
UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Second Semester Examination
Academic Session 2006/2007

April 2007

HEK 222 – CRITICAL READING AND WRITING

Duration : 3 hours

Please check that this examination paper consists of SEVEN pages of printed material before you begin the examination.

Answer ALL questions.

Equal marks are allocated to all questions.

1. EITHER

Assess the following text on international students in higher education. You should pay particular attention to the following elements:

- [a] Purpose
- [b] Audience
- [c] Language
- [d] Tone
- [e] Style

OR

Compare these two texts on the rise of divorce in society. Which explanation do you find the most convincing? You should pay particular attention to the arguments (if any) and use of rhetorical devices such as persuaders and emotive language.

[25 marks]

2. EITHER

It has been said that the SQ3R reading technique can be a useful way of approaching a text in a systematic and enquiring manner. Explain how a reader might apply SQ3R to a variety of reading tasks at different levels of complexity. You may use examples from the handouts provided in class to support your answer.

OR

Explain (at least 5 examples/ways) how a critical reader would be able to distinguish persuasion that takes place through the use of tricks or appeals to the emotions from persuasion that takes place through the offering of sound evidence and arguments for a belief. You may use the following text on “Enforcing Rules Means More Freedom” to support your answer.

[25 marks]

[HEK 222]

- 5 -

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3. The “Questioning the Author” (Beck, 1997) approach has been claimed to be an effective approach to get readers to become actively involved as they read.

Do you agree or disagree? You may use the following text on “Internet” to support your answer.

[25 marks]

4. Using the “Problem Posing” or “Alternative Texts” approach (Rosenblatt, 2002), evaluate the following letter on “ Rethink Education System.”

[25 marks]