



Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology

B. Sc. Special Honours Degree/ Diploma

in

Information Technology

Final Examination

EL 120 – English Language Skills 1

Year 1 Semester 1 (2016)

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 to **70%** of 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 to 8 - Complete the form - write NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER for each answer.

PACKHAM'S SHIPPING AGENCY —customer quotation form

Example: Country of destination: Kenya

Name: Jacob 1.....

Address to be collected from: 2.....College,

Downlands Rd

Town: Bristol

Postcode: 3.....

Size of container : Length : 1.5 m

Width : 4.

Height : 5.

Contents: Clothes, 6., 7.

Total estimated value : 8. £

Question 9 and 10

Choose the correct letter A , B, or C, and underline

9. Type of Insurance chosen : A. Economy B. Standard C. Premium

10. Customer wants good delivered to : A. Home B. Port c. Depot

(1 x 10 = marks)

Question 02 – Reading Comprehension (60 marks)

Read the passage given below, and answer the following questions.

(Spanish words- *Senor* –Sir/Mister; *amigos* - friends)



An American investment banker was taking a much-needed vacation in a small coastal Mexican village. He was standing at the wooden pier, when a small boat with just one fisherman, docked. Inside the small boat were several large *yellow fin* tuna. The American complimented the Mexican on the quality of his fish.

"How long did it take you to catch them?" the American asked.

"Oh.. Only a few hours" smiled the Mexican.

"Why don't you stay out longer and catch more fish?" queried the American.

"I have enough to support my family's immediate needs" the Mexican replied cheerfully.

"But" the American then asked, "What do you do with the rest of your time?"

The Mexican fisherman wiped the sweat off his forehead: "Well..I sleep late, fish a little, play with my children and then take a siesta with my family until tea time,.... stroll into the village each evening, where I sip wine and play guitar with my *amigos*.I have a full and busy life, Señor."

The American laughed scornfully, and said in a pompous voice, "I am a "**Harvard MBA**" and I could help you to become rich."

The fisherman looked at him in wonder.

"My good man let me explain. You should spend more time fishing, and with the proceeds you could buy a bigger boat and, with the proceeds from the bigger boat, you could buy several of them."

"Eventually, "the businessman went on in an excited voice, "you would have a fleet of fishing boats. Instead of selling your catch to a middleman, you would sell directly to the consumers, eventually opening your own canning factory.

You would control the product, processing and distribution. You would need to leave this small coastal fishing village and move to Mexico City, then LA... and eventually," he ended majestically, "New York City, where you will run your expanding enterprise."

Overwhelmed, the Mexican fisherman asked, "But señor, how long will this all take?"

To which the American replied smoothly: "Ah! Only about 15-20 years."

"15 to 20 years!!But, what then, Señor?"

The American laughed and said: "That's the best part. When the time is right, you would announce an IPO –

"What is that sir?" interrupted the fisherman, in an apologetic voice.

"Initial Public Offering - and sell your company stock to the public and become very rich" said the American, rubbing his hands in excitement. "You would make millions. My good man...millions!!!"

"Millions" echoed the fisherman, "Señor, then, what?"

The American looked at the fisherman, and the excitement slowly died from his eyes.

He looked away from the questioning eyes of the fisherman and mumbled....

"Then you would retire..... Move to a small coastal fishing village where you would sleep late,..... fish a little,..... play with your children ,take a siesta with your familyuntil tea time....., stroll to the village in the evenings..... where you could sip wine.....and play your guitar with your amigos....."

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. What kind of fish was in the boat? (1 mark)
2. How many hours had the fisherman been fishing? (1 mark)
3. What musical instrument does the fisherman play?..... (1 mark)
4. At which university has the American studied? (1 mark)
5. What is the title of his degree? (1 mark)
6. According to the American,
 - i .which city should be the fisherman's final destination ?
 - ii .how long would it take the fisherman to reach his final destination?.....

(2 marks)
7. What does IPO stand for? (1 mark)
8. According to the passage, the American rubbed his hands in excitement. What do you think caused his excitement? (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 American was not happy with the quality of the fish.

a. True/False/Not given

b. Justify your answer

.....

.....

2. The Mexican played indoor games with his children.

a. True/False/Not given

b. Justify your answer

.....

.....

3. The American advised the fisherman to sell his fish direct to the consumer.

a. True/ False /Not given

b. Justify your answer

.....

.....

4. The fisherman rubbed his hands in excitement at the thought of becoming a millionaire.

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. The American **complimented** the Mexican on the quality of his fish.

a. criticized b. questioned c. praised d. laughed at

2. "I have enough to support my family's **immediate needs**"

a. basic wants b. fabulous dreams c. craving for riches d. wishes

3. "...then **take a siesta** with my family until tea time."
a. take a walk b. take a short nap c. watch a movie d. have a chat
4. ".....**stroll** into the village in the evenings."
a. walk b. run c. skip d. cycle
5. The American laughed scornfully, and said in a **pompous** voice, "I am a "*Harvard MBA*"
a. soft b. boastful c. humble d. kind
6. "...with the **proceeds** from the bigger boat, you could buy several of them."
a. results b. income c. wages d. achievements
-
7. "....., where you will run your expanding **enterprise**."
a. projects b. staff c. business d. tasks
8. **Overwhelmed**, the Mexican fisherman asked, "But señor, how long will this all take?"
a. Disgusted b. Stunned c. Disappointed d. Frightened

(2 x 8 =16 marks)

2.4 Pronoun reference

What do the words underlined in the passage refer to ?

1. Inside the small boat were several large *yellow fin* tuna. The American complimented the Mexican on the quality of his fish. "How long did it take you to catch them?" the American asked.
.....
2. "My good man let me explain. You should spend more time fishing, and with the proceeds you could buy a bigger boat and, with the proceeds from the bigger boat, you could buy several of them."
.....

3. The American laughed and said: "That's the best part. When the time is right, you would announce an IPO –

"What is that sir?" interrupted the fisherman, in an apologetic voice.

"Initial Public Offering - and sell your company stock to the public and become very rich" said the American, rubbing his hands in excitement.

.....

4. The American looked at the fisherman, and the excitement died slowly from his eyes.
-

(1 x 4 =4 marks)

2.5 Identifying adjectives–Identify ten adjectives in the following extract taken from the passage above, and write them below on the dotted lines.

An American investment banker was taking a much-needed vacation in a small coastal Mexican village. He was standing at the wooden pier, when a small boat with just one fisherman, docked. Inside the small boat were several large *yellow fin* tuna. The American complimented the Mexican on the quality of his fish.

- | | |
|---------|----------|
| 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. Lessons from a rich American
- ii. The story of a poor Mexican fisherman
- iii. Money is everything
- iv. Money is not everything

(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. "An American investment banker was taking a much-needed vacation in a small coastal Mexican village."

.....

.....

2. "The American looked at the fisherman, and the excitement died slowly from his eyes. He looked away from the questioning eyes of the fisherman and mumbled...."

.....

.....

.....

.....

(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. We should use polite language when we are writing to others.

.....

2. You should always footnote your source material when you are writing a report, to avoid plagiarism.

.....

3. A student should submit his identity card at the gate.

.....

4. If a student is sick and needs to postpone his exam, he must submit a medical to the Manager, student affairs before the exam.

.....

5. Each student should always carry his Student Identity Card with him.

.....

(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. Sri Lankan schools should offer fast food options like McDonald's or KFC.
2. City life is better than country life.
3. We need to move away from traditional ways of learning English Language.
4. Money is not the answer to everything.

(20 marks)

End of Paper