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**FINAL**  
Examination Paper

(COVER PAGE)

Session : April 2018

Programme : Diploma In Mass Communication (DMCN)

Course : COM2110: News Writing

Date of Examination : July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018 (Saturday)

Time : 11:00am – 01:00pm Reading Time : Nil

Duration : 2 Hours

**Special Instructions :**

SECTION A: Answer any **THREE (3)** question. (60 marks)

SECTION B: Answer any **TWO (2)** questions. (40 marks)

Materials permitted : Nil

Materials provided : Nil

Examiner(s) : Ms. Siti Fairuz Binti Ghazali and Chan Siang Yen

Moderator : Dr. Akmar Hayati Binti Ahmad

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

DIPLOMA IN MASS COMMUNICATION PROGRAMME (DMCN)  
COM2110: NEWS WRITING  
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER: APRIL 2018 SESSION

**Section A:** (60 marks)

**Instructions:** This section consists of **FIVE (5)** questions. Answer **THREE (3)** out of **FIVE (5)** questions in the answer booklet provided.

**Question 1**

Correct the following sentences. The sentences below contains errors in spelling, house style, punctuation, grammar, word use and etc.

1. Mohamed Ismail's son, Mohamed bin Nazir, 41, said the village is hit by floods on 30th September and everything on their ground flood was also damaged (The Malay Mail Online, 8/11/2017)

2. Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) Executive Director Dato' Shamsuddin Bardan says the declaration of a public holiday to facilitate employees casting their vote had eased some of the complications of voting on a working day.

"MEF is of the view that since the intention is to declare this as a public holiday to facilitate employees to cast their vote, employers must observe this as a public holiday." Shamsuddin said. (The Malay Mail Online, 11/4/2018)

3. Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng said the State Commission of Inquiry (SCI) have 3 months to present their findings and complete a report.

The SCI would follow the same format as those set up for the Menara UMNO, Macalister Road building antennae collapse and the Second Penang Bridge ramp collapse in 2013 which claimed the lives of 3 people. (FreeMalaysiaToday, 25/10/2017)

4. A decomposed body of a woman was found in a trash heap along the riverbank near Asam Kumbang Village, Parit Sulong here on Sunday evening.

Batu Pahat Police District Chief ACP Abdul Wahib says the body was sent to the Hospital Sultanah Nora Ismail in Batu Pahat for a post-mortem examination.

5. Mun Yee said competing in 2 synchro events on the same day was taxing to her body.

"It was challenging as were here at 7.30 a.m. to train before the competition. We only returned to the Games' Village for an hour for lunch before returning to the venue for the ten metres' event," said Mun Yee. (NST, 11/4/2018)

(Mun Yee said competing in two synchro events on the same day was taxing to her body.

"It was challenging as were here at 7.30am to train before the competition. We only returned to the Games' Village for an hour for lunch before returning to the venue for the 10m event," Mun Yee said.)

(20 Marks)

## Question 2

(a) Read the following news, and identify the statements/sections associated with news value:

1. Prominence
2. Impact/Consequence
3. Controversy
4. Proximity

By FERNANDO FONG  
April 12, 2018 @ 1:37pm (New Straits Times)  
FERNANDO FONG

KUALA LUMPUR: DAP is an opportunist party with no principles and will do whatever it takes to gain votes, Kuantan MCA division chief Datuk Seri Ti Lian Ker said.

He said this was evident from DAP's decision to use the PKR logo as the common Opposition logo for the general election.

"They are hoping to make up for lost votes after PAS had left the opposition coalition.

"It could also be that DAP is super confident that the Chinese voters are fully behind them.

"These would explain why DAP is prepared to drop their logo despite objections from its supporters," said Ti, who is also MCA religious harmony bureau chief.

Ti added that DAP had in fact sold out their supporters, having given them a false hope of a level playing field.

He said DAP had lost its dignity, unlike MCA which stood by the Barisan Nasional (BN) concept of consensus building.

On Tuesday, DAP national organising secretary Anthony Loke said the PKR logo will be more acceptable to Malay voters.

Loke also met with DAP founding member Dr Chen Man Hin to explain why the rocket logo was dropped.

Dr Chen was previously quoted by the press as saying: "I feel discouraged. We have been using the logo in our struggle. The rocket represents DAP's position."

Former Taman Sri Sungai Pelek DAP chief, Tan Tuan Tat, said he was not surprised by Loke's statement.

He added that Chen was probably pressured to change his stance on the matter.

"It is so clear cut Chen was disappointed that DAP dropped its logo," he said.

Tan noted that grassroots members are still trying comes to terms with the fact that the rocket logo will be dropped after so many years, he added.

He said many DAP supporters, especially those who had sacrificed time and money for the party over the years, still could not understand what is so wrong to use the rocket logo.

"Only the hardcore DAP supporters will go with the unpopular decision," he said.

At the same time, Tan said Malay voters will not give their support to the Opposition despite DAP using the PKR logo.

He said Malay voters are still wary with DAP as a "Chinese chauvinist party."

(8 Marks)

(b) There are **NINE (9)** common interview pitfalls. List and briefly explains **SIX (6)** of them.

(12 Marks)

### Question 3

(a) Identify one (1) appropriate statement with each of the stated Who, What, Where, When and Why. You may summarise your answer, or quote statements in the article.

By Reuters - April 11, 2018 @ 11:31pm  
WASHINGTON/SAN FRANCISCO: Facebook Inc Chief Executive Mark Zuckerberg on Wednesday told lawmakers that his own personal data was included in that of 87 million or so Facebook users that was improperly shared with political consultancy Cambridge Analytica.

But he pushed back on congress members' suggestions that users do not have enough control of their data on Facebook in the wake of the privacy scandal at the world's largest social media network.

"Every time that someone chooses to share something on Facebook ... there is a control. Right there. Not buried in the settings somewhere but right there," the 33-year-old internet magnate told the U.S. House of Representatives Energy and Commerce Committee.

Once again wearing a dark suit instead of his usual gray T-shirt, the hearing was Zuckerberg's second in two days. On Tuesday, he took questions for nearly five hours in a U.S. Senate hearing without making any further promises to support new legislation or change how the social network does business, foiling attempts by senators to pin him down.

Investors were impressed with his initial performance. Shares in Facebook posted their biggest daily gain in nearly two years on Tuesday, closing up 4.5 percent. They were down 0.7 percent in early trading on Wednesday.

Facebook has been consumed by turmoil for nearly a month, since it came to light that millions of users' personal information was wrongly harvested from the website by Cambridge Analytica, a political consultancy that has counted U.S. President Donald Trump's election campaign among its clients.

Zuckerberg faced broad concerns from members of Congress about how Facebook shares user data.

"How can consumers have control over their data when Facebook does not have control over the data?" asked Representative Frank Pallone of New Jersey, the ranking Democrat on the Energy and Commerce committee.

The latest estimate of affected users is up to 87 million.

Patience with the social network had already worn thin among users, advertisers and investors after the company said last year that Russia used Facebook for years to try to sway U.S. politics, an allegation Moscow denies.

Lawmakers have sought assurances that Facebook can effectively police itself, and few came away from Tuesday's hearing expressing confidence in the social network.

"I don't want to vote to have to regulate Facebook, but by God, I will," Republican Senator John Kennedy told Zuckerberg on Tuesday. "A lot of that depends on you."

Zuckerberg deflected requests to support specific legislation. Pressed repeatedly by Democratic Senator Ed Markey to endorse a proposed law that would require companies to get people's permission before sharing personal information, Zuckerberg agreed to further talks.

“In principle, I think that makes sense, and the details matter, and I look forward to having our team work with you on fleshing that out,” Zuckerberg said. –Reuters

(10 marks)

(b) With the information below, construct a **summary lead** of maximum of 30 words. Your answer needs to conform to Associated Press (AP) style.

1. There was an accident on Lebu Penang, in George Town, this morning. One cyclist suffered serious contusions as the result of a terrible collision involving two bikes and an older style of vehicle at around 8.08am. The car driver who was on her way home from a late shift was unharmed. The second cyclist who turned 18 last week died not long after an ambulance took him to hospital. The cyclists were members of the Georgetown Cycling Club. The driver said at the scene she was “devastated” by the accident and said she hadn’t been drinking.

(5 marks)

2.

- The incident occurred at 2.30 this morning.
- The semi-trailer, valued at more than RM200,000, was destroyed.
- Police said they were still investigating the accident.
- The train driver was killed instantly.
- The accident occurred where the train track crosses Jalan Bukit Mertajam, two kilometres east of Butterworth, Penang.
- The semi-trailer driver escaped serious injury.
- The semi-trailer was carrying an undisclosed toxic chemical, which spilled across the road, forcing the evacuation of six houses in the area.
- The train and semi-trailer collided.

(5 marks)

#### Question 4

- (a) Discuss **TWO (2)** fundamentals of inserting attribution in the news story and also provide **ONE (1)** example of attribution. (10 marks)
- (b) Elaborate **TWO (2)** types of quotation by providing example for each type.

(10 marks)

#### Question 5

- (a) Distinguish the differences between news article and a press release. (15 marks)
- (b) Define feature writing.

(5 marks)

**Section B: (40 marks)**

**Instruction:** Essay question – Answer **TWO (2)** out of **FOUR (4)** in the answer booklet provided.

**Question 1**

Based on the information below, write an **8-paragraph news article** in the **inverted pyramid format**, with a **summary lead** of maximum of 30 words.

- A freak thunderstorm hit Johor Bahru, causing the collapse of nine lamp posts
- The freak thunderstorm damaged the roof of a four-storey flat in Taman Ungku Tun Aminah.
- The freak thunderstorm occurred around 3.30 pm on Sunday
- The freak thunderstorm triggered a massive two-hour jam along Jalan Skudai for traffic heading towards Kulai and Johor Bahru
- A resident of Taman Ungku Tun Aminah flat, Nyok Tai, 57, said that during the incident, she was resting in her living room of the four-storey flat with her husband and two grandchildren
- Nyok Tai said “I heard a loud sound coming from the ceiling and then all of a sudden the roof flew off.”
- Nyok Tai said many of her belongings including electrical appliances were damaged in the storm
- Central Johor Bahru Municipal Council president Md Fuzi Ahmad Shamimi confirmed that nine decorative lamp posts had collapsed
- The lamp posts worth more than RM72,000
- Msd Fuzi Ahmad Shamimi said the council would replace all the lamp posts along the 5km stretch of the road as soon as possible
- Johor Bahru North OCPD Asst Comm Ruslan Hassan said he sent a traffic team to the scene to help ease the jam.
- No one was reported to be injured in the freak thunderstorm.

(The Star, 15/6/2010)

(20 marks)

**Question 2**

Turn this online news article (below) into a news radio script duration of 60 seconds. Use a proper news script style as provided below.

**Alert bus driver saves passengers from fire on Federal Highway**

By HANI SHAMIRA SHAHRUDIN - January 31, 2018 @ 8:48pm

KUALA LUMPUR: A quick thinking bus driver saved the lives of seven passengers as the Rapid KL bus caught fire at KM31 of the Federal Highway today.

Prasarana Malaysia Berhad, in a statement, said prior to the 4.45pm incident, the bus driver had heard noises coming from the engine compartment.

When a police patrol car, trailing from behind, started to turned on the siren, he immediately stopped the vehicle and ordered all the passengers to disembark, following which the bus went up in flames.

“There are no casualties recorded. The police had contacted the Fire and Rescue Department to assist when attempts to put out the fire using the fire extinguisher failed.

“Rapid KL will cooperate with enforcement agencies to pinpoint the cause of fire and total amount of losses incurred. Comfort and safety of our passengers are our top priority,” the statement read.

Rapid KL bus drivers, according to the statement, had been given training on how to handle tense and unforeseen situation.

The passengers, who were unhurt, were later transferred to another bus.

Petaling Jaya fire station chief Hishamuddin Mustafa said the department deployed 14 firemen to the scene.

The blaze was put out by 5.11pm.

*(Source: nstonline, January 31, 2018)*

(20 marks)

### Question 3

Elaborate **FOUR (4)** types of features article with example.

(20 marks)

### Question 4

Explain **FOUR (4)** ethical problems reporters might face when reporting crime news.

(20 marks)

~ The End ~

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