



# LOYOLA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI – 600 034

U.G. DEGREE EXAMINATION – GENERAL ENGLISH

FIRST SEMESTER – NOVEMBER 2011

EL 1060/1064 - ENGLISH FOR EMPOWERMENT

Date : 31-10-2011

Dept. No.

Max. : 100 Marks

Time : 1:00 - 4:00

## I Read the following and answer the questions given below:

10 marks

If you've ever been fooled on April Fools' Day, you may wonder how this tradition started. Well, you're not alone. No one knows for sure how April Fools' Day began. People used to celebrate New Years Day on April 1st. Just like today, people would have big parties to celebrate. Over time, the calendar changed and so did the date for New Year. In the 1500s, the new calendar marked New Years Day as January 1st. But because there was no Internet or other means to spread the word, the news traveled slowly by word of mouth.

It took a month for everyone to hear about the change, and even then some people resisted. They continued to celebrate New Years on April 1st. These people were given the nickname "April fools". They had the "April fools" deliver invitations to big New Year's celebrations that weren't really going to happen. In France, "April fools" were called "April Fish". This began because people thought fish were easy to catch since they could be fooled into taking the bait on a hook. Children would tag a paper fish on a person's back to mark him as an "April Fish".

Not everyone is convinced that this is actually how the tradition of April Fools' Day began. People have tried to pinpoint the exact date of the first April Fool's Day, but this only led to more pranks. A professor from Boston University pranked a reporter by making up a story about a court jester who said he could run the empire better than the king. The jester was made king for a day on April 1st. This turned out to be a big April Fools' Day trick because the reporter thought the story was real. Even though we aren't sure how this tradition began, people still celebrate April Fools' Day by playing tricks on each other. So the next time you prank someone and yell "April Fool!" Remember that the day may actually be about the people who didn't want to change their traditions when the new calendar was adopted. Or maybe it's just a day to celebrate the joker in all of us.

### 1. What is the author's purpose for writing this article?

- to teach readers about the history of April Fools' Day
- to remind readers that April Fools' Day is coming up
- to persuade readers into celebrating April Fools' Day safely
- to teach readers April Fools' Day in America is the New Year day.

### 2. In the 1500s, which people were given the nickname "April fools"?

- people who celebrated New Years Day on January 1<sup>st</sup>
- people who didn't know when April started
- people who were not smart
- people who refused to recognize New Years Day as January 1<sup>st</sup>

### 3. In France, what did children do on April 1st?

- wore paper fish on their backs
- placed paper fish on other people's backs
- went fishing
- bought a new calendar

**4. Match each vocabulary word from the article “April Fools” to its definition.**

1. Jester                    a. area ruled by a king or queen
2. Reporter                b. person who is paid to tell jokes and provide entertainment
3. Empire                  c. to narrow information down to a specific place or moment in time\
4. Pinpoint                d. refused to change
5. Resisted                e. person who looks for news and writes articles for a newspaper
6. Next April 1<sup>st</sup>, what will you be reminded of?

**II a.** Write a dialogue between two friends meeting each other after five years.  
(5 exchanges)

**OR**

**10 marks**

**b.** Write an imaginary conversation between Two great leaders of our country.  
(5 exchanges)

**III. Read the following passage carefully and neatly fill in the correct details given in it in the RESUME – FORMAT :** **10 marks**

Sandeep was born on 28<sup>th</sup> of September. He is a 26 year old B.Sc.Graduate.He is single His father, Mr. Rajasheswar, M.A., M.Phil, is a professor in English, in a reputed Institution. Sandeep has an elder brother, Ranadeep.His mother, Swetha Devi, is a B.A.Graduate . She is a home-maker. They live in No. 23. M.G. Road. Sandeep loves sending e-mails and receiving them. He has a very interesting E.mail I.D-talentedboy @ rediffmail.com. His father got him a new mobile phone as gift for his birthday. So now his friends contact him at 9232453411. He plays football, loves hearing to old Tamil film songs, and watches T.V. Programmes featuring the animal world. He knows 4 languages- Tamil, English, French and Hindi. He can speak, read and write in English and Tamil. Whereas he can only speak in French and Hindi. He loves doing social work and has donated blood ( A positive) a number of times. He loves his country, India very much.

1. Name:
2. Age:
3. Date of Birth:
4. Nationality :
5. Sex :
6. Marital Status :
7. Address:
8. Phone no. :
9. E.Mail I.D :
10. Blood Group :
11. Educational Qualification:
12. Hobbies and Interests :
13. Father's Name :
14. Educational Qualification :

15. Occupation:

16. Mother's Name :

17. Educational Qualification :

18. Occupation:

19. Languages known:                      Read                      Speak                      Write

**IV. Answer any 5 of the following in about 30-40 words each:**

**5x2=10**

1. How does the environment get polluted?
2. What were the positive qualities of the student?
3. What is Willingness and what is courage in the story 'The Courage To Risk A Test'?
4. Why did Ali ask the mother and her son to come on the next day?
5. Who is compared to pearl and who to stone?
6. How does Prayer help you?

**V. Answer any 4 of the following -**

**4x5=20**

1. Why did Yashoda file a case of theft against the landlord?
2. List out the circumstances that led the father to sell his son Sultan in Poverty Auction:-
3. What happened to Revathy when she went to take water from the tank?
4. How did Prof. Ben transform the narrator from a shy withdrawn boy into a confident and successful person?
5. When did the wanderer realize his experience of freedom?
6. How did Wise Ali solve the serious problem of the boy in The Date-Eater?
7. Why didn't the father rescue his son from the hold of the crocodile?
8. How did the neighbour release Mullah's arm from the jar in The Magician?

**VI. Choose the right word and fill in the blanks-**

**10x1=10**

1. The Buckingham canal and the coom are today the \_\_\_\_\_ of the city. (boon, bane)
2. Professor Ben's answer \_\_\_\_\_ him from a shy withdrawn little boy to a confident and successful person. (transformed, transported)
3. A quarrel \_\_\_\_\_ out between Pudur and Vayalur. (broke, break)
4. Michael Jordan was \_\_\_\_\_ from his high school basket ball team. (caught, cut)
5. A king put his court to a test for an \_\_\_\_\_ post. (important, impressive )
6. The wanderer filled a \_\_\_\_\_ with the sand from his knapsack. (whole, hole)
7. The neighbour \_\_\_\_\_ mullah's hand out of the jar. (pulled, pushed)
8. The great master \_\_\_\_\_ to him in a friendly way and took the dates out of his hand. (spike, spoke)
9. The businessman \_\_\_\_\_ the fisherman on the quality of his fish. (complemented, comprehended)
10. The camel driver \_\_\_\_\_ modestly in front of the elegant gentleman. (stood, stand)

**VII. Write an essay on any one of the following in about 200 words:**

**1x10=10**

1. Corruption in Indian politics.
2. Your experiences in high school days.
3. The Cultural Festival in Loyola- Oventions.

**VIII. Develop the following hints into a story and give a suitable title :**

**10 marks**

An old woman---makes vadai---a crow ---wants to eat it---takes it---flies away--- a tree nearby---hungry fox---passes by---decides to have the vadai---my dear crow--- you are beautiful---your voice--- very sweet---foolish crow---sings---vadai falls down---clever fox---picks it---runs away.

**Rewrite as Directed:**

**10 marks**

**1. Give the adverb form of:**

- a. Sudden b. happy

**2. Give the noun form of**

- a. discover b. prepare

**3. Choose the correct word and fill in the blanks**

- a. .... one seems to ..... the right answer. (know/ no)  
b. If you want to ..... well, you should ..... our worries behind. ( live/ leave)

**4. Fill in with articles:**

- a. They are all reading for ... examination.  
b. We must not measure ... man's worth by his money.

**5. Fill in with suitable Prepositions:**

- a. The lake is open ... the public .... boating.  
b. He kept looking ... the blue sky.

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