

D.C.T's S.S.DEMPO COLLEGE OF COMMERCE AND ECONOMICS
ALTINHO PANJIM-GOA
F.Y.BCOM SEMESTER-I END EXAMINATION, OCTOBER 2015
SUBJECT: ENGLISH

Duration: 2 hours

Instructions: 1. All questions are compulsory.
2. Figures to the right indicate full marks.

1. A. Rewrite the following sentences correctly:

Marks: 5

- i) are/diamonds/coal/compressed/just.
- ii) exercise/healthy/and/you/balanced/a/keep/diet.
- iii) where/ will/ the/ way/there's/ a/a/there's.
- iv) life/ what/ make /of/ is/it /you.
- v) cloud/a/silver/every/has/lining.

B. Spot the errors and rewrite the sentences correctly:

Marks: 10

- i) Have heard you of the butterfly affect?
- ii) Neither Peter or James can sing well.
- iii) The girl, with the black and white puppies, have a ball.
- iv) Lisa went to the concert she saw the band.
- v) Smelling like rotten fish, my sister took the trash out.
- vi) I asked for his book, but he did not lend me.
- vii) Juan and Yao my best frinds
- viii) The girl who answered the phone she was polite.
- ix) The medicine effect my ability sleep.
- x) We all swum at the beach yesterday

2. Read the following passage and answer the questions given below it:

Marks: 15

Today, with a Noble prize to its credit, Grameen is one of the largest microfinance organizations in the world. It started out lending small sums to poor entrepreneurs in Bangladesh to help them grow from a subsistence living to a livelihood. The great discovery its founders made was that even with few assets, these entrepreneurs repaid on time. Grameen and microfinance have since become financial staples of the developing world. Grameen's approach, unlike other microfinanciers, uses the group-lending model. Costs are kept down by having borrowers vet one another, tying together their financial fates and eliminating expensive loan officers

entirely. The ultimate promise of Grameen is to use business lending as a way for people to lift themselves out of poverty.

Recently Grameen has taken on a different challenge – by setting up operations in the US. Money may be tight in the waning recession, but it is still a nation of 1, 00,000 bank branches. Globally, the working microfinance equation consists of borrowing funds cheaply and keeping loan defaults and overhead expenses sufficiently low. Micro lenders, including Grameen, do this by charging colossal interest rates – as high as 60% or 70% - Which is necessary to compensate for the risk and attract bank funding. But loans at rates much above the standard 15% would most likely be attacked as usurious in America.

So, the question is whether there is a role for a Third World lender in the world's largest economy. Grameen America believes that in a few years it will be successful and turn a profit, thanks to 9 million US households untouched by mainstream banks and 21 million using the likes of payday loans and pawn ships for financing. But enticing the unbanked won't be easy. After all, profit has long eluded US microfinanciers and if it is not lucrative, it is not microlending, but charity. When Grameen first went to the US, in the late 1980s, it tripped up. Under Grameen's tutelage, banks started microloans to entrepreneurs with a shocking 30% loss. But Grameen America says that this time results will be different because Grameen employees themselves will be making the loans, not training an American bank to do it. More often than not, the borrowers, Grameen finds, in the US already have jobs (as factory workers for example) or side businesses – selling toys, cleaning houses etc. The loans from Grameen, by and large, provides the steadier source of funding, but they don't create businesses out of anything. But money isn't everything. More importantly for many entrepreneurs, group members are tremendous sources of support to one another. So even if studies are yet to determine if Grameen is a clear-cut pathway out of poverty, it still achieves something useful.

i) What has adversely affected the success of microfinance institutions in the US?

- (a) The focus of these institutions is on making a profit at any cost instead of being charitable to the needy.
- (b) American banks engaged in microlending were the most severely hit during the recession.
- (c) A widespread perception among bankers that these institutions are better suited to developing countries.
- (d) Their failure to attract those outside the formal banking system as customers
- (e) Americans are too proud to accept aid from Third World countries.

ii) Why has Grameen made a second attempt to launch itself in the US?

- (a) The willingness of US banks to provide the necessary staff and funds to facilitate the spread of microfinance
- (b) The rates of interest on loans in the US are exorbitant, making it easier to recover capital.
- (c) The realization that a large percentage of the American population not reached by mainstream banks can be trapped
- (d) Recognition of the fact that disbursing credit in developing countries during the recession is too risky.

(e) None of these

iii) Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

- (a) Microfinance has been successful only in Asian countries.
- (b) Microfinance makes individual borrowers dependent rather than independent.
- (c) America has the largest number of banks in the world.
- (d) There is scope for microfinance institutions to be profitable in developed countries.
- (e) There are no informal sources of credit in developed countries.

iv) According to the author, what has enhanced the likelihood of success for Grameen America at present?

- (a) Its success in Bangladesh and other developing countries.
- (b) The absence of other microfinance institutions for competition.
- (c) The fact that America is currently in the midst of a recession.
- (d) It provides loans at nominal rates of interest, ie below 15 per cent.
- (e) None of these

v) Which of the following can be said about Grameen?

- (A) Its success in developing countries will ensure its success in developed countries.
- (B) It ensures that the poor in developing countries enjoy a subsistence standard of living.
- (C) It has demonstrated that the poor are far more likely to repay loans than the affluent.
- (a) None
- (b) Only A
- (c) Only A and C
- (d) Only B
- (e) Only C

vi) What is the central theme of the passage?

- (a) The contention that Grameen is doomed to fail in developed countries.
- (b) A comprehensive evaluation of the current status of the American economy.
- (c) A discussion about the prospects of Grameen and microfinance in the US.
- (d) The role of banks in facilitating microlending efforts in developed nations.
- (e) Microfinance efforts are useful in developing countries but are futile in developed ones.

vii) Why was Grameen America's initial US initiative a flop?

- (A) Lack of proper training to Grameen America personnel.
- (B) Grameen's refusal to adapt their system to meet the needs of the American poor.
- (C) It ended up giving loans at half their customary rates of interest.
- (a) None
- (b) Only A
- (c) Only A and C
- (d) Only B
- (e) Only C

viii) Which of the following is a benefit of the Grameen system of microfinance?

- (a) If a single member is unable to repay a loan, other group members will repay it.
- (b) Dispensing with the expense of technology networks to monitor advances.
- (c) It utilizes the vast bank network already existing in a country.
- (d) Group members can sanction loans and verify if borrowers have sufficient collateral.
- (e) Backing that borrows receive from other group members.

ix) Which of the following is most similar in meaning to the word "ELUDED" as used in the passage?

- (a) Avoided
- (b) Duped
- (c) Abandoned
- (d) Intangible
- (e) Betrayed

x) Which of the following is most opposite in meaning to the word "COLOSSAL" as used in the passage?

- (a) Short
- (b) Lavish
- (c) Minority
- (d) Frugal
- (e) Insignificant

Directions (11-15): Choose the option which is the antonym of the word mentioned in the question.

xi) Ally

- (a) adversary
- (b) partner
- (c) fence-sitter
- (d) almighty
- (e) relax

xii) Oblivious

- (a) apparent
- (b) unperturbed
- (c) nonchalant
- (d) alert
- (e) absent-minded

xiii) Affirmative

- (a) obliging
- (b) uncivilized
- (c) platonic

(d) negative
(e) approving

xiv) Ambiguous
(a) unequivocal
(b) perplexing
(c) befuddled
(d) murky
(e) uncertain

xv) Abhorrence
(a) disgust
(b) admiration
(c) animus
(d) pathos
(e) loathsome

3. A. Answer the following question

Marks: 15

Our company is in need of sales staff, high qualifications are not required. Good salary plus high commission. Also housewives, students, retired persons if you want to earn some extra income come and join us. For more details check our website. Enclose your CV within.

OR

3. B. Answer the following questions

Marks: 15

i) Write a letter of complaint to the manager of a restaurant.

Marks: 10

ii) Your cousin has lost his/her cherished pet. Send your cousin a letter of sympathy.

Marks: 5

4. A. Write an essay in not more than 300 words on any of the following:

Marks: 15

- i) Should 75% attendance be compulsory?
- ii) Autobiography of a Bench (located in college)
- iii) Selfies : The Curse of the Pout.
- iv) Biography of a famous person.

OR

4. B. Answer the following questions: Marks: 15

i) Write a story on the following prompt:

A man walking along the sea shore comes across a bottle with a message in it. Marks: 10

ii) Write a poem on College Life. Marks: 5

5. Prepare an advertisement on any one of the following: Marks: 10

A. A new soap with complete details.

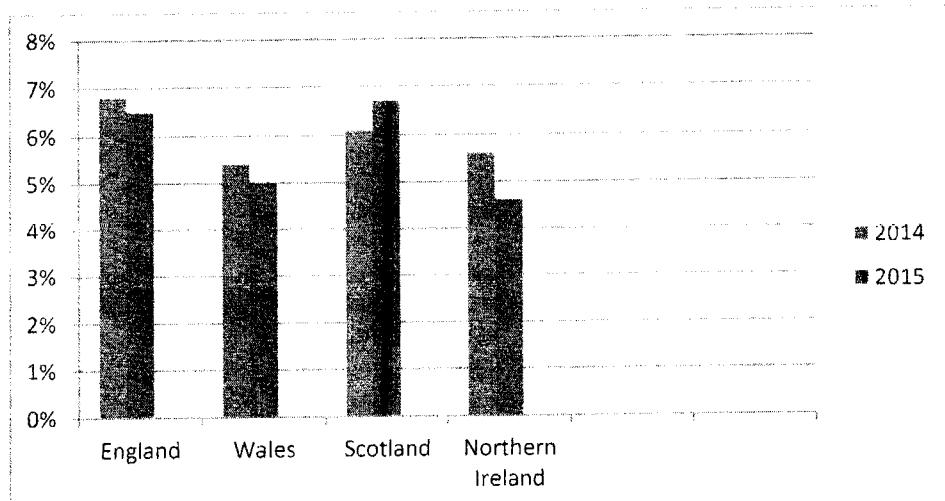
OR

B. An Educational Institution is in need of an Lecturer. Draft an advertisement with full details.

6. Answer any one of the following: Marks: 15

A. The chart below shows female unemployment in Northern Europe. Summarize the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

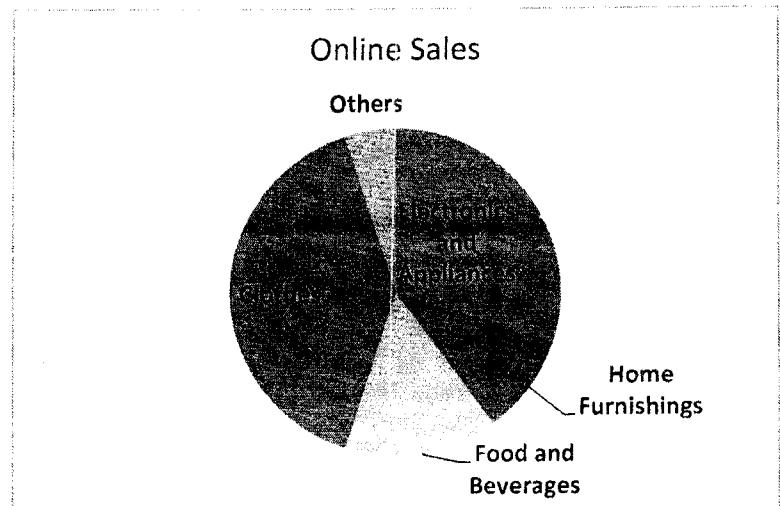
Write at least 150 words.



OR

B. The chart below shows the results of a survey. Summarize the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



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