



**FINAL**  
Examination Paper

(COVER PAGE)

Session : January 2017

Programme : Foundation In Business Information Technology (CFPI)  
Foundation In Science (CFSI)

Course : **ENL1211: English Language Skills 1**

Date of Examination : 10 March 2017 (Friday)

Time : 5:00pm – 7:00pm Reading Time : Nil

Duration : 2 Hours

**Special Instructions** :

This paper consists of **THREE (3)** sections.

**Section A: Grammar**

**Section B: Reading & Comprehension**

**Section C: Writing**

Materials permitted :

Nil

Materials provided :

Nil

Examiner(s) : **Archanaa A/P Maniappen**

Moderator : **Assoc Prof Dr. Ting Su Hie**

*This paper consists of 8 printed pages, including the cover page*

INTI INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE PENANG  
FOUNDATION IN BUSINESS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMME (CFPI)  
FOUNDATION IN SCIENCE (CFSI)  
ENL 1211: ENGLISH LANGUAGE SKILLS 1  
FINAL EXAMINATION: JANUARY 2017 SESSION

**Instructions:** This paper consists of 3 (**THREE**) sections. Answer **ALL** the questions in the **ANSWER BOOKLET** provided.

**SECTION A – GRAMMAR**

**[60 MARKS]**

**Part I**

**(15 MARKS)**

**Fill in the blanks with the correct preposition or suitable preposition that collocates with the verbs given. (e.g. at, from, to, with, by, for, etc.)**

- a. Technology, (1) the use of multimedia tools, has entered the classroom (2) a big way to become part (3) the teaching and learning process.
- b. Mother Teresa was born Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu, (4) Skopje, Macedonia, (5) 27<sup>th</sup> August, 1910. Her family was (6) Albanian descent. (7) the age of eighteen, she left her parental home in Skopje and joined the Sister of Loreto, an Irish community (8) nuns.
- c. Malnutrition is a condition caused (9) inadequate intake of nutrients. It may result (10) eating an unbalanced diet. We need a well-balanced diet (11) provide sources of energy and nutrition (12) optimal growth and development.
- d. You should not take advantage (13) his good nature just because he has consented (14) help you.
- e. The club advisor can vouch (15) Kim's ability to lead the team.

**Part II**

**(20 MARKS)**

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

- a. One of the most powerful volcanic explosions in the history of the world (1) (occur) at Krakatoa in the nineteenth century. Krakatoa (2) (be) formerly a volcanic island (3) (locate) between Java and Sumatra. In May 1883, a series of explosions (4) (commence) which (5) (continue) until 27 August 1883, when a cataclysmic explosion (6) (blow) the island apart. The island (7) (explode) with the force of 100 megatons. Tsunamis from the explosion (8) (rise) to 131 ft., and (9) (destroy) 163 villages along the coast of Java and Sumatra.

- b. The circulatory system in humans (10) (include) the blood, blood vessels and heart. The heart (11) (act) as a pump. The muscles of the heart (12) (contract) and (13) (relax) to allow the passage of blood into an out of the heart. Every time the heart (14) (beat), the ventricles of the heart (15) (contract) and (16) (force) blood into the arteries. It (17) (create) a pressure wave that (18) (cause) the arteries to (19) (expand) and (20) (contract) rhythmically.

**Part III****(15 MARKS)****Choose the best answer to fill in the blanks in the sentences provided.**

- Christopher scored the \_\_\_\_\_ among us.
  - less
  - little
  - least
  - lesser
- My \_\_\_\_\_ dream was to go to the moon because his wish was to explore outer space.
  - grandfather'
  - grandfathers
  - grandfather's
  - grandfathers'
- My mother (love) to (see) ancient temples.
  - loves, see
  - loves, sees
  - love, see
  - love, sees
- Who is the \_\_\_\_\_ boy in your class?
  - smartest
  - smarter
  - smart
  - bright
- Jason \_\_\_\_\_ (record) his music at night.
  - record
  - recording
  - records
  - recordes

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. The baseball coach was speaking quietly to the team.  
Which word is the adverb?  
A. baseball  
B. speaking  
C. quietly  
D. team
13. Rather than staying together, the group dispersed, and many became lost.  
"Dispersed" most nearly means...  
A. sat down  
B. laughed  
C. scattered  
D. arranged itself
14. He was prone to taking a nap in the afternoon as he had done every day for most of his life.  
"Prone" most nearly means...  
A. not going  
B. trying  
C. likely  
D. anxious
15. Your plan looks good. I hope it will really work. It's time to implement it and see if it's as brilliant as you claim.  
Implement means...  
A. instrument  
B. take apart  
C. change  
D. carry out

**Part IV**

**(10 MARKS)**

**Convert the following sentences to their passive forms.**

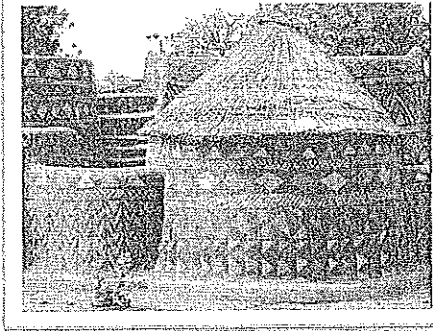
1. He sings a song. [2 marks]
2. The workers were building an Olympic size pool. [2 marks]
3. Have you finished your assignment? [2 marks]
4. They made their mother repeat the whole story. [2 marks]
5. They took all the necessary precautions. [2 marks]

## SECTION B – READING &amp; COMPREHENSION

[25 MARKS]

Read the passages bellow and complete all tasks in Part I and II.

## Building Houses Out of Earth



On every continent, one can find houses or other buildings made of the clay-bearing soils dug up from the ground. In some places, earth building technologies have been around for a very long time.

In the South Western United States, for example, American Indian tribes such as the Pueblo people have been building earth houses and other earth structures for thousands of years. And in China's Xinjiang Province, archaeologists have found entire earth villages dating back over 2500 years. While building houses out of earth is certainly not new, it has never been very common because of the preference for other materials.

In some parts of the world, however, there has been renewed growth in the popularity of earth building. Two such places are Australia and New Zealand, where the practice did not exist until the relatively recent arrival of European settlers. It is estimated now that there are more than 2100 houses made of earth in Australia. And thirty-five per cent of them were built within the past decade. An equal proportion of the five hundred and fifty structures in New Zealand were built in the last five years. This trend appears to reflect growing earth construction in North America and Western Europe.

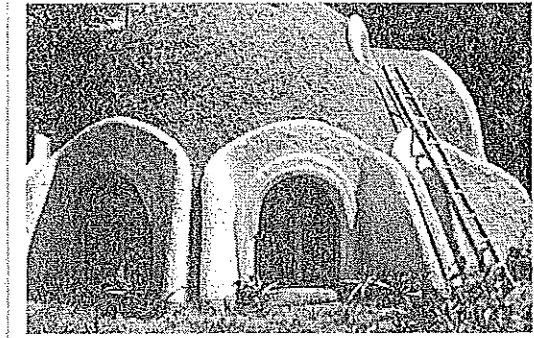
Why the renewed interest in earth building? The building material itself is probably the reason. Earth is available virtually anywhere, literally under our feet. And unlike many other building materials that typically require treatment with chemical preservatives, earth is non-toxic. This cannot be said for commercially sold timbre and brick products.

Another well-known characteristic of earth houses is their passive solar capacity – their ability to retain warmth in the winter and keep cool in the summer without the need of dedicated solar panels, plumbing or fossil fuel energy sources. This comes entirely from the effective way in which the earthen walls act to store heat.

Some people claim that earth buildings are cheaper to build than conventional brick or wooden houses, the two most common types in Australia and New Zealand. This appears to be true according to data from the New Zealand Construction Quarterly. Assuming walls make up fifteen per cent of the cost of building a house, then the use of earthen walls would bring a total saving of ten per cent over timbre frame construction and thirty-eight per cent over brick.

But perhaps most attractive of all is the unique atmosphere provided by earth houses, with their natural colours, their acoustic properties and thick, solid walls.

Not all earth building is done the same way. The technologies used vary from region to region, depending on the types of earth available and local building traditions. They are also undergoing constant study and improvement, with a view to bettering resistance to earthquakes and weather.



In New Zealand, stabilizers such as cement, sand straw, even cow dung, have been found to make stronger and longer-lasting material when added to earth. The downside of using particularly effective stabilizers like cement is that they can be expensive and their manufacture may create pollution. Thus, their use should be kept to minimum.

Those who choose to build with earth should also be careful about using paints or other coatings on the surface of the earth walls. Some coatings have the effect of preventing the earth walls from 'breathing'. When this happens, any water that gets absorbed into the walls may not have a way of escaping and so get trapped. This may lead to cracks or other signs of early deterioration of the earthen material.

#### Part I

(10 Marks)

Construct a MIND MAP to represent the information from the passage you have read. Your mind map should contain all important and necessary information discussed in the passage regarding THE REASON TO CONSTRUCT EARTH BUILDINGS.

A large empty rectangular box for drawing a mind map.

**Part II****(15 MARKS)**

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

1. In 'Building houses out of earth', the writer's main aim is to ... [2 marks]
2. Name TWO (2) places where earth building practices have existed for a long time. [1 mark]
3. Name THREE (3) places where earth buildings are becoming more popular? Provide 2 reasons behind this trend. [3 marks]
4. What percentage and number of earth buildings in New Zealand were constructed in the past 5 years? [2 marks]
5. The writer mentions that building materials contain chemical preservatives. Name TWO (2) commercial building materials that may contain chemical preservatives. [2 marks]
6. What is the feature of earth houses that enables them to keep temperatures low in summer and how does it happen? [2 marks]
7. There are substances that lengthen the life of earth as a building material and there are substances that work otherwise. Explain. [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 300 – 350 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. *"Oh, how the world today needs such reminders: Be kind. Treat all people with respect. Let go of hate and let others live their lives in peace."* (Brendon Burchard)  
How would you interpret the quote above? Share some of your real-life experiences or expectations in **support** of the quote.
2. Malaysia has a multi-ethnic population that celebrates various festivals. **Describe a festival** that you are familiar with / that you celebrate. In your essay, you may want to explain the rituals, practices, food and significance of this festival.
3. *"Internet: Absolute Communication, Absolute Isolation"* (Paul Carvel)  
People prefer to interact with each other on a virtual platform than speaking to each other at a dinner table. Do you **agree or disagree** that the internet has caused problems in human communication, especially face to face communication? Provide reason to support your stand.

~END OF QUESTION PAPER~