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LANGUAGE CENTRE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION AND STUDY SKILLS
MATURE AGE ENTRY EXAMINATION 2019
QUESTION PAPER B
TOTAL MARKS: ____/50
TIME: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

Follow the instructions very carefully

Encircling more than one letter for a question will invalidate it.

Answer ALL questions.

Name _____ **of** _____ **Student:**
.....

Student Number/ID number:

Please DO NOT TURN OVER THE PAGE until the examiner gives instructions.

Question 1: Language

Read the following passage carefully, and then encircle the letter to the correct answer from the options given.

Are we living in a surveillance society?

The number of CCTV (or closed circuit television) cameras in Britain **1.** _____ enormously in recent years. There are now more than 4 million, which makes an astonishing one camera for every 14 people.

CCTV **2.** _____ used for many years for the surveillance of public areas associated with an obvious security risk, such as military installations, airports, casinos and banks. However, since the 1990s, there **3.** _____ a huge increase in the surveillance of everyday locations such as city and town centers, car parks, shops and traffic. Added to this, more and more individuals are buying their own consumer CCTV systems for personal or commercial use. The most common function of these systems **4.** _____ the areas in front of a house or business and record any antisocial or criminal behavior. People who **5.** _____ these systems range from wealthy individuals who are afraid of being targeted by burglars, to people who are not wealthy at all but who **6.** _____ in high-crime areas, such as inner cities, and **7.** _____ trying to protect themselves.

For some people, the huge increase in public surveillance **8.** _____ a threat to the individual's civil liberties and **9.** _____ a sign that society is becoming increasingly

authoritarian. They argued that the individual's right to privacy and right to live anonymously is an important aspect of **10.** _____ British.

[Adapted from: Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary. International Student's Edition (New 9th Edition)]

Now select the best answer from the options given to correct the grammatical errors above.

1.

A. was growing	B. was growing	C. has grown	D. had grown
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2.

A. had been	B. has been	C. have been	D. would be
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3.

A. had been	B. has been	C. will be	D. would be
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4.

A. is surveying	B. is to survey	C. is for surveying	D. is survey
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5.

A. are buying	B. buy	C. will buy	D. bought
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6.

A. lives	B. are living	C. had lived	D. live
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7.

A. would be	B. should be	C. are	D. were
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8.

A. is	B. had been	C. have been	D. had
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9.

A. will be	B. is	C. became	D. is becoming
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10.

A. becoming	B. behaving as	C. being	D. remaining
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(___/10)

QUESTION 2 COMPREHENSION

Passage 2.1

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. Circle the letter of the correct answer.

1. Some people say that the best defense is a good offense; an octopus, however, would disagree. In addition to being one of the strongest and the most beautiful creatures in nature, the octopus has some of the most inventive and effective defense mechanisms imaginable. While other animals have teeth, horns, or claws to help defend them from predators, the octopus concentrates its energy on hiding from and confusing its attackers. When it wants to get away, the octopus has an impressive arsenal of tricks at its disposal.
2. The most well-known of the octopus' defense mechanisms is its ability to squirt clouds of ink into the water. Some octopi use this cloud of ink as camouflage; after squirting the ink, the octopus retreats into the ink cloud where the predator cannot see it. Other octopi use the ink cloud as a decoy. If a large intelligent predator such as a shark knows that octopi use ink clouds for camouflage, it might simply attack the ink cloud blindly, hoping to make contact with the octopus inside. However, some sneaky octopi will release the ink cloud in one direction, and scurry away in another direction, leaving the predator with nothing but a mouthful of ink. In addition to confusing predators' sense of sight, these ink clouds also confuse their sense of smell. The ink is composed naturally of melanin (the same chemical that gives human skin its color), which can shut down a predator's sense of smell. If an octopus cannot be seen or smelled, it has a much higher chance of escaping an attack.
3. Another defense mechanism possessed by many octopi is the ability to change color, much like a chameleon. Most animals get their skin color from chemicals in the skin called chromatophores (melanin is one of these chromatophores). Chromatophores might contain yellow, orange, red, brown, or black pigments,

and the amount of each pigment present in the skin determines an animal's color. While most animals are always the same color, some species of octopi can control the amount of each color pigment in their skin cells, allowing them to change color. Some poisonous octopi, when provoked will change their skin to a bright, eye-catching color to warn predators that they are dangerous and ready to strike. Other octopi use this ability to change their skin to the color and texture of seaweed or coral, allowing them to blend in with their environment. Finally, some octopi- such as the mimic octopus use this color changing ability to masquerade as another type of animal. The body of an octopus is highly flexible, and some species can combine this flexibility with their color- changing skills to make themselves resemble more dangerous animals such as sea snakes or eels.

4. Yet another defense mechanism possessed by some octopi is an ability to perform an autotomy, or self-amputation, of one of their limbs and regrow it later. Many species of skunk and lizard also possess this ability, which allows them to shed their tails when caught by their predator and therefore get away. When a predator catches a tentacle the octopus can amputate this tentacle, thereby unfettering itself, and regrow the tentacle later. Some octopi, however, are even cleverer. When threatened a by predator, these octopi will shed a tentacle before being attacked in the hope that the predator will go after the detached tentacle rather than the octopus itself.
5. While the octopus may not be the most vicious creature in the ocean, its numerous and clever defense mechanisms help it to survive in the dangerous undersea world.

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1. Which sentence from the passage best expresses the main idea?

- A. The most well-known of the octopus' defence mechanisms is its ability to squirt clouds of ink into the water.
- B. Some people say that the best defense is a good offense; an octopus, however would disagree.
- C. Another defence mechanism possessed by many octopi is the ability to change colour much like the chameleon.

D. When it wants to get away, the octopus has an impressive arsenal of tricks at its disposal.

2. The author claims in Paragraph 1 that an octopus would disagree with the statement “the best defense is a good offense” because

- A. octopi employ more defensive than offensive capabilities.
- B. octopi possess good defensive and offensive capabilities.
- C. octopi can protect themselves from teeth, horns, and claws.
- D. not all octopi possess the same defence mechanisms.

3. Which of the following statements best describes the organisational structure of Paragraphs 2 to 4?

- A. The author lays out several reasons to support the argument that the octopus has the best defence mechanisms of any sea creature.
- B. The author devotes one paragraph each to explaining three different defence mechanisms possessed by the octopus.
- C. The author devotes one paragraph each to highlighting three potential threats to the octopus and how the octopus deals with each one differently.
- D. The author compares and contrasts three different defence mechanisms employed by the octopus.

4. According to the passage, which of the following statements about the chemical melanin are true?

- I. An octopus’s ink is composed primarily of melanin.
- II. Melanin is a chromatophore.
- III. Like the octopus, chameleons use melanin to change colour.

A. I only

B. I and II only

C. II and III only

D. I, II, and

III

5. As used in Paragraph 4, which of the words below is the best synonym for unfettering?

A. freeing

- B. regrowing
- C. amputating
- D. sacrificing

(___/5)

Question 2.2

Read the passage below. For each of the questions (1 - 5), encircle the best answer from the text

1. Like many people acting on the desire to eat healthy and local, Acropolis resident Eduardo Jimenez decided to plant a garden in his backyard. He tilled the soil, he planted the seeds, and he even erected a fence to keep out the deer. Eduardo did everything right. Or so it seems. Harvest time has come, and he has not one tomato, bean, or leaf of lettuce to show for his hard work. How did this happen? The answer comes in the form of a small, brown, particularly smelly insect: the stink bug.
2. Unlike their fastidious cousins, stink bugs feed on some 300 species of plants, including figs, mulberries, corn, and citrus fruits as well as soybeans, legumes, and weeds. Although they do little damage to the plant itself, they make the fruits and vegetables unmarketable. For this reason, stink bugs pose the most serious threat to the big agriculturalists and macro farm operators. Macro farmers have more invested in their produce, and therefore have more to lose. While hobbyists like Eduardo are left to face the disappointment of an unsuccessful garden, macro farmers are forced to live with the loss of entire tracts of cash crops—a fact that has left many barely able to clothe their children or put food on the table. Last season alone, several New Jersey pepper farmers saw 75% of their crops damaged. Pennsylvania lost half of its peach population, and, according to the US Apple Association, apple farmers in the Mid-Atlantic States lost \$37 million. This year could be worse.
3. As a result of this decline in the supply of fresh fruits and vegetables, shoppers have seen adjustments—sometimes quite dramatic—in prices at the grocery store. Prices of apples in Maryland are up 8%. In the north-Atlantic states, prices for peppers shot up an astounding 14%. Not only are these items becoming more expensive, but they are also getting harder to find. Last week, Marge Jenkins of

Athens, Georgia reported having to check three different stores before stumbling upon a decent batch of peas. And this, she assures us, is a regular occurrence.

4. Accidentally brought from Asia, the stink bug has no natural predators in America, and thus its population is soaring. Reported sightings of stink bugs are becoming increasingly numerous, as the desiccated, brown, trapezoidal shells of the dead bugs are ubiquitous in some areas. This has farmers and scientists alike scratching their heads in search of a remedy. Hope, they believe, may lie with an Asian parasitic wasp, which helpfully lays its eggs inside stink bug eggs. The larvae of the wasp devour the stink bug from the inside. Implementation of such a solution is still several years away, as scientists must first determine if it is safe for the wasp to be introduced into America. Until then, some farmers are resorting to homemade traps. Others have even contemplated the use of peacocks and praying mantises, which, they hypothesize, will gulp down the little stinkers.

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1. **Transition sentences are used to introduce a new idea, and to make a smooth shift from the previous paragraph to the next. This helps prevent the reader from getting lost or confused. Using this information, which of the following is the best transition sentence to insert at the beginning of paragraph 2?**
 - A. An increasing number of them have been found in North America, occupying over half of the continental United States as well as Mexico and parts of Canada.
 - B. Unbeknown to Eduardo, the local population of stink bugs has increased dramatically over the last decade, especially in and around the town of Acropolis.
 - C. A member of the pantatomidae family, stink bugs surprisingly do not share the eating habits of related insects.
 - D. Brown marmorated stink bugs, which first appeared in America in the late 1990s, are now found in over 30 states.
 - E. And this problem isn't specific to Eduardo; it is affecting a wide range of gardeners and farmers alike spanning the continental United States.

- 2. Based on its use in Paragraph 2, it can be inferred that fastidious belongs to which of the following word families?**
- A. forward, assertive, proactive
 - B. demanding, particular, critical
 - C. delicate, insubstantial, frail
 - D. passionate, fervent, avid
 - E. abstemious, moderate, restrained
- 3. In Paragraph 2, the author most likely refers to people like Eduardo as "hobbyists" in order to**
- A. illustrate the type of person who plants a home garden.
 - B. characterize the type of person who is most likely to be affected by stink bugs.
 - C. emphasize the idea that gardeners are relatively unskilled compared to farmers.
 - D. juxtapose the impact of stink bugs on gardeners with that on farmers.
 - E. elucidate the similarities between the gardener and farmer.
- 4. According to the author, what is the biggest problem resulting from stink bugs?**
- A. Hobbyists like Eduardo Jimenez are unable to eat healthy and local.
 - B. Fresh fruits and vegetables are becoming harder to find, peppers and apples are becoming increasingly scarce.
 - C. The price of fresh fruits and vegetables is increasing.
 - D. Macro farmers are losing their crops.
- 5. Based on the information in Paragraph 3, it can be inferred that an increase in supply results in**
- A. a decrease in price.
 - B. an increase in demand.
 - C. low availability.
 - D. reduced importance.

E. higher values.

(/5)

Question 3: Critical Thinking

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow, Refer to the text to check your answers when appropriate.

1. The word euthanasia is of Greek origin and literally means “a good death.” The American Heritage Dictionary defines it as “the act of killing a person painlessly for reasons of mercy.” Such killing can be done through active means, such as administering a lethal injection, or by passive means, such as withholding medical care or food and water.
2. In recent years in the United States, there have been numerous cases of active euthanasia in the news. They usually involve the deliberate killing of ill or incapacitated persons by relatives or friends who plead that they can no longer bear to see their loved ones suffer. Although such killings are a crime, the perpetrators are often dealt with leniently by our legal system, and the media usually portrays them as compassionate heroes who take personal risks to save another from unbearable suffering.
3. The seeming acceptance of active forms of euthanasia is alarming, but we face a bigger, more insidious threat from passive forms of euthanasia. Every year, in hospitals and nursing homes around the country, there are growing numbers of documented deaths caused by caregivers withholding life sustaining care, including food and water, from vulnerable patients who cannot speak for themselves.
4. While it is illegal to kill someone directly, for example with a gun or knife, in many cases the law has put its stamp of approval on causing death by omitting needed care. Further, many states have “living will” laws designed to protect those who withhold treatment, and there have been numerous court rulings which have approved of patients being denied care and even starved and dehydrated to death.
5. Because such deaths occur quietly within the confines of hospitals and nursing homes, they can be kept hidden from the public. Most euthanasia victims are old or very ill, so their deaths might be attributed to a cause other than the denial of care that really killed them. Further, it is often relatives of the patient who request that care be withheld. In one court case, the court held that decisions to withhold life sustaining care may be made not only by close family members but also by a number of third parties, and that such decisions need not be reviewed by the judicial system if there is no disagreement between decision makers and medical staff. The court went so far as to rule that a nursing home may not refuse to participate in the fatal withdrawal of food and water from an incompetent patient!

6. “Extraordinary” or “heroic” treatment need not be used when the chance for recovery is poor and medical intervention would serve only to prolong the dying process. But to deny customary and reasonable care or to deliberately starve or dehydrate someone because he or she is very old or very ill should not be permitted. Most of the cases coming before the courts do not involve withholding heroic measures from imminently dying people, but rather they seek approval for denying basic care, such as administration of food and water, to people who are not elderly or terminally ill, but who are permanently incapacitated. These people could be expected to live indefinitely, though in an impaired state, if they were given food and water and minimal treatment.
7. No one has the right to judge that another’s life is not worth living. The basic right to life should not be abridged because someone decides that someone else’s quality of life is too low. If we base the right to life on quality of life standards, there is no logical place to draw the line.
8. To protect vulnerable patients, we must foster more positive attitudes towards people with serious and incapacitating illnesses and conditions. Despite the ravages of their diseases, they are still our fellow human beings and deserve our care and respect. We must also enact positive legislation that will protect vulnerable people from those who consider their lives meaningless or too costly to maintain and who would cause their deaths by withholding life-sustaining care such as food and water.

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3.1 The tone of the author can best be described as

- A. pleading.
- B. argumentative.
- C. compassionate.
- D. emphatic.

3.2 In Paragraph 3, the author finds starvation and dehydration induced euthanasia is to be “more insidious” because

- A. euthanasia is legally considered to be a criminal act.
- B. the public’s attitude toward euthanasia is becoming more positive.
- C. it often involves those who cannot protest.
- D. the patient has asked to die with dignity .

3.3 As used in Paragraph 3, what is the best synonym for insidious?

- A. mischievous
- B. treacherous
- C. seductive
- D. apparent

3.4 The main idea in Paragraph 4 is that

- A. lawyers will be unable to prosecute or defend caregivers.
- B. no comprehensive right or wrong definition of euthanasia will exist.
- C. using a subjective standard will make the decision to end an individual's life arbitrary.
- D. no boundary will exist between euthanasia and care omission.

3.5 In the final paragraph the author writes "Despite the ravages of their diseases, they are still our fellow human beings and deserve our care and respect." The main purpose of this statement is to

- A. prove a previous argument.
- B. illustrate an example.
- C. gainsay a later statement.
- D. justify an earlier statement .

(____/5)

QUESTION 4: SUMMARY

Sentences A to F below provide a detailed summary but they are not in the correct order. Number them in the correct order to form a coherent paragraph. The summary starts with first statement which is already done for you in the **EXAMPLE.**

EXAMPLE: **1 F. Barrett graduates third in his class from Harvard Law School.**

_____ A Hundreds of firms are fighting to put Barrett's name on their Letterhead.

_____ B Though he was only third in his class, Barret has one "inestimable advantage" over the others that no one wants to talk about but that matters a lot.

_____ C When selecting from these offers, Barrett rejects prestigious but lower paying jobs, like clerking for a judge or working for the Department of Justice; instead he is motivated by money, so he and Jenny will no longer have to scrounge.

_____ D Barrett is the only one of the top ten Harvard graduates this year who is not a Jewish.

_____ E The triumph comes as Barrett receives multiple job offers each one begging him to work for that firm.

(_____/5)

TOTAL: _____/30

Question: 5 ESSAY

Write an essay of not more than 250 words on ONE of the following topics. Please write down your chosen essay title on the space provided.

1. Explain several factors that could contribute to safety in your neighbourhood community.
2. What would be a good career for you when you complete your studies at the university? Explain reasons why that career will make you happy.
3. Describe if it is cheaper to grow your own food rather than to buy it.
4. Describe how you plan to manage your time during your studies at UNAM in order to pass with higher marks .
5. Explain if you are in favour or against euthanasia.

ESSAY TITLE:

ESSAY

____/20

15