
 - (c) Opinions may not always be backed by reason.
 - (d) Premises and conclusions are part of a string of connected statements.
- 7 Which of the following is not a feature of good academic writing ?
- (a) fact-based.
 - (b) organized presentation.
 - (c) thesis-driven.
 - (d) entertaining.
- 8 Which among the following can be the most authentic source of information for your essay ?
- (a) Journals.
 - (b) magazines.
 - (c) the internet.
 - (d) surveys.

III. 9 Whenever you use matter from another source, you should ?

- (a) paraphrase to avoid plagiarism.
- (b) acknowledge the source.
- (c) do both of the above.
- (d) do none of the above.

10 Fill in the blanks :

_____ apple that fell on Newton's head is as famous as Adam and Eve's apple.

- (a) An.
- (b) The.
- (c) A.
- (d) None of the above is necessary.

11 "You take after your grandmother". This sentence means that :

- (a) You take care of your grandmother.
- (b) You obey your grandmother.
- (c) You resemble your grandmother.
- (d) You follow your grandmother everywhere.

12 Fill in the blanks using the correct preposition :

I am fed up _____ the boys in my class.

- (a) by.
- (b) at.
- (c) with.
- (d) of.

IV. 13 Where would you write the date in a formal letter ?

- (a) Before the sender's address.
- (b) After the sender's address but before the reference number.
- (c) After the sender's address and the reference number.
- (d) After the reference number but before the recipient's address.

- 14 In a letter to the editor, you need not :
(a) specify your location.
(b) bother about the number of words.
(c) give your full name.
(d) provide reference to the article you are responding to.
- 15 In a presentation for a hundred people, you must not use, as a visual aid :
(a) Power Point presentations. (b) Flip charts.
(c) Overhead projections. (d) Video projections.
- 16 In an interview, it is advisable not to :
(a) Lean back on your chair.
(b) Look into the eyes of the interviewer.
(c) Ask direct questions about your compensation.
(d) Greet people openly.

(4 × 1 = 4)

Part B

*Answer any five of the following questions, each in a sentence or two.
Each question carries a weight of 1.*

- 17 What is meant by "fear of freethinking" ? How is it a barrier to critical reasoning ?
18 What is meant by "premise of an argument" ?
19 Write on two cautions that must be adopted while using web resources.
20 Write down two strategies of annotation as a pre-writing exercise.
21 What are "minutes" of a meeting ?
22 Write three guidelines to be followed when one writes an e-mail.
23 What is an "icebreaker" ?
24 Write down your ideas regarding two visuals that you could use for a presentation on climate change.

(5 × 1 = 5)

Part C

*Answer any four of the following questions, each in around 100 words.
Each question carries a weight of 2.*

- 25 How does critical thinking affect you as a reader and writer ?
26 How is an inductive argument different from a deductive argument ?
27 What are the things to remember when taking information from electronic sources ?
28 Explain the term *notice*. Give an example.

Turn over

- 29 What are the soft skills required for an effective presentation ?
30 Write a 100 word introduction for a presentation on "The Wisdom of our Elders".

(4 × 2 = 8)

Part D

*Answer any two of the following questions, each in around 300 words.
Each question carries a weight of 4.*

- 31 Discuss egocentrism as a barrier to critical thinking.
32 How do you write good beginnings and endings for paragraphs and essays ?
33 Write a narrative essay on your visit to a place of historical significance.

(2 × 4 = 8)