

PROFESSIONAL ETHICS
(HMTS 2201)

Time Allotted : 3 hrs

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 alternative for the following: **10 × 1 = 10**
- (i) Which one of the following is not a source of renewable energy?
(a) Coal (b) Wind (c) Sun rays (d) Sea waves.
 - (ii) State if the following statement is true or false:
Value systems at individual, social and cultural levels are interconnected and interdependent.
(a) True (b) False
 - (iii) Which of the following is an example of a value?
(a) Justice (b) Happiness
(c) All of the answers are correct (d) Security.
 - (iv) Automation is
(a) machines working automatically
(b) machines working on their own
(c) use of controlled systems to control industrial machinery and processes
(d) machines doing the work of human beings.
 - (v) The right to control your own personal information is the right of
(a) privacy (b) access (c) security (d) copyright.
 - (vi) Choose the false statement
(a) Our 'ego' helps us to control our 'id'
(b) The concept of justice is implemented in a society with the help of laws and their interpretation by the judiciary
(c) Setting up of Ethics committee in an organization is an example of good organizational values
(d) Value crisis in a society means all people are corrupt.

- (vii) Upcycling and recycling of products is a strategy towards implementing sustainable development
(a) Yes (b) No
- (viii) Mr. Akash Agarwal is a civil Engineer and the bridge designed by him starts showing flaws after two years of operation. Mr. Agarwal's action is a violation of
(a) Individual values
(b) Professional Ethics
(c) Both Professional Ethics and Individual values
(d) Value crisis.
- (ix) Whistle blowing
(a) Means to go against the company where one is working
(b) Means to sacrifice loyalty towards my employer and benefit the society
(c) Is unethical
(d) Is done for personal satisfaction.
- (x) Which one of the following gases is not included in the, 'green house gases'?
(a) Methane (b) Hydrogen (c) Nitrous oxide (d) Carbon dioxide.

Group- B

2. Explain the concept of justice as a social value and also state how the rule of law may /can help in implementing justice in a society.

12

3. Read the case study and answer the questions that follow

A fresh engineering graduate likes both her new job and salary in the prestigious chemical industry. However, after few months, she accidentally discovers that highly toxic waste is being secretly discharged by the industry into a river nearby. This is causing health problems to the villagers downstream who depend on the river for their water needs. She is upset and mentions her concern to her colleagues who have been with the company for longer periods. They advise her to keep quiet as anyone who mentions the topic is summarily dismissed. She cannot risk losing her job as she is the sole bread-winner for her family. At first, she thinks that if her seniors are keeping quiet, why she should stick out her neck. But her conscience pricks her to do something to save the river and the people who depend upon it. She thinks you are a wise person and seeks your advice.

- (i) What arguments can you advance to show her that keeping quiet is not morally right?
(ii) What course of action would you advise her to adopt and why?

(6 + 6) = 12

Group - C

4. Edward Snowden, a computer expert and former CIA administrator, released confidential Government documents to the press about the existence of Government

surveillance programs. According to many legal experts and the US Government, his action violated the Espionage act of 1971, which identified the leak of State secret as an act of treason. Yet, despite the fact that he broke the law, Snowden argued that he had a moral obligation to act. He gave a justification for his “whistle blowing” by stating that he had a duty “to inform the public as to that which is done in their name and that which is done against them.” According to Snowden, the Government’s violation of privacy had to be exposed regardless of legality since more substantive issues of social action and public morality were involved here. Many agreed with Snowden. Few argued that he broke the law and compromised national security, for which he should be held accountable.

(i) Do you agree that Snowden’s actions were ethically justified even if legally prohibited? Why or why not?

(ii) Make an argument by weighing the competing values in this case.

(6 + 6) = 12

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

(i) Professional Ethics (ii) Whistle blowing (iii) Cyber security.

(6 × 2) = 12

Group - D

6. Find and connect how breach of industrial safety is violation of organizational values. Substantiate with examples.

12

7. **Case Study:** Rapid Industrialization has changed human-machine interaction extensively in Industry 4.0. Now there is easy access through portable/mobile devices, instant cloud based software support to workers, and augmented reality enabled workplace orientations. In such a changed workplace scenario where there is overdependence on technology the human factors suffer.

Answer the following question in the context of the above mentioned situation / circumstance.

Write a note on changing human-machine relation in contemporary times with respect to challenged human factors (ex: job satisfaction, occupational health safety, AI as companion replacing peer learning, pressure of performance and constant upgrading of skills, unending workload, conflicting personal-professional roles etc.).

12

Group - E

8. Oceans contribute greatly to human life and hence a vital part of Sustainable Development Goals. Write a note on human intervention in ocean health as breach of Ecological Ethics.

12

9. **Case Study:** Antibiotics have saved millions suffering from pneumonia, tuberculosis, meningitis and other bacteria induced health problems. This time it is the Rivers' health compromised with exceeding antibiotics waste.

Scientists in Helsinki found two-third of 711 samples from 72 countries have this toxic presence. Concentration of drugs used to fight off bacterial infection in people and livestock were exceeded by many biotech and pharmaceutical companies across Asia, Europe, America and Africa. The widespread presence of antibiotics impacts wildlife and causes antimicrobial resistance.

Based on the above case study answer the following:

- (i) Under ecological ethics how would you analyse the above case as a conflict of profit versus planet scenario?
- (ii) Write a note on the impending dangers of river water pollution and suggest steps to mitigate the problem.

(6 + 6) = 12