

ALLAMA IQBAL OPEN UNIVERSITY, ISLAMABAD
(Department of English Language & Applied Linguistics)

WARNING

1. **PLAGIARISM OR HIRING OF GHOST WRITER(S) FOR SOLVING THE ASSIGNMENT(S) WILL DEBAR THE STUDENT FROM AWARD OF DEGREE/CERTIFICATE, IF FOUND AT ANY STAGE.**
2. **SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS BORROWED OR STOLEN FROM OTHER(S) AS ONE'S OWN WILL BE PENALIZED AS DEFINED IN "AIOU PLAGIARISM POLICY".**

Course: Compulsory English-I (386)

Level: Intermediate

Semester: Spring, 2014

Total Marks: 100

Pass Marks: 40

ASSIGNMENT No. 1

(Units: 1-5)

- Q.1 a) What are study skills? Enlist at least ten techniques which you find useful in developing comprehension and studying effectively. Follow the example given below. (10)

Example: I often review and revise whatever I have learnt so that I can retrieve it later on.

- b) Setting a clear and achievable goal, which is not only realistic and feasible but flexible and measurable as well, serves as an important motivational force, think about the goals which you have set in your life and mention any five of them. Follow the example given below. (5)

Example: The most important goal of my life is to serve my country with an utmost sense of devotion and commitment.

- Q.2 Explain the difference between formal and informal greetings. Suppose you have to greet the following people, how would you greet each of them? Keep in mind whether the situation is formal or informal in nature. (10)

- i. A person you do not know
- ii. A close acquaintance
- iii. The head of your educational institution
- iv. A very intimate friend
- v. Your medical consultant.....

Q.3 a) In **Unit 2**, you read about the different types of questions which we normally ask to seek information regarding the time, reason, place and manner of an event's occurrence, fill in the gaps in the following examples with the correct questioning form. (5)

- i. _____ were you disturbed the last night.
- ii. _____ will rescue the nation from the evil clutches of ignorance and poverty?
- iii. _____ did you decide to come back to Pakistan?
- iv. _____ were the people protesting against the government.
- v. _____ will we manage to establish a new economic system?

b) How would you introduce your elder brother to your friends? Write a brief and comprehensive paragraph highlighting all the important personality traits and attributes of your brother. You can add details regarding his educational qualification, professional experience and his hobbies as well. Your paragraph should be both cohesive and coherent. (10)

Q.4 In **Unit 3**, you read how to guess the meaning of difficult words through context. The following instances contain some highlighted words the meaning of which we might not know but they are related to the words which almost all of us know. Read these examples two or three times and see if you can guess the meaning of those words and use them into sentences of your own. (10)

- i. **Alzheimer's disease** is a common problem in old age, but many old people continue to have healthy minds.
- ii. The driver **swerved** to miss the little boy who stepped out into the road.
- iii. The **deluge**, a flood of rain, threatened to drown the little town.
- iv. A large family seems to have an **infinite** amount of laundry to do. Similarly, there are always an endless number of dishes to wash.
- v. **Junk mail** is a huge cause of pollution.

Q.5 In **Unit 3**, you learnt some punctuation rules, for example, a simple sentence begins with a capital letter and ends with a full stop. Punctuate the following passage while keeping in mind the guidelines given in Unit 3. (10)

Passage

Changes in our society in recent years have weakened family life first of all today's mothers spend less time with their children since they are working to meet the needs of family another change is that families no longer eat together then television has taken the place of family conversation and togetherness in the past when family meals were taken together family members would have a chance to

talk to each other in a leisurely manner but now families prefer to watch television than talking to each other many families even have multiple television sets which they watch in separate rooms clearly the modern life is a great challenge to family life.

Q.6 In **Unit 4**, you learnt how to describe places in order to provide information about them. These descriptions can be found in geography books, tourists guide and advertisements, etc. While keeping in mind the guidelines given in the said unit, describe any place which you have visited recently in terms of its location, physical appearance and unique characteristic features. (10)

Q.7 As defined in **Unit 4**, an antonym is the opposite of a word, for example, the antonym of **big** is **small**, or the antonym of **tall** is **short**. Give the correct antonyms in the following cases and use them into sentences of your own. (10)

- i. Patriot
- ii. Rival
- iii. Ignorance
- iv. Solitude.....
- v. Devil.....

Q.8 Read the paragraph carefully and then answer the questions given at the end. (10)

If there were only one aspect of language that students could study (or that educators could teach), it would invariably be reading comprehension. But what makes it so special? Why is it so revered by both students and teachers alike? To answer these questions, it helps to know just what reading comprehension is. Reading comprehension is defined as the level of understanding of a text. This understanding comes from the interaction between the words that are written and how they trigger knowledge outside the text. Humans are thought to have a set reserve, an established threshold for attention and absorption of information, commonly referred to as processing capacity. This being the case, it is generally believed that proficient reading depends on the ability to recognize words quickly and effortlessly. If word recognition is difficult, students use too much of their processing capacity to read individual words, which interferes with their ability to comprehend what is read.

Questions:

- i. Identify the topic sentence in the paragraph.
- ii. What is the central idea of the passage?
- iii. Why is reading held in high esteem by teachers and students alike?

- iv. What does the term 'processing capacity' stand for?
- v. Give a suitable title to the paragraph.

Q.9 What expressions and reasons would you use to refuse permission in the following cases? (10)

- i. Your friend wants to lend your camera for one day.
- ii. A colleague of yours needs your car to drive to his hometown this weekend.
- iii. Your younger brother is in need of money and requests you to lend him Rs. 5000 only.
- iv. Your cousin wants to use your laptop to complete her presentation.
- v. Your class fellow needs your assignment to seek guidelines for her project.

ASSIGNMENT No. 2

(Units: 6-9)

Total Marks: 100

Pass Marks: 40

- Q.1 In **Unit 6** of your course book, you must have studied that an apology is often followed by an excuse which is intended to show that what we have done wrong was not really our fault, or at least, we did not mean to upset someone. Rewrite the following statements by giving a suitable excuse as well as an appropriate linguistic expression for apology. Follow the under mentioned example for guidance. (10)

Example: I am so sorry that I could not attend your party, since I was out of town.

- i. I was unable to reach my office in time,
 - ii. I could not attend the lecture,
 - iii. I forgot to wish my friend on his birthday,.....
 - iv. I could not come up to your expectations,.....
 - v. I cannot lend you Rs. 10,000 at the moment,
 - vi. I would not be able to resolve the issue,.....
 - vii. I cannot drive you to the town,.....
 - viii. I may not be able to attend the wedding ceremony,
 - ix. I do not believe in your lame excuses,
 - x. I was unable to help you in the hour of need,.....
- Q.2 Write a paragraph based on the idea that ‘Modern technology has destroyed the soul of humanity.’ The paragraph should possess all the essential characteristic features of a good piece of writing like cohesion, coherence, unity of thought, clarity and conciseness. (10)
- Q.3 Read the following paragraph and identify the **topic sentence**, the **concluding sentence** and the **supporting details**. (10)

A snow leopard roars in the high mountains of Asia. A black rhinoceros gallops across the plains of Africa. A grizzly bear hunts for fish in a North American river. A mother blue whale and her calf glide through the deep waters of the ocean. All of these animals share the Earth with us. They fascinate us with their beauty, their speed. We love observing their behavior, and learning more about their habits. But just loving them is not enough. All of these animals are endangered. Many of them have died, and without special care, they may one day disappear from the Earth. Why is it important to care for animals like these? One reason is to protect the

balance of life on Earth. Another person is the beauty of the animals themselves. Each species of animal is special. Once it is gone, it is gone forever. What can you do to help endangered animals? Learn as much as you can about them. The more you know, the more you can help. Make an effort to support zoos and wildlife groups. You can also be a smart shopper and never buy a pet that has been raised in the wilderness. When we mention any endangered wild animals, let's hope that we never again have to say, "Gone forever."

Q.4 Fill in the blanks by using the appropriate cohesive linkers from the list. (10)

Because, but, besides, since, such as, while, therefore, and.

- i. I like citrus fruits _____ oranges and lemon.
- ii. She does not go to school by bike _____ her house is not far from school.
- iii. The little girl is watching TV _____ her mother is preparing meal.
- iv. My brother cannot ride a horse _____ he can drive a car.
- v. Ali has been working on his project _____ morning.
- vi. I would like to be a doctor _____ the doctor helps the sick.
- vii. Time _____ tide wait for none.
- viii. Time I could prepare well for my exam _____ I was unable to get good marks.
- ix. I have to act upon your advice _____ there is no other option.
- x. _____ illiteracy, Pakistan is facing the menace of drugs.

Q.5 Write a narrative paragraph based on any of your childhood memory which might be threatening, exciting, humiliating or shocking in nature which you often recall during your free time. (10)

Q.6 What are your future aims and objectives regarding the choice of a profession? Irrespective of your choice of career, write one sentence for each of the professions given below by expressing a suitable reason for choosing that particular career. (10)

- i. A doctor:.....
- ii. A pilot:.....
- iii. An actor:.....
- iv. An engineer:
- v. A civil servant:
- vi. A dress designer:
- vii. A politician:.....
- viii. A soldier:

- ix. A psychiatrist:
- x. A lawyer:

Q.7 The **Section C** of **Unit 8** gives you a detailed idea about how to write a descriptive paragraph and what should be the essential component features of a good piece of descriptive writing. By following the guidelines given in the said unit, write a descriptive paragraph based on a wedding ceremony which you have recently attended. (10)

Q.8 The **Unit 8** of your course book deals with the idea of expressing agreement and disagreement. Read the unit carefully and then express either agreement or disagreement on the following issues. (10)

- i. The government should control sectarian violence.
- ii. Girls should not be sent to coeducation institutes.
- iii. Worst democracy is better than best dictatorship.
- iv. Pakistan should control the increasing rate of inflation.
- v. We need to prefer nationalism to provincialism.

Q.9 You must be familiar with the idea of **anticipation** as presented in **Unit 8** of your textbook. The readers are constantly involved in the process of meaning making while reading a certain piece of text, this is termed as **anticipating** or **predicting** what comes next. Read the given newspapers headlines and then anticipate or predict the rest of the story line in five sentences each. (20)

- i. Evidence of Dengue fever found in Islamabad
- ii. Children lack parks and museums
- iii. Corruption at its full swing
- iv. Pakistan becoming a democratic state