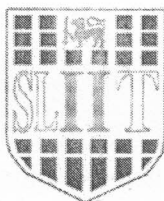


Registration Number:



Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology

B.Sc. Honours Degree/Diploma

in

Information Technology

Final Examination

Year 1, Semester I (2019)

Regular Intake

IT1040–Communication Skills

Duration: 3 Hours

May, 2019

Instructions to Candidates:

- ◆ This paper has 4 questions.
- ◆ Answer all questions on the paper itself.
- ◆ Total marks for the paper is 100.
- ◆ This paper contains 09 pages including the cover page.
- ◆ Electronic devices capable of storing and retrieving text, including calculators and mobile phones are not allowed.

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
40	10	20	30	100

Question 1

(Total = 40 Marks)

Read the following passage and answer the questions.

Throughout history, there have been instances in which people have been unwilling to accept new theories, despite startling evidence. This was certainly the case when Copernicus published his theory - that the earth was not the centre of the universe.

Until the early 16th century, western thinkers believed the theory put forward by Ptolemy, an Egyptian living in Alexandria in about 150 A.D. His theory, which was formulated by gathering and organizing the thoughts of the earlier thinkers, proposed that the universe was a closed space bounded by a spherical envelope beyond which there was nothing. The earth, according to Ptolemy, was a fixed and immobile mass, located at the centre of the universe. The sun and the stars, revolved around it.

The theory appealed to human nature. Someone making casual observations as they looked into the sky might come to a similar conclusion. It also fed the human ego. Humans could believe that they were at the centre of God's universe, and the sun and stars were created for their benefit.

Ptolemy's theory, was of course, incorrect, but at the time nobody contested it. European astronomers were more inclined to save face. Instead of proposing new ideas, they attempted to patch up and refine Ptolemy's flawed model. Students were taught using a book called **The Sphere** which had been written two hundred years previously. In short, astronomy failed to advance.

In 1530, however, Mikolaj Kopernik, more commonly known as Copernicus, made an assertion which shook the world. He proposed that the earth turned on its axis once per day, and travelled around the sun once per year. Even when he made his discovery, he was reluctant to make it public, knowing how much his shocking revelations would disturb the church. However, George Rheticus, a German mathematics professor who had become Copernicus's student, convinced Copernicus to publish his ideas, even though Copernicus, a perfectionist, was never satisfied that his observations were complete.

Copernicus's ideas went against all the political and religious beliefs of the time. Humans, it was believed, were made in God's image, and were superior to all creatures. The natural world had been created for humans to exploit. Copernicus's theories contradicted the ideas of

all the powerful churchmen of the time. Even the famous playwright William Shakespeare feared the new theory, pronouncing that it would destroy social order and bring chaos to the world. However, Copernicus never had to suffer at the hands of those who disagreed with his theories. He died just after the work was published in 1543.

However, the scientists who followed in Copernicus's footsteps bore the brunt of the church's anger. Two other Italian scientists of the time, Galileo and Bruno, agreed wholeheartedly with the Copernican theory. Bruno even dared to say that space was endless and contained many other suns, each with its own planets. For this, Bruno was sentenced to death by burning in 1600. Galileo, famous for his construction of the telescope, was forced to deny his belief in the Copernican theories. He escaped capital punishment, but was imprisoned for the rest of his life.

In time however, Copernicus's work became more accepted. Subsequent scientists and mathematicians such as Brahe, Kepler and Newton took Copernicus's work as a starting point and used it to glean further truths about the laws of celestial mechanics.

The most important aspect of Copernicus' work is that it forever changed the place of man in the cosmos. With Copernicus' work, man could no longer take that premier position which the theologians had immodestly assigned him. This was the first, but certainly not the last time in which man would have to accept his position as a mere part of the universe, not at the centre of it.

(Source: <https://www.ieltsessentials.com>)

Part A - Choose the most suitable answer from the box given below and write it in front of each definition. (02x10=20 marks)

**deny / immobile / assertion / chaos / immodesty / discovery / formulated /
creatures / centre / to advance**

1. Middle -
2. Constructed -
3. That cannot be moved -
4. To move forward -
5. A declaration -
6. Finding -

7. Animals -
8. Complete confusion -
9. Indecently -
10. Refuse -

Part B - Underline the incorrect answer.

(04x02=08 marks)

1. Astronomy did not move forward in that century due to
 - a) less discoveries by European astronomers.
 - b) Ptolemy's theory.
 - c) students studying a book called ' The Sphere'.

2. In 1600, Bruno was sentenced to death because of
 - a) not agreeing with Copernicus.
 - b) agreeing with Copernicus.
 - c) following the footsteps of Copernicus.

Part C - Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

(03x04=12 marks)

1. What was Ptolemy's view on the composition of the universe and the earth?

.....

.....

.....

.....

2. Who made Copernicus publish his discovery and for what reasons?

.....

.....

.....

.....

3. What was the destiny of the two scientists who followed the Copernicus' theory?

.....

.....

-
-
4. Give a suitable title to the passage. It **SHOULD NOT** exceed 5 words.
-
-

Question 2

(Total = 10 Marks)

Rewrite the sentences to make them nonsexist or gender neutral. (02x05=10marks)

1. If a prospective student is from a non-English speaking country, he should obtain IELTS band score 6.5.
-
-
2. This complaint is regarding your salesman's attitude and his mannerism towards female editors.
-
-
3. My dream is to be a fireman but my parents want me to be a male nurse.
-
-
4. If a student changes his address, he must notify the chairman of the club as soon as possible.
-
-
5. A student is not permitted to give her ID card to any of her friends be used when borrowing library material.
-
-

Question 3

(Total = 20 Marks)

3.1 Order the following jumbled business letter by numbering them from 1 -10.

(01 x 10 = 10 marks)

- Customer Service Manager
Ativa Associates
Central London
CEN 209 (.....)
- 15June2018 (.....)
- Brian Adams
56 Daffodil Street
Kent NA324 (.....)
- Thank You
Yours Faithfully
Brian Adams (.....)
- Dear Sir/Madam
Complaint regarding a recently purchased phone (.....)
- Despite my communication with one of your employees, regarding this matter a week ago, nothing has been done to date and I seriously doubt the after-sale service you provide. (.....)
- According to your warranty policy, I am entitled to get a new phone as a replacement as I believe this is a manufacturing flaw. (.....)
- I am writing today to complain regarding the poor quality of a phone I bought from your store two weeks ago. (.....)
- Therefore, I expect a replacement immediately or a full refund and I am attaching a copy of my receipt. Looking forward to hearing from you soon. (.....)

- 3.2 Incorporate the following information and compile a formal letter including a suitable subject and other relevant elements of a business letter. (10 marks)**

The letter should **not** be less than 150 words.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal dotted lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are some faint smudges and marks on the paper, particularly near the bottom center and left side, suggesting it might be a scan of a physical document. The overall appearance is that of a clean, unused piece of stationery or a template for writing.

[illegible]

Question 4

(Total = 30 Marks)

Write an essay on ONE of the following topics. Limit your essay to 250 words.

- 1. Human beings are becoming slaves of modern technology.**

To what extent do you agree with this?

- 2. Death penalty is the only way to punish the criminals.**

Give your opinion in this regard with suitable examples.

3. "I could not forget the look on his eyes. Even after 20 years, I still remember the gaze....."

Write a narrative essay using the prompt given as the beginning to the essay.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal dotted lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are some faint smudges and marks on the paper, particularly near the top center and bottom right. The overall appearance is that of a clean, unused piece of stationery or a template for writing.