

UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Peperiksaan Semester Pertama
Sidang Akademik 1992/93

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HEK 201 Kemahiran Asas dalam Pembacaan dan
Penulisan Bahasa Inggeris

[3 jam]

INSTRUCTIONS

- THIS EXAMINATION PAPER CONSISTS OF THREE [3] QUESTIONS IN TWELVE [12] PAGES.
- Answer THREE [3] questions altogether.
- QUESTION 1 is COMPULSORY.
- For Question 2, choose EITHER part (a) or part (b).
- For Question 3 the same choice applies.
- All your answers must be completed in your answer booklet.

QUESTION 1 [40 marks]

Refer to APPENDIX A for this question.

Read the article 'And then he kissed me ...' by Jude Welton before carrying out the following tasks.

- (a) Provide a suitable title for the headings marked A, B, C and D.
- (b) Write an outline of the article which should contain the series of main ideas supported by secondary details.
- (c) Prepare a word chart (see the table below) for the following words:

- i. literary
- ii. circumstance
- iii. prospective
- iv. conflict
- v. significant

	adjective	noun	verb	adverb
i.				
ii.				
iii.				
iv.				
v.				

WORD CHART

- (a) Choose any two [2] words from the above list of five.
Make sentences which bring out the meaning for each of the derivatives of the two words you have chosen.

QUESTION 2 [30 marks]

Choose EITHER part (A) OR part (B)

(A) Refer to APPENDIX B for this question.

WRITING A REPORT

As a member of the editorial team of your university magazine 'Help Yourself', you have been asked to submit a short report for the end-of-year edition. The team have decided to do a double-page 'pull-out' on the subject of cheap student travel abroad. One page will not be your concern - dealing with the comparative costs of transport to and from the continent. But the other page will be left to you - a brief guide to 'surviving' a holiday abroad. As no one in the magazine's team has travelled abroad on their own yet, you are relying on a rather long article by a lecturer. You have been sent this memo from the editor giving you some advice about how to write your report.

From: The editor: 'Help Yourself'

Subject: Report - A Travel Survival Guide
We'd like you to write an article of no longer than 500 words, using the same information as Pauline Leonard's article, condensing it so that you just give the main points. The idea is that students can read your article through quickly, but still get the important information.

1. Include all the sections except the ones entitled, 'Documentation' and 'Getting there'. Keep your introduction and conclusion to the minimum.
2. Cut out all the chat - the 'my husband and I' stuff. It's amusing in its way, but not relevant to us.
3. Write in whole sentences - we don't want this in note form - but keep the sentences crisp and to the point.
4. Address the reader as 'you', like the Leonard article. Make sure your article sounds friendly.

I'll look forward to receiving your article as soon as possible.

Thanks

(B) Compose four main points to complete the basic organizations for each of the following topics.

(a) Inequities, not population growth, the real reason for hunger.

(b) Discuss the personal values that you expect to gain from a university education.

In your answer, prepare:

i. TOPIC:

INTRODUCTION:

BASIC ORGANISATION: 1.
2.
3.
4.

ii. Compose a topic sentence for each main point.

iii. Develop and expand the basic organisation for any two points. You must not exceed 100 words for the development of each point.

QUESTION 3 [30 marks]

Choose EITHER part (A) OR part (B).

(A) Refer to APPENDIX C for this question.

Answer ALL parts of this question.

Read through each of the expositions and decide which reference or cohesive device could go into each blank.

More than one word may be needed for each blank.

Write your answer in the answer booklet.

(b) Letter Writing: See APPENDIX D.

.../5
.../APPENDIX A

And then I kissed me

Romantic fiction — an ancient formula which has the common ingredients of passion, anger and adventure — is as old as love itself. But although this type of literature remains an outcast as far as most literary critics are concerned, it has never been so popular.

ROM ancient Greek romances to Mills & Boon paperbacks, popular romantic fiction has always had a massive appeal. It has been estimated that 50 per cent of women reading today are reading romantic fiction. Yet popular romantic fiction has always been either dismissed or attacked by literary critics. Its very popularity has been held against it. Although thousands of ordinary people thronged to Shakespeare's plays, literature generally considered worthy of being read and studied is not, some believe, for the masses. Reading for "entertainment" and "escape" is often held to be "bad", and these are among the main goals of the genre, or category, of romantic fiction.

HEADING A

THE basic romantic plot has changed little in almost 2,000 years: a couple meet and fall in love; but they are kept apart by outside forces and/or internal conflict; these are overcome, and the lovers are finally united.

In romances, if the story is to succeed, the reader must identify with the protagonist (the main character) and genuinely want the estranged lovers to get together. But although the tension is kept high, the reader knows that the story's ending will be happy. The loving relationship is always central, whereas in other literary genres, such as adventure stories or thrillers, it takes a secondary place. It is this focus on the single theme of love — what is traditionally considered to be a "women's interest" — that has been the subject of critical abuse since the 18th century.

HEADING B

ROMANCE as a literary genre has a long history. The first romances were written by the ancient Greeks in the 2nd century. In English literature, medieval romances based on the values of chivalry were part of a romantic tradition, but with significant differences: the protagonist was male (a knight) and his adventures led him not just to his lady, but to self-knowledge. In the late 18th and 19th centuries, romantic novels — many of which now appear sentimental and melodramatic — were in great demand from libraries, although they had low critical status. Jane Austen made fun of their excesses in *Northanger Abbey*.

Austen's witty, elegant novels contain the

elements of romantic fiction — a pair of lovers who are eventually united in a happy marriage — but they are acutely observed social commentaries rather than simple romances. "The passions are unknown to her," wrote Charlotte Brontë, somewhat mistakenly. Passions were, in fact, controlled rather than unknown, although Austen (unlike Brontë) did hold reason in higher esteem than passion.

Both writers had little personal experience of romance, and until her last two years Charlotte Brontë knew only love that was not returned. That did not prevent her from writing one of the most passionate and popular romances in the English language, *Jane Eyre*. One literary theorist, Northrop Frye, defines romance as the literature about people fulfilling their wishes — in this case, the author as much as the reader.

HEADING C

JANE EYRE found an eager readership when first published in 1847, although some critics considered it a "dangerous book", with a "soft, coarse, grumbling" heroine. Today it continues to combine popular appeal with critical acclaim and is perhaps the typical example of the love story. Many of the basic elements of its plot can be found in contemporary popular romances, such as those published by Mills & Boon.

The story is told from the heroine's point of view. A young woman, new to an area, comes into contact with an older, rich, powerful and usually brusque man. He is not conventionally handsome but is overwhelmingly attractive. *Jane Eyre's* character, Mr Rochester, has "granite-hewn features, and . . . great dark eyes", as do most Mills & Boon heroes. Ahmed Waljita in Mons Daveson's *Desert Interlude*, for example, has "dark eyes . . . and sculptured lips which could have been chiselled from marble". Anton de Ville in Yvonne Whittall's *Shadow Across the Moon* has "a rugged face . . . with square, resolute jaw".

A secondary plot in *Jane Eyre* and many Mills & Boon romances involves another potential husband who shows and evokes little passion. There may also be "another woman", such as Blanche Ingram in *Jane Eyre*, with whom the heroine imagines the hero to be in love. A series of misunderstandings follows.

Fate or circumstance usually keep the hero and the heroine apart until the last few pages when conflicts are resolved, obstacles removed and they declare their love and intention to marry.

It is a popular "formula": every year, 15

million Mills & Boon romances are bought in the United Kingdom. The parent company, Harlequin, sells 250 million books worldwide every year.

Readers will recognise repeated patterns in storylines and in language: men tend to "draw" lips to "search"; female bodies to "arch" towards "fault" male ones; and passion is often "primed" or "as old as the seasons".

Yet, despite the similarity of form of these romances, research has shown that Mills & Boon readers are discerning. They select, reject and recommend authors and titles — as do readers of most types of fiction.

Writing a Mills & Boon romance is "not simply a question of constructing a plot with a hero, a heroine, two quarrels and a happy ending", according to a guide from the publishers to prospective authors. "The so-called formula is only the beginning . . . originality and individuality are the most important qualities. Of the 4,000 manuscripts submitted each year only about a dozen new names join Mills & Boon's 200-strong stable of authors.

HEADING D

ROMANCE is only one of many genres of literature. Others include, for example, the family saga, horror fiction and the thriller.

Family sagas, such as Colleen McCullough's bestseller, *The Thorn Birds*, have elements in common with romantic fiction. But whereas marriage is the "ending" of a romance, in the family saga, it is the beginning of the next generation's story. And whereas a romance is structured and punctuated by a series of high points and low points in the lovers' developing relationship leading to the "conclusion", the family saga has a long term structure, charting the different social and emotional experiences of successive generations in a single family.

There is a significant difference in the way family sagas and Mills & Boon romances are marketed. Whereas many Mills & Boon authors do not write under their real names and remain anonymous figures, publishers of family sagas usually introduce the reader to the book's author through a personal biography.

Colleen McCullough, for example, "begins *The Thorn Birds*, writing it at night, after her work as head technician in a neurophysiology laboratory . . ."

Readers of family sagas are not encouraged to view the stories as an "escape from reality", but instead to see their own real life experiences of families as potential material for fiction.

APPENDIX B

TRAVELLING ON YOUR OWN

A Travel Survival Kit

This article was written by a lecturer for her students. Pauline Leonard lived abroad for several years and in that time travelled widely.

For some of you, this summer may be the first time you set out on your own to travel - in this country or abroad. It is said that travel broadens the mind, but if you fail to take a few basic precautions, it can become a miserable, disappointing or even frightening experience leading to narrow, bitter perceptions of all things foreign. Here are a few tips to help you avoid some of the hazards and pitfalls of cheap holidaying.

Before you go

It is a good idea to do some research on the places you intend to visit before you go, as this will help you to plan what to take with you. I strongly recommend buying a good, all-purpose guide book - the 'Lonely Planet' series is excellent, or the 'Shoestring' guides to cheap travelling. Things to check are:

1. Documentation

If you are travelling abroad, make sure that your passport is up to date - it can take several weeks to get a new one. Any enquires should go to your nearest Passport office. Also find out whether you will need a visa. If you do, contact the country's Embassy or Consulate for information. An international student identity card (ISIC) is proof of your student status and makes you eligible for many discounts. These are available from Transalpino or Worldwide Student Travel.

2. Getting there

Your options are air, coach, train, cycling or walking! Air travel is the most expensive with the drawbacks that you can't stop en route and you may still need to pay for extra transport once you're there. Coach and train do a number of cheap deals for students. If you're thinking of taking a bicycle to Europe, you must know your destination and send the bike separately by train as baggage, well in advance. Find out more from the Student Travel Association or Worldwide Student Travel.

3. Accommodation

Camping is probably the cheapest especially if you take your own tent. The national tourist office of the country you are visiting will give you details of campsites. Youth hostelling is also inexpensive and saves you the effort of carrying camping equipment on your back. You will need to become a member of the Youth Hostel Association to get hostel lists and maps for the relevant countries. But it is usually safe not to bother booking accommodation before you go - in fact it is often better to judge what is available once you are there and also this gives you complete freedom to move on. As long as you aim to get to your destination by early afternoon, you should find somewhere. Head straight for the local tourist office who will give you addresses, maps and guide books.

4. Weather

Be sensible about your own tolerance level to extremes of temperature. If you're not good in hot weather, then try to avoid Southern Europe in July and August. Sweating along a hot, dusty road weighed down by a full pack with no hope of a campsite or hostel for miles in sweltering temperatures is not fun and threatens to wreck the most harmonious of friendships! If you're camping, check the night time temperature - many hot countries get very cold at night and you will need a warm sleeping-bag and sweater.

5. Clothing

The important thing is not to take too much -and to take a range. Obviously, the weather is an important factor to consider, but you should also check out religious and moral attitudes and anticipate the kind of sight-seeing and travelling you will be doing. In Indonesia, my husband ended up borrowing one of my skirts - as shorts are not considered suitable clothing in Hindu temples! Women especially need to have clothes with which to cover shoulders, arms and legs as there are places of cultural interest in many parts of the world, which expect this token of 'respect'. Remember, if you're likely to be doing much walking or travelling by bus or train, comfortable clothes are crucial.

6. Luggage

Try and take as little as possible, whilst anticipating most of your needs. With clothes, just take one or two of everything and wash them as you travel around. Remember, you will have to carry your own bag - sometimes for long distances. If you plan to walk a lot, a light-weight rucksack is essential. .../8

7. Money

Your budget will guide what you can afford to take with you. If you have little money, then you probably won't be able to eat out very often - and this may mean taking cooking equipment with you. However don't cut things so fine that you can't afford to eat properly. You'll find yourself roaming the streets forlornly staring into restaurant windows. Try and talk to someone who has already been to the country before you go, and seek their advice on likely costs. It is better to go for a shorter time that you can afford than a longer time that you can't. Remember too that you should always carry your money and documents in a safe place - a money belt, or a pocket slung around the neck or sewn into your clothes.

8. Provisions

Generally you will be able to buy everyday provisions in most countries in the world. I have found that it is better to buy these things or do without, rather than lug around huge packets of Fab or jars of Marmite 'just in case'. Remember, a holiday is all about change - and so it may do you good to go without Golden Wonder crisps for a while. However, water-purifying tablets, mosquito-bite cream, and a first-aid kit are sensible additions which don't take up much room. You're bound to get some sort of tummy upset, so be prepared!

9. Company

If you are intending to travel with others, then choose people with whom you feel at ease. This may seem obvious, but friendships are tested considerably when travelling, as you have to cope with decision making and being in each other's company constantly. Go with people who share your outlook and interests and with whom you can be honest, open and relaxed. Humour is the most important quality you and your travelling companions will need!

Once you're there

Be adventurous whilst being sensible. Try to experience the local culture, eat the local food in small cafes, and use public transport. Being open, friendly and talkative can be extremely rewarding, in terms of both friendships and learning about other cultures. I have attended the initiation ceremony of a Buddhist monk, visited a private Greek island, seen crocodiles in deserted mangroves and joined in a Japanese tea ceremony - all from chatting to people on buses or in cafes.

Postscript

The thought of travel is often more daunting than the activity itself. Once you're off, it's amazing how smoothly things go. If small problems do arise, they're often part of the fun and the experience. Talk to as many knowledgeable people as you can - and then go!

.../10

.../APPENDIX C

APPENDIX C

PASSAGE A

Cars and bicycles are similar in that they are both privately owned means of transport. _____ 1 _____ they have in common the fact that the owner can decide when and where to go. _____ 2 _____, there are a lot of differences between them. A car costs a lot more to buy than a bicycle. _____ 3 _____, it is far more expensive to run. _____ 4 _____, a car has to be insured, and must be serviced regularly; _____ 5 _____, spare parts for a car cost a lot of money. A car uses petrol, which is expensive, _____ 6 _____ a bicycle uses only human energy. _____ 7 _____, as far as comfort is concerned, a car is better than a bicycle. In a car you are protected from the weather, have comfortable seats and plenty of room to carry people and luggage. A car is not only more comfortable than a bicycle, _____ 8 _____ it is faster as well. With respect to convenience, it is difficult to say which one is better. A bicycle is certainly easier to park. _____ 9 _____, each one has its advantages and disadvantages.

PASSAGE B

It is amusing to look at what happened to Mahfouz's work and reputation in English _____ 1 _____ he won the Nobel in 1988. _____ 2 _____, Doubleday acquired rights to his work and introduced a handful of his stories and novels, _____ 3 _____ the first volume of his major work, the Cairo Trilogy, in

what appeared to be new editions. _____ 4 _____, with one exception, the translations were exactly those already published in England, some quite good, most of them, _____ 5 _____, either indiffernet _____ 6 _____ poor. _____ 7 _____, the idea was to capitalise on his new fame _____ 8 _____ to reduce costs by not re-translating the works. _____ 9 _____, and more comically symptomatic, half a dozen profiles of _____ 10 _____ appeared in American magazines _____ 11 _____ Vanity Fair, the New Yorker, the New York Times Magazine. In _____ 12 _____ they were the same article re-written over and over. Each talked about Mahfouz's favourite cafe, _____ 13 _____ modesty, _____ 14 _____ position on Israel, _____ 15 _____ orderly and extremely uninteresting life. _____ 16 _____ the writers, some of them accomplished essayists, were totally innocent _____ 17 _____ of Arabic and Arabic literature. All of _____ 18 _____ regarded Mahfouz _____ 19 _____ a cross _____ 20 _____ a cultural oddity _____ 21 _____ a political symbol. Nothing was said about his formal achievements _____ 22 _____ about his place in modern literature as a whole.

.../12

.../APPENDIX D

APPENDIX D

Write a letter of application for the following job, paying special attention to:

- (a) the layout, including correct addressing
- (b) use of paragraphs
- (c) state your qualifications and experience (these need not be true)
- (d) state why you would be the ideal person for the job.



D & C FINANCE BERHAD
(A Member of Kumpulan D & C Bank Berhad)

MANAGER - BRANCH OPERATIONS

We have an opening for a position as Manager, Branch Operations in our Head Office. This is a Senior Management position. The candidate will be reporting directly to the General Manager and will be part of the Management team.

The candidate we are looking for should have ample business experience in the business of banking and finance and should be very familiar with branch operations. He should be able to oversee the operations of the branches and monitor particularly the areas on loans supervision and collection. He will have to guide and supervise the Branch Managers in their efforts to monitor their loan accounts. Ideally, the candidate we are looking for should have the following:

- At least 8 - 10 years' finance company or related business experience
- Has a tertiary education
- Aged between 30 - 40 years
- Exposure in branch operations of a finance Company
- Able to communicate easily at all levels

Remuneration will commensurate with experience. Interested applicants are required to submit a handwritten application stating full details of personal particulars, qualifications, present and expected salaries, contact telephone number together with a non-returnable recent passport-size photograph to:

**THE PERSONNEL MANAGER
D & C FINANCE BERHAD
GPO BOX 11364
50742 KUALA LUMPUR**

Bumiputera are encouraged to apply.

All applications should reach us before **September 15, 1992**.
Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.