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| Course Code: SL150 | Course Name: English Composition and Comprehension |
| Instructor's Name: |  |
| Student Roll No:   | Section:   |

- Return the question paper.
- Read each question completely before answering it. There are 4 **questions and 5 pages**.
- In case of any ambiguity, you may make assumption. But your assumption should not contradict any statement in the question paper.
- ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS IN THE QUESTION PAPER.
- **The invigilator present is not supposed to tell the meaning of any word.**
- Be precise and to the point.

Time: 60 minutes.

Max Marks: 55 points

### Question 1

[Estimated Time: 5 minutes]

**A.** Look at sentences 1-6, and replace the words and expressions in *bold* with a word or expression in the box which has an **opposite meaning**. [6 marks]

|             |         |        |                        |
|-------------|---------|--------|------------------------|
| credit      | exports | loss   | state-owned industries |
| expenditure | lending | retail |                        |

1. Last year, our company made a huge **profit**.
2. Banks across the country are reporting a sharp drop in **borrowing**.
3. The company will **debit** your bank account with £528 each month.
4. The **wholesale** market has experienced a downturn since the recession began.
5. **Private enterprises** are under a lot of financial pressure.
6. He works for a company which **imports** camera equipment.

#### Answers

|   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| 1 |  | 4 |  |
| 2 |  | 5 |  |
| 3 |  | 6 |  |

[Estimated Time: 4 minutes]

**B.** Complete the sentences with the verbs from the box. [6 marks]

Broke, carried, confirmed, crashed, discovered, invented, made, observed

1. Maria Skłodowska-Curie \_\_\_\_\_ polonium and radium.
2. Alexander Bell \_\_\_\_\_ the telephone.
3. Galileo \_\_\_\_\_ out an experiment which **3b** \_\_\_\_\_ his hypothesis.
4. I \_\_\_\_\_ off the TV after the film had ended.
5. Dian Fossey \_\_\_\_\_ gorillas in the mountain forests of Rwanda.

|   |   |   |    |   |   |
|---|---|---|----|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 3b | 4 | 5 |
|   |   |   |    |   |   |

## Question 2

[Estimated Time: 10 minutes]

As you read Marco's letter from Uncle Ben, think about what parts are fact and what parts are opinion. [10 marks]

Marco got a letter from his Uncle Ben, the airplane pilot. Uncle Ben has traveled all over the world.

Dear Marco,

*I'm so glad you're coming to visit me here in Washington D.C. I'm sending you a flyer that has pictures and descriptions of some of the places we'll be visiting. You'll be here just in time for the National Cherry Blossom Festival. The 3,000 trees were a gift to the city from Japan in 1912.*

*Here's a bit of background on our capital city. Washington D.C. didn't exist before the U.S. Constitution was signed. The creators of the Constitution decided that the new country needed a new city for its capital. It didn't seem fair for the country's capital to be in any one state, so the states of Virginia and Maryland each gave up some of their land to be the District of Columbia, which is not a part of any state. It is pretty amazing that these states gave up part of their land. Countries have waged wars that lasted for years over ownership of even less land than these states gave up.*

*So a new city was built. The heart of the city is the National Mall. The Mall is a two-mile park that stretches east to west from the Capital Building at the far east side to the Lincoln Memorial on the far west side. Along the two-mile stretch, there are all kinds of museums and galleries—and cherry trees! Toward the middle, on the north side of the Mall, is the White House. The White House faces the Washington Memorial. Inside the Memorial, you can take an elevator to the top and look out over the entire city. From there, the view of the Capital Building is amazing. The National Mall is a tribute to this country's strength and beauty.*

*At the far west end of the Mall is the grand Lincoln Memorial. I'm sure you've seen pictures of the enormous statue of Abraham Lincoln. The way he sits makes the chair look like a throne. Lincoln's face looks like he is thinking about an important problem, and one of his hands is closed in a fist, as if he has just made a decision.*

*I'm looking forward to seeing you, and showing you all around D.C.!*

*Yours truly,*

*Uncle Ben*

Here are some things Uncle Ben said in his letter. Which ones are **facts** and which are Uncle Ben's **opinions**?

1. Uncle Ben thinks Marco is going to like Washington, D.C.
2. 3,000 cherry trees were a gift to the city from Japan.
3. Washington, D.C. didn't exist before the U.S. Constitution was signed.
4. The states of Virginia and Maryland each gave up part of their land.
5. It is amazing that these states gave up part of their land.
6. The Capital Building faces a two-mile park called the National Mall.
7. The view of the Capital Building from the top of the Washington Memorial is amazing.
8. The White House is part of the National Mall.
9. The White House faces the Washington Memorial.
10. One of Lincoln's hands is closed in a fist.

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

## Question 3

[Estimated time: 6-8 Minutes]

A. By using your knowledge on inferential reading, read the following passages and choose the right answer. [8 marks]

i. Ana watched as her new next-door neighbors moved in. She observed a tall man carrying a bicycle and a kayak (a canoe) into the garage. She also saw a young woman carrying a surfboard through the front door. Ana can infer that...

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>a. her new neighbors are elderly.</b>                 | <b>b. her new neighbors have several children.</b> |
| <b>c. her new neighbors like to spend time outdoors.</b> | <b>d. her new neighbors are kind and generous.</b> |

ii. When Joseph walked into the kitchen, he saw muddy paw prints on the floor. His mother's wet coat was hanging on a chair. Below the coat he spotted his mother's rubber shoes. Joseph looked for his dog, Riley. He found Riley, who was soaking wet, lying on the couch panting. Joseph can infer that...

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>a. his mother gave Riley a bath.</b>   | <b>b. Riley played in the yard during a rainstorm.</b>  |
| <b>c. Riley dragged the coat outside.</b> | <b>d. his mother took Riley for a walk in the rain.</b> |

iii. Kayla made a steak dinner for her family. Her mom and dad each ate two full steaks and had large helpings of mashed potatoes. When the meal was over, everyone's plate was empty. Kayla can infer that...

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>a. her family enjoyed the meal.</b>            | <b>b. the steak was too well done.</b>     |
| <b>c. a steak dinner is an easy meal to make.</b> | <b>d. there will be lots of leftovers.</b> |

iv. Alexander arrived at his grandmother's house at ten o'clock at night. He saw her car in the driveway and the front door was open. The window was lit with a blue-flickering light. Alexander can infer that...

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>a. his grandmother was reading a book.</b>      | <b>b. his grandmother was not home.</b> |
| <b>c. his grandmother was watching television.</b> | <b>d. his grandmother was sleeping.</b> |

**Answers**

|          |          |          |          |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| <b>1</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>4</b> |
|          |          |          |          |

**[Estimated time: 4 Minutes]**

**B. Read the following sentences and identify author's purpose. [6 marks]**

|                  |                     |                    |
|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| <b>To inform</b> | <b>To entertain</b> | <b>To persuade</b> |
|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|

1. Life is hard, and a lot of people come home tired from work. If they're going to spend half an hour reading, they want some entertainment and a sense of achievement. So that's what I give them. That's all I'm trying to do. Is that really so wrong?

**Author's Purpose:** \_\_\_\_\_

2. A section in a history book describing the conditions and causes of the Great Depression in the Midwest in the 1930s

**Author's Purpose:** \_\_\_\_\_

3. A booklet describing how to operate a smart phone

**Author's Purpose:** \_\_\_\_\_

**C. Read critically the following short extracts of texts and answer the questions: [6 marks]**

**[Estimated time: 6 Minutes]**

1) In our small town, Papa's soda shop was the most popular place for high school students to meet. Unlike his brother, our military-minded, sullen principal, Papa was always relaxed, kind, interested, always ready to add extra whipped cream and cherries to our sodas. He was tolerant of the noisy, boisterous students who came to his shop after school. Everyone I knew in town, except our principal, loved Papa.

**The passage implies reasons for**

- A. Papa's generosity.
- B. ordering whipped cream and cherries on sodas.
- C. the existence of a meeting place for students.
- D. the popularity of the soda shop.

2) "Supporters of the Kinley Bill are college students, farmers, and small businessmen. Vote for the bright future— yes on Kinley."

**In this argument it is assumed that**

- A. teachers and grocers are opposed to the Kinley Bill.
- B. these groups are important to the well-being of the nation.
- C. the Kinley Bill is certain to be voted down.
- D. the people support the Kinley Bill.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 |  |
| 2 |  |

#### **Question 4**

**[Estimated time: 15 minutes]**

**Read the given passage critically, and answer the following questions. Please write the options in the box given at the end of the passage. [12 marks]**

#### **Digital habits across generations**

Today's grandparents are joining their grandchildren on social media, but the different generations' online habits couldn't be more different. The over-55s are joining Facebook in increasing numbers, meaning that they will soon be the site's second biggest user group, with 3.5 million users aged 55–64 and 2.9 million over-65s

Sheila, aged 59, says, 'I joined to see what my grandchildren are doing, as my daughter posts videos and photos of them. It's a much better way to see what they're doing than waiting for letters and

photos in the post. That's how we did it when I was a child, but I think I'm lucky I get to see so much more of their lives than my grandparents did.'

Ironically, Sheila's grandchildren are less likely to use Facebook themselves. Children under 17 are leaving the site – only 2.2 million users are under 17 – but they're not going far from their smartphones. Chloe, aged 15, even sleeps with her phone. 'It's my alarm clock so I have to,' she says. 'I look at it before I go to sleep and as soon as I wake up.'

Unlike her grandmother's generation, Chloe's age group is spending so much time on their phones at home that they are missing out on spending time with their friends in real life. Sheila, on the other hand, has made contact with old friends from school she hasn't heard from in forty years. 'We use Facebook to arrange to meet all over the country,' she says. 'It's changed my social life completely.'

Teenagers might have their parents to thank for their smartphone and social media addiction as their parents were the early adopters of the smartphone. Peter, 38 and father of two teenagers, reports that he used to be on his phone or laptop constantly. 'I was always connected and I felt like I was always working,' he says. 'How could I tell my kids to get off their phones if I was always in front of a screen myself?' So, in the evenings and at weekends, he takes his SIM card out of his smartphone and puts it into an old-style mobile phone that can only make calls and send text messages. 'I'm not completely cut off from the world in case of emergencies, but the important thing is I'm setting a better example to my kids and spending more quality time with them.'

Is it only a matter of time until the generation above and below Peter catches up with the new trend for a less digital life?

**Are the sentences true or false?**

1. More people aged 55 or more use Facebook than people aged 65 or more.
2. Grandparents typically use Facebook less than their grandchildren.
3. Sheila feels grateful to social media.
4. Peter found his own smartphone use affected how he felt about how much his children used their phones.
5. Peter has changed how much he uses his phone during the working day.
6. Peter feels that the changes make him a better parent.

|   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |

**The End !**