

B.Tech/BT/CE/CHE/EE/ME/4th Sem/HMTS-2001/2016

2016

HUMANITIES

(HMTS 2001)

Time Alloted : 3 Hours

Full Marks : 70

Figures out of the right margin indicate full marks.

Candidates are required to answer Group A and any 5 (five) from Group B to E, taking at least one from each group.

Candidates are required to give answer in their own words as far as practicable

GROUP - A

(Multiple Choice Type Questions)

1. Choose the correct alternatives for the following : [10×1=10]

i) Axiology is the branch of philosophy that deals with _____

- (a) Values (b) Ethics
(c) Culture (d) Societies

ii) The 'Self' develops over three stages, Imitation, Play and Game stage. The theory was proposed by _____

- (a) Freud (b) Cooley
(c) Mead (d) Durkheim

iii) Which among the following in Maslow's 'Need Priority Theory' is the most basic need priority-wise?

- (a) Social Needs (b) Ego and Esteem Needs
(c) Self actualization (d) Physiological Needs

iv) _____ is the ethical concept that 'moral behaviour produces the greatest good for the greatest number'

- (a) justice approach (b) Individualistic approach
(c) moral right (d) utilitarian approach

v) 'Intermediate Technology' is also known as _____

- (a) Appropriate Technology
(b) Technology Transfer
(c) Knowledge Management
(d) Sustainable Development

vi) Club of Rome (1968) was founded by _____

- (a) Durkheim (b) Cooley and Mead
(c) Aurelio Peccei and Alexander King
(d) Fritz Schumacher

vii) (A) ISO stands for International Standards Organisation.

(B) ISO 26000 is recognized as international standard for Corporate Social Responsibility.

- (a) Both option A and B are correct.
(b) Only option B is false
(c) Option A is false but B is correct.
(d) Both option A and B are false.

- viii) Carol Gilligan states her theory on
- moral development
 - game player
 - problems of vagueness
 - virtues
- ix) Taj Mahal is suffering from 'marble cancer'. What is 'marble cancer'?
- Acid rain corrodes marble.
 - Large number of fungus on Taj Mahal marbles.
 - Yellowing of marble on account of soot particles.
 - Smokes filling the Taj Mahal from adjoining industries.
- x) The term sustainable development was coined by
- Bruntland Commission
 - UNESCO
 - World Bank Development Commission
 - World Trade Organisation

GROUP - B

2. (a) Explore the idea of value crisis as its impact is felt on societal and individual level of the society.
- (b) Write a short note (any one):
- Organisational values
 - Meaning of Good life
 - Psychological values

6+6 = 12

3. How would you analyse the mentioned case under value-crisis in contemporary Indian society?

(Case Study) Value Crisis : Sheena Bora Murder Case

Sheena Bora, an executive working for Mumbai Metro One based in Mumbai went missing on April 24, 2012. In August, 2015 Mumbai Police arrested her mother Indrani Mukherjea, her stepfather Sanjeev Khanna and her mother's driver Shyamvar Pinturam Rai for allegedly abducting and killing her and subsequently burning her corpse.

The Criminals and The Crime : The Hindustan Times reported that the driver of Indrani Mukherjea, Shyamvar Pinturam Rai, gave a statement (August 21, 2015) to the police that the murder was planned by Indrani, who in turn had discussed the plan with her ex-husband Sanjeev Khanna. Sheena was strangled by Sanjeev Khanna, who stuffed her body in a bag and hid in the car boot. The three accused drove to the village of Gagode in Pen tehsil, Raigad. At 04:00 on April 25, 2012, the accused dragged the body out of the car in an isolated spot in the forest, stuffed it in the bag, poured petrol over the bag and set it ablaze, police said Sheena Bora's disappearance and murder and the disposal of her body went unreported for 40 months until August, 2015.

Arrests : On August 25, 2015, Mumbai police arrested Indrani Mukherjee accusing her of murdering Sheena Bora. Indrani was charged under sections 302 (murder), 201(causing disappearance of evidence) and 34 (criminal conspiracy) of the Indian Penal Code. On August 26, 2015 Indrani's ex-husband Sanjeev Khanna was also arrested in Kolkata and charged under sections 364 (kidnapping), 302 (murder), 201(causing disappearance of evidence) and 120-B (conspiracy) of the Indian Penal Code in the same issue Sanjeev allegedly confessed to the offences charged.

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GROUP - C

4. (a) What is moral dilemma? Suggest steps to resolve dilemma.
- (b) Write a note on social and ethical responsibilities of modern day technocrats.

(6)+(6) = 12

5. Analyse the following case from the perspective of breach of professional ethics on the analyst's part and present your views.

(Case Study) Compromising Professional Ethics

The News : According to the June 29, 2011 Wall Street Journal article Groupon's India Unit Breach Alerts Netizens written by Anant Vijay Kala, SoSasta.com, a Kolkata-based company owned by Groupon Inc., had unintentionally published the passwords of its users on the Internet. The leak of confidential customer information was quickly removed after the security breach was discovered.

The Incident : Someone at SoSasta.com with access to sensitive customer data had inadvertently made this information public. The article cites dismal enforcement and compliance with India's cyber-security laws as the leading cause of repeated cases of data breaches.

Consequences : The customers due to the leak of their sensitive information are vulnerable to identity theft and financial harm. The consequences to SoSasta.com are not revealed in the article, but ultimately customers will respond by pulling their business away from companies like SoSasta.com and its parent company Groupon Inc. if they can no longer trust their personal information is secure.

Analyst's personal responsibility : The analysts were responsible for adequately ensuring their fact-finding step uncovered problems and vulnerabilities to the system.

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6. How is it possible for a company to contribute beyond its business domain with the help of CSR? Give some real life examples.

(6+6) = 12

7. From your understanding of organisational ethics and company's responsibility for customer safety, examine the following case and give your views.

(Case Study) Quality Control at Industrial level

The Brand : Takata Corporation is an automotive parts company based in Japan. The company with 83 years of reputation has production facilities on four continents manufacturing airbag systems, child restraint systems, seat belts, steering wheels and other products for automotive industry and is a worldwide brand with vision 'quality first'.

Breach of Quality Control (1995) Seat Belt Recall : In May 1995, a recall in the U.S. affecting 8,428,402 predominantly Japanese built vehicles made from 1986 to 1991 with seat belts, after many of their owners complained of seat belt buckles either failing to latch, latching and releasing automatically, or releasing during accidents.

(2013-Present) Defective Airbag Recalls Since 1998-2014 Takata held 20% of the International market in airbag manufacturing. By 2013 Honda and 2014 BMW reported against inflator units identified for explosive propellants and improperly stored chemicals in airbags.

June 2014 Takata admitted the mishandling and recalled cars. By June 2014 BMW, Chrysler, Ford, Honda, Mazda, Nissan and Toyota announced recalling over three million vehicles worldwide against complaints of airbag rupture that sends flying debris inside the vehicle. On May 19, 2015 Takata is responsible for largest auto recall in history with 40 million vehicles across 12 brands for faulty airbags that could explode with potential threat to life.

However, the incidences are restricted to affect vehicles in hot and humid locations with no evidences seen in the UK and Europe. Together, all reported injuries (minor or fatal) have been recorded in Honda vehicles, which is under investigation.

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GROUP - E

8. (a) What is the relevance of Appropriate Technology in Indian context?
 (b) How following environmental ethics would aid to combat possible disasters?
9. Examine the case in the light of Ecological ethics and suggest steps to reduce the potential harm.

6+6 = 12

(Case study) Case of Greenland Ice sheet in 'Feedback-Loop'

Marco Tedesco of Columbia University's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory published an article in the European Geosciences Union journal 'The Cryosphere' that collected satellite data from 1981 to 2012.

The Threat : The Greenland ice sheet is in the grip of 'feedback loop' where the surface has been getting darker

and less reflective of the sun, helping acceleration of the melting of ice and fuelling sea level rises. This winnowing away of the ice, exacerbated by soot blown on to the ice from wildfires, means that Greenland's ice is stuck in what is known as a 'feedback loop' that will make it ever more vulnerable to warming global temperatures. The study predicts that the ice surface reflectivity, or albedo, will drop by 10% or more by the end of the century, which will trigger further melting. The incident is grave because it is the largest annual melt since 2012 and well beyond the average melting seen over the past 35 years. Tedesco's research shows that as the surface of Greenland's ice melts, old impurities, such as dust from erosion or soot that has been entombed for years, start to appear, darkening the surface.

If the summer is warm enough to remove all the snow, these dark impurities begin to spread across the surface, providing a far more heat-absorbent environment. At the same time, as this snow melts and then refreezes, the grains of snow get larger. These larger grains, invisible to the eye but detected by satellite's infrared instruments, also create a less reflective surface.

Consequences : These two processes are turning Greenland into a store, rather than a reflector, of solar energy, with consequences far beyond the icy wilderness. Water from the melting flows into the Sea, contributing to rising oceans around the world. This process is unlikely to reverse given the increasing concentrations of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

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