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FINAL
Examination Paper

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Session : AUGUST 2012

Programme : FOUNDATION IN BUSINESS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Course : ENL1213 ENGLISH LANGUAGE SKILLS 1

Date of Examination : 11 December 2012

Time : 8.30a.m. – 10.30 Reading Time : Nil

Duration : 2 Hours

Special Instructions :

*This paper consists of **FOUR (4)** sections. Answer **ALL** of the four sections. Write your answers in the spaces provided on this question paper.*

Materials permitted : Nil

Materials provided : Nil

Examiner : Irene Chin

Moderator : Subarshini Ramakrishnan

This paper consists of 10 printed pages, including the cover page.

SECTION A (25 marks)

Read the following passage carefully and then answer the questions that follow.

The party lifestyles of teenagers today could be destroying their health later in life, warn doctors. The British Medical Association (BMA) describes their obesity, binge drinking, and promiscuity as a 'potential public health time bomb'. It is calling for swift action to reverse the worsening trends in adolescent health. It follows a prediction from England's Chief medical Officer that *children could die before their parents*.

The number of children with weight problems has doubled in the last two decades, with nearly one in five 15-year-olds now classed as obese. Alcohol consumption among the young is also on the rise - some under-16-year-olds admitting drinking an average of ten units of alcohol a week, five pints of beer or ten normal glasses of wine. Six out of ten 16 to 24-year-olds admit not using condoms, and the rate of certain sexually transmitted diseases is soaring among this age group.

In addition, almost a quarter of 15-year-olds are regular smokers, and cannabis has been tried by one in three young people. Vivienne Nathanson, the BMA's Head of Science and Ethics said, " Young people in Britain are increasingly likely to be overweight, indulge in binge drinking, have a sexually transmitted infection, and suffer mental health problems. It is high time we provide education and healthcare services that target the specific needs of young people. We need to ensure that young people do not fall in between the gap between services for children and those designed for adults."

Dr. Russel Viner, from Great Ormond Street Hospital in London, was one of the authors of the BMA report. He told a newspaper: " The report paints a bleak picture. It's not until you take all these figures together that you realize how worrying the situation is. It seems that adolescents are the only age group whose health is actually getting worse."

The government is already considering moves to limit snack food advertising to children as experts warn of a child obesity '*epidemic*'. Doctors are already seeing cases of diabetes brought on by poor diet and lack of exercise in children as young as 13. They believe that being obese at this age increases the chance of obesity in adulthood, which is linked to a host of medical problems, including heart disease and cancer.

Dr. Peter Maguire, deputy chairman of the BMA's Board of Science said, " The UK is facing a crisis in adolescent health. Problems such as obesity, addictions, poor mental and sexual health, all respond best to early intervention, but are not being effectively addressed. If we do not treat these problems when people are young, they will carry poor health into adulthood."

The government is spending money on campaigns to improve child health, including a free fruit initiative. It has published a sexual health strategy and a teenage pregnancy strategy in an effort to reduce the UK's high rate. *However, it has faced criticism for failing to halt the selling off of school playing fields.*

(Adapted from BBC News)

For Questions 1 – 8, CIRCLE the best answer from the options A – D.

(16 marks)

1. From the passage, British teenagers are all of the following EXCEPT
 - A they are overweight.
 - B they are sexually active.
 - C they are unhealthy.
 - D they are dying young.

2. In paragraph 2, if 'the number of children with weight problems has doubled in the last two decades, with nearly one in five 15-year-olds now classed as obese', what was the number of such children 25 years ago?
 - A One in five 15-year-olds
 - B Two in five 15-year-olds
 - C One in ten 15-year-olds
 - D Two in ten 15-year-olds

3. Which of the following statements is NOT TRUE of the British government?
 - A Healthcare services are available for UK children.
 - B There are healthcare services for adults in the UK.
 - C Young people in the UK enjoy the same healthcare services as adults.
 - D Steps are being taken to curb the health problems of UK adolescents.

4. In paragraph 5, what does the word 'epidemic' mean?
- A Outbreak
 - B Situation
 - C Problem
 - D Happening
5. Which of the following is a probable cause of diabetes in adolescents as young as 13-year-olds?
- A Obesity and smoking
 - B Unbalanced diet and lack of exercise
 - C Drinking and sleeping late at night
 - D Drugs and sexual indulgence
6. According to BMA, adolescent health is declining drastically in Britain MAINLY because the young people
- A have poor eating habits, are obese and die before their parents.
 - B are promiscuous, do not use condoms and suffer from sexually transmitted diseases.
 - C do not eat enough fruit, are great consumers of snack food and are overweight.
 - D do not receive education and healthcare services.
1. Which of the following is a statement of what Dr. Russel Viner said?
- A Early intervention is crucial to treat obesity.
 - B Adolescents are the least healthy in UK society.
 - C Young people must not be left out of healthcare services.
 - D Alcohol consumption among the young is on the rise.
2. Which of the following would be the most appropriate title for the above passage?
- A The Party Lifestyles of UK Teenagers
 - B The Health Time Bomb of UK Teenagers
 - C BMA's Effects on UK Teenagers
 - D Healthcare Services for UK Teenagers

For Questions 9 - 11, write your answers in the spaces provided.

(9 marks)

3. Explain why the writer says in Paragraph 1 that children in The UK could die before their parents.

4. Why has the government been criticized for failing to stop the selling of school playing fields?

5. In your opinion, what would happen if the British government fails to take action to reverse the unhealthy lifestyle of its young people?



SECTION B (20 marks)

For each of the blanks below, write down the correct form of the verb in brackets.

We have come a long way from our Stone Age ancestors when life (*be*) _____ tough and man (*have*) _____ to hunt for food and defend himself with simple weapons fashioned out of stone. Today we (*live*) _____ in much comfort. Science and technology (*give*) _____ us innumerable electronic appliances and gadgets, and (*raise*) _____ our standard of living by leaps and bounds. No longer (*have*) _____ the housewife got to gather firewood and slave over a hot stove to prepare dinner for her family. She does not have to wash her laundry by the riverside either. Today she conveniently (*switch on*) _____ the microwave oven and washing machine, and dinner is served and the laundry (*hang out*) _____ to dry in a jiffy.

As for transport, walking and running (*be*) _____ the only means for our Stone Age forefathers to get from point A to point B. Today we can travel as far as our heart (*desire*) _____ over land and sea. All we have to do (*be*) _____ hop on a bus, drive a car, ride a bike, board a plane, sail by boat or ride in a train, (*save*) _____ us a lot of time and energy.

Our forefathers used drums and smoke signals to communicate with each other before they progressed to the Pony Express and Morse Code. Today we (*not bind*) _____ by time and space because all we need to do is click on the mouse, and our mail (*send*) _____ to an intended address in another part of the world. News (*spread*) _____ like wildfire on Twitter and Facebook, and our blogs reach the masses like never before. When in the past, it was only the rich who could afford telephones, almost everyone today is walking about with a handphone as it (*now become*) _____ a necessary tool for communication.

We only have to look at history to see how far we (*come*) _____ in warfare. Gone (*be*) _____ the days when man fought with his bare hands. The discovery of metal and its usefulness opened the way for him to fight with swords, spears and arrows before progressing to guns and tanks and then (*take*) _____ to the skies and high seas in fighter planes and aircraft carriers respectively. Gunpowder bombs (*evolve*) _____ into nuclear missiles which, if not kept in check, could very well be unto our undoing of the human race, because once they are launched, they not only destroy, they annihilate.

SECTION C (20 marks)

For each of the items below, circle the correct word in brackets.

1. If only the bank robber had listened to the police and (*lay , lie , laid , lain*) down his gun, he would not have been killed when he opened fire at them.
2. My parents (*sit , sat , set*) me down and gave me a serious lecture about my bad study habits when I failed every subject in my first semester.
3. Each and every student (*is , are*) encouraged to donate generously to the orphanage by giving books, clothing, canned food or cash.
4. Ben and Susan met each other in 2008. They (*were married , have been married*) since 2010.
5. Jack was punished because he was talking and showing no respect when the national anthem was played and the Malaysian flag was (*raised , risen*).

Lined writing area consisting of 30 horizontal lines.

