

BIRLA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE, PILANI Hyderabad Campus
Semester I (2019-20), Mid-semester Examination
BITS F437, Technical Communication

September 29, 2019
 Time: 90 minutes

Open Book

Total Marks: 25 (25% weighting)

All the questions are compulsory.

1. Consider the following sentence the topic sentence of an argumentative paragraph and complete the paragraph by adding appropriate supporting details and a concluding sentence to it.
 ‘Civilization began in the city, and the city remains the only place for civilized people to live’
 (5 marks, 80-100 words)
2. Write a paragraph comparing a computer and the human brain. Consider the following points:
thinking-solving problems-analyzing-evaluating-judging-designing-creating -imagining
 (5 marks, 80-100 words)
3. Choose a scientific discovery and write a paragraph on its impact on the world.
 (5 marks, 80-100 words)
4. Write a paragraph describing the information presented in the following figure.
 (5 marks, 80-100 words)

Figure 1: Life expectancy at birth

Life expectancy at birth (years)						
WHO REGION	Male			Female		
	1990	2000	2008	1990	2000	2008
African Region	49	49	51	53	52	54
Region of the Americas	68	71	73	75	77	79
South-East Asia Region	58	61	63	59	63	66
European Region	68	68	71	75	77	79
East Mediterranean Region	59	62	63	62	65	66
Western Pacific Region	68	70	72	71	74	77
INCOME GROUP						
Low income	52	53	56	55	56	59
Low middle income	61	63	65	63	66	69
Upper middle income	65	65	67	72	73	75
High income	72	75	77	79	81	83
GLOBAL	62	64	66	66	68	70

World Health Organization (2010). World Health Statistics 2010. WHO.

5. Replace the underlined verb, which indicates informality, in each sentence with an appropriate one from the following list. Here, the aim is to make the sentence more formal. (1X5=5 marks)

assist reduce, create, investigate, raise, establish, increase, determine, fluctuate, eliminate

- I) Expert Systems can help out the user in the diagnosis of problems.
- II) This program was set up to improve access to medical care.
- III) Research expenditures have gone up to nearly \$350 million.
- IV) The use of optical character readers (OCRs) should cut down the number of problems with the U.S. mail service.
- V) Researchers have found out that this drug has serious side effects.