

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI 600 086
(For candidates admitted during the academic year 2019– 2020 and thereafter)
SUBJECT CODE: 19CE/ME/CC45

B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2022
ENGLISH AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS
FOURTH SEMESTER

COURSE: MAJOR ELECTIVE
TITLE: CONTENT AND COPY EDITING

TIME: 3 HOURS
MAX. MARKS: 100

SECTION – A

I. Edit the following feature article with respect to logic and consistency, coherence, syntax, and structure. **(1x25=25 marks)**

<p>A threat to banana</p> <p>In the 1950s, Central America commercial banana growers were facing the death of their most unprofitable product, the Gros Michel banana, known as Big Mike. In contrast, it's happening again to Big Mike's successor – the Cavendish.</p> <p>With its easily transported, thick-skinned and sweet-tasting fruit, the Gros Michel banana plant dominated the plantations of Central America. United Fruit, the main grower and exporter in south america at the time, mass-produced its bananas in the most efficient way possible: it cloned shoots from the stems of plants instead of growing plants from seeds, and cultivated them in densely packed fields.</p> <p>Accordingly, these conditions are also perfect for the spread of the fungus which attacks the plant's roots and prevents it from transporting water to the stem and leaves. The TR-1 strain of the</p>	
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fungus was resistant to crop sprays. This TR-1 strain travelled around on boots or the tyres of trucks, slowly infecting plantations across the region. In an attempt to escape the fungus, farmers abandoned infected fields. The farmers flooded them. Then, they replanted crops somewhere else, often cutting down rainforest to do so.

Their efforts failed. So, instead, they searched for a variety of banana that the fungus didn't affect. They found the Cavendish, as it was called, in the greenhouse of a British duke. It wasn't as well suited to shipping as the GM, but its bananas tasted good enough to keep consumers happy. Most importantly, TR-2 didn't seem to affect it. In a few years, United Fruit had saved itself from bankruptcy by filling its plantations with thousands of the new plants, copying the same monoculture growing conditions Gros Michel had thrived in.

The operation was a huge success for the Latin American industry, and the Cavendish banana itself is far from safe. In 2014, south east asia, another major banana producer, exported four million Cavendish bananas. But, in 2015, its exports had dropped by 46, thanks to a combination of another strain of the fungus, and bad weather.

Growing practices in South East Asia haven't helped matters. Growers can't always afford the inexpensive lab-based methods

to clone plants from shoots without spreading the disease. Also, they often are strict enough about cleaning farm equipment and quarantining infected fields. As a result, the fungus has spread to australia, the middle east and mozambique – and Latin America, heavily dependent on its monoculture cavendish crops, could easily be next.

Racing against the inevitable, scientists are working on solving the problem by genetically modifying the Cavendish with genes from TR-4-resistant banana species. Researchers at the QUT have successfully grown several kinds of modified plants which have remained resistant for a number of years so far. But some experts think this is just a sophisticated version of the same temporary solution the original Cavendish provided. If the new bananas are planted in the same monocultures as the Cavendish and the Gros Michel before it, the risk is that another strain of the disease may rise up to threaten the modified plants too.

II. Edit the following news story with respect to logic and consistency, coherence, syntax, and structure. (1x25=25 marks)

Fossil fuels are a dead end

May 2022



The global mean sea level reached a new record high in 2021, rising an average of 4.5 mm per year over the 2013-2021 period, according to the WMO's report that was released. Such indicators show how the oceans were hotter, higher and more acidic last year, affecting not just human population along coasts. It is a clear sign of how global warming is likely to be disastrous for coastal areas as the catastrophic level of 1.5 degree rise is not far away. The global mean sea level increased at more than double the previous rate. This increase was due to the accelerating loss of ice mass. It made people in coastal areas, including in India, more vulnerable.

Climate change could have catastrophic effects in the near future. Similar reports have been regularly published in the past couple of

decades. Fortunately, the global community is doing too little and too late. The report is not only a warning. The report is a plea for all of us to act.

WMO called extreme weather events like heat waves, cyclones and floods “day-today face of climate change” and urged for immediate actions to substantially reduce GHG emissions.

Greenhouse gases, or GHGs, are compound gases that trap heat or longwave radiation in the atmosphere. Their presence in the atmosphere makes the Earth's surface warmer. Sunlight or shortwave radiation easily passes through these gases and the atmosphere. The scary trend on climate change indicators in the report prompted Antonio Guterres to call for ending fossil fuel pollution, saying “they are a dead end — environmentally and economically”.

He said the war in Uganda and its immediate effects is yet another wake-up call. Though it noted that 2021 was a bit less warm because of a la niña event at the start and end of the year, it said this did reverse the overall trend of rising temperatures. WMO has flagged that there is a 50:50 chance of the annual average global temperature temporarily reaching 1.5°C above the pre-industrial level at least in one of the next five years.

SECTION – B

III. Use the copy editing symbols to edit the following story.

(1x25=25marks)

always follow you heart

As a child, Monty Roberts was the son of a horse trainer and moved from stable to stable from ranch to ranch training horses. The boy schooling was constantly interrupted. One day, when he were a senior, his teacher asked him to write about what he wanted to be when he grew up. He did not hesitate and wrote a seven page paper about his aim to be an owner of a horseranch. It was a detailed paper with the location of buildings stables and even a house plan. Two days later he received his paper back with a grade F.

After class he asked his teacher why he recieved such a low score.

The teacher told him “This dream is unrealistic for a boy like you, who has no money, no resources, and who comes from a nomadic family. There is no possibility that you will reach this goal.

Then the teacher offered him the opportunity to rewrite the paper with a more realistic attitude.

The boy went home and asked his parents how he should respond.

They told him this is a very important decision so you must come to your own conclusion.

After several days the boy brought the same paper to his teacher.
No changes was made.

He told his his teacher, "Sir please keep this grade with you and I will keep my draem."

After many years Monty roberts went on to own a 4000 sq ft house in the middle of 200 acre horse ranch. Always remember to follow your heart and never listen to these who do not believe in your ability to achieve your dreams.

IV. Use the copy editing symbols to edit the following passage.**(1x25=25 marks)**

Ralph A Hunt

Growing up in Oxford North Carolina the eight children of Johnnie and Amanda Hunt enjoyed the benefits of love close family ties and adequate housing, food, and clothing. Mr. and Mrs. Hunts lack of education did not hinder there quest to lead their children down a path to a better life.

While travelling this path they taught them important values and lessons about life work and education. These values has consistently guided their seventh child, Ralph A. Hunt Sr, who has become one of the most dedicated effective and powerful government leaders in North Carolina history. In 1950, MrHunt enrolled in Johnson C Smith University in charlotte, north Carolina, on a work aid scholarship. He interrupted his education in 1953 when he left to serve his country during the korean war.

He returned to the University in 1955 and graduated a year later with a bachelor's degree in mathematics. In 1964, he earned a masters degree from North Carolina central university.
