



Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology

B. Sc. Special Honours Degree/ Diploma

in

Information Technology

Final Examination

Year 1 Semester 1 (2016)

EL120- English Language Skills 1

Duration: 03 hours

Instructions to Candidates

1. The paper contains **11** pages including the cover page.
2. The paper contains **THREE** questions. Answer all the questions.
3. Provide answers on the paper itself.
4. Total marks for this paper is 100 which contribute **70%** to the final grade.

Q1 Listening 10%	Q2 Reading 60%	Q3 Writing 30%	Total Marks 100%

Question 01 – Listening Comprehension (10marks)

Listen to the recording and answer the questions given below. The recording will be played only once.

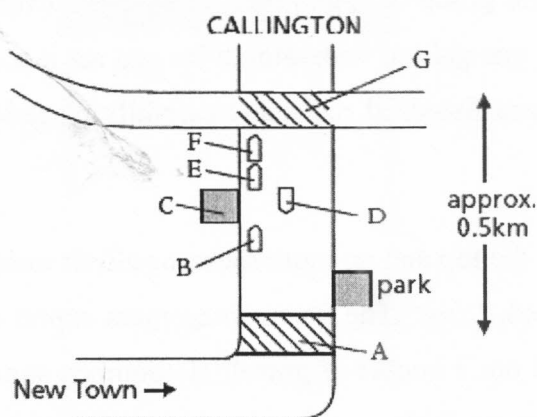
Questions 1-7

Complete the form below, using **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER** for each answer.

Travel Safe	
INSURANCE PLC	
Department: <u>Motor Insurance</u>	
Client details:	
Name:	Elisabeth 1
Date of birth:	8.10.1975
Address:	2 (street)
	Callington (town)
Policy number:	3
Accident details:	
Date:	4
Time: Approx.	5
Supporting evidence:	6
Medical problems (if any):	7..... injuries

Questions 8-10

Label the diagram/plan below. Write the correct letter, A–G, next to questions 8–10.

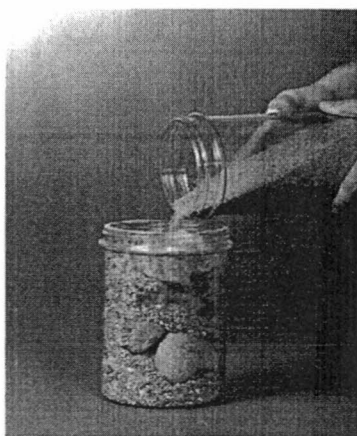


8. traffic lights
9. petrol station
10. blue van

(1 x 10 = marks)

Question 02 – Reading Comprehension (60 Marks)

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.



One day, an expert in time management was speaking to a large group of young business students and, to drive home a point, used an unusual illustration those eager students will never forget.

As he stood in front of the group of high-powered over-achievers, he said, "Okay, time for a quiz" and he pulled out a one-gallon, wide-mouth jar and set it on the table in front of him. He also produced about a dozen fist-sized rocks and carefully placed them, one at a time, into the jar.

When the jar was filled to the top and no more rocks would fit inside, he asked, "Is this jar full?" Everyone in the class yelled, "Yes." The time management expert replied, "Really?" He reached under the table and pulled out a bucket of gravel. He dumped some gravel in and shook the jar causing pieces of gravel to work themselves down into the spaces between the big rocks. He then asked the group once more, "Is the jar full?" By this time the class was on to him. "Probably not," one of them answered. "Good!" he replied.

He reached under the table and brought out a bucket of sand. He started dumping the sand in the jar and it went into all of the spaces left between the rocks and the gravel. Once more he asked the question, "Is this jar full?" "No!" the class shouted. Once again he said, "Good." Then he grabbed a pitcher of water and began to pour it in until the jar was filled to the brim. Then he looked at the class and asked, "What is the point of this illustration?" One eager beaver raised his hand and said in a very important manner, "The point is, no matter how full your schedule is, if you try really hard you can always fit some more things in it!"

The speaker smiled. "No, that's not the point. The truth this illustration teaches us is, 'If you don't put the big rocks in first, you'll never get them in at all. What are the 'big rocks' in your life?..... time with loved ones, your faith, your education, your dreams, a worthy cause, teaching or mentoring others". "Remember to put these BIG ROCKS in first or you'll never get them in at all."

2.1 Scanning a passage for specific information

Scan through the passage quickly and find the answers for the following questions. Write short answers. (*marks will be deducted for spelling errors)

1. Who were the business management students listening to ?.....
(1 mark)
2. What did he first put into the jar ? (1 mark)

3. What did he pull out from under the table ?(1 mark)
4. What was in the second bucket? (1 mark)
5. What was in the pitcher? (1 mark)
6. Name two "**big rocks**" that the speaker has mentioned i
 ii
 (2 marks)
7. Name two "**big rocks**" in **your own** life . i.....
 ii..... (2 marks)
8. Add another '**Big Rock**' which you think **should be included** in the list. (2marks)

 (10 marks)

2.2 Do the following statements agree with the information given in the passage?

Underline *True*— if the statement agrees with the information

False—if the statement contradicts the information

Not given— if there is no information on this in the passage

Justify your answers in your own words, with relevant information from the passage.

(correct response 1 mark, justification 2 marks. Total- 3 marks)

1. The Time Expert was a scientist

a. True/False/Not given

b. Justify your answer

.....

2. The speaker put in a dozen large rocks in to the jar.

a. True/False/Not given

b. Justify your answer

.....

3. The water in the pitcher was enough to fill the jar to the brim.

a. True/ False /Not given

b. Justify your answer

.....

4. The students' interpretation of the illustration was correct.

a. True / False / Not given

b. Justify your answer

.....

(3 x 4 = 12 marks)

2.3. Vocabulary –Inferring the meaning of words from context

Underline the correct response that conveys the same meaning as the words/phrases that are highlighted in the following sentences.

1. One day, an expert in time management was speaking to a group of business students and, to drive home a point, used an illustration those students will never forget.
 - a. make the message clear
 - b. make them crazy
 - c. make them drive him home
 - d. make driving easy
2. As he stood in front of the group of high-powered over-achievers he said, "Okay, time for a quiz"
 - a. Students who are extremely intelligent
 - b. Students with high thinking powers
 - c. students who are extremely ambitious
 - d. students who perform better than their peers
3. "He also produced about a dozen fist-sized rocks ..."
 - a. Fistful of dozen rocks
 - b. A dozen rocks ,each the size of a fist
 - c. a dozen large rocks
 - d. a dozen fistfuls rocks

4. Then he grabbed a pitcher of water and began to pour it in until the jar was filled to the brim.
 a. vase b. a cup c. a jug d. a tray
5. "Is the jar full?" By this time the class was on to him. "Probably not," one of them answered.
 a. The class began to realize their answers were wrong
 b. The class began to pay more attention to the speaker
 c. The class began to think of a different illustration
 d. The class began to admire the speaker's illustration
6. "One eager beaver raised his hand and said, "The point is, no matter how full your schedule is, if you try really hard you can always fit some more things in it!"
 a. enthusiastic learner c. young philosopher
 b. young scientist d. keen scientist
7. The truth this illustration teaches us is, "If you don't put the big rocks in first, you'll never get them in at all
 a. experiment b. picture c. story d. graph
8. "What are the 'big rocks' in your life?..... time with loved ones, your faith, your education, your dreams, a worthy cause, teaching or mentoring others
 a. a deserving b. an excellent c. a respectable d. a decent

(2 x 8 =16 marks)

2.4 Pronoun reference

What do the words underlined in the passage refer to?

1. He also produced about a dozen fist-sized rocks and carefully placed them, one at a time, into the jar.

2. He dumped some gravel in and shook the jar causing pieces of gravel to work themselves down into the spaces between the big rocks

3. He started dumping the sand in the jar and it went into all of the spaces left between the rocks and the gravel.
-

4. "The point is, no matter how full your schedule is, if you try really hard you can always fit some more things in it!"
-

(1 x 4 = 4 marks)

2.5 Identifying adjectives – Identify ten adjectives in the following passage (*there are more than ten adjectives*), and write them below on the dotted lines.

One day, an expert in time management was speaking to a large group of young business students and, to drive home a point, used an unusual illustration those eager students will never forget. As he stood in front of the group of high-powered, over-achievers he said, "Okay, time for a quiz" and he pulled out a one-gallon, wide-mouth jar and set it on the table in front of him. He also produced about a dozen fist-sized rocks and carefully placed them, one at a time, into the jar.

- | | |
|---------|----------|
| 1. | 6. |
| 2. | 7. |
| 3. | 8. |
| 4. | 9. |
| 5. | 10. |

(1/2 x 10 = 5 marks)

2.6 Intensive reading

Underline the topic that you consider most suitable for the passage.

- i. **The philosophy of time management**
- ii. **The philosophy of life**
- iii. **Money is not always everything**
- iv. **Always give priority to what you value most** **(2 marks)**

a. Explain briefly, why you selected this topic.

.....

.....

.....

.....

(3 marks)

b. Explain the following sentence taken from the passage, in your own words.

1. "He dumped some gravel in and shook the jar causing pieces of gravel to work themselves down into the spaces between the big rocks."

.....

.....

.....

2. "The point is, no matter how full your schedule is, if you try really hard you can always fit some more things in it!"

.....

.....

.....

.....

(2 x 2 =4 marks)

c. What message does the writer try to convey to the society?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

(4 marks)

Question No. 03 - Writing (30 Marks)**3.1 Writing E mails - Netiquette**

“One of the most important points to remember when writing Emails is to use **non discriminatory** language that treats all people equally.”

Rewrite the following sentences using “non- discriminatory language.”

1. A student should use polite language when he is communicating with others.
.....
.....
2. A student should always footnote his source material when he is writing an assignment.
.....
.....
.....
3. A student should read his hand book carefully, everyday, during the Orientation period.
.....
.....
.....
4. If a student is sick and needs to postpone his speech examination, he must speak to his teacher and get a new date and time for his speech test.
.....
.....
.....
5. If a student loses his Student Identity Card, he has to inform the Manager, Student Affairs, immediately.
.....
.....

(2 x 5 =10 marks)

3.2 Writing a Paragraph

Select one of the topic sentences given below and write a paragraph.

Word limit: 150 words

1. Information Technology has become more popular than aesthetic subjects in school
2. Many parents push their children to engage in studies rather than in extracurricular activities
3. Wild animals should be left in the wild, not caged in a zoo
4. Though living in the countryside is great, living in the city still have a lot of advantages
5. People say that money is not the answer to everything

(20 marks)

End of Paper