UNIVERSITI UTARA MALAYSIA

FINAL EXAMINATION
SECOND SEMESTER 2005/2006 SESSION

CODE/COURSE : GDE3033 LANGUAGE TESTING AND EVALUATION
DATE : 15 APRIL 2006 (SATURDAY)
TIME : 2:30 – 5:00 P.M. (2½ HOURS)
VENUE : DKG 1/3

INSTRUCTIONS:
1. This exam paper contains TWO (2) sections in THREE (3) printed pages, excluding the cover page.
2. Section A contains SEVEN (7) structured questions. Section B contains TWO (2) essay questions.
3. Answer BOTH Section A and Section B on the answer sheets provided.
4. You are NOT ALLOWED to remove the exam paper from the examination hall.

MATRIC NO. : ____________________________ (in words) ____________________________ (in figures)
IDENTITY CARD NO.:

LECTURER: PROF. MADYA DR. AZLINA MURAD SANI

GROUP: A TABLE NO: ____________________________

DO NOT TURN THE PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO
SECTION A (65 marks)

INSTRUCTIONS:
Answer ALL the questions.

1 Identify THREE (3) kinds of information that item analysis can provide.  
   (6 marks)

2
   Item 1
   I ________ to go to my grandmother’s house every weekend.
   A. use  B. used  C. am used  D. was used
   
   Item 2
   Why can’t the teacher give the students extra marks for effort?
   A    B    C    D

   Item 3
   If you try hardly, ________.
   A. the test  B. you  C. pass  D. will

   (a) State the type of format used in each multiple-choice grammar item above.
   (b) The items may or may not contain faults in multiple-choice item writing. For each item, indicate if it is acceptable or faulty. For faulty items, state the type of fault and edit the item to eliminate it.
   (c) In multiple choice grammar tests, what is the advantage of the format of Items 1 and 2?  
      (10 marks)

3 Explain why reading comprehension is often made part of a multimode test.  
   (5 marks)
4  The following are problems that can occur without task moderation. Provide a brief explanation or an example to illustrate each problem.

(a)  Repetitive items
(b)  Overlong items
(c)  Interdependent items

(6 marks)

5  List TWO (2) characteristics each for the following methods of scoring writing.

(a)  Error-count method
(b)  Impression method

(8 marks)

6  (a)  State the definition and purpose of test specifications.
(b)  Describe briefly any FOUR (4) major elements in formal test specifications.

(15 marks)

7  Briefly explain how each of the following affects language testing. Provide an example to illustrate each term.

(a)  Practice effect
(b)  Coaching effect
(c)  Construct validity

(15 marks)
SECTION B (35 marks)

INSTRUCTIONS:
Answer BOTH questions.

1. Discuss the dilemma in evaluating oral ability, particularly with reference to fluency and accuracy, and suggest solutions. What other precautions should testers take when marking oral ability? (15 marks)

2. Provide an overview of the communicative approach to language testing, including the marking system and characteristics of items used to test the four language skills. (20 marks)

END OF EXAM PAPER