FINAL
Alternative Assessment

(COVER PAGE)

Session	:	**April 2020**
Programme	:	Foundation in Business Information Technology (CFPI) Foundation in Science (CFSI)
Course	:	**ENL1211: English Language Skills 1**
Date of Examination	:	3 August 2020 (Monday)
Time	:	9:00am - 11.30am Reading Time : Nil
Duration	:	2 hours 30 minutes
Special Instructions	:	

This assessment consists of **THREE (3)** questions.

Use the ANSWER SHEET TEMPLATE provided.

Materials permitted :

Nil

Materials provided :

Nil

Examiner(s)	:	**Ms. Subarshini A/P Ramakrishnan**
Chief Moderator	:	Ms. Archanaa A/P Maniappen

*This paper consists of **6** printed pages, including the cover page.*

FOUNDATION IN BUSINESS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (CFPI)
FOUNDATION IN SCIENCE (CFSI)
ENL 1211: ENGLISH LANGUAGE SKILLS 1
FINAL ALTERNATIVE ASSESSMENT: APRIL 2020 SESSION

Instructions:
1. This assessment consists of THREE (3) questions.
2. Use the ANSWER SHEET TEMPLATE provided. Maintain file settings.
3. Each student is given up to 2 hours and 30 minutes to complete this assessment in a SINGLE ATTEMPT.

SECTION A: Reading Comprehension (30 marks)

Read the passage carefully. Answer the question below using your own words and sentence structures.

We Need Biodiversity-Based Agriculture to Solve the Climate Crisis
by Dr Vandana Shiva

The Earth is living, and also creates life. Over 4 billion years the Earth has evolved a rich biodiversity — an abundance of different living organisms and ecosystems — that can meet all our needs and sustain life. Through biodiversity and the living functions of the biosphere, the Earth regulates temperature and climate, and has created the conditions for our species to evolve. The Earth is a self-regulating living organism, and life on Earth creates conditions for life to be maintained and evolve.

All the coal, petroleum and natural gas we are burning and extracting to run our contemporary oil-based economy was formed over 600 million years. We are burning up millions of years of nature's work annually. This is why the carbon cycle is broken. A few centuries of fossil fuel-based civilization have brought our very survival under threat by rupturing the Earth's carbon cycle, disrupting key climate systems and self-regulatory capacity, and pushing diverse species to extinction at 1000 times the normal rate. The connection between biodiversity and climate change is intimate.

While using 75 percent of the total land that is being used for agriculture, industrial agriculture based on fossil fuel-intensive, chemical-intensive monocultures produce only 30 percent of the food we eat, while small, biodiverse farms using 25 percent of the land provide 70 percent of the food. Extinction is a certainty if we continue a little longer on the fossil fuel path. A shift to a biodiversity-based civilization is now a survival imperative.

Take the example of food and agriculture systems. The Earth has roughly 300,000 edible plant species, but the contemporary global human community eats only 200 of them. And, according to the *New Scientist*, "half our plant-sourced protein and calories come from just three: maize, rice

and wheat." Meanwhile, only 10 percent of the soy that is grown is used as food for humans. The rest goes to produce biofuels and animal feed.

Our agriculture system is not primarily a food system, it is an industrial system, and it is not sustainable. The Amazon rainforests are home to 10 percent of the Earth's biodiversity. Now, the rich forests are being burned for the expansion of GMO soy crops.

Industrial agriculture is responsible for 75 percent of the destruction of soil, water and biodiversity of the planet. At this rate, if the share of fossil fuel-based industrial agriculture and industrial food in our diet is increased to 40 percent, we will have a dead planet. There will be no life, no food, on a dead planet. Besides the carbon dioxide directly emitted from fossil fuel agriculture, nitrous oxide is emitted from nitrogen fertilizers based on fossil fuels, and methane is emitted from factory farms and food waste.

Organic farming—working with nature—takes excess carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, where it doesn't belong, and puts it back in the soil where it belongs, through photosynthesis. It also increases the water-holding capacity of soil, contributing to resilience in times of more frequent droughts, floods and other climate extremes. And the more biodiversity and biomass we grow, the more the plants sequester atmospheric carbon and nitrogen, and reduce both emissions and the stocks of pollutants in the air. Carbon is returned to the soil through plants.

The more we grow biodiversity and biomass on forests and farms, the more organic matter is available to return to the soil, thus reversing the trends toward desertification, which is already a major reason for the displacement and uprooting of people and the creation of refugees in sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East. Biodiversity-based agriculture is not just a climate solution, it is also a solution to hunger. Approximately 1 billion people are permanently hungry. Biodiversity-intensive, fossil-fuel-free, chemical-free systems produce more nutrition per acre and can feed more people using less land.

To repair the broken carbon cycle, we need to turn to seeds, to the soil and to the sun to increase the living carbon in the plants and in the soil. We need to remember that living carbon gives life, and dead fossil carbon is disrupting living processes. With our care and consciousness we can increase living carbon on the planet, and increase the well-being of all. On the other hand, the more we exploit and use dead carbon, and the more pollution we create, the less we have for the future. Dead carbon must be left underground. This is an ethical obligation and ecological imperative.

This is why the term "decarbonization", which fails to make a distinction between living and dead carbon, is scientifically and ecologically inappropriate. If we decarbonized the economy, we would have no plants, which are living carbon. We would have no life on earth, which creates and is sustained by living carbon. A decarbonized planet would be a dead planet.

We need to recarbonize the world with biodiversity and living carbon. We need to leave dead carbon in the ground. We need to move from oil to soil. We need to urgently move from a fossil fuel-based system to a biodiversity-based ecological civilization. We can plant the seeds of hope, the seeds of the future.

What are the dangers exposed in this article? (30 marks)

Paraphrase the main ideas in the form of a paragraph of about 150 words, beginning with these words:

According to the article written by Dr Vandana Shiva, there are many dangers that are affecting the Earth and mankind.

SECTION B – 40 marks

Write an outline for the two topics given below. Write in complete sentences in the template provided.

1. In your opinion, what are the 3 most painful experiences in life.

Introduction

Hook:	(2 marks)
Thesis Statement :	(2 marks)

Body Paragraphs

Topic Sentence 1 :	(2 marks)
Supporting Sentence 1:	(1 mark)
Supporting Sentence 2 :	(1 mark)

Topic Sentence 2:	(2 marks)
Supporting Sentence 1 :	(1 mark)
Supporting Sentence 2 :	(1 mark)

Topic Sentence 3 :	(2 marks)
Supporting Sentence 1	(1 mark)
Supporting Sentence 2	(1 mark)

Conclusion

Summary :	(2 marks)
Opinion :	(2 marks)

2. Describe life after Covid-19.

Introduction

Hook:	(2 marks)
Thesis Statement :	(2 marks)

Body Paragraphs

Topic Sentence 1 :	(2 marks)
Supporting Sentence 1:	(1 mark)
Supporting Sentence 2 :	(1 mark)

Topic Sentence 2:	(2 marks)
Supporting Sentence 1 :	(1 mark)
Supporting Sentence 2 :	(1 mark)

Topic Sentence 3 :	(2 marks)
Supporting Sentence 1	(1 mark)
Supporting Sentence 2	(1 mark)

Conclusion

Summary :	(2 marks)
Opinion :	(2 marks)

SECTION C: Writing (30 marks)

Choose one of the topics from Section B and write a <u>complete essay</u> of at least 350 words in the template provided.

~ The End ~

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