# UNIVERSITI UTARA MALAYSIA
## PENDIDIKAN JARAK JAUH
### PEPERIKSAAN AKHIR
#### SEMESTER OKTOBER SESI 2000/2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KOD/NAMA KURSUS</th>
<th>BB 1022 PRE-INTERMEDIATE ENGLISH</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TARIKH</td>
<td>05 FEBRUARI 2001 (ISNIN)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MASA</td>
<td>2.30 - 4.30 PETANG (2 JAM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>TEMPAT</td>
<td>UUM, SINTOK AKADEMI TV3, KUALA LUMPUR YAYASAN TERENGGANU, TERENGGANU</td>
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**ARAHAN:**

2. Anda dikehendaki menjawab SEMUA soalan.
3. Semua jawapan hendaklah ditulis pada ruangan yang disediakan.
4. Sila gunakan PEN sahaja untuk menjawab soalan.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KEGUNAAN PEMERIKSA</th>
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<td>BAHAGIAN I</td>
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<td>BAHAGIAN II</td>
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<td>BAHAGIAN III</td>
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<td>JUMLAH</td>
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<td>PEMERIKSA</td>
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**NO. MATRIK :**

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**NO. K/P :**

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**NAMA PENSYARAH :**

**JANGAN BUKA SOALAN INI SEHINGGA DIBERI ARAHAN**

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**SULIT**
PART I : READING COMPREHENSION & VOCABULARY

Passage I

Read the passage below and answer ALL the questions that follow.

Extinction of the Dinosaurs: What Happened?

1 From the time most people are children, they have a fascination with dinosaurs, the largest land animals that ever lived. People young and old visit museums to learn about these giant creatures from the past. As they walk by the huge skeletons, footprints in stone, and ancient eggs, they wonder what happened to these incredible animals. Why did dinosaurs become extinct?

2 Scientists had many theories to explain the dinosaur extinction. They said that the climate of the Earth slowly changed. As it gradually become colder, plants died. Some dinosaurs were vegetarians, so they died, too. Another theory is that dinosaurs simply became too big to live. After all, some dinosaurs weighed as much as 77 tons. A third theory is that some small animals ate the dinosaurs’ eggs. However, many other species of plants and animals also died out at the same time as the dinosaurs. People were still uncertain because none of the theories explained these extinctions.

3 Then, in the 1980s, scientists began to discuss a new theory. Their theory is that 65 million years ago, a large comet or asteroid struck the Earth near Mexico. It struck at incredible high speed – as high as 15,000 miles per hour. It was very damaging. In fact, it created a hole 25 miles deep and 100 miles in diameter. The dirt and ash blew high up into the sky. They covered the entire planet with a thin layer of dust, which blocked the sun for many months. The temperature decreased significantly all around the Earth for along time, perhaps years. Plants died rapidly because there was not enough sunlight. Animals also died quickly because they had nothing to eat and because the climate was too cold.

4 Right now, this new theory explains the extinction of many kinds of life 65 million years ago. However, scientists need to find the exact place where the asteroid or comet struck the Earth. When they find the location, they will be able to prove that their theory is correct.

Adapted from Insights for Today by Lorraine C. Smith and Nancy Nici Mare, Heinle & Heinle Publishers, 1993.
A. The following statements are about the passage above. Mark the sentences TRUE or FALSE in the space provided.

1. Dinosaurs were the largest land animals on Earth. _____
2. There are many different theories about the dinosaur extinction. _____
3. All dinosaurs were vegetarians. _____
4. Some scientists think a large comet or asteroid struck the Earth 65 millions ago. _____
5. The comet or asteroid’s dirt increased the Earth’s temperature. _____
6. Scientists know exactly where the comet struck. _____

B. Answer the following questions about the passage.

1. Why do some people visit museums? 
   
   (1 mark)

   2a. How many theories about dinosaurs are there in the second paragraph of the passage? 
   
   (1 mark)

   b. Why do scientists think some vegetarian dinosaurs died? 
   
   (1 mark)

   c. Were people certain about these old theories? Why, or why not? 
   
   (2 marks)
3a. According to the new theory, what happened to the Earth’s temperature?

(1 mark)

b. Why did the plants and animals die?

(3 marks)

4. How can scientists prove this new theory?

(1 marks)

C. Choose the most appropriate word or expression from the passage that matches the meaning given below.

1. think about (para 1)

2. dying out (para 2)

3. unsure (para 2)

4. quickly (para 3)

(4 marks)

TOTAL /20 marks
Passage 2

Read the passage below and answer ALL the questions that follow.

Computer Related Repetitive Strain Injury

As education and recreation involves more computers, everyone needs to be aware of the hazard of Repetitive Strain Injury (RSI) to the hands and arms resulting from the use of computer keyboards and mice. It can be a serious and very painful condition that is far easier to prevent than to cure, and can occur even in young physically fit individuals. It is not uncommon for these people to have to leave computer-dependent careers as a result, or even to be permanently disabled and unable to perform tasks such as driving or dressing themselves.

Repetitive Strain Injuries occur from repeated physical movements doing damage to tendons, nerves, muscles, and other soft body tissues. Occupations ranging from meatpackers to musicians can have RSI characteristic that can result from the typical tasks they perform. The rise of computer use and flat, light-touch keyboards that permit high speed typing have resulted in an epidemic of injuries of the hands, arms, and shoulders. Use of pointing devices like mice and trackballs are also causes of RSI. The thousands of repeated keystrokes and long periods of clutching and dragging with mice slowly accumulate damages to the body. Another name for the condition is Cumulative Trauma Disorder. This can happen even more quickly as a result of typing technique and body positions that place unnecessary stress on the tendons and nerves in the hand, wrist, arms, and even the shoulders and neck. Lack of adequate rest and breaks and using excessive force almost guarantee trouble.
Correct typing technique and posture, the right equipment setup, and good work habits are much more important for prevention than ergonomic gadgets like split keyboards or wrist rests. The lady in the figure above shows proper posture at the computer. Note that the chair and keyboard are set so that her thighs and forearms are level (or sloping slightly down away from the body), and that the wrists are straight and level - not bent far down or way back. If the table is too high to permit this, you may do better to put the keyboard in your lap. Also note that the typist is sitting straight, not slouching, and does not have to stretch forward to reach the keys or read the screen. Anything that creates awkward reaches or angles in the body will create problems. Please note that even a "perfect" posture may result in problems if it is held rigidly for long periods of time: relax, move and shift positions frequently. This isn't just about your hands and arms, either: the use or misuse of your shoulders, back and neck may be even more important than what's happening down at your wrists.

Adapted from RSI Page at
http://www.engr.unl.edu/ee/eeshop/rsi.html
A. What do the following pronouns refer to? No. 0 has been done for you.

0. It (line 3) RSI (Repetitive Strain Injury)

1. These people (line 5) ______________________________________

2. They (line 11) ___________________________________________

3. This (line 16) ___________________________________________

4. Her (line 23) ___________________________________________

5. It (line 29) _____________________________________________

(5 marks)

B. Match the following words taken from the passage with the meanings. No. 0 has been done for you.

0. disabled (para 1) □ h. a large number of cases happening at the same time.

1. Typical (para 2) □ b. Much more than is necessary

2. epidemic (para 2) □ c. Bending forward

3. excessive (para 2) □ d. with shoulders bent forward

4. slouching (para 3) □ e. Having the usual qualities

5. awkward (para 3) □ f. Unusual

    g. Serious injuries

    h. Cannot use part of the body properly

    i. Behaving a way that does not seem comfortable

(5 marks)
C. Answer the following questions about the passage

1. Why is it better to prevent than cure RSI?

(1 mark)

2. How does RSI occur?

(1 mark)

3. Give 2 effective RSI prevention methods mentioned in the passage.
   a

   b

(2 marks)

4. Why does the writer state that even a "perfect" posture may result in problems?

(1 mark)

TOTAL  /15 marks
PART II: GRAMMAR

Section A: Mixed Tenses

Fill in the blanks with the correct tense of the indicated verb. No. (0) has been for you.

Angela Lee Ann Ann is now 21 years old. She has just finished her first degree in Archeology and is not sure what to do next. At the moment, she (0) is living (live) with her parents in Raub Pahang, but she (1) __________________(not want) to stay there. She (2) __________________(apply) for a job in Taiping, and (3) __________________(wait) for the answer now. She (4) __________________(not know) whether she (5) __________________(get) the job or not, but she is hoping for the best.

Three years ago, Angela (6) __________________(leave) secondary school and (7) __________________(go) to University Malaya where she (8) __________________(spend) three years. It (9) __________________(not cost) her parents much, because she (10) __________________(win) a scholarship. So now here she is at the age of 22; what (11) __________________(she do) next? At the moment, she (12) __________________(help) her parents run their sundry shop in Raub, but that is only temporary.

Yesterday Angela (13) __________________(see) an advertisement in the papers for temporary workers on archaeological site near her home. She (14) __________________(write) a letter of application in the evening. She (15) __________________(post) the letter in the morning.
Section B: Adjectives and Adverbs

Use the correct form of the words given in the bracket to fill in the blanks. No. (0) has been done for you.

Ema: I think we should go. You'll get a (0) higher (high) salary with D.G.Com. than you do now.

Alif: That's true but I might have to work (1) (hard) and (2) (long) than before, meaning we will spend (3) (little) time together.

Ema: I understand. That's is the price we have to pay in order to earn a (4) (good) standard of living.

Alif: Don't forget that K.L is the (5) (expensive) place we could possibly go to. Everything will definitely cost more than in Alor Setar.

Ema: But it's probably the (6) (good) offer you will ever get. That's the (7) (important) thing. Besides, I'll be able to find a good job (8) (easy) than here.

Alif: K.L is a (9) (big) place than Alor Setar. Life won't be so quiet.

Ema: Well, I'd like a more exciting life. It is a bit boring here sometimes. Moreover you have never really liked your job here. And things have got (10) (bad) recently.

Alif: Yes, they have. But I don't want to go unless you really want to.
Section C: Linking Words

Fill in the blanks below with the words given in the box. Some of the words could be used more than once. No. (0) has been done for you.

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Curbing year-end truancy

Truancy (0) and (1) for most parents, the idea of not attending school for reasons other than illness (2) on compassionate grounds is unthinkable, (3) they have no solution for this problem. (4) , more and more, parents are letting their children stay at home mainly because the schools do not have any set programme for those who have "completed" the syllabus.

High absenteeism at the year end is a price schools pay for our exam-oriented culture. Thus, when the last term tests are over (5) the syllabus has been "covered", many schoolchildren in Malaysia skip school with (6) without their parents' knowledge.

"Today, I went to school and from the gate it looked deserted, (7) I went home," said Adam, a secondary school student. "Going to school is a waste of time (8) I can spend my time better at home," he adds.

Home may not be the only place where absentees are found. There have been cases of secondary school students who wear their uniforms in the morning, say goodbye to their parents at the school gate, change, (9) then head for the nearest "happening" place, like gourmet coffee shops, cyber cafes, shopping complexes and video arcades.
(10) ___________ these truancies, there are those who skip school for "more justifiable" reasons such as working part-time to get pocket money, or helping the family business. Ironically, quite a number of those who are sitting for the major exams like the PMR and SPM are also habitual year-end absentees. They claim that (11) ___________ the revision week is on, they still can't study at school (12) ___________ of distraction from friends and noise.

Section D : Articles

Fill in the blanks with “a”, “an” or “the” where necessary. No. (0) has been done for you.

Flying can be risky for some

FLYING can mean taking a serious risk, especially for those with heart problems. Of all (0) ___________ passengers who die on board (1) ___________ plane, the majority do so because they did not have their physical health checked before climbing on board.

This is (2) ___________ conclusion reached by Lutz Bergau, head physician with German Lufthansa's medical staff, in (3) ___________ article in the magazine Aerztliche Praxis (Medical Practice) which is published in Munich.

The air pressure inside (4) ___________ aircraft is similar to that which you would normally find at (5) ___________ height of 2,400m above sea-level. As a result of this drop in pressure, (6) ___________ level of oxygen in the blood in healthy passengers can drop from 98% to between 91% and 92%.

The decrease is usually unnoticed and compensated for by slightly more rapid breathing and (7) ___________ increase in (8) ___________ heart rate. The danger of dying on board a plane is far greater than that of dying in a plane crash, according to the magazine.
PART III : Composition

Write an essay of **not more than 250 words** based on the information given below. You may add any necessary details.

**An Unforgettable Experience**

Afternoon – Julia - walk- on the way home – pass by night market - see stall selling piles of durian – decide to buy – while selecting the fruit – suddenly – stranger- approach- pull the handle of the handbag – realize- snatch thief – try to hold on – stranger manage to take off with the handbag – scream for help – a man at the stall-hear Julia scream for help- chase – thief try to escape – immediately throw away handbag – thief manage to get away – man return the handbag to Julia – Julia thank – more careful – in future.

You may use the following box to write down your notes/draft.
Write your composition in the space provided below.