ENG101 English Comprehension

Mid Term Examination - April 2003
Session -1

TIME ALLOWED: 120 Minutes

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions given at the end.
2. Answer all questions.
3. P1 is MCQ's. You can tick the correct answer. You can view its parts as P1.1, P1.2, P1.3, P1.4, P1.5 and P1.6.
4. Your paper is in two parts. The time allowed for the **first part** is **75 minutes**. Make sure that you finish the first part within the given time. After that you should start **Part II** for which you have **45 minutes**. Thus the total time for your paper is two hours.
5. Part 1 has five questions which you can see as P1, P2, P3, P4, and P5. Part II has 6 exercises to fill in the blanks. You might see the questions of Part I in a random form. You can guess them by recognizing P1, P2, P3, P4, and P5.

Total Questions 11

PART - I

Note: You will be given a printed paper which will have the passage about which these questions are asked.

P1.1

What time of year was it in this story?

- spring
- fall
- summer
- winter

P1.2

At what time of day did Robin cross the river?

- morning
- late afternoon
- midday
- night

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P1.3

The stockings that Robin wore were obviously:

- o well worn
- o handsome
- o very expensive
- o much too big

P1.4

From the way he looked, it was evident that Robin was

- o a wealthy merchant's son
- o a soldier
- o a country boy
- o a foreigner

P1.5

Robin was apparently going to the town:

- o to buy new clothes
- o for the first time in several years
- o for the first time
- o on one of his regular trips there

P1.6

How far had Robin travelled?

- o from a nearby town
- o over thirty miles
- o from Madrid
- o from London

P.2

Look at the text again and find out what the words in bold typeface refer to. **Marks [10]**

An example is given below:

He was wearing

Ans. The boy /Robin

a. at **that** unusual hour
b. he took a very accurate survey
c. but **which** had seen many winters before this one
d. which in its better days had perhaps sheltered
e. were nature's gift

P.3.

Give brief answers to the following questions. (Your answer to each question should not be more than two lines)

a. How did Robin appear as he walked into town? **[3]**
b. What sort of person do you think Robin was? **[4]**
c. Who had come with Robin, apart from the ferryman? **[3]**

P.4 Give a suitable title to the passage. **[3]**

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P.5 Choose the appropriate form of the words to complete the sentences. **[6]**

Reliably, rely on, reliable, reliability

a. Computers are …… machines.

b. If you don't know the meaning of a computer term, you cannot always…… an all-purpose dictionary for the answer.

c. Computers can do mathematical operations quickly and……

PART - II

TIME ALLOWED 45 MINUTES MAXIMUM MARKS 40

Read the passages a couple of times before you attempt to fill the gaps with appropriate words.

This is a text about computers from an old book on computers. Trust your knowledge of the history of Computers and fill in the blanks. The blanks have been numbered. When you type your answer mention the exercise number first and then the number of the blank you are writing your answer of. The first letter of the word with which you have to fill the blanks is given in every blank for your convenience.

What is a computer?

EXERCISE 1

A computer is a **m**___1_____with an intricate network **o**___2___ electronic circuits **t**__3__-operate switches or magnetize tiny metal cores. The switches, **l**__4___the cores, are capable _ **o**_5__being in one of two possible states, that is, **o**__6___or of, magnetized or demagnetized. The machine is **c**___7____ of storing and manipulating numbers, letters, and characters. The basic **i**____8__ of a computer is that we can make the machine do **w**__9__we want by inputting signals that turn certain **s**___10_____on and turn others off, or that **m**___11_____or do not magnetize the ___12___.

EXERCISE 2

The basic job of computers is the processing of information. For this reason, **c**_____1___can be defined as devices which accept **i**____2____in the form of instructions **c**_____3___ a program and characters called data, **p**____4__ mathematical and / or logical operations **o**___5__the information, and then supply results **o**____6_ these **o**_____7_. The program, or part of **i**___**8**__**,**which tells the **c**____9___what to do and the data, which provide the information **n**___10__ to solve _ **t**___11__ problem, are kept _**i**_____12_ the computer in a place called memory.

EXERCISE 3

Computers are thought **t**___1 have many remarkable powers. However, most **c**_____2, whether large _ **o**____3_ small have three basic capabilities. First, computers _**h**___4_ circuits of performing arithmetic operations, such as: addition,

subtraction, **d**_____5_, multiplication and exponentiation. Second, computers have a **m**_____6_of communicating with the user. After all, if we couldn't feed information **i**___7__and get results back, **t**____8____machines wouldn't be **o**__9____much use. However, **c**____10__ computers (commonly minicomputers and microcomputers) are used _**t**__11__control directly _ **t**_____12__ such as robots, aircraft's navigation systems, medical instruments, etc.

EXERCISE 4

Some of the **m**____1__ common methods _ **o**___2__inputting information are to **u**__3__ punched cards, magnetic tape, disks **a**__4__ terminals. The computer's input **d**___5___ (which might be a card reader, a tape drive or disk drive, depending on the medium used in putting information) reads the information **i**__6__ the computer. For outputting **i**___7___, two common devices _ **u**__8__are a printer which _ **p**__9____ the new information on _ **p**___10__, or a CRT display _ **s**__11___ which shows the results _**o**____12___a TV-like screen.

EXERCISE 5

Third, computers _ **h**__1__ circuits, which **c**___2__ make decisions. The kinds of **d**___3___which computer circuits can make are not **o**__4__ the type: 'Who would win a war between _ **t**___5__ countries?' or 'Who is the richest person in the **w**____6__?' Unfortunately, the computer can only **d**____7___ three things, namely: Is one number less than another? Are_ **t**__8__numbers equal? And, is one number greater than _**a**_____9___?

EXERCISE 6

A _ **c**____1_____ can solve a series of **p**____2_ and make hundreds, even thousands, of logical decisions without **b**___3___ tired or bored. It can **f**__4____ the solution to a problem in a fraction of the _ **t**___5__ it takes a human being to **d**___6___the job. A computer can replace _ **p**____7_ in dull, routine tasks, _ **b**__8_ it has no originality; it works according to the instructions given to it and _ **c**__9___ exercise any value judgments. There are times when a _ **c**___10___seems to operate like a _**m**____11____ 'brain', but its achievements are **l**____12____ by the minds of human beings. A computer cannot do anything unless a **p**_____13__ tells it what to do and gives__**i**__14___the appropriate **i**_____15_____; but because electric pulses can move at the _**s**_____16_of light, a computer can carry out vast _ **n**___**17**___of arithmetic-logical operations _ **a**____18___ instantaneously. A person can do _ **e**___19____a computer can _ **d**__20__, but in many cases **t**___21___ person would be dead long **_b**___**22**___ the job was finished.

Text taken from: N. Mullen & P. Brown: *English for Computer Science; OUP 1984, pg 16-18 and adapted for Cloze.*

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