

**2 0 2 4**

( CBCS )

( 2nd Semester )

**ENGLISH**

SECOND PAPER

**( History of English Language and Phonetics )**

*Full Marks : 75*

*Time : 3 hours*

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions*

**( SECTION : A—OBJECTIVE )**

( Marks : 10 )

Tick (✓) the correct answer in the brackets provided :

1×10=10

1. Which theory holds that man's earliest speech was produced by an attempt to imitate the sounds of creatures or objects he was referring?

- (a) Bow-wow theory      (    )
- (b) Ding-dong theory      (    )
- (c) Pooh-pooh theory      (    )
- (d) Gesture theory      (    )

2. Which dialect became the standard of Old English?

(a) Kentish ( )

(b) Celtic ( )

(c) West Saxon ( )

(d) Yorkshire ( )

3. Anglo-Saxon is otherwise known as

(a) the New English ( )

(b) the British English ( )

(c) the Old English ( )

(d) the Middle English ( )

4. The Norman Conquest of England began with the rule of

(a) Alfred the Great ( )

(b) Edward the Confessor ( )

(c) Richard the Lionheart ( )

(d) William of Normandy ( )

5. A figure of speech by which one seeks to hide the real nature of something unpleasant or repugnant by giving it a less offensive name is

(a) polarization ( )

(b) extension ( )

(c) specialization ( )

(d) euphemism ( )

6. The velum is also known as

(a) velar ( )

(b) soft palate ( )

(c) hard palate ( )

(d) pharynx ( )

7. The active articulators are the lower lip and the

(a) velum ( )

(b) upper teeth ( )

(c) tongue ( )

(d) larynx ( )

8. Voiced sounds are produced when the

- (a) soft palate vibrates (    )
- (b) hard palate vibrates (    )
- (c) teeth-ridge vibrates (    )
- (d) vocal cords vibrate (    )

9. Which of the following words has an initial consonant cluster?

- (a) Brave (    )
- (b) Think (    )
- (c) Thank (    )
- (d) Laugh (    )

10. The quality of sounds that makes it possible to judge their 'highness' or 'lowness' is

- (a) tone (    )
- (b) pitch (    )
- (c) musical (    )
- (d) loudness (    )

**( SECTION : B—SHORT ANSWERS )**

**( Marks : 15 )**

Answer the following :

**3×5=15**

**UNIT—I**

1. Briefly discuss any one of the four chief theories of the origin of language.

**OR**

2. Write a brief note about the grammatical changes in the Middle English period.

**UNIT—II**

3. What is standard English?

**OR**

4. What are loan words?

**UNIT—III**

5. What are passive articulators? Give examples.

**OR**

6. What do you mean by alveolar ridge?

**UNIT—IV**

7. Define phoneme with examples.

**OR**

8. What are diphthongs? Give examples.

UNIT—V

9. What are the two kinds of transcription exercise?

OR

10. Transcribe any *three* of the following words :

- (a) Sing
- (b) Book
- (c) Water
- (d) Top

( SECTION : C—DESCRIPTIVE )

( Marks : 50 )

Answer the following :

10×5=50

UNIT—I

1. Write a note on the evolution of the English language during the Middle English period.

OR

2. Write short notes on any *two* of the following :

- (a) Printing and its effects on the English language
- (b) Scandinavian influence on the English language
- (c) Latin influence on the Old English
- (d) The ding-dong theory

UNIT—II

3. Explain the process of back formation with examples.

OR

4. What is i-mutation? Give examples.

### UNIT—III

5. How are English consonants classified according to their place of articulation?

**OR**

6. Explain 'manner of articulation'. Give suitable examples.

### UNIT—IV

7. What is meant by the nucleus of a syllable? Give examples.

**OR**

8. What is meant by (a) front vowel, (b) back vowel and (c) central vowel? Give examples.

### UNIT—V

9. Explain phonetic transcription with examples.

**OR**

10. Explain the importance of word stress and stress patterns in the English language.

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