

**INDIAN STATISTICAL INSTITUTE**

**B. Stat. First Year**

**Semester I: 2025–2026**

**Remedial English — FINAL**

Date: 14. 11. 2025

Time: 2 hours

Full Marks: 50

(1) Attempt any one of the following, limiting yourself to around 200 words.

(14 × 1)

(a) “We learn more from silence than from speeches.” — Discuss how restraint and reflection deepen our understanding.

(b) “The pursuit of certainty is the enemy of wisdom.” — Analyse why doubt and curiosity are essential to human progress.

(c) “Comfort is the most persuasive form of control.” — How convenience and luxury can limit independence; explain with suitable examples.

(d) “Memory is not history; it is emotion disguised as fact.” — Reflect on how memory reshapes the truth.

(2) Choose the most appropriate word or phrase to complete each sentence. (8 × 2 = 16)

1. Hardly \_\_\_\_\_ the results announced when the students began to celebrate.

(a) has (b) had (c) have (d) was

2. No sooner \_\_\_\_\_ the speech end than the audience rose to leave.  
(a) did (b) had (c) was (d) has
3. Seldom \_\_\_\_\_ such composure in a moment of defeat.  
(a) we see (b) do we see (c) did we saw (d) have we seen
4. Were I in your position, I \_\_\_\_\_ that opportunity without delay.  
(a) take (b) would take (c) took (d) had taken
5. Not until she reread the letter \_\_\_\_\_ the hidden meaning.  
(a) did she understand (b) she understood (c) has she understood (d) had she understand
6. If they \_\_\_\_\_ earlier, they could have avoided the confusion.  
(a) act (b) acted (c) had acted (d) have acted
7. So rare \_\_\_\_\_ integrity that it surprises us when we find it.  
(a) is (b) are (c) was (d) has been
8. Should there \_\_\_\_\_ any difficulty, contact the department immediately.  
(a) be (b) was (c) had (d) been

(3) Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the word in brackets. (5 × 2 = 10)

1. His lecture was admired for its clarity and quiet \_\_\_\_\_. (authority)
2. The new policy has provoked intense public \_\_\_\_\_. (debate)
3. Her ideas revealed both depth and intellectual \_\_\_\_\_. (honest)

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4. The courtroom atmosphere grew increasingly \_\_\_\_\_ as the verdict neared. (tense)

5. We respected his steady \_\_\_\_\_ even under pressure. (compose)

(4) Attempt any one of the following, limiting yourself to around 150 words.  
(10 × 1)

(a) Write a formal letter to the Controller of Examinations proposing the introduction of open-book assessments to encourage critical thinking.

(b) Write a letter to your younger cousin reflecting on why patience and perseverance matter more than quick success.

(c) Write a personal letter to a friend describing how solitude helped you to rediscover what truly matters.