



## Functional English

Foundation Examination  
Autumn 2011  
Module A

8 September 2011  
100 marks – 3 hours  
Additional reading time – 15 minutes

*(All questions are compulsory)*

- Q.1 (a) Complete the following sentences with suitable homophones of the words in bold letters.
- It is not **fair** of the transport companies to increase the \_\_\_\_\_ thrice in one year.
  - Sara **knew** that her daughter would like the \_\_\_\_\_ painting she had bought for her room.
  - All the \_\_\_\_\_ of the prestigious Law Colleges who attended the symposium were considered to be authorities on **principles** of Human Rights.
  - The right u-turn immediately after the signal crossing is the **root** cause of serious accidents on this busy \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Different varieties of the newly packaged \_\_\_\_\_ were displayed in a **serial** order.
  - The boat on **sale** had a beautiful sky-blue \_\_\_\_\_ with the word 'Winner' written on it. *(03 marks)*
- (b) Rewrite the following sentences after correcting the structural errors in their construction.
- Zahid wanted to finish his homework, take a walk, and to be in bed by ten o' clock.
  - Afridi's batting style is certainly more aggressive than Misbah.
  - Salim printed the letter, and next he signed it and left the office.
  - To waste time and missing deadlines is not a desirable trait for an aspiring executive.
  - Job interviews are a matter of acting confident and to stay relaxed.
  - We apologise for inconveniencing you due to the repairs of the road. *(03 marks)*
- Q.2 (a) Change the following nouns into adjectives:
- elegance
  - gold
  - space
  - strength
  - youth
  - courage *(03 marks)*
- (b) Complete the given sentences with the most appropriate comparative/superlative forms of the words listed below. Each word should be used once:
- fast, keen, quiet, low, dry, rowdy, handsome, serious, early, clever**
- Our company has won this year's award for offering the \_\_\_\_\_ tariff rates in the telecommunication business.
  - I'll try to reach home \_\_\_\_\_ than usual, so that we can go to the exhibition on time.
  - The hero of this movie appears to be \_\_\_\_\_ than the one in the previous film of this series.
  - This is the \_\_\_\_\_ corner of the park. I love to come and read here once in a while.
  - Ayan is the \_\_\_\_\_ kid in the neighbourhood; everyone is sick and tired of his mischief.
  - "His condition is \_\_\_\_\_ than we had anticipated, he must undergo surgery immediately." The doctor said.
  - I have heard so much about Mr. Zahid's financial skills that I was \_\_\_\_\_ to join his company as a summer intern.
  - I think Shaista is not only a helpful person; she is also the \_\_\_\_\_ girl in our class.
  - Shoaib Akhtar is the \_\_\_\_\_ bowler in the Pakistan team.
  - The Sahara Desert is the \_\_\_\_\_ desert in the world. *(05 marks)*

- Q.3 (a) Insert the appropriate Articles in each of the following sentences:
- There is \_\_\_\_\_ box of chocolates on \_\_\_\_\_ table for you.
  - Immediately after we reached her home, she went to \_\_\_\_\_ kitchen to prepare dinner.
  - Shahid's father is employed as \_\_\_\_\_ electrician in \_\_\_\_\_ textile mill.
  - He is \_\_\_\_\_ right man for this challenging assignment. (03 marks)
- (b) Give the Plural forms of the following words:
- calf
  - information
  - sister-in-law
  - story
  - sheep
  - history (03 marks)
- Q.4 (a) Punctuate the following sentences:
- examinations are finally over sharmeen said happily
  - shama the neighbour next door told me that the exhibitions of her paintings will be held in karachi and islamabad
  - were you leaving for malaysia this week saira asked
  - where was he born (05 marks)
- (b) Match the words in the left-hand column with the words in the right hand column:
- |                 |             |
|-----------------|-------------|
| (i) forest      | sovereign   |
| (ii) paddy      | mill        |
| (iii) sugarcane | field       |
| (iv) textile    | carnivorous |
| (v) lion        | plantation  |
| (vi) nation     | deciduous   |
- (03 marks)
- Q.5 (a) Change the following sentences into Indirect Speech:
- "We went to the new 3D cinema yesterday." Sadia said to me.
  - "I am thinking of migrating to Canada next year." Asif said to his brother.
  - The teacher said to the class, "We may go for a picnic at the end of this month."
  - Maria said, "I was shopping in the Liberty Market when the downpour started."
  - Junaid asked his friend, "Do you think that the beggar was telling the truth?"
  - "I will take you to your friend's house tomorrow." Said my father. (06 marks)
- (b) Insert the correct prepositions in the following sentences:
- As responsible citizens, it is our obligation to abide \_\_\_\_\_ the decisions of the courts.
  - Please place the director's mail \_\_\_\_\_ the outward-tray.
  - The new financial year begins \_\_\_\_\_ July 1, 2011.
  - He continues to spend money \_\_\_\_\_ luxuries in spite of his meagre income.
  - Are you aware \_\_\_\_\_ your friend's wedding next month?
  - What was she looking \_\_\_\_\_ in this room? (03 marks)
- Q.6 Match the Idioms given below with their closest meanings:
- (a) I do not enjoy small talk and meaningless conversations; it is for this reason that I am usually \_\_\_\_\_ at marriage parties.
- at their beck and call
  - as cool as a cucumber
  - always on the wanted list
  - a fish out of water

- (b) The driver \_\_\_\_\_ to justify his long leave of absence without the permission of his employer.
- ate the humble pie
  - went back on his words
  - created a cock and bull story
  - put on airs
- (c) To preach the virtues of honesty to the scoundrel was like \_\_\_\_\_.
- running with the hare and hunting with the hound
  - praying for the rain
  - flogging a dead horse
  - creating a storm in a teacup
- (d) To eat one's cake and also to have it means to \_\_\_\_\_.
- live in a fool's paradise
  - think of no end of one's own intelligence
  - be extremely greedy
  - attempt to have the best of all the aspects of a transaction
- (e) The health minister \_\_\_\_\_ while addressing the symposium of the visiting senior surgeons from the foreign countries.
- managed to keep his body and soul together
  - made a laughing stock of himself
  - read the writing on the wall
  - knew which side his bread was buttered
- (f) Please do not \_\_\_\_\_ and come to the point straight away.
- make a mountain of a mole hill
  - pretend to be out of sorts
  - play your trump card
  - strike while the iron is hot
- (g) I expect Shahid, my dear friend, to stand with me \_\_\_\_\_.
- like a turncoat
  - through thick and thin
  - and hold his tongue in his cheek
  - and act as if the butter would not melt in his mouth
- (h) The nominees of both the political parties were \_\_\_\_\_ in spite of their very close family relationships.
- basking in the sunshine
  - between the devil and the deep sea
  - daggers drawn
  - putting the cart before the horse

**(04 marks)**

Q.7 (a) Change the following sentences from Passive Voice to Active Voice.

- The house was searched by the police and the stolen goods recovered.
- This alarm switch should not be touched by the children.
- The new traffic arrangements were strongly resented by the residents.
- The new austerity measures were authorised by the board of directors.
- The examination results were announced by the Board on July 25, 2011.

**(05 marks)**

(b) Combine the following sentences into a single sentence by using a relative pronoun.

- Manufacturers can offer lower prices. Their costs are lower because of mass production.
- The candidate lost the election. I voted for the candidate.
- The position of accountant had already been filled. He had applied for the position of accountant.
- The artist had painted several award winning paintings. I can't remember his name.

**(04 marks)**

- Q.8 Private hospitals play a vital role in providing health-care services to a very large proportion of the population in our country. A number of these hospitals are established at prime locations and are equipped with the state-of-the-art facilities.

Rising Sun Hospital (RSH) is one such private hospital in Karachi, where your grandfather was recently hospitalised. During the visits to the hospital you and your family had to face serious problems on account of poor maintenance, besides indifferent attitude of the paramedical and nursing staff. The attitude of the doctors and consultants towards the patients also left much to be desired and was of little consolation to the suffering patients. The standard of medical care and attention were nowhere near the claims made in RSH's various promotional campaigns.

You are required to write a letter to the Administrator, RSH apprising him of the difficulties that your grandfather and your family had to experience during treatment at the hospital. Impress upon the Administrator the need for improvement in the attitude of the doctors and the ancillary staff so that RSH can provide really good health-care services to the patients that it so proudly proclaims. Assume you are Salahuddin and your grandfather's name is Kamran Ahmed. **(12 marks)**

- Q.9 Write an essay of approximately 350 words on any one of the following topics. Word count carries marks.
- What type of Political System suits Pakistan Best - Democracy or Dictatorship
  - An Incident/Event that Changed my Life
  - The Role that Religious Scholars can play in creating a Peaceful and Harmonious Civil Society in Pakistan
  - Injustice Anywhere is a Threat to Justice Everywhere **(15 marks)**

- Q.10 Imagine that you are Jalil Ahmed and have requested Mr. Abdul Sattar Edhi to allow you to work as an internee for 6 months with the Edhi Foundation in Karachi. You intend to pursue advanced studies in Human Psychology in the UK and the experience gained at the Edhi Foundation would provide you deep insight in human behaviour.

Construct a dialogue between Mr. Edhi and yourself illustrating the type of questions which may be asked by Mr. Edhi and your replies to elicit a positive response from Mr. Edhi. The dialogue should be based on **four** questions by Mr. Edhi and your replies. **(eight dialogues in all) (08 marks)**

- Q.11 Most of us subscribe to the widely held belief – that “small” is synonymous with inconsequential or insignificant or immaterial or trivial. We believe that our small actions have little bearing on the achievements in our lives. We believe that it is only the big things, the big actions and the big decisions that really matter in our lives. But the lives of all great people show that they had achieved outstanding success through small decisions, small choices and small actions that they performed every day. They transformed their lives by working on their day-to-day behaviours - deliberately, steadfastly and consistently. Their transformation did not occur in one giant leap or in one single spectacular action but by adoption of a step-by-step approach. They inculcated and nurtured their good habits and overcame their weaknesses, one step at a time. It was their everyday endeavours and actions that added up to make tremendous difference in the long run. Indeed, in matters of personal growth and character building, there is no such thing as an overnight turnaround or success.

The founder of this country, Mohammad Ali Jinnah understood this and used it to his advantage. He ‘grew up’ in many small ways in his day-to-day affairs. He did not wake up one day to find himself to be the “Quaid-e-Azam”. He consciously and consistently attempted to change and reform himself and grow in some way, everyday.

Day by day, he accepted risks, explored, experimented and learned from mistakes. In seemingly small and big situations alike, he accepted rather than shirked away from challenges. Mindful of the fact that “a journey of thousand miles begins with the first step”, he seized each day as a challenge and as an opportunity and made it count.

He exhibited a level of self-mastery and discipline that was indeed extraordinary. It would, however, be wrong to assume that these things came easily to him. Many people saw him exhibit his self-mastery, but did not see the years of practice and disciplined training that went into the achievement of such great successes. Very few of his peer group were able to see from close his trials and tribulations, fears and anxieties and his inner efforts to overcome them. They saw the achievements and the final victory, but not the struggles.

Commitment, perseverance and steadfastness are the hallmarks of the lives of all great people. By exercising their choices in small ways, they are able to influence and impact their circumstances and their environment. Each of their small seemingly insignificant decisions and actions accumulate to create profound impact in the long run. By understanding this principle, we can move forward and can achieve ultimate success.

- (a) Give a suitable Title to the Passage. *(01 mark)*
- (b) The author makes an impassionate appeal that small should be considered: *(01 mark)*  
 (i) insignificant  
 (ii) of considerable consequence  
 (iii) immaterial  
 (iv) none of the above
- (c) Mention three distinctive qualities in the lives of all great people which set them apart from the ordinary people. *(1.5 marks)*
- (d) According to the Author, Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah:  
 (i) never made any mistakes  
 (ii) was a risk averter  
 (iii) achieved success easily  
 (iv) all the above statements are false  
 (v) statements (i) and (iii) are false *(01 mark)*
- (e) Mention three inner challenges which great leaders never show in public. *(1.5 marks)*
- (f) All great leaders have achieved success:  
 (i) by taking big actions  
 (ii) by making big decisions  
 (iii) by doing big things  
 (iv) by overcoming weaknesses step-by-step *(01 mark)*
- (g) Write a précis of 120 words. *(08 marks)*

**(THE END)**