



National University of Computer & Emerging Sciences, Karachi
Fall 2021 CS-Department
Final Examination



5th January, 2022; 12:30 pm- 1:30 pm

Course Code: SL1004	Course Name: English Composition and Comprehension-Lab
Instructor Name / Names: Ms. Atifa Batool, Ms. Faiza Mumtaz, Ms. Hubra Razi, Mr. Javed Iqbal, Ms. Javeria Ali, Ms. Madiha Rehman, Ms. Nazia Imam, Ms. Sabeen Amjad, Ms. Sameera Sultan, Mr. Wasif Khan, Ms. Ayesha Khan, Ms. Kishwer Nazli.	
Student Roll No:	Section No:

- Return the question paper.
- Read each question completely before answering it. There are 3 questions and 7 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 ANSWER COPY. QUESTIONS ANSWERED ON THE QUESTION PAPER WILL NOT BE SCORED.
- The invigilator present is not supposed to tell the meaning of any word.
- Be precise and to the point.

Time: 60 minutes

Total Marks: 60

Question 1

A. The writers in the following paragraphs are biased. Read the paragraphs and identify the target of their bias (negative and positive bias). [9 marks]

1. Citizens of the Fairlawn Park area look with alarm at the diabolical plot to change a beautiful spot into a baseball park. If this malicious plan is carried out, the lovely trees in the park will be chopped down. Values of the property within the area will drop sharply as the park fills with the filth and debris of the bulldozers and other equipment. Later, the shrieks of the young ruffians who take over the park will destroy the peace and quiet of the neighborhood. Obviously, no one cares about the poor citizen who has slaved to pay for his home and to keep up with his taxes.

In this passage, the author shows bias against

- a) homeowners and taxpayers
 - b) citizens of the Fairlawn Park area
 - c) a baseball field in the park
 - d) more trees in the park
2. America is certainly a strong military power; it now has the nuclear power to destroy the entire world. We are not the only country that has this capacity, and not every country has the ability to safeguard its nuclear weapons like America and its allies. The threat of nuclear war affects all of us.

The author seems biased against

- a) American military power
 - b) other countries
 - c) nuclear arms
 - d) the world.
3. An independent insurance agent works directly for you, not for a large, anonymous organization. The agent must provide you with the best policy at the lowest price if he is to remain in business. The agent's job is to help you find a policy that suits your needs. This may

cover your life, health, home, or automobile. Independent insurance agents are free to recommend the best policy, regardless of which insurance company provides it.

The author shows bias in favor of

- a) using an independent insurance agent
- b) selecting an insurance policy on your own
- c) avoiding low-cost insurance policies
- d) buying insurance from a well-known company

B. Read the following paragraphs. Six sentences in these paragraphs are numbered. State whether the numbered and underlined statements express a FACT or an OPINION. Write the sentence number in your answer copy, and write if it is a fact or an opinion. Do not write the entire sentence in the answer copy. [6]

Let's face it, you know you need to promote your business on social media. [1] In fact, around 2.56 billion global social media users join social media each day on mobile, creating an astronomical audience for companies of every shape and size. The question is, which social platform should you be spending your marketing moola with? The simplest answer is Facebook and Twitter. [2] As per Facebook and Twitter statistics, Facebook had 2 billion monthly active users at the end of 2017 and Twitter has 330 million monthly active users. [3] Facebook is easily the most active social media network, particularly when you consider it owns WhatsApp and Instagram. [4] However, 83% of the world's leaders are on Twitter.

[5] Twitter at start might seem a bit complicated and intimidating, but once one gets used to it, it will be your best friend for life. [6] Facebook Edge rank reduces your reach to 10% or even less than that whereas Twitter is open and through Twitter anyone can connect with likeminded people and experts.

C. Decide from the given option which fallacy each statement contains; write the correct option in your answer copy: [10 marks]

1. This movie is dull because it's got nothing interesting in it.

- A. Begging the question/Circular logic
- B. Slippery slope
- C. Ad populum

2. Don't listen to the doctor's arguments against smoking--they're worthless, because what he doesn't tell you is that he himself is a smoker!

- A. Hasty generalization
- B. False dilemma (either/or)
- C. Ad hominem (Personal attack)

3. My son says I should let him go to the Eminem concert on Friday night. But if I start letting him go to concerts and staying out late, he'll start to cut school in the morning; next thing you know, he'll be a dropout, hanging with the wrong crowd, probably taking drugs with the rest of his buddies. I don't think a concert is worth throwing the rest of his future away for.

- A. Slippery slope
- B. Ad populum

C. False dilemma (either/or)

4. Everyone drives over the speed limit, so it should not be against the law.

A. Ad hominem

B. Slippery slope

C. Ad populum

5. Some teenagers in our community recently vandalized the park downtown. Teenagers are so irresponsible and destructive.

A. Begging the question

B. Ad populum

C. Hasty generalization

D. Read the text below and answer the questions. [14 marks]

New Fact Checking Website Arrives

Africa Check, a new fact checking website, is attempting to pin down unfounded claims made by the country's leaders, media outlets along with widely held beliefs.

There is a common claim in Johannesburg that it has the largest man-made forest in the world. It's easy to believe; the city has lush, green canopy that covers many neighborhoods. But it's not true, according to Africa Check, which found that the largest man-made forest is actually in China, next to the Gobi desert.

Debunking bogus claims, politically charged fictions and unfounded statements, Africa Check is a website that challenges media, politicians and the occasional social media celebrity when they massage the truth, or ignore it completely, said Julian Rademeyer, southern Africa editor for the site.

"I think the fundamental element of our work is that we are trying to get people to question what they're told, what they read, what politicians say to them, and to look at what the information that is there and ask essentially what the fundamental question is 'Where is the evidence?' If someone makes a claim, where is the evidence to support that claim, and to actually interrogate those claims and not to accept things purely for what they are," Rademeyer said.

Africa Check was launched in June 2012 by the Agence France Press foundation in partnership with the University of Witwatersrand's journalism department. Rademeyer and a researcher are the site's two full-time employees. There is also a team of freelance reporters who work on fact checking assignments.

Following in the footsteps of popular American websites like PolitiFact and Factcheck.org, Africa Check is the first media outlet in South Africa to solely work in fact checking. South Africa has a strong legacy of investigative journalism and photography that dates back to the apartheid era. But like many countries, Rademeyer says its news industry has been hampered by shrinking budgets and newsrooms.

"Because of the fact that newspapers don't have the resources they would've had in the past, or don't have specialist beat reporters," he said. "It allows public figures and it allows politicians to make claims that don't go checked. I think that's where we play a role. We come in and look at those claims and we have the ability and the time to go through those claims."

Paula Fray, former editor for the Star Newspaper and a media consultant, says Africa Check may put a much-needed pressure on newsrooms.

"At the moment Africa Check is not known as much as I'm hoping as it going to be known," she said. "I'm hoping that eventually journalists will be writing their stories and thinking if my news

editor doesn't pick up that something hasn't been verified, Africa Check might pick up that it hasn't been verified. So I'm not going to put anything in my stories unless I can prove it."

She also hopes it will create a greater culture of accountability. "I think the more organizations out there holding journalism to account the better actually for the industry," Fray said.

The site also takes on myths that get repeated so often that they go unchecked. When a South African musician with 175,000 Facebook followers made the claim that white South Africans are being killed at an alarming rate, Africa Check looked into the facts. It found that most of the musician's claims were exaggerated or untrue.

The site has also debunked claims made about traditional healers, South Africa's rate of asylum seekers and a BBC report about white squatter camps in South Africa.

Long term, Rademeyer envisions the site expanding across the continent. "I really do think as a project it could play a very important role," he said. "We've done some very basic fact checking or fact sheet-related reporting on elements of the elections in Zimbabwe recently. We'd obviously like to do more of that in the next elections in Zimbabwe, for instance, and elections in neighboring countries. And try to expand our reach." With presidential elections looming next year in South Africa, Botswana, Mozambique and Namibia, the site will be busy.

Questions

1. **The new website has been set up to show Africa in a more positive light.**
 - A. true
 - B. false
 - C. Not given
2. **The new website proved that more money is spent on the environment in China.**
 - A. true
 - B. false
 - C. Not given
3. **What are the stated aims of Africa Check?**
 - A. to get people angry
 - B. to get people to think
 - C. to get people reading more
4. **What is the tone of the author?**
 - A. Objective
 - B. Critical
 - C. evaluative
5. **How will Africa Check put pressure on newspapers?**
 - A. by making them check information before publishing
 - B. by taking website traffic from them
 - C. by giving them better journalists
6. **Concerning current practices in media, which conclusion can be drawn about the main stream media in the light of the passage?**
 - A. Entertainment and news media are one of the biggest revenue generators for the country
 - B. Journalists and reporters of the main stream media are ready to compromise on the journalism rules for reporting
 - C. South Africa's main stream media runs more news on technology and sports

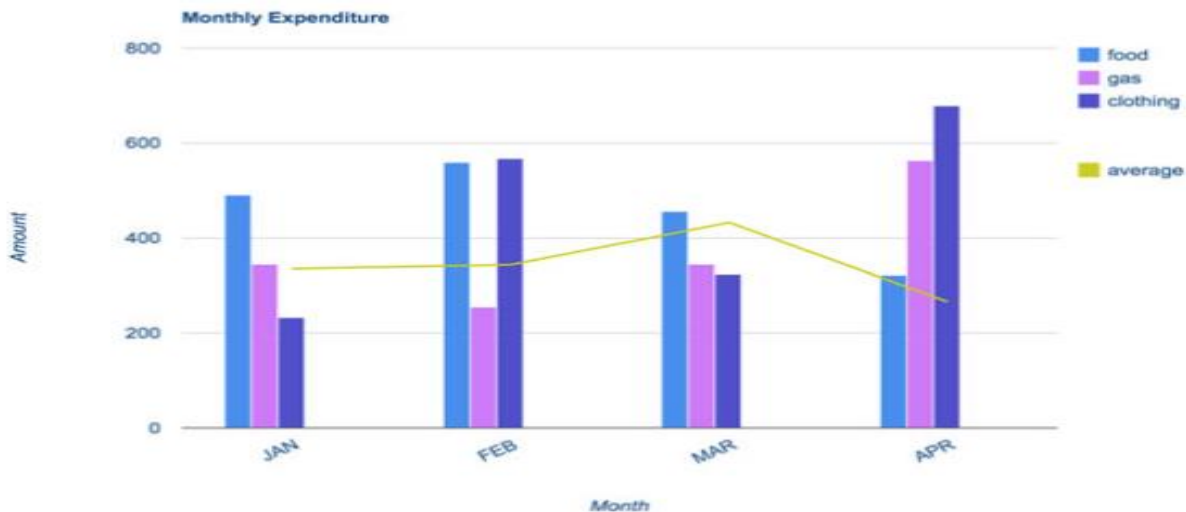
7. Based on the information in the passage, which inference can be made about newspapers?
- Newspaper reporting is always based on facts
 - Newspapers may often times be forced to publish information without verification.
 - Newspaper editors are never interested in verifying information provided by the sources
8. What hopes does Julian Rademeyer have for the site's future?
- that it can predict election results better
 - that they will be allowed into Zimbabwe
 - that it can become more important across the continent

Question 2

- A. Put in commas, semicolons, colons, quotation marks, apostrophes, hyphens and parentheses where ever they are needed in the following sentences. A sentence may require more than one punctuation mark. [9 marks]
- Everyone should be on time, said the teacher we will leave at sharp 9 pm.
 - Times my favourite magazine has been accused of being biased against people of colour
 - Our English teacher says do you understand very often but shes never ready to acknowledge it.
 - The weather was pleasant we decided to go on the beach with all our friends Paul, Emmy, and Tom.

Question 3

Study the bar graph given below and answer the questions that follow: [12 marks]



Bar chart on monthly expenditure on food, gas, and clothing in amounts from January to April.

Choose the correct word/phrase to fill in the gap.

- The bar chart _____ the monthly expenditure on food, gas and clothing of a family living in the USA in 2010.
 - Illustrates

- ii. Explains
- 2. Overall, it can be seen that levels of expenditure _____ over the period.
 - i. Increased steadily
 - ii. Fluctuated
 - iii. Fell steeply
- 3. To begin, in January _____ money was spent on food, at approximately \$500 per month.
 - i. The most
 - ii. The least
 - iii. The highest
- 4. Expenditure on gas followed _____ the spending on food, falling at first, then steadily increasing.
 - i. A very similar trend to
 - ii. The same trend as
 - iii. An opposite trend to
- 5. Clothing expenses, which at just over \$200 accounted for the lowest levels of spending at the beginning of the period, _____ over the time frame.
 - i. Dramatic fluctuation
 - ii. Fluctuated dramatically
 - iii. None of the above
- 6. The money spent on clothing in April _____ the amount spent on food.
 - i. Was more than half
 - ii. Was more than double
 - iii. Was more than triple

Best of Luck!