

**APEEJAY COMMON PREBOARD EXAM
ENGLISH CORE (301) XII
SESSION 2023-24**

Maximum Marks – 80

Time Allotted - 3 hrs.

General Instructions:

- i. This paper consists of three sections – A (Reading), B (Advanced Writing Skills), and C (Literature).
- ii. Read the questions carefully and follow all the instructions.
- iii. Attempt all the questions in each section before going to the next section.
- iv. All the answers must be correctly numbered as in the question paper and written in the answer sheets provided.
- v. Do not write anything on the question paper.
- vi. Strictly adhere to the word limit given with each question. Marks will be deducted for exceeding the word limit.

Section - A (Reading) - 22 Marks

1. Read the given passage carefully.

12 Marks

1. Elon Musk, a tech entrepreneur, says artificial intelligence (AI) is a bigger threat to humanity than nuclear weapons. On the other hand, Mark Zuckerberg, the CEO of Facebook thinks AI will save lives.

Regardless of whether you agree with Musk's or Zuckerberg's argument, what is clear is that AI is reshaping our world. It's leading to improvements in medicine and self-driving cars, shaking up businesses from manufacturing to marketing. Although we may not know it, we already use it in our Facebook news feeds when we talk to Siri on our iPhones or ask our Alexa-enabled speakers to play a track.

Yet, although it powers products and services we use every day, AI remains a mystery to many. So Facebook AI experts Yann LeCun and Joaquin Quiñero Candela have set about simplifying this complex field of computer science in a series of educational videos and blog posts.

'Not magic, just code' "Artificial intelligence is not magic," write LeCun, head of Facebook's AI research, and Candela, Facebook's Director of Applied Machine Learning, in their blog. "But we've already seen how it can make scientific discoveries that seem like magic and help us do everyday things like identify objects in photos, recognize speech, drive a car, or translate an online post into dozens of languages."

How does it do this? Many intelligent machines and systems use algorithmic techniques loosely based on the human brain. These neural networks can learn to recognize patterns, translate languages, do simple logical reasoning, create images, and even come up with ideas.

"All of this happens at blinding speed through a set of coded programs designed to run neural networks with millions of units and billions of connections," write LeCun and Candela. "Intelligence emerges out of the interaction between this large number of

simple elements.”

If, for example, you want to teach a computer to tell the difference between a car and a dog, instead of programming it to carry out the task, you can train it to recognize objects in images so that it learns for itself.
So what is deep learning?

Deep learning is a type of machine learning that structures neural networks into multiple processing layers. This helps a computer identify what is in an image or learn to recognize speech and text.

“In a park, we can see a collie and a chihuahua, but recognize them both as dogs, despite their size and weight variations,” write LeCun and Candela. “To a computer, an image is simply an array of numbers.” Local patterns, like the edge of an object, are easy to spot in the first layer of this set of numbers.

“The next layer would detect combinations of these simple motifs that form simple shapes, like the wheel of a car or the eyes in a face.”

“The next layer will detect shape combinations that form parts of objects, such as a face, a leg, or an airplane wing.” “The last layer would detect combinations of parts that form objects: a car, an airplane, a person, a dog, etc. The depth of the network, with its multiple layers, allows it to recognize complex patterns in this hierarchical fashion.”

Deep learning is helping to push forward research in fields including physics, engineering, biology, and medicine. It is also at the heart of developing autonomous systems such as self-driving vehicles.

What about AI’s impact on jobs?

Despite growing anxiety over automation eliminating jobs, LeCun and Candela believe that AI will create new roles for humans in manufacturing, training, sales, maintenance, and management of intelligent robots. “AI and robots will enable the creation of new services that are difficult to imagine today.” “But health care and transportation will be among the first industries to be completely transformed by it,” they write. “Increasingly, human intellectual activities will be performed in conjunction with intelligent machines.” “Our intelligence makes us human, and AI is an extension of that quality.”

1.1 Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions below.

12

1. What two industries are artificial intelligence already being used in? **1**
the _____ industry the _____ industry

2. What examples make artificial intelligence seem like 'magic'? **2**
identifying _____ in photos
Recognizing _____
_____ an online post
_____ a car

3. What does a computer do in the four layers of recognition that LeCun and Candela describe? 2

detect _____

detect _____ of motifs

detect combinations of _____ that form parts of _____

detect combinations of these simple _____ that form simple _____

4. State whether true or false. 2

a. A computer can tell the difference between a car and a dog by training itself to recognise objects in images so that it learns for itself.

True False

b. When we talk to Siri, this isn't real artificial intelligence.

True False

5. Fill in the blanks with two or three words. 3

a. AI machines use algorithmic techniques similar to a _____ (2 words)

b. To a computer, an image is an _____ (3 words)

c. AI will create new services that are _____ today. (3 words)

6. Find a word from the passage which means the same as 2

a. coherent - Para 5

b. to use a particular system for identifying things. - Para 6

2. Read the given passage carefully.

10 Marks

1. The average Indian woman spends 243 minutes, a little over four hours, on these, which is almost ten times the 25 minutes the average man does. Thanks to the greater burden of domestic work, men spend more time than women in every other activity—working, studying, even just taking care of themselves. “It has been widely known, and for long, that Indian women undertake a lot of unpaid domestic work. The time use survey only reveals the extent of the disproportionate burden on women. Interestingly, there seems to be an inverse relationship between age and the amount of time spent by women on household chores, but a direct one between age and the time spent by men on these. While women above the age of 60 see a sharp fall in their domestic work burden, men tend to devote a greater time to domestic work when they cross 60.

2. The report is based on a survey of 138,000 households in 2019 and looked at anyone over the age of six. While this may seem too young, it is a fact that, especially in poor households and in rural India, young boys, and more often, young girls, are asked to perform chores. An average Indian woman spends 19.5% of her time engaged in either unpaid domestic work or unpaid care-giving services, according to the survey conducted between January and December 2019. Men spend just 2.5% of a 24-hour period on these activities. In every other group of activities—from employment and learning to socializing, leisure, and self-care activities like sleeping and eating—men spend a higher share of their daily time than women.

Where India spends time

CHART 1 SHARE OF TIME SPENT IN 24 HOURS PER PERSON

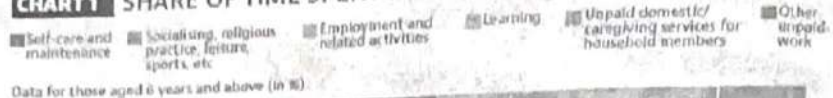


CHART 2 PARTICIPATION IN DOMESTIC AND CAREGIVING SERVICES

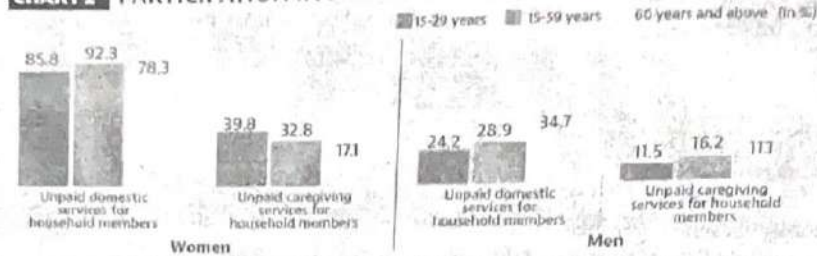
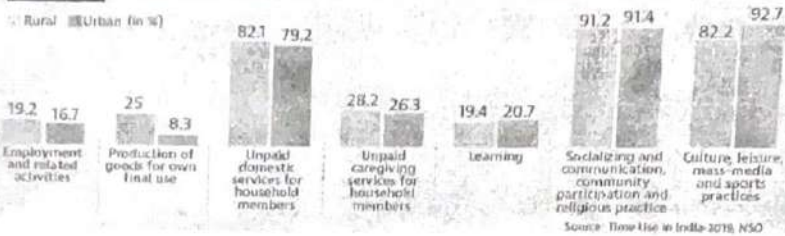


CHART 3 PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES



- In terms of participation, 81% of women take on domestic chores, compared to just 26% of men. Even within domestic work, there is a gender-based division of responsibilities. It is only when they turn 60 that women seem to find a respite from domestic work. A broad age-group wise breakup suggests that above the age of 60, the participation of women in unpaid domestic and care-giving services reduces drastically.
- "The fact that women do less unpaid work after 60 could be the result of the greater participation by men, and in joint families, it could be a reflection of the older women passing on the workload to their younger bahus," (daughters-in-law), Khera said.
- There are also differences in participation of women in daily activities depending on where they live. Rural women participate more on paid or unpaid work, whereas urban women participate more in learning, socializing or leisure activities.

2.1 Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below. (10x1=10)

- Write whether the following sentence is TRUE or FALSE.
The 'time use' survey reveals the disproportionate amounts of time men and women spend on domestic work.

Do you think the aim of the researchers of this study was to lighten the burden on women through this survey, either directly or indirectly?

i. Select the option that displays the most likely reason for including Research Question 2 in the 2019 study.

This report is based on a survey of 138,000 households with members above the age of six because _____.

- (a) young girls in rural homes are asked to undertake domestic chores
- (b) boys and girls are asked to undertake chores in rural homes at a very young age
- (c) several boys are asked to undertake chores in rural homes, above the age of six
- (d) More often, families force young girls into domestic labour

iv. Complete the sentence based on the following statement.

In every other group of activities, from employment and socialising, men spend _____.

v. Select the sentence that completes the following:

The fact that women do less unpaid work after sixty is because _____.

- (a) women are too old by the time they reach sixty.
- (b) men cannot do hard outdoor work and prefer domestic work
- (c) there is greater participation in work, by the men of the family
- (d) men begin to realise the joys of domestic work

vi. Complete the given sentence by selecting the most appropriate option. The participation of women in daily activities depends on _____.

- (a) where they are residing
- (b) where there are men above the age of sixty
- (c) where women spend their time socialising
- (d) where they are doing unpaid work

vii. Why do women above sixty do less domestic and unpaid work in joint families?

viii. Based on the graphical chart, the least amount India spend time on is _____.

- (a) learning
- (b) unpaid domestic labour/care giving
- (c) learning music
- (d) other unpaid work

ix. Complete the sentence appropriately with one or two words. Compared to women men tend to devote more time to _____.

x. State a point of challenge taken on when it comes to domestic work by men and women.

Section – B (Creative Writing Skills)- 18 Marks

Note: All details in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purposes.

3. Attempt ANY ONE of two in about 50 words.

4

A. Lovely Public School has recently formed a club to pursue Design Thinking, a dedicated group to explore innovations and usage of technology on campus. As Sara Mathur, President of the club. Draft a notice in not more than 50 words for the school notice board, inviting students of classes XI-XII for a meeting to disseminate information about the club and encourage them to be part of the research team and future projects. Emphasize the futuristic nature of this venture.

OR

B. You are Rachael/Rueben, President of the Wellness Cell of your school. You decide to organise a workshop to raise awareness of the importance of mental health. This workshop would be conducted by the school counsellor. Write a notice informing the students of classes XI-XII about the workshop.

4

4. Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 50 words.

A. You are Dr. Stanzin, a certified art therapist from Leh. You have been invited by G. D Public School, Jammu, to conduct a seminar for students on 'Art Therapy - the Way Forward'. This seminar is to introduce students to the usefulness of art in dealing with personal and social problems. Write your reply accepting the invitation.

OR

B. You are Ishaan Parekh, the Director of Apex Orientations, a leading name in postal coaching for competitive examinations including IIT-JEE and NEET. Draft an invitation, in not more than 50 words, for interested students and parents to attend the Counselling Session for the upcoming academic year. Invent all the necessary details.

5

5. Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 120-150 words.

A. You are Sumita/Sumit, a resident of 21 Vasundhara Enclave, Kanpur. You came across an advertisement for the requirement for a Junior Engineer at Tata Steel Limited Kalinganagar, Odisha, in the National Daily. You consider yourself suitable and eligible for the post. Draft an application and a resume in response to this advertisement.



OR

B. In many parts of our country, girls are still discouraged from going to school. Consequently, a sizable section of the population is deprived of education. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily highlighting the issue, causes and schemes by the government to promote the cause.

6. Attempt ANY ONE of two, in about 120-150 words.

5

A. Your school organized a month-long intensive training programme for the overall personality development of the students of grade XII, 'Leaders of Tomorrow'. The event aimed at equipping students with important life skills, critical thinking and empathy. The event culminated with the felicitation of the students. As Ishaan Singh, the Head Boy of Hill Top Public School, Noida, write a report for your school newsletter covering this event. (Word limit: 120 to 150 words).

6

OR

- B. Studies have suggested that an hour a day spent with smartphones plays a significant part in the rise of depression and anxiety among children. You are Manisha/ Manish of class XII. Write an article for the school magazine on the topic "Children and Smartphones" to highlight the concern. (Word limit: 120 to 150 words)

Section – C (Literature) – 40 Marks

6

7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow.

A. *It is in the news that all these pitiful kin
Are to be bought out and mercifully gathered in
To live in villages, next to the theatre and the store,
Where they won't have to think for themselves
anymore,
While greedy good-doers, beneficent beasts of prey,*

- (a) Name the poem and the poet. 1
(b) Explain why merciful have been called 'greedy good-doers' and 'beneficent beasts of prey'? 2
(c) Why won't these poor people have to think for themselves anymore? 1
(d) Give the poetic device used in "Greedy Good Doers" 1
(e) What news in the poem 'A Roadside Stand' is making its rounds in the village? 1

OR

6X1=6

B. *'When Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie
Still ringed with ordeals, she was mastered by.
The tigers in the panel that she made
Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.'*

- i. Read the statement given below:

Aunt Jennifer's plight is best explained by her hands; they hold both her freedom and the instrument of her imprisonment.

Choose the option that best explains the above statement, as per the extract.

- (a) Aunt Jennifer's hands are terrified, but when she is dead, her tigers will roam free.
(b) Aunt Jennifer knits her desires but is overpowered by the wedding ring she wears.
(c) Aunt Jennifer's tigers are proud and unafraid, but she is mastered by ringed ordeals.
(d) Aunt Jennifer makes panels of tigers when she has time for her responsibilities.

- ii. What do the Tigers represent here?

- (a) confidence and size
(b) fearlessness and freedom
(c) the Pride of the society
(d) symbol of violence

- iii. How has Aunt Jennifer failed in her aim?
- iv. Complete the following sentence:
The tigers, in the extract, represent Aunt Jennifer's _____.
- v. What makes the tigers 'proud and unafraid'?
- vi. Identify the phrase that suggests the following.
Aunt Jennifer is continuously possessed by the fear and constraints of a married life.

8. Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow.

(4x1=4)

He said I was unhappy. That made my wife kind of mad, but he explained that he meant the modern world is full of insecurity, fear, war, worry and all the rest of it, and that I just want to escape. Well, who doesn't? Everybody I know wants to escape, but they don't wander down into any third level at Grand Central Station. But that's the reason, he said, and my friends all agreed. Everything points to it, they claimed. My stamp collecting, for example; that's a 'temporary refuge from reality.' Well, maybe, but my grandfather didn't need any refuge from reality.

- a) Who is 'He' in the above extract?
- b) What does the word 'Refuge' mean?
- c) What did Charley's friend think of him?
- d) Who was Charley's wife?

(i) Louisa	(ii) Clare	(iii) Hana	(iv) Jane
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OR

The Maharaja and the dewan held deliberations over this issue. As a result, a telegram was dispatched forthwith to a famous British company of jewellers in Calcutta. 'Send samples of expensive diamond rings of different designs.' Some fifty rings arrived. The Maharaja sent the whole lot to the British officer's good lady. The king and the minister expected the duraisani to choose one or two rings and send the rest back. Within no time at all the duraisani sent her reply: 'Thank you very much for your gifts.' In two days, a bill for three lakhs of rupees came from the British jewellers. The Maharaja was happy that though he had lost three lakhs of rupees, he had managed to retain his kingdom.

- a) Who has been referred to 'good lady'?
- b) How much did the Maharaja have to pay for fifty rings?
- c) How has the writer proved the futility of king's desire?
- d) The Tiger King rejected the British Officer's request

(i) for fifty diamond rings	(ii) of getting photographed with a tiger
(iii) visiting his kingdom	(iv) for killing a tiger

9. Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow.

(6x1=6)

A. I jumped over the bench and sat down at my desk. Not till then, when I had got a little over my fright, did I see that our teacher had on his beautiful green coat, his frilled shirt, and the little black silk cap, all embroidered, that he never wore except on inspection and prize days. Besides, the whole school seemed so strange and solemn.

- a) Name the lesson and the author.
- b) Whom does 'I' refer to in the extract?

- c) What was unusual about M. Hamel's dress?
 d) Why did the whole school seem so strange and solemn?
 e) Why was M. Hamel dressed so unusually?
 (i) he was retiring (ii) it was his last lesson
 (iii) he was leaving the school (iv) he was going to be imprisoned
 f) Which word in the extract would also mean "formal and dignified"?
 (i) inspection (ii) strange (iii) solemn (iv) fright

OR

B. Food is more important for survival than an identity. "If at the end of the day we can feed our families and go to bed without an aching stomach, we would rather live here than in the fields that gave us no grain," say a group of women in tattered saris when I ask them why they left their beautiful land of green fields and rivers. Wherever they find food, they pitch their tents that become transit homes. Children grow up in them, becoming partners in survival. And survival in Seemapuri means rag-picking. Through the years, it has acquired the proportions of a fine art. Garbage to them is gold. It is their daily bread, a roof over their heads, even if it is a leaking roof. But for a child it is even more.

- a) What is the plight of the people living in Seemapuri?
 b) Where is Seemapuri?
 c) What does 'acquired the proportions of a fine art' mean?
 d) Identify the figure of speech used in the sentence "Garbage to them is gold".
 e) Choose the term which best matches the statement 'Food is more important for survival than an identity.'
 (i) immorality (ii) necessity (iii) obligation (iv) ambition
 f) The phrase 'transit homes' refer to the dwellings that are
 (i) unhygienic (ii) inadequate (iii) fragile (iv) temporary

10. Answer the following questions in 40-50 words each. (any five, one from (a) & (b).) (5x2=10)

- a) Explain: "soothe them out of their wits" with reference to the poem The Roadside Stand'.
 b) What is the poem's message, 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers'?
 c) What do you learn about Umberto Eco's distinctive style in his doctoral dissertation?
 d) What words did M Hamel write on the blackboard before dismissing the last class? What did they mean?
 e) What was MRA, and why was it welcomed at the Gemini Studios?
 f) Why did Gandhi agree to the planters' offer of a 25% refund to the farmers?

11. Answer the following questions in 40-50 words each. (any two). (2x2=4)

- a) What possibility does Derry indicate in the old man's act of getting the crab apples down? What is its dramatic importance?
 b) What considerations influenced the Tiger King to get married?
 c) How do geological phenomena help us to know about the history of humankind? (Journey to the End of the Earth)

12. Answer any one of the following in 120-150 words each.

A. Kothamangalam Subbu was a 'many-sided genius'. (Poets & Pancakes)

OR

B. Sophie was a girl who lived in her dreams. What was wrong with her dreams?

13. Answer **any one** of the following in 120-150 words each.

A. Derry sneaked into Mr. Lamb's Garden, and it became a turning point in his life. Comment.?

OR

B. Zitkala-Sa and Bama are sisters in discrimination, yet they leave a mark with their inherent values, making them heroic. Comment on the statement elaborating on any two values you find inspiring.

X
—X

ALL THE BEST