



FINAL
Examination Paper
(COVER PAGE)

Session : January 2016

Programme : Foundation In Business Information Technology (CFPI)

Course : ENL 1211: English Language Skills 1

Date of Examination : 9 March 2016 (Wednesday)

Time : 8:00am – 10:00am

Duration : 2 Hours Reading Time : Nil

Special Instructions :

This paper consists of **THREE (3)** sections. Answer **ALL** the questions in the space provided.

IMPORTANT NOTE : THIS PAPER SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN OUT OF THE EXAMINATION HALL

Materials Permitted : Nil

Materials Provided : Nil

Examiner(s) : Ms. Archanaa Maniappen

Moderator : Dr. Ting Su Hie

This paper consists of 15 printed pages, including the cover page.

INTI INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE PENANG
FOUNDATION IN BUSINESS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMME (CFPI)
ENL 1211: ENGLISH LANGUAGE SKILLS 1
FINAL EXAMINATION: JAN / FEB 2016 SESSION

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SECTION A – GRAMMAR [60 MARKS]

Part I (10 MARKS)

Fill in the blanks with the correct preposition. (e.g. *at, from, to, with, by, for, etc.*)

1. This letter is written _____ Grace.
2. Mei sits sandwiched _____ Amy and Syam _____ class.
3. The consumer has the right _____ be protected _____ the marketing of goods or the provision _____ services that are hazardous _____ health and life.
4. Technology, _____ the use of multimedia tools, has entered the classroom _____ a big way to become part _____ the teaching and learning process.

Part II (20 MARKS)

Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs in parentheses. Take into consideration the subject verb agreement, sentence structure and content before determining tenses.

1. After the play _____ (receive) a bad review, the playwright _____ (decide) to make some revisions.
2. Before we _____ (go) two miles, my bicycle _____ (get) flat tire.
3. Apparently, the driver _____ (suffer) a heart attack before the automobile accident _____ (happen).
4. After I _____ (read) the report, I _____ (begin) to understand what the problems were.

5. We _____ (vacation) in Hokkaido every spring for six years until we _____ (graduate) from the university.
6. The security guard usually _____ (unlock) the gate at 6am.
7. The entire project _____ (cost) more than 5 million ringgit next year, that's twice the amount _____ (quote) if the project is completed within this year.
8. We _____ (visit) New York for the first time in the 4 years yesterday, since we _____ (leave) for college.
9. He _____ (undergo) treatment at a hospital in India last year.
10. Her new hairstyle _____ (suit) her very well.
11. We _____ (wait) nearly 15 minutes before his secretary told us that he was still _____ (talk) to the delegates from South Korea.
12. The bag _____ (belong) to that gentleman over there.

Part III

(20 MARKS)

Choose and circle the best answer to fill in the blanks in the sentences provided.

1. _____ save water, you should take a shower instead of a bath.
A Although
B In order to
C Because of
D So
2. _____ building new highways for cars and trucks, the government should spend more on public transport.
A Although
B Instead of
C Despite
D While

3. We don't take global warming seriously enough, _____ rising ocean levels and floods.
A because of
B in spite of
C though
D as a result of
4. Where homes near the sea have been destroyed _____ a flood, the owners shouldn't be allowed to rebuild in the same place.
A because of
B despite
C in spite of
D by
5. More money should be spent on alternative energy _____ we don't need to burn so much coal and oil.
A as a result
B because
C in order to
D so that
6. Private cars should be banned from cities because people are developing serious health problems _____ air pollution from automobiles.
A in spite of
B due to
C though
D because
7. _____ environmental problems are overwhelming, there is still hope.
A Despite
B While
C Even though
D Because
8. Some people water their lawns daily _____ drought warnings.
A due to
B despite
C because of
D in order to

9. Recycle garbage _____ it doesn't end up in a landfill.
- A while
 - B so that
 - C although
 - D because
10. Climates are changing _____ global warming.
- A in spite of
 - B in order to
 - C as a result of
 - D although
11. You're 18! You _____ to be able to look after yourself by now.
- A have
 - B ought
 - C should
 - D supposed
12. A permit is a document which states that you _____ to do something.
- A are allowed
 - B cannot
 - C may
 - D shall
13. He _____ have helped us if he'd really wanted to.
- A could
 - B may
 - C must
 - D will
14. My computer _____ be old, but it still works really well.
- A can
 - B could
 - C may
 - D would

15. _____ someone please tell me where the library is?
A Can
B May
C Must
D Should
16. Desert flowers can be invisible for years _____ appear suddenly after a heavy rain.
A actually, but
B alternatively or
C consequently and
D nevertheless, so
17. Her father _____ that Ellen had been to Prague before.
A mentioned
B motioned
C wondered
D thinking
18. I'm a _____ swimmer compared to my sister.
A better
B good as
C not good
D so good
19. The new job provided money for expensive toys, but very _____ time to play with them.
A little
B few
C much
D a lot
20. Cars were parked on _____ sides of the street.
A all
B both
C each
D many

Part IV

(10 MARKS)

Convert the following passive sentences to their active forms.

1. Her wedding dress was sewn by her grandmother. [2 marks]

2. The lecture was given by Dr. Peterson from California Institute of Technology. [2 marks]

3. The house was inspected for termites by the city. [2 marks]

4. The guitar was played by Serena to a rapt audience last Saturday. [2 marks]

5. The computer was repaired by a certified technician. [2 marks]

SECTION B – READING & COMPREHENSION

[25 MARKS]

Why is Technology so Important Today?

Have you asked yourself why technology is so important today? Just look around and you'll know why. Literally, at every instant of time, you are surrounded by technology. Whether you are working or resting, you are always using technology. It is used everywhere and all the time. Its use has made life easy. We need technology. It's important. You ask why?

Places far away have come closer, thanks to technology. The pace of life has increased, thanks to technology. Communication is quick, travel is fast, movement is easy, action is quick, interaction has sped up and so has life. Things that once took hours to complete, can be done in seconds. **The world is smaller** and life is fast. Courtesy - technology. 5

The discovery of electricity drove all the darkness away and the world lit up. If not for the use of technology, we wouldn't have been able to produce electric power or *harness* it. Today, it can be generated through various means because of technology. It has been channeled to every small household in the farthest of world's corners, thanks to technology. What made it possible to use renewable sources like hydropower or solar and wind energy to generate electricity? You have it, technology! 10

How would our basic needs be met so easily if not for technology? Man could meet his needs even before the birth of technology. But it was so difficult then and so rudimentary. Look at today's food - fresh, *preserved* or processed, food of any type is available at your doorstep just anytime. Clothing? Gosh, there's so much variety and much more comfort with different clothes for different occasions and seasons. Where does technology come into picture? Everywhere. From food to fashion, technology has a role to play. How else would so much of all this be produced? Look at today's shelters - shelters? Tall buildings, big bungalows, luxurious apartments - how would they be built if not for technology! 15 20

How does water reach homes? With the help of robust water storage and *transmission* systems. How do homes get the warmth and cold as and when they need? Due to heating and air conditioning systems. How can food be preserved without getting spoiled? Because of refrigeration. How can civil structures be built under water? How can skyscrapers stand so tall? It's owing to advancements in civil engineering and architecture. Earthquake-*resistant* and fireproof structures we see today are also the gift of developments in technology. In short, we owe our luxurious lives to technology. 25

Businesses, small and big, need technology to thrive. They are growing and expanding across countries owing to technological advancements. It is technology that gives organizations the strength to spread their wings. If not for technology, how would *complex* industrial processes be carried out? If not for machines, how would large-scale production of goods be possible? If not for computers, how would the software industry have grown? Growing businesses create employment opportunities for people and technology plays a big role in business growth. That's how important technology is. 30 35

Technology has changed the way people communicate. Communication systems have *evolved* from pigeons carrying messages to emails and instant messages that travel long distances in seconds. Cellular technology and satellite communication have increased communication speeds and made 'connecting' easier. The Internet has enabled easy exchange of information over long 40

distances. Just a few clicks of your computer mouse can take you anywhere on the Internet. You enter an all, new, world without even realizing it!

Satellite and radio communication have changed the entertainment industry. Channels from all over the world are now available on your TV set, thanks to technology. Television shows and films can reach the *masses* within minutes after their release. Radio communication has made it possible to broadcast programs to the remotest of locations. 45

The role of computers and Internet in education cannot be ignored. The use of computers in teaching has made learning more interesting. Computers enable better storage and presentation of information, thus making the process of teaching easier and more effective. Educational CDs are available everywhere. Lectures or lessons can be uploaded on websites, as PDFs or even as videos. This has made information more easily accessible and provides for better ways of knowledge sharing. Online degrees and training courses have led to spread of education. Today, people can continue learning even while managing their jobs, because online education gives them the flexibility to do so. And all the information in the world is so widely available, thanks to the world wide web. 55

Technology is as important in the healthcare industry as in any other. Right from easy communication between healthcare professionals and patients to computer-assisted medical procedures, it's technology everywhere. In the working of patient-monitoring equipment and surgical instruments, there's technology. In various *diagnostic* procedures from scans to complex therapies, technology has a vital role to play. Many medical procedures are mechanized. Even surgeries are simulated on and assisted by machines. 60

Technological development has never stopped. Nanotechnology has gone on to understand things at their nano level. Space exploration has gone on to explore extraterrestrial life. Genetic research has revealed how various *traits* or even hereditary diseases are transferred across generations. Processes like cloning and genetic engineering are attempting to alter traits in individuals. Artificial intelligence can make machines learn, thus developing intelligence in them. Fourth generation technologies in mobile communication have achieved amazing speeds in voice and video communication on cellular networks. Things we would never have imagined have come into reality due to application of technology. 65

At the heart of every piece of technology is *automation*. Technology automates the most complex of processes, be it in communication, education, medicine or any other industry. With the application of technology, critical and time-consuming processes can be executed with ease and in less time. Laborious and repetitive tasks are best done by machines (without getting bored!). People do not have to slog as much as they would have had to, if not for technology. With automation come efficiency and speed. They save human effort and time to a great extent and make life easy and comfortable. Nothing else has changed living the way technology has. And that's exactly why technology is so important today and will always be. 70 75

By Manali Oak

Source: <http://www.buzzle.com/articles/why-is-technology-so-important-today.html>

Part I

(10 MARKS)

The words below (a – j) have been extracted from the passage above. Match the words (a – j) to the most suitable meanings.

- a. harness _____ the process of sending out signals
- b. preserved _____ not damaged or affected by something
- c. transmission _____ undergone gradual change or development
- d. resistant _____ so save something from being harmed or destroyed
- e. complex _____ ordinary people or the general population
- f. evolved _____ quality or characteristic
- g. masses _____ the use of machines instead of humans
- h. diagnostic _____ to control and use
- i. traits _____ examining to determine what's wrong
- j. automation _____ difficult to understand or deal with

Part II

(15 MARKS)

Answer the questions below. Provide suitable explanation / examples to support your answers.

1. What do you think the writer is trying to say by using the expression 'the world is smaller' in line 8? [3 marks]

2. Name the renewable energies stated in the passage. What does the writer mean by renewable energy? [3 marks]

3. Why do we owe our luxurious lives to technology? Provide an example to support your answer. [3 marks]

4. How has technology changed communication and interaction trends and, what difference has this change made in human development? [3 marks]

5. The writer has described many futuristic technologies, for instance, genetic research, nanotechnology and artificial intelligence. Given a chance, what would you pursue. And why? [3 marks]

SECTION C – WRITING

[15 MARKS]

Read the topics below carefully. Choose ONE of the topics given and write a complete essay of about 250 – 300 words. Your essay must contain a clear introduction, well developed body paragraphs and a conclusion. It is advisable to have three (3) main ideas in your essay.

1. Many of us spend hours in front of our computers and communicate more by email or instant messaging than in person. Some people believe that this is good because it helps shy people communicate more openly with others. Others believe that computer communication prevents us from developing interpersonal skills and limits our ability to have meaningful relationships with others. How do you feel about this issue? Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.
2. What is your all-time favourite movie and why do you like this particular movie? Which character(s) in this movie do you find interesting? If you had a chance to change anything in the storyline or the cast of the movie – what changes would you make and why?
3. It is often said that you should never judge another person until you walk in his or her shoes. Write about an experience that enabled you to better understand another person and his / her life.

