UNIVERSITI UTARA MALAYSIA
PENDIDIKAN JARAK JAUH

FINAL EXAMINATION
APRIL SEMESTER 2008/2009 SESSION

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<th>CODE/COURSE</th>
<th>BLE2012 ENGLISH FOR HIGHER EDUCATION</th>
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<td>DATE</td>
<td>20 AUGUST 2008 (WEDNESDAY)</td>
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<tr>
<td>MASA</td>
<td>2.30 – 5.00 PM (2 1/2 HOUR)</td>
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INSTRUCTIONS:
1. This booklet consists of FOUR (4) sections in THIRTEEN (13) printed pages excluding the cover page.
2. Answer ALL the questions.
3. All answers must be written in the question booklet.
4. Use PEN to write your answers.

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NAME OF EXAMINER: ________________________________

MATRIC NO: ____________________________
(in words) ________________
(in numbers) ________________

IDENTIFICATION CARD NO: ________________

NAME OF INSTRUCTOR: ________________________________

GROUP:  

DESK NUMBER: ________________

DO NOT OPEN THIS BOOKLET UNTIL YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO DO SO

CONFIDENTIAL
SECTION ONE (20 MARKS)

You are advised to spend no more than 30 minutes on this section.
Read the following passage and answer all the questions in PARTS A and B.

I Traditionally Borneo's best festivals revolved around fighting and
food. The fighting isn't too serious nowadays - boat races have long ago
replaced the blood sports of yesteryear. However, a contest, any
contest, is still sure to draw a crowd, even if it is only an innocent game
of kite-fighting or target shooting with blowpipes.

II And then there is food, which quite emphatically induces drink. The
rice provides both and many of Borneo's people celebrate the bounty of
the rice spirit in their rice festivals. All over this huge island, farmers
finish harvesting the golden grain sometime in April. With barns and
storehouses full, this is the season when the womenfolk begin to brew
rice wine. After a couple of weeks, the tasty liquor bubbles gently in the
big stoneware jars. Now it is time for a harvest festival by any name -
Gawai Dayak, Kaamatan or Gawai Sawu. The "farmers of the sea" in
Mukah, Sarawak, have their own hilarious harvest festival too,
celebrated at the end of the rainy season.

III Festival time is when Borneo's traditional clothing, sports, games and
rites are out in full force. Jeans and T-shirts are all very well for everyday
work, but for Gawai and Kaamatan, it is beads and bangles, brass and
silver, tall feathers and leopard pelts. It is gongs and drums and flutes
and fifes. It is drinking and feasting and dancing till dawn. Even the skull
trophies of long forgotten wars get fed with tidbits during the days of
celebration. Throughout Sabah and Sarawak, host longhouse and villages welcome every visitor as an honoured guest. All you need to know is where to go, and when.

IV In May, the cultural calendar gets going in Sabah with the Momodu Blessing, held in the first half of May at the House of Skulls in Monsopiad Village near Kota Kinabalu. Macabre reminders of the region's turbulent past, the skulls are actual enemy trophies won by the folk hero Monsopiad in the old days of inter-tribal warfare. The spirits of the skulls are appeased with rites and feasts conducted by Kadazandusun priestesses, known as bobohizan.

V Sabah Festival, held in the second half of May, brings more than 30 ethnic communities from every nook and corner of the state. They bring their gongs, their dances and flamboyance to town for all to see in the season of plenty that follows a good harvest. The Sabah Festival showcases the state's colourful cultural heritage in a comfortable, accessible location- Malaysia's newest city, the elegant state capital of Kota Kinabalu.

VI Further south in Sarawak, Gawai Tourism Night, held around the 20th of May at Sarawak Cultural Village, is a spectacular curtain-raiser for the great festival of Gawai Dayak. For this event, indigenous dancers and musicians present a unique dance-drama of the state's history, culture and folkways.
VII Traditional Kadazandusun rites and customs mark the Pesta Kaamatan, Sabah’s month-long thanksgiving celebration for a bountiful harvest. In outlying districts, the fun starts straight after the harvest, but it gathers momentum to culminate at the state-level Pesta Kaamatan held outside of Kota Kinabalu in Penampang around the end of May. On of the highlights of Kaamatan is the eagerly awaited election of Unduk Ngadau, the Harvest Queen. Representatives of Sabah’s main ethnic groups vie for this title named in honour of the legendary maiden whose sacrifice, Kadazandusun believe, gave rise to mankind. She is chosen on the night of Kaamatan, amidst fun and revelry for all comers.

VIII Officially, Gawai Dayak is celebrated on June 1 when exuberant processions of traditionally costumed revellers make their way through the streets of Sarawak’s main towns. But in real life, the celebration of thanksgiving for a good rice harvest takes up most of the month of June. Longhouses and villages of the various Dayak communities hold “open house” in this month of holidays between the harvest and the next planting. Gawai is the time for dancing, feasting and merrymaking with, of course, the famous rice wine (tuak or borak).

Adapted from *Borneo Bacchanals* by Heidi Munan, Going Places, May 2000
PART A (10 marks)

1. What are two traditional characteristics of best festivals in Borneo?
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   (2 marks)

2. What is Momodu Blessing?
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   (2 marks)

3. According to the tradition, what do skulls symbolise?
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   (2 marks)

4. What is the best occasion to get easily acquainted with the culture of Sabah?
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   (2 marks)

5. What is the climax of the celebrations of the Pesta Kaamatan?
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   (2 marks)

(_______________ / 10 marks)
PART B (5 MARKS)

Circle the answer that contains the word or words similar in meaning to the word or words found in the passage

1. revolved (Paragraph 1, line 1)
   A. had as the main interests
   B. moved around in a circle
   C. pivoted around a central point
   D. treated as the most important criteria

2. appeased (Paragraph 4, Line 29)
   A. pacified
   B. subdued
   C. tamed
   D. tranquillized

3. nook and corner (Paragraph 5, Line 31)
   A. longhouses
   B. part
   C. tribe
   D. village

4. spectacular (Paragraph 6, Line 37)
   A. breathtaking
   B. ostentatious
   C. sensational
   D. showy

5. exuberant (Paragraph 8, Line 51)
   A. animated
   B. luxuriant
   C. lush
   D. profuse

(___________ / 10 marks)

Total score for SECTION ONE: _______/20 marks
SECTION TWO (20 MARKS)
You are advised to spend not more than **30 minutes** on this section

PART A (10 MARKS)
Fill in the blanks with the appropriate form of the verbs.

It was customary in India many years ago that when a woman got married, she would be (1)__________ (**present**) with a set of brass pots made from an alloy of copper and zinc. These were called "seer" which is Tamil for dowry (wedding trousseau). An Indian woman was expected to be a skilled cook to feed her family and these pots symbolized her role.

"The pots were given by the girl's parents," says Andal Krishnan, a 56 year old corporate trainer who (2)__________ (**inherit**) a range of these brass pots that (3)__________ (**be**) between 100 and 150 years old.

"They (4)__________ (**give**) to my 78 year old mother by her mother. So these pots actually traveled by ship from a small village in Tamil Nadu in India to Singapore where my mother relocated when she got married. My grandmother was given these pots by her grand aunt so they date back more than a century."

Andal says the size of the pots (5)__________ (**signify**) the number of mouths a woman had to feed. "When a couple is just married, the woman would only (6)__________ (**use**) the smallest pot to cook with and as her family (7)__________ (**grow**), so too does the size of the pot. Usually she is given a range of them upon her marriage."
The only pot that Andal still uses is the largest brass one. This comes in useful when cooking the sweet Indian delicacy for Indian festivals like Ponggal and Tamil New Year. She found that (8)___________ (use) this type of pot prevents the rice from sticking. Also because it cannot be used over the modern gas stove, it is (9)___________ (place) over firewood that emits a warm glow of heat, which is ideal for (10)___________ (stir) the sweet rice. The rest of her collection is used as decorative pieces to keep potted plants around the Krishnan home.

And what are her plans for her precious brass collection? “I intend to pass on these treasures to my son and daughters. My daughter resides in Australia and so these pots would have travelled from India to Singapore to Malaysia and to Australia and then to who knows where in the future.”

(Adapted from Passing on family treasures, The Star Sunday, Jan 21, 2007)

(___________ /10 marks)

PART B (5 MARKS)
In the following passage, fill in the infinitive form with or without to or the –ing form

Many of us were not exposed to financial planning when we were young. Nonetheless (1)___________ (teach) children financial management will help them (2)___________ (handle) money smartly, be more financially independent and more responsible. Between the ages of eleven to fifteen, children are big enough (3)___________ (join) in family budget meetings. Start (4)___________ (get) goals that involve money, such as buying a hi-fi set by the end of the year to bigger goals like funds for college. Discuss various ways (5)___________ (attain) the goals.

(Adapted from Guidebook to better personal finance)

(___________ / 5 marks)
PART C (5 MARKS)
Fill in the blanks with 'a', 'an', 'the' or the Ø where necessary.

During a recent interview one of the coaches said that "(1) _______ mistake is another way of doing things." Another said, "If I have (2) ______ art form of leadership, it is to make as many mistakes as quickly as I can in order to learn." One coach recalled Harry Truman's famous maxim: "Whenever I make a bum decision, I just go out and make another one."

Karl Wallenda, (3) _______ great tightrope aerialist, whose life was at stake each time he walked the tightrope, fell to his death in 1978. His wife, also an aerialist, discussed that fateful San Juan's walk, "perhaps his most dangerous." She recalled, "All Karl thought about for three straight months prior to it was falling. It was (4) _______ first time he'd ever thought about that and it seemed to me that he put all his energy into not falling rather than walking the tightrope."

What did we learn from this interview with Mrs Wallenda? We learnt that when Karl Wallenda poured his (5) _______ energies into not falling rather than walking the tightrope, he was virtually destined to fall.


(___________ / 5 marks)

Total score for SECTION TWO: ______ /20 marks
SECTION THREE (20 MARKS)

You are advised to spend not more than 30 minutes on this question.

Read the following passage carefully and summarize it in a paragraph of not more than 100 words, commenting on Annie Yong Lennan's success.

You could say that Annie Yong Lennan has always been in love with houses, whether to do them up as an interior designer or to turn one into a restaurant. And she has successfully achieved the latter in Kafe Bukit Ceylon in Kuala Lumpur.

It's located in an old bungalow in a serene, green setting, tucked away behind some high-rises and a hotel in a busy part of the city. The bungalow, built in the 1960's was ideal. There was another reason: she had got married – to a New Zealander. "Graeme (Lennan) worked for offshore oil in Thailand as chief officer in a fire-fighting boat. He came to Malaysia and we had to make a choice for the relationship to work." So the restaurant business served as an anchor for both of them.

Annie also knew what it takes for a restaurant to work. "It has to be three things: the food must be good, the service must be there and atmosphere must be right. And another thing: if you want to open a restaurant, can you cook?"

She had got it all down. But it was a very traumatic first year when kitchen staff did not turn up and they ran out of supplies sometimes. She worked everyday for seven days a week. "After the first year I learnt not to be emotionally attached to my staff." She had been giving them holiday trips, without any appreciation from them. "Now I only reward those who work hard."

She had always gravitated to cafes in the US during her tour managing days. "I remember a place called Robson Place in Vancouver which had wonderful shops selling lovely gifts and antiques. There were a lot of cafes there as well. I went into a deli and had my first latte experience there." That was more than 20 years ago.

Annie always had a love for old things and she saw the potential of bringing in restored "antiques furniture" in the range of 60 years upwards. "I traveled to India, Thailand and Burma. I was the first one to bring in Indian furniture as I had a great
Annie always had a love for old things and she saw the potential of bringing in restored "antiques furniture" in the range of 60 years upwards. "I traveled to India, Thailand and Burma. I was the first one to bring in Indian furniture as I had a great contact there." She left Silk road and opened Purser's Choice with some partners, then she started Kafe Ceylon Hill 1997.

Write your summary here.

(No. of words: ____________)

| Content : _______ / 10 marks |
| Language : _______ / 10 marks |
| Coherence : _______ / 5 marks |

Total score for SECTION THREE: _____/20 marks
SECTION FOUR (40 MARKS)
You are advised to spend not more than 60 minutes on this section.

Choose ONE of the topics below and write an argumentative essay of about 250 words. You are required to write TWO pro-arguments and ONE counterargument to persuade your readers. Before you begin your essay, state the following:

a. The specific audience/readers of your essay (1 mark)
b. The purpose of your essay (2 marks)

Essay topics:
1. Tourism does not benefit the nation.
2. Sports help to generate income for a country.
3. Internet makes our everyday living a pleasant one.

State your audience:

State your purpose:

Title:
Total score for SECTION FOUR: _____/40 marks

END OF QUESTION PAPER