

Fifth Semester Open Course

Calicut University

equipping with excellence

ENGLISH FOR COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS

2019 ADMISSIONS

CPA COLLEGE OF GLOBAL STUDIES

Prepared by

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OPEN COURSE

ENGLISH FOR COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS

COURSE CODE	ENG5D01
TITLE OF THE COURSE	ENGLISH FOR COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS
SEMESTER IN WHICH THE COURSE IS TO BE TAUGHT	5
NO.OF CREDITS	3
NO.OF CONTACT HOURS	54 hrs (3 hrs per week)

AIM OF THE COURSE : To prepare the students for competitive exams such as UPSC, Defence, SSC, Banking, KPSC, Insurance and other examinations.

OBJECTIVE OF THE COURSE:

- To help the students to approach and qualify competitive examinations by introducing the usually discussed areas in the exams.
- To enable the learners to acquire necessary professional skills in the usage of English.
- To provide opportunities for the students to improve their listening and reading comprehension skills.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

A. COURSE SUMMARY

Module 1 : 16 hrs

Module 2 : 14 hrs

Module 3 : 14 hrs

Evaluation: 10 hrs

Total : 54 hrs

B. COURSE DETAILS

Module 1: Word based questions

Synonyms, antonyms, analogy, one-word substitution, use of verbs, test of spelling, correct use of prepositions and articles.

Module 2 : Sentence based questions

Error identification, sentence correction, Jumbled words in a sentence, Sentence comprehension.

Module 3: Passage based questions

Jumbled sentence in a paragraph, Reading comprehension, English comprehension

READING LIST:

CORE TEXT :

A text containing the above lessons will be made available

FURTHER READING:

Edger Thrope and Showick Thrope, Objective English for competitive Exams.

Michael Swan, Practical English Usage.

Wren and Martin, High School English Grammar & Composition.



Word based questions

Synonyms

- Synonyms are words with an extract or similar meaning as another word.
- Examples- whole = complete, hurried = rushed.

Antonyms

- Antonyms are words opposite in meaning to another word.
- Example- Tall- Short , strange- normal.

Analogy

- A relationship of resemblance or equivalence between two situations, people or objects, especially when used as a basis for explanation or extrapolation.

Idioms

- An idiom is an expression.
- An expression is a significant word or phrase used to convey an idea.
- Examples , Argus eyed = Careful , Observant.
- Close shave = a narrow escape.
- Pay off old scores = to take revenge.

Prepositions

- Preposition is a word that is used to link noun or pronoun with other words in the sentence.
- Link means they provide relationship between noun and other words in the sentence and thus makes the sentence complete.
- These other words may be noun, verb, or adjective.

Article

- The words *a*, *an* and *the* are called articles.
- We use them before nouns to indicate whether they are general or specific.
- *A* and *an* are called indefinite article.
- *The* is called the definite article.

JUMBLED SENTENCES

For Simple Sentences

- Identify the subject.
- Identify the action(verb).
- Identify the object.
- Identify the complement.
- Make the sentences and see if it makes proper sense.

For complex sentences

- Identify the main clause.
- Identify the subordinate clause.
- Put them in the right sequence to make the sentences.

Sentence Completion

- Read the entire sentences once before choosing the answer.
- Understand the tone of the sentences whether it is positive or negative.
- Get to the big picture of the sentence and understand it from its overall perspective.
- To some extent use your intuition to eliminate wrong answers.

SENTENCE CORRECTION

1) I want two breads.

Ans: I want two loaves(pieces) of breads

2) He showered many abuses on me.

Ans: He showered much abuse on me

3) I have a ten rupees note with me

Ans: I have a ten rupees note with me.

4) Her voice is as sweet as the nightingale

Ans: Her voice is as sweet as that of the nightingale.

5) Everybody should do their duty

Ans: Everybody should do his duty

6) You are more beautiful than her

Ans: You are more beautiful than she

7) The cock and then he looked at one another

Ans: The cock and the hen looked at each other

FIND THE ERROR IN THE SENTENCE

1) The majority to the news is about violence or scandal.

- a. The
- b. To**
- c. News
- d. Violence

2) When our vacation, we plan to spend three days scuba diving.

- a. When**
- b. Plan
- c. Days
- d. Diving

3) Mr. Feinauer does not take critical of his work very well.

- a. Does
- b.
- c. Critical**
- d. His
- e. Well

4) Yvette and Rinaldo send e-mail messages to other often.

- a. And
- b. Send
- c. Other**
- d. Often

5) Mr. Olsen is telephoning a American Red cross for help.

- a. Is
- b. A**
- c. Red
- d. For

6) I had enjoyable time at the party last night.

- a. A**
- b. Time**
- c. At**
- d. Last**

READING COMPREHENSION

- **In language learning , Reading forms an important part.**
- **Reading involves the acquisition of the basic decoding skills.**
- **Reading implies ,**
 - 1. Seeing those in the written form.**
 - 2. Pronouncing them with the mouth.**
 - 3. Speaking the words with uniform speed.**
 - 4. Using proper modulation of voice.**
- **It refers to the ability to understand, interpret and reflect upon the meaning of what is being read.**
- **It also refers to the ability to understand the idea conveyed by the passage formed by combination of words.**

Factors related to poor Reading Comprehension

- **Deficiency in the skill of decoding letters as sounds.**
- **Lack of previous knowledge of words and meaning.**

- **Minimum level of proficiency in language.**
- **Poor reading skills.**
- **Nature of reading material being difficult.**
- **No involvement in learning through reading.**
- **Lack of patience and effort on the part of the learner.**
- **Books are not written with simple words, with short sentence.**

Developing the skills of Comprehension

- **Using flash cards containing one word each could be used in lower classes.**
- **Teacher could demonstrate in the class, by reading the text with proper pronunciation.**
- **Teacher could demonstrate the new words using pictorial illustrations.**

