

Final Examination Semester 1/Year 2019

COURSE : CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS COURSE CODE : HMPU3313

DURATION : 2 1/2 HOURS

DEPARTMENT : GENERAL STUDIES CENTRE LECTURER : TAN MING ZHENG

Student’s ID :

Batch No. :

Notes to candidates:

1. The question paper consists of 5 pages and 7 sections.
2. Students are required to answer ALL questions in answer booklet.
3. Return the question paper with your answer booklet.

# Section A: Determine whether the following passages are best understood as ARGUMENT, CONDITIONAL STATEMENT, ILLUSTRATION, REPORT, UNSUPPORTED BELIEF or EXPLANATION. (12%)

1. You can apply this programme only if you credit with Bahasa Kebangsaan and History of your SPM.

Conditional Statement.

1. Plastic is composed of major toxic pollutants, as it has the potential to cause great harm to the environment in the form of air, water and land pollution.

Explanation.

1. As plastic is composed of major toxic pollutants, it has the potential to cause great harm to the environment in the form of air, water and land pollution. It is our duty to protect the environment. Based on these, we have to reduce the usage of plastic.

Arguments.

1. The drag on GDP growth came from multi-faceted factors (weakening exports, declines in mining and agriculture output, a sharp contraction in public investment and moderate private investment growth). (*The Star*)

Illustration.

1. According to the comments by Lee Heng Guie, the Malaysian economy is expected to face another tumultuous year in 2019 as it is being challenged by on- going domestic adjustments and rising external headwinds, particularly lingering uncertainties about the state of the US-China trade disputes and further tightening of the US interest rates. (*The Star*)

Report

1. Vaccination is ridiculous and should be rejected. How can this protect human immune system by injecting weaker or attenuated viruses to human body?

Unsupported belief

# Section C: The following arguments are either Deduction or Induction. Determine

* 1. **what kind of COMMON PATTERN they are; (b) whether they are VALID / INVALID, or STRONG / WEAK? (20%)**

1. No males are females. No women are males. Therefore, no women are females.

Categorical Syllogism. Invalid.

1. Susan is an excellent cat-sitter. Therefore, she would be an excellent babysitter.

Argument from Analogy. Weak.

1. The map says the buried treasure should be right here. So, we will find the treasure at here.

Argument from Authority. Strong.

1. Either the Maid is the murderer or the Butler is the murderer. And the Butler just confessed. So, the Maid is innocent, after all.

Disjunctive Syllogism. Valid.

1. The PRIMA Home open for the Malaysians citizens who are at least 21 years of age with household monthly income RM2,500 – RM15,000, and must not own more than one property before. You are not eligible. Therefore, you cannot apply it.

Argument based on definition. Valid.

# Section E: Determine whether the following statements consist of any FALLACY. If YES, write down what fallacies they are. If NO, write down as “No Fallacy”. (12%)

1. My son was responsible for causing several accidents when he was a teenager, so this goes to show that most male teenagers are high-risk drivers.

Hasty Generalization

1. Jane is the best qualified candidate because she is out of work and desperately needs a job.

Appeal to emotion.

1. Sure, it sounds good in theory, but curbing violence in movies doesn’t make sense. It’s crazy to think they should only make movies for kids.

Straw man fallacy.

1. North Korea is developing massive destructive nuclear weapons. Everyone knows that!

Bandwagon

1. He wants to lower drinking age? Forget about that. He owns a liquor store. So, we should not support his idea.

Attacking the motive.

1. No, I don’t think the government should set the basic salary at RM1,100 per month. The next thing you know it will be RM1,200 per month, then RM1,300, then who knows what. We will be giving out our entire paycheck.

Slippery slope.