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UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

DEPARTMENT OF ADULT EDUCATION

PART-TIME CERTIFICATE IN ADULT EDUCATION YEAR 2

FINAL EXAMINATION, MAY 2009

TITLE OF PAPER : PROFESSIONAL ENGLISH II

COURSE CODE : CAE 206

TIME ALLOWED : TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTION : ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS.

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THE INVIGILATOR.**

SECTION A**QUESTION 1**

Read the passage and answer the questions.

The Dreamers and the Doers

1 “Earth is the cradle of the mind, but one cannot live in the cradle forever.” K.E. Tsiolkovsky

2 Very little that is worthwhile is ever achieved without dreams. But to be fruitful, dreams must be controlled
3 by reason and founded on reality. Though men have speculated about space travel for more than 2000
4 years, it was not until the beginning of the 17th century that those speculations had any scientific basis. In
5 1609 Galileo Galilei turned the newly invented telescope upon the heavens, and became the first of all men
6 to see (however dimly through the chromatic haze of his crude lenses) that there were worlds beyond the
7 earth. He saw the sharp-edged shadows of great mountains arranged across the lonely lunar plains. He
8 glimpsed, but could not understand, the enigma of Saturn’s rings. He saw Venus as a tiny, dazzling
9 crescent, waxing and waning like a distant moon. Above all, he discovered four sparks of light orbiting the
10 planet Jupiter, and so destroyed forever the belief that all the heavenly bodies revolved around the earth.
11 Indeed, if Jupiter possessed four satellites while the earth had but one, perhaps man was not as important
12 in the celestial scheme as he had fondly imagined.

13 Within a century, the closed and tidy medieval cosmos, which contained only Heaven, Earth and Hell like
14 a three-storey building, had vanished into oblivion. We find perhaps its last traces in Paradise Lost (1667),
15 and even there it is obvious that Milton is well aware of the new astronomy and the vast scale of the real
16 universe. Only a single lifetime earlier, Shakespear’s “Doubt thou that the stars are fire,/Doubt thou that
17 the Sun doth move” had continued to pay tribute to the idea of a fixed central earth and a revolving heaven.
18 Between these two masters of the English language lies the Great Divide which we call the Copernican
19 Revolution.

20 For it was the Polish astronomer Nicholas Copernicus who in the 15th century paved the way for the
21 modern picture of the universe by publishing a theory of the solar system in which the sun is the central
22 body and the earth is merely one of the planets revolving around it. Two other scientists established this
23 theory beyond dispute. First in the 17th century Johannes Kepler, after years of patient calculation and
24 endless detours down mathematical blind alleys, discovered the laws that govern the movements of the
25 planets, our space probes. The simplest and most surprising of Kepler’s three laws was the first: planets
26 do not as everyone, including Copernicus, had supposed travel around the sun in perfect circles. They
27 follow that considerably more complex curve, the ellipse.

28 Then in the next generation came the great Newton, banishing the last traces of metaphysics from the

29 heavens, and turning the solar system into one vast machine whose every movement is explained by a single
 30 all-embracing law - the Law of Universal Gravitation. The celestial matter of the heavenly bodies and the
 31 gross matter of this earth obey the same rules: no longer could any distinction be drawn between them.
 32 And so a strange paradox occurred: as the new telescopes multiplied the scale of the universe beyond all
 33 the dreams of earlier ages, the new knowledge made this vastly expanded universe understandable and
 34 even familiar. Astronomy ceased to belong to the theologians and became a sort of extension of
 35 geography. (From Man and Space, by Arthur C. Clarke)

A. Meaning in Context

1. Explain each expression as it is used in the passage.

- a) speculated (l.3)
- b) scientific basis (l. 4)
- c) enigma (l.8)
- d) the celestial scheme (ll.11-12)
- e) fondly (l.12)
- f) pay tribute (l.17)
- g) beyond dispute (l. 23)
- h) blind alleys (l. 24)
- i) space probes (l. 25)
- j) paradox (l.32)

[10 marks]

2. Give the meaning of each sentence in your own words. Each sentence is underlined in the passage.

- a) To be fruitful, dreams must be controlled by reason and founded on reality.
- b) Copernicus paved the way for the modern picture of the universe by publishing a theory of the solar system.
- c) Newton turned the solar system into one vast machine whose every movement is explained by a single all-embracing law.
- d) The new telescopes multiplied the scale of the universe beyond all the dreams of earlier ages.
- e) Astronomy ceased to belong to the theologians and became a sort of extension of geography.

[5 marks]

B. In each case choose the best answer.

1. From the passage we can say that the writer

- A approves of all dreams.
- B disapproves of all dreams.
- C approves of dreams based on reason and reality.
- D approves only of reason and reality.

2. According to the passage, which of these statements is true?
- A Scientific speculation about space began only 2000 years ago.
 - B Scientific speculation about space began over 2000 years ago.
 - C Scientific speculation about space began in the 17th century.
 - D Scientific speculation about space began only recently.
3. Galileo Galilei's greatest discovery was
- A the loney lunar plains.
 - B Saturn's rings.
 - C the planet Jupiter.
 - D that the heavenly bodies do not all revolve around the earth.
4. In line 11,12 "the celestial scheme" refers to
- A the system of ideas about Heaven.
 - B God's plan for man in the universe.
 - C Heaven.
 - D the systematic arrangement of the heavenly bodies.
5. In the Middle Ages people believed that the universe
- A consisted of Heaven, Earth and Hell, arranged in that descending order.
 - B was limitless.
 - C was closed and tidy.
 - D had vanished into oblivion.
6. From the quotation in the second paragraph we can deduce that Shakespeare
- A doubted that the stars were fire.
 - B doubted that the sun moved.
 - C thought that the heavens were fixed.
 - D believed that Earth was the centre of the universe.
7. Which of these statements is false?
- A The Copernican Revolution was named after Nicholas Copermicus.
 - B The Copernican Revolution was firmly established in the 17th century.
 - C The Copernican Revolution placed the sun as the Centre of the solar system.
 - D The Copernican Revolution was concluded during Shakespeare's lifetime.

8. Johannes Kepler discovered that planets

- A control the movements of our space probes.
- B move around the sun in an ellipse.
- C move around the sun in a perfect circle.
- D do not move around the sun.

9. Newton established that

- A the Law of Universal Gravitation affects heavenly matter and earthly matter in the same way.
- B metaphysics has a place in astronomy.
- C the solar system is a big machine.
- D there are no differences between heavenly bodies and the earth.

10. We may infer from the passage that astronomy was once

- A a paradox.
- B governed by religious beliefs.
- C geography on a bigger scale.
- D beyond the dreams of man.

[10 marks]

C. Answer the questions in your own words.

1. Of what relevance is the opening quotation by K.E. Tsiolkovsky to the passage as a whole?
2. What was Galileo Galilei's greatest contribution to astronomy?
3. What was the importance of the Copernican Revolution in the study of astronomy?
4. How did Johannes Kepler establish Copernicus' theory of the solar system.
5. Explain the "strange paradox" mentioned in the last paragraph.

[5 marks]

[Total: 30 marks]

SECTION B

QUESTION 2

Complete the following sentences with the correct preposition from the bracket.

1. We must cut down _____ the money we spend each week. (from; on; to; through)
2. Sipho suddenly came out _____ a very strange statement. (on; in; with; for)
3. I must check up _____ the date of the examination. (with; for; on; at)
4. If you have been absent you must catch up _____ the work you missed. (with; in; on; for)
5. We were instructed to keep away _____ the fire. (at; to; in; from).
6. In general, the supply of vegetables does keep up _____ the demand in summer. (with; on; at; for).
7. Most of us are looking forward _____ the week end (at; to; for; in)
8. Do not let the idea that success is automatic run away _____ you. (with; to; for; at)
9. Stand up _____ the ideas you believe in. (for; with; on; to).
10. He walked out _____ his wife and left her penniless. (for; with; at; on) [10]

QUESTION 3

Write only the letter of the correct answer. Do not write complete sentences.

1. In which sentence does "taken in" mean "deceived"?
 - a) The stray dog was taken in by the kind woman.
 - b) The gullible boy was taken in by the trickster.
 - c) The criminal was taken in by the policeman.
 - d) The dress was taken in at the seams.
 - e) The washing must be taken in before it rains.

2. In which sentence does "took off" mean "imitated"?
- a) I took off my hat to him.
 - b) John watched his friend swimming, then took off his clothes and imitated him.
 - c) In the school concert, Peter took off one of the teachers.
 - d) The aeroplane took off at dawn.
 - e) Tom took his little brother off the bicycle.
3. In which sentence does "stand to" mean "not desert"?
- a) Whoever loses I stand to win.
 - b) The soldiers must stand to attention.
 - c) The soldiers must stand to their guns.
 - d) Peter will stand to lose E10,00.
 - e) I am sure he will stand to his promise.
4. In which sentence does "see" mean "understand"?
- a) I shall soon see my friend.
 - b) Do you see what I mean?
 - c) Can you see the moon?
 - d) Will you see her tomorrow?
 - e) I shall see what I can do.
5. In which sentence does "fall in with" mean "agree to"?
- a) If you are not careful you will fall in with a splash.
 - b) Mr. Zwane may fall in with our plan if we ask him.
 - c) The soldiers were asked to fall in with speed.
 - d) His mother was afraid Michael would fall in.
 - e) The two groups will fall in with each other at the dance.
6. In which sentence does "saw through" mean "was not deceived by"?
- a) I saw him through the window.
 - b) I soon saw through him when he revealed his plans.
 - c) I shall tell the thief what I saw through the key hole.
 - d) The carpenter can saw through that wood.
 - e) He saw through the periscope.

7. In which sentence does "take back" mean "retract"?
- a) Edith decided to take back the rice which was full of stones.
 - b) Tom was told to take back his essay and re-write it.
 - c) The minister claimed he had been insulted and demanded that Mr. Bruce should take back his words.
 - d) Mr. White told his wife to take back the dress as it was too expensive.
8. In which sentence does "draw out" mean "extract"?
- a) Please draw out the plans for the new buildings.
 - b) Mr. Gagu will draw out his speech for at least an hour.
 - c) The artist said that it is better to draw out in the sun.
 - d) The dentist will draw out the aching tooth.
 - e) You must draw out of the traffic jam.
9. In which sentence does "got over" mean "recovered from"?
- a) The boy got over the wall.
 - b) He soon got the sack over his shoulder.
 - c) The boy got over his illness.
 - d) It is a pity you couldn't have got over to see us.
 - e) He got over the ditch only to be faced with a high wall.
10. In which sentence does "see" mean "escort"?
- a) The inspector told the principal that he had come to see the school.
 - b) Do you see the advantage of going to university?
 - c) Musa's father was there to see him off to school.
 - d) The young man asked the girl if he could see her home.
 - e) The young man asked the girl if he could see her again.