



**FINAL**  
Examination Paper

(COVER PAGE)

Session : January 2017

Programme : Foundation In Business Information Technology (CFPI)

Course : **ENL1212: English Language Skills**

Date of Examination : 7 March 2017 (Tuesday)

Time : 2:00pm – 4:00pm Reading Time : Nil

Duration : 2 Hours

**Special Instructions** :

This paper consists of **FOUR (4)** questions. Answer **ALL** the questions in the answer booklet provided.

All questions carry equal marks.

Materials permitted :

Nil

Materials provided :

Nil

Examiner(s) : **Regina Sharon Raju**

Moderator : Assoc Prof Dr. Ting Su Hie

*This paper consists of 7 printed pages, including the cover page*

INTI INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE PENANG

FOUNDATION IN BUSINESS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMME (CFPI)

ENL 1212: ENGLISH LANGUAGE SKILLS 2

FINAL EXAMINATION: JANUARY 2017 SESSION

**Instructions:** This paper consists of **FOUR (4)** questions. Answer **ALL** the questions in the answer booklet provided.

**QUESTION 1**

**(25 marks)**

**Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.**

- 1 It was soon after the results of the class test for the first term had been compiled. I did badly in the test, not unexpectedly. My family had recently moved to Kampong Bahru. For my education, the move was somewhat a disaster. There was too much fun for boys of my age there – from rounders, basketball, fighting fish to mischievous exploits of one sort or another.
- 2 My teacher, Mr Doraisamy, was a genial person who was not very keen to use the rod. However, he wrote four words in my report book and they told it all. "Can work, but lazy." It was the system then that principals would go round to each class and take a look at every report book. The principal, Captain Goodman Ambler, was a retired British army officer. He was about six feet tall, slim and slightly hunched, but his looks were enough to give shivers to students who did not match his expectations.
- 3 On that fateful afternoon, Captain Ambler sat on our teacher's chair and went through the report books. For some odd reason, my book was top of the pile. Then I heard my name. His military voice boomed across the room, "So, you can work but you are lazy, eh?" That question did not call for a reply.
- 4 "My boy," the principal bellowed, "go to my office. Next to my desk is a wooden cabinet. Open it. In it find the magic wand you like best and bring it back to me."
- 5 I did not need any prodding. I stepped quickly out of my class and headed to his office *with my heart in my mouth*. In the wooden cabinet, I found six canes of various thicknesses, from the girth of one's smallest finger to one's fat thumb. What a decision to make! I remembered I heard from other mischievous boys that the thicker the cane, the less the pain. *So I took a risk*. I walked back to class, stroking the cane which I knew would soon whip my buttocks. But, what I could not guess was: how many strokes would I be given?

- 6 By the time I returned to class, there were about seven others who had formed a line, all having "qualified to experience the magic wand. I was the first invited to take the spot, bend down and touch my toes. Then, like a first-rate magician, the principal brought the cane down on my buttocks. I almost fainted. At that very instance, Captain Ambler called, "Next." It was the happiest word I had heard till that moment.
- 7 I walked back to my desk. When I sat on the hard wooden chair, I shot back up into the air. Instinctively, I pressed my hands on the seat and pretended to sit, remaining in that position till the pain subsided.
- 8 That one stroke of the magic wand changed my life. All my *extra-curricular activities* in the kampong were put on hold. It was study, study and study almost round the clock. When results of the third term came in, there was nothing in it to make me qualify for another stroke. If Captain Ambler had not used the wand on me, I could have ended up as a dropout and my life would be ruined. Deep in my heart I am totally grateful to him for performing his magic.

1. How did the author perform in the class test for the 1<sup>st</sup> term? (2 marks)
2. Describe how principals at that time would assess how well a class was progressing. (2 marks)
3. What was Mr Doraisamy's impression of the author? (2 marks)
4. From the passage, quote 2 words from different paragraphs that refer to the "magic wand". (2 marks)
5. I stepped quickly out of my class and headed to his office 'with *my heart in my mouth* (paragraph 5). What does this phrase tell us about how the author was feeling? (2 marks)
6. '*So I took a risk.*' (paragraph 5) What did the author do and why did he choose to do so? (2 marks)
7. Give 2 examples from the passage that showed that the pain on the author's buttocks was excruciating. (2 marks)

8. Why was the author overjoyed when Captain Ambler called "Next."? (2 marks)
9. Give 2 examples of the author's *extra-curricular activities* (paragraph 8) in the kampong. (2 marks)
10. Explain in your own words how the author had changed after he was given that one stroke of the magic wand. (2 marks)
11. Find a word from the passage that has the same meaning as provided below. (5 marks)
- a) friendly and cheerful (paragraph 2)
  - b) a loud, deep sound (paragraph 3)
  - c) persuading someone to do something (paragraph 5)
  - d) being the best (paragraph 6)
  - e) decrease or reduce (paragraph 7)

**QUESTION 2****(25 marks)**

**Summarize in not more than 120 words, the reasons for child abuse.**

The childhood years are supposed to be the best times of one's life; playing and having fun. Yet there are many children who are deprived of this childhood. They are tortured and verbally and physically abused.

There is no reason or excuse for child abuse. Abusers claim they do it because of the stress of work. Child-abusing housewives say they feel harassed by a crying child and are unable to curb their own fury, especially if no support is received from anyone. This is not surprising since support is extended to a victim of child abuse more readily than to the perpetrator. Occasionally, parents may vent their frustrations on their child if they fight and quarrel with each other. In cases like there, it is the children who are the victims.

In this modern age where both parents are usually holding jobs, children are left with babysitters and nurseries. Abuse by these carers may occur when there are too many children to be minded. The disappearance of the extended family system is partly to be blamed for these incidents.

Crowded homes and financial problems can also lead to child abuse. When there are too many mouths to feed, parents feel the pressure and vent their anger on a child.

Substance abuse is another factor which increases the incidents of child abuse. Under the influence of alcohol or drugs, a parent may not know what he or she may be doing. Or, rather, knows what he or she is doing but is not bothered at all. A drug addict may experience mood swings and is easily provoked by a crying baby. Thus we see and read horrifying reports of a child being savagely tortured and dumped elsewhere, like garbage.

Psychologists believe that child abusers may have been victims of abuse themselves. Thus, in anger and hatred, they repeat the vicious cycle of abuse. Some have no love for the children they abuse. Some have been brought up to believe that children should be beaten in order to maintain control. These are troubled people who need help.

A home is supposed to be a haven where a child ought to feel safe and secure. Unfortunately, more often than not, the home is also where a child is abused. Whatever the reasons for the abuse, something must be done to stop the cruelty and help these parents who simply cannot cope with parenting. Parents-to-be should be counselled and trained with parenting skills. The Child Protection Act which was passed in Parliament in 1991 does not effectively prevent child abuse. Stricter enforcement is necessary. Thus it requires a commitment from each individual to help families with victims and troubled parents, the perpetrators.

QUESTION 3

(25 marks)

*Read-a-Book*, is a famous bookstore in Penang, with a mission to improve the reading habits of young children. As part of their strategy to accomplish this, they decided to purchase 500 large cut-out cardboard displays of Winnie the Pooh from their regular supplier, *Flash Advertising*, to promote a new line of children's books featuring the famous cartoon character. However, when the shipment arrived three weeks later, 50 of the displays were bent and could not be used. The supplier had also wrongly sent 100 cut-outs of Dory the Fish. *Read-a-Book* would like the supplier to replace the damaged goods within two weeks so that they can use the Winnie the Pooh displays in their promotional event the following month.

Assuming you are the Marketing Manager of *Read-a-Book*, write **a letter of complaint** to the Managing Director of *Flash Advertising* to complain and seek immediate resolution to the problem.

You can use the following addresses in your letter.

Read-a-Book  
30 A, Jalan Burma  
10350 Penang

Flash Advertising  
3720 Bagan Ajam  
13000 Butterworth, Penang

**QUESTION 4**

**(25 marks)**

Choose **ONE** of the topics below and write an essay of about 200 to 250 words.

1. Some people prefer to live in the quiet countryside; others prefer the hustle and bustle of the city. Which do you think is the better choice? Give your opinion and reasons to support your view.
2. You realize that you need more pocket money than what your parents are currently giving you so you have decided to work part time at a café near your house. Write an essay persuading your parents to allow you to work while the semester is still on.
3. The media creates unrealistic standards of beauty. It often portrays beauty as being thin, tall and young with fair skin. Write an essay on the effects of these beauty standards on young people.

**~ The End ~**

*enl1212(f)jan2017*

