Register Number:

Date:

|  |
| --- |
| **ST. JOSEPH’S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), BANGALORE-27** |
| **B.A. COMMUNICATIVE ENGLISH – II SEMESTEREXAMINATION: APRIL 2018****CE 216–Communicative English****Time: 2 ½ hours Max. Marks: 70****INSTRUCTIONS****1. You are NOT allowed to use a dictionary.****2. This question paper has FOUR sections &THREE printed sheets.****3. You will lose marks for exceeding the word limit.** **4. Provide word-counts after every piece of writing you attempt in this paper.** |

1. **Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 150-200 words each: (2x10=20)**
2. How is a morpheme different from a lexeme? Explain the distinction between free and bound morphemes.
3. What are diphthongs? How are they classified? Give examples for each.
4. Explain the various processes by which words come into the English language.

**II.A. Draw tree diagrams for the following words: (5x1=5)**

1. degeneration
2. regularisation
3. patronising
4. dehydrated
5. mistrust

**II.B. Identify the word formation process in each of the samples given below: (1x5=5)**

1. Fest
2. Rom-com ( from Romantic Comedy))
3. Blue-blooded (From the Spanish sangre azul)
4. CAT (Common Aptitude Test)
5. ILO (from International Labour Organisation)

**II.C. Identify and describe all the phonemes in the word given below: (1x5=5)**

Bowling

**III. Read the passage given below:**

Joshua Plotkin’s dive into the evolution of language began with clarity—and also a lack of it.

Today, if you wanted to talk about something that’s clear, you’d say that it has *clarity*. But if you were around in 1890, you would almost certainly have talked about its *clearness*.

[Plotkin](http://www.bio.upenn.edu/people/joshua-plotkin) first noticed this linguistic change while playing with Google’s Ngram Viewer, a search engine that charts the frequencies of words across millions of books. The viewer shows that a century ago, *clearness* dominated *clarity*. Now the opposite is true, which is strange because *clarity* isn’t even a regular form. If you wanted to create a noun from *clear*, *clearness* would be a more obvious choice. “Why would there be this big upswing in clarity?,” Plotkin wondered. “Is there a force promoting clarity in writing?”

It wasn’t clear. But as an evolutionary biologist, Plotkin knew how to find out.

The histories of linguistics and evolutionary biology have been braided together for as long as the latter has existed. Many of the earliest defenders of Darwinism were linguists who saw similarities between the evolution of languages and of species. Darwin himself wrote about these “curious parallels” in *The Descent of Man*. New words and grammatical rules are continually cropping up, fighting for existence against established forms, and sometimes driving those old forms extinct. “The survival ... of certain favored words in the struggle for existence is natural selection,” Darwin wrote.

Darwin, Plotkin says, used the way language changes “to popularize his heretical theory and explain for a broad audience what natural selection means. The process wasn’t easy to observe in organisms, but it was easier to see in words.”

But natural selection is just one force of evolutionary change. Under its influence, genes become more (or less) common because their owners are more (or less) likely to survive and reproduce. But genes can also change in frequency for completely random reasons that have nothing to do with their owner’s health or strength—and everything to do with pure, dumb luck. That process is known as drift, and it took decades for evolutionary biologists to recognize that it’s just as important for evolution as natural selection.

Linguists are still behind. It’s easy to see how languages can change through drift, as people randomly pick up the words and constructions they overhear. But when Darwin wrote about evolving tongues, he said, “The better, the shorter, the easier forms are constantly gaining the upper hand, and they owe their success to their own inherent virtue.” That’s a view based purely on natural selection, and it persists. “For the most part, linguists today have a strict Darwinian outlook,” Plotkin says. “When they see a change, they think there must be a directional force behind it. But I propose that language change, maybe lots of it, is driven by random chance—by drift.”

To see whether that was true, he and his colleagues developed statistical tests that could distinguish between the influence of drift and of natural selection. They then applied these tests to several online repositories, such the Corpus of Historical American English—a digital collection of 400 million words, pulled out of 100,000 texts published over the past 200 years.

The team focused first on the past-tense forms of verbs, and found at least six cases where natural selection is clearly in effect. In some cases, the verbs were regularized, losing weird past forms in favor of more-predictable ones that end in –ed. Wove, for example, gave way to weaved, while smelt lost ground to smelled. That’s not surprising: Many linguists have suggested that verbs tend to become more regular over time, perhaps because, like Darwin theorized, these forms are just easier to learn.

But Plotkin found just as many instances where selection drove verbs toward irregularity: Dived gave way to dove, lighted to lit, waked to woke, and sneaked to snuck. Why? Perhaps because we like it when words sound alike, and we change our language to accommodate such rhymes. For example, dove began to replace dived at the same time that cars became popular, and drive/drove became common parts of English. Similarly, the move from quitted to quit coincided with the rise of split, which became much more widely used when it acquired a new meaning—to leave or depart. In both cases, changes in one irregular verb—drive or split—may have irregularized others. “We can’t definitively say that’s the reason, but it’s coincident,” Plotkin says.

**III.A Answer ANY THREE in around 150 words each. (3X5=15 marks)**

1. How is language and evolutionary change connected?
2. Have you ever picked up and used a random word while constructing a sentence? Elaborate your answer describing the context in which you had used it.
3. Look up the meaning of the word heretical. What do you understand by the term ‘heretical theory’ mentioned in the article?
4. Do you think the digital revolution has accentuated the claims made in this article? Elaborate with an example.

**IV.A.** Attempt to write a –play-scene with dialogue for this situation—your classmates are having a conversation in the college driveway about the Communicative English exam. **Your scene should not exceed 200 words. (10 marks)**

**IV. B. Read this article from the Times of India and edit it for clarity. Bring it down to exactly 200 words and provide a suitable headline: (10 marks)**

Inspired by children who visit his cyber cafe to complete their projects works on nature and food wastage, a resident of Mangaluru who runs cyber cafes in the city, has kept one fridge in front of the cafe stocks leftover food to feed the poor and needy as it was a long-pending dream of Arafath Ameen, who owns a cyber cafe located near Balmatta New Road, adjacent to KMC Hospital in Dr B R Ambedkar Circle. He started this initiative two days ago. "Since past three years, I used to find a solution for the food wastage problem and how to help the needy. It materialized on December 2 and has received a good response," he says. Arafath's has placed a fridge at his cafe where he stores fruits, fruit juice, water and food packets. Usually people store excess food or discard it. But there are people who are unable to get a single meal a day. The food here is covered and stored in a hygienic way and this is the first public fridge for needy in city. Currently, Arafath spends from his pocket and stores food. "Food that I kept on the first day was taken by night and I am happy that only needy people are making use of the facility." The fridge which is open round the clock has monitored with a CCTV. "It was to ensure that food is not wasted and is utilized properly." If this initiative becomes successful, Arafath plans to implement this at his three other cyber cafe centres near KMC Attavara, Hampankatta and Bendorewell.