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(November)

ENGLISH

(General)

Course : 101

Full Marks : 80

Pass Marks : 32 (Backlog)/24 (2014 onwards)

Time : 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

UNIT—I

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

Motorcycles or bikes now form the backbone of personal conveyance in India. In the absence of a reliable and safe public transportation system especially in rural India, the motorcycles provide a viable alternative to personal conveyance. Indian two-wheeler industry is the largest in the world as far as the volume of production and sales are concerned. India is the biggest two-wheeler market on this planet, registering an overall growth rate of 9·5 percent between 2006 and 2014. The growth in Indian automobile industry owed the most to a steep upsurge witnessed in the two-wheeler segment in 2014. The volume of growth recorded in the 2014–15 fiscal year stood at a commendable 14·8 percent on a year-on-year basis.

Motorcycle manufacturing in India dates back to the year 1955, when the Government of India required strong, rough, and tough motorcycles for the Indian Army and the police force in the western part of the country which had a rough and craggy terrain. The 350 cc 'Bullet' manufactured by the Royal Enfield Company of United Kingdom was the first batch of motorcycles in

India. These motorcycles were put together in a manufacturing facility in Chennai. This was the beginning for the Indian two-wheeler industry. The motorcycles in India cater to a variety of needs of the consumers. It has become one of the most popular modes of personal transportation, and is preferred by the daily commuters to travel from home to their places of work without being dependent on the unreliable public transport system. Till the 1980s there were only two motorcycle manufacturers in India namely *Rajdoot* and *Yezdi*. The segment of motorcycles in the two-wheeler industry went through a revolutionary change in the mid-1980s when Japan's *Honda* collaborated with *Hero* of India and started manufacturing the popular *Hero Honda* brand of bikes with four-stroke engines. This brand took the Indian two-wheeler market by storm. People found the four-stroke engine bikes lighter, cheaper, and more importantly, highly fuel-efficient. The Indian two-wheeler market was flooded with bikes replacing the obsolete small-wheeled scooters. In a very short time, the Indian buyer of two-wheelers was flooded with options. There were many brands and models available, manufactured by major brands like—*Bajaj, Hero, Honda, TVS, Royal Enfield,* and *Yamaha*. The main cause of the growth in the segment was the fuel-efficient four-stroke engine. In the present scenario, the motorcycles in India constitute 81·5% of the total Indian two-wheeler market. The companies manufacturing motorcycles in India are making necessary innovations to make them safer, more comfortable and user-friendly.

The major reasons for this massive growth of motorcycle market can be attributed to the following reasons :

- The Gross Domestic Product has grown to 8%
- The average family income has increased
- The finance has become easier to access
- The reduction in taxes and duties
- Introduction of international standards in bike manufacturing in India
- The economic and fuel-efficient engines
- The teenager and the youth using more and more motorcycles
- Relatively low cost of two-wheelers in India
- Steep fall in fuel (especially petrol) prices

The sale of two-wheeler products has increased substantially. The sales volume in the two-wheeler sector shot up from 15 percent to 24 percent

between 2008–09 and 2013–14. The domestic motorcycle sales volume moved up to 10 percent, whereas the scooter segment recorded a growth of 30·7 percent in sales volume. In the past 2–3 years, around a dozen new scooter brands have been introduced in India. But the motorcycle segment lags behind in this regard. This is due to the fact that the recently launched gearless scooters cater to the needs of both men and women, while motorbikes are a segment preferred by men only. The growth momentum is also propelled by the fact that the two-wheeler manufacturers in India have understood the market's needs and have been able to deliver as expected. However, further growth in the Indian two-wheeler industry will depend heavily on people's personal disposable incomes that rely on India's economic growth in the days to come.

Questions :

(a) The two-wheeler industry of which country is the largest in the world? 1

(b) When and how were motorcycles introduced into India? 2

(c) What brought about a revolutionary change in the two-wheeler market in the mid-1980s? 2

(d) Which one of the following is NOT a factor for the growth of the two-wheeler industry? 1

    (i) The average income in India has increased

    (ii) The finance has become easier to access

    (iii) Growing gap between the rich and the poor in India

    (iv) Steep fall in fuel (petrol) prices

(e) Why do people prefer motorcycles nowadays? 2

(f) On what factor does the future growth of the two-wheeler industry in India depend? 2

2. Make a précis of the following passage and add a suitable title to it : 10

The basic requirement of a progressive society is peace and tranquility. A society cannot advance without achieving harmonious coexistence among the various sections of its inhabitants. Peace, harmony, tranquility are, no doubt, desirable elements for a progressive society; but the basic element for all these positive aspects of a society is tolerance. The individual, the smallest unit of

society, should learn to tolerate another member despite his/her subjective disliking or hatred.

The newspapers are filled with news of crimes prompted by religious, racial, linguistic and caste hatred all over the world. There are frequent racial and religious riots in parts of America and Europe. There are communal riots between antagonistic religious groups in India because people of one religion do not like the people of another. There are clashes between groups of people because they belong to different linguistic groups. There are caste differences, linguistic differences, religious differences, ethnic differences and racial differences among the people. There are differences galore in the society. People exploit these differences and justify dastardly killings of each other or dominance of one group over another. This 'we' and 'them' binary has threatened the concept of harmonious coexistence in society.

The world seems to be hurtling fast into an uncertain future where exclusively unitary societies will be the order of the day. That means societies consisting of people belonging to one race, language, religion, ethnicity, or caste only will live together to the exclusion of others. If that becomes a reality, what will happen to the diversity of human race? This is where tolerance comes into the picture. One can safely say that there should be love and affection among peoples of different sections of society so that there is peace. But can love really bring peace in the society? As E. M. Forster has said that for a society to be truly harmonious and tranquil it needs to be tolerant first. The members of the society must inculcate the ability or willingness to tolerate the existence of opinions or behaviour that one dislikes or disagrees with. This capacity to endure and coexist with racial, religious, linguistic and caste differences brings in a sense of belongingness of others to the society. One may pray differently, eat differently, wear differently, speak differently, but one must accept him/her as a fellow member of the society. That is what tolerance is in the true sense of its meaning.

UNIT—II

3. (a) You have undertaken a Skill Development Course and you want to set up an enterprise related to your skill in your locality. You need your enterprise to be financed by the bank. Draft a letter to the Manager of the bank describing your plans and requesting him to sanction an advance to you. (Do not mention the name of your college or your name anywhere in the letter.)

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Or

Write a letter to the Deputy Commissioner of your district drawing his attention to the problem of waterlogging in your locality during the monsoon season and request him to take necessary steps to resolve it. (Do not mention the name of your college or your name anywhere in the letter.)

(b) "The Morning Star" (Park Street, Kolkata) newspaper has published an advertisement for the post of a Sub-editor. Respond to the advertisement with your complete Curriculum Vitae (CV) to the Manager (Personnel) of the newspaper. (Do not mention the name of your college or your name anywhere in the application.) 8

Or

You have ordered a pair of shoes with an online shopping portal. After receiving the order, you find that the shoes are not what you have ordered. Lodge a complaint with the online portal and ask for a refund of your money. (Do not mention the name of your college or your name anywhere in the letter.)

UNIT—III

4. (a) Discuss the broad categories of the methods of note making. 10

Or

(b) Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :

Space research in India can be traced back to 1920s when the scientist S. K. Mitra conducted a series of experiments leading to the sounding of ionosphere by application of ground-based radio methods in Calcutta. Later Indian scientists C. V. Raman and Meghnad Saha contributed to scientific principles applicable in space sciences. However, it was the period after 1945 that witnessed important developments being made in the field of space research in India. Vikram Sarabhai, the founder of the Physical Research Laboratory at Ahmedabad, and Homi Bhabha, who established the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research in 1945, spearheaded the Indian space research programme. Initial experiments in space sciences included the study of cosmic radiation, high altitude and airborne testing of instruments, deep underground experimentation at the Kolar Gold Mines and studies of the upper atmosphere.

In 1950, the Department of Atomic Energy was founded with Homi Bhabha as its secretary. The Department provided funding for space research throughout India. During this time, tests continued on aspects of meteorology and the Earth's magnetic field, a topic which was being studied in India since the establishment of the observatory at Colaba in 1823. In 1954, the Uttar Pradesh State Observatory was established at the foothills of the Himalayas. The Rangpur Observatory was set up in 1957 at Osmania University, Hyderabad. Space research was further encouraged by the technically inclined Prime Minister of India, Jawaharlal Nehru. In 1957, the Soviet Union successfully launched *Sputnik* and opened up possibilities for the rest of the world to conduct a space launch.

The Indian National Committee for Space Research (INCOSPAR) was set up in 1962 by Jawaharlal Nehru. It had Vikram Sarabhai as its chairman. The first rocket launch into space from Indian soil took place on 21 November, 1963 under the leadership of project scientist Praful Bhavsar. INCOSPAR eventually grew into ISRO in 1969. ISRO built India's first satellite, *Aryabhata*, which was launched by the Soviet Union on 19 April, 1975. In 1980, *Rohini* became the first satellite to be placed in orbit by an Indian-made launch vehicle, SLV–3. ISRO subsequently developed two other rockets : the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) for launching satellites into polar orbits and the Geosynchronous *Satellite* Launch Vehicle (GSLV) for placing satellites into geostationary orbits. These rockets have launched numerous communications satellites and earth observation satellites. Satellite navigation systems like GAGAN and IRNSS have been deployed. In January 2014, ISRO successfully used an indigenous cryogenic engine in a GSLV–D5 launch of the GSAT–14.

ISRO sent one lunar orbiter, *Chandrayaan–1*, on 22 October, 2008 and one Mars Orbiter Mission called *Mangalyaan* in 2013, which successfully entered Mars' orbit on 24 September, 2014, making India the first nation to succeed on its first attempt, and ISRO the fourth space agency in the world as well as the first space agency in Asia to successfully reach Mars' orbit. Future plans include development of GSLV Mk III, (for launch of heavier satellites), development of a reusable launch vehicle, human spaceflight, further lunar exploration, interplanetary probes, a solar spacecraft mission, etc. As of 24 June, 2016, ISRO has launched 131 satellites using indigenously developed launch vehicles out of which 74 are foreign. Also, 29 Indian satellites have been launched by foreign launch vehicles. As of October 2015, ISRO has launched 23 foreign satellites of nine different nations including Algeria, Canada, Germany,

Indonesia, Japan, Singapore and the US. On June 18, 2016, India successfully set a record with launch of 20 satellites in a single payload, one being a satellite from Google. On May 23, 2016, ISRO by successfully launching a Reusable Launch Vehicle (Technology Demonstrator) has proved that in space research it is keeping pace with the best in the world. The day is not far off when India will successfully land a manned mission to the moon.

Questions :

(i) Using headings, sub-headings and recognizable abbreviations, make notes of the passage. 5

(ii) Write a summary of the passage in about *80* words. 5

UNIT—IV

5. *(a)* What are the basic features of a good report? 7

Or

Prepare a report on the conduct of an Awareness Camp on Domestic Violence Act in your college. (Use XYZ as the name of your college.)

(b) Write a paragraph on the outlines given below : 4

Utility of Internet—spread of social media—a new mode of communication—use of mobile phones as a device—its widespread use among the youth—its abuses.

(c) Write a paragraph on any *one* of the following : 4

(i) Importance of career planning

(ii) Infotainment

(iii) Use of computer as a teaching aid

UNIT—V

6. *(a)* The table shows the trend of vehicle exports from India to other countries over the years. Write a paragraph collecting information from the table : 6

| Category	2010–11	2011–12	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	2015–16
Passenger Vehicles	4,44,326	5,08,783	5,59,414	5,96,142	6,21,341	6,53,889
Commercial Vehicles	74,043	92,258	80,027	77,050	86,939	1,01,689
Three-Wheelers	2,69,968	3,61,753	3,03,088	3,53,392	4,07,600	4,04,441
Two-Wheelers	15,31,619	19,75,111	19,56,378	20,84,000	24,57,466	24,81,193
Grand Total	**23,19,956**	**29,37,905**	**28,98,907**	**31,10,584**	**35,73,346**	**36,41,212**

(b) Study the table and answer the questions that follow :

Countries	Internet users	Rank	Percentage of Internet users
China	721,434,547	1	52·2%
India	462,124,989	2	34·8%
United States	286,942,362	3	88·22%
Brazil	120,111,118	4	60·1%
Japan	115,111,595	5	89·8%
Russia	102,258,256	6	71·3%

Questions :

    (i)   Which country has the highest number of Internet users?   1

    (ii)   Which country has the lowest percentage of Internet users?   1

    (iii)   What is the percentage of Internet users of Russia?   1

    (iv)   Which country has the lowest number of Internet users?   1

    (v)   Which country has the highest percentage of Internet users?   1

(c)   The pie chart shows the modes of transportation used by the people of an area. Write a few lines on the basis of the information provided herein :   5
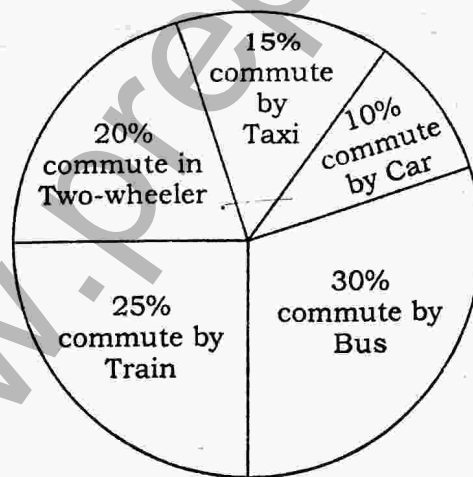
(d)   Look at the picture and write a paragraph on it :   4

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