UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Peperiksaan Tambahan Sidang 1998/99

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Kursus Matrikulasi Sains

TLX 202/3 - Bahasa Inggeris Matrikulasi - Kertas II/III

Masa: 3 jam

This booklet consists of **16 (SIXTEEN)** printed pages.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Answer ALL questions.**

2. **Write your answers in the spaces provided in the booklet.**

Question	Full Marks	Score
1	30	
2	30	
3	40	
Total	**100**	

Index No: _____

(In words): _____

QUESTION 1 - Reading Comprehension (Linear Text)

Read the passage below and answer all the following questions.

OCEANS OF DEATH

The pollution of the earth's soil and water has become an issue of great concern. Until recently, most of that concern has focussed on the land portion of the planet, where pollution directly affects people in their daily lives. Now, however, we have begun to realize that marine pollution is equally important.

Marine pollution is far from new. For over a million years, people have thought of the sea as a **convenient** place to throw their garbage. And it is true that the sea has a great capacity for absorbing organic wastes. Some of these wastes are eaten directly by the larger fishes. Others quickly **decompose** in sea water.

As civilizations grew, more and different pollutants were dumped into the seas. Still, this pollution did not really threaten the marine environment. The seas seemed capable of coping with anything that people could throw at them. This situation changed **abruptly**, however, with the onset of the Industrial Revolution. Suddenly, factories began dumping **enormous** quantities of materials into the seas. Especially in some coastal areas near large cities, ocean pollution began to threaten marine life. For the first time, the oceans began to fail in ***their*** ability to recycle humanity's waste.

Marine pollutants fall into two major categories: biodegradable and nonbiodegradable substances. Biodegradable substances are materials that can be taken apart by natural processes within a short time. Such materials are **usually** not very harmful. One common biodegradable pollutant in the oceans is human waste from sewage. In small quantities, ***it*** does not threaten the environment. In larger quantities, however, it provides a habitat for bacteria, ***which*** use up all the available oxygen in the area. As a result, all the fish in the **region** die. Sewage also contains viruses that are harmful to humans. Shellfish, particularly clams and oysters, **accumulate** these viruses in large quantities. When people eat shellfish, they increase their chances of getting certain diseases. One such disease is polio, a viral disease causing paralysis and sometimes death. Another is hepatitis, a serious disease of the liver.

A greater threat to marine life and eventually to human life are various types of nonbiodegradable substances. These are materials that cannot be quickly broken down into basic natural parts. One such material comes from plastic containers that are dropped overboard in large quantities from cruise ships. These containers break into tiny **particles** in the surf. The particles get stuck in the digestive

systems of baby fish and one-celled creatures called plankton. By preventing the food from entering the bodies of these creatures, the small particles cause them to die.

Another group of nonbiodegradable pollutants consists of the toxic chemicals that are dumped into the sea as wastes from factory production. Among ***these chemicals*** are the insecticide DDT and a class of industrial chemicals called PCBs. All these chemicals have been closely linked with cancers in humans. In addition, small quantities of these chemicals affect the growth rate of many marine species and also make ***them*** less **adaptable** to normal environmental changes. In time, these effects could kill off entire species. In larger quantities, these toxic chemicals cause immediate death. Furthermore, the chemical poisoning of marine species can result indirectly in the poisoning of human beings.

A third type of nonbiodegradable substance that causes serious pollution is oil. Although oil leaks naturally into the sea from sources beneath the ocean bottoms, the quantities produced by this natural leakage are small. Humans, however, are responsible for the dumping of ten times as much oil into the seas. Some areas, such as the Gulf of Mexico and the waters off the coast of southern California, have become badly polluted as a result of offshore oil drilling. And major oil spills, such as the Exxon Valdez disaster in Alaska in March 1989, destroy entire ecosystems. Oil can seriously weaken fish, especially at critical periods in their lives. In addition, oil can change the normal behaviors of fish and thus reduce their chances for survival. There is also a limit to the amount of oil fish can tolerate without dying.

All nations, but especially high-risk countries, must consider how to solve the problem of marine pollution. Their solutions may **determine** the fate not only of marine plants and animals but of all humankind.

Source: Reading Etc.
An Integrated Skills Text - 1992

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systems of baby fish and one-celled creatures called plankton. By preventing the food from entering the bodies of these creatures, the small particles cause them to die.

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An Integrated Skills Text - 1992

A. Circle either TRUE (T) or FALSE (F) for the following statements.

1. Marine pollution is less important than land pollution.

T F

2. The sea is capable of decomposing organic waste.

T F

3. Biodegradable substances are less threatening to marine life.

T F

4. When fish eat plastic containers dumped into the sea, they will die.

T F

5. Eating shellfish can increase the risk of contracting polio and hepatitis.

T F

(5 marks)

B. Answer all the questions below in complete sentences.

1. How does the ocean absorb organic waste?

_____

_____

_____

(2 marks)

2. Why do large quantities of human waste in the ocean become a threat to the environment?

_____

_____

_____

(2 marks)

3. Based on the passage, explain two ways how oil pollution can occur in the seas.

_____

_____

_____

_____

(3 marks)

4. Apart from the destruction of marine life state two more bad effects of sea pollution. Elaborate.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

(4 marks)

5. In your opinion what is the major cause of sea pollution today, and what can be done to reduce this pollution?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

(4 marks)

C. Vocabulary

Pick the correct meaning of the words below from the list of words provided.

die;	suddenly;	gather;	normally;
pick;	decide;	rot;	suitable;
very large;	adjustable;	pieces;	area.

1. **convenient** (line 6): _____
2. **decompose** (line 8): _____
3. **abruptly** (line 12): _____
4. **enormous** (line 13): _____
5. **usually** (line 19): _____
6. **region** (line 23): _____
7. **accumulate** (line 25): _____
8. **particles** (line 33): _____
9. **adaptable** (line 42): _____
10. **determine** (line 59): _____

(5 marks)

D. Reference

State what the following words found in the passage refer to.

1. ***their*** (line 15): _____
2. ***it*** (line 21): _____
3. ***which*** (line 22): _____
4. ***these chemicals*** (line 38): _____
5. ***them*** (line 42): _____

(5 marks)

QUESTION 2 - Reading Comprehension (Non-Linear Text)

Read the extract and study the data before answering the questions that follow.

Too Many Events Make Asiad Less of a Spectacle

The men's marathon today marks the end of the medal chase at the Bangkok Asian Games. A total of 36 sports offering 377 medals were contested over the past 20 days. But not all events competed at the Games should have been there in the first place. Take sepaktakraw bulatan for instance - it is only about juggling the rattan ball. True, the game needs a boost at the international level. But the bulatan event is not the way. How about bowling which has the doubles, trios, five-man team and the Masters? They are duplication of the singles event. Then there were events (for example, yachting) that attracted only three entries and allowed to go on. Just where do we draw a line when deciding the events to be competed at multi-sports Games? As far as the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) is concerned, the doctrine seems simple: the more the medals at stake, the more successful the Games. Hence, if the current trend continues, we could soon be seeing kite-flying, tops and tug-of-war as medal sports at the Games.

Table: Medal Tally

Countries	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
China	129	78	67	274
South Korea	64	46	53	163
Japan	52	60	68	180
Kazakhstan	25	24	30	79
Thailand	24	26	40	90
Taiwan	19	17	41	77
Iran	10	11	13	34
North Korea	7	14	11	32
India	7	11	17	35
Uzbekistan	6	22	12	40
Indonesia	6	10	11	27
Malaysia	5	10	14	29
Hong Kong	5	6	6	17
Kuwait	4	6	4	14
Sri Langka	3	0	3	6
Pakistan	2	4	9	15
Singapore	2	3	9	14
Qatar	2	3	3	8
Mongolia	2	2	10	14
Myanmar	1	6	4	11
Philippines	1	5	12	18
Vietnam	1	5	11	17
Turkmenistan	1	0	1	2
Kyrgyzstan	0	3	3	6
Jordan	0	3	2	5
Syria	0	2	4	6
Nepal	0	1	3	4
UAE	0	1	1	2
Macao	0	1	0	1
Bangladesh	0	0	1	1
Brunei	0	0	1	1
Oman	0	0	1	1
Laos	0	0	1	1
TOTAL	378	380	466	1224

Adapted from:
The Star, 20 December 1998

Section A

Circle T (True) or F (False) for the questions below.

1. According to the Olympic Council of Asia, the success of the Asian Games is determined by the number of medals at stake.

T F

2. The writer of the article feels that no sports should be excluded from the Asian Games.

T F

3. Malaysia has won the most number of medals among South East Asia countries.

T F

4. The ratio of gold medals between China and Iran was 1 : 13.

T F

5. The last event to take place in the Asian Games was the marathon.

T F

(5 marks)

Section B

Answer all questions in complete sentences and show your working clearly.

1. **Calculate**

a) the average number of medals won by all the countries participating in the Asian Games. (Answer to the nearest whole number).

_____

_____

_____

_____

(2 marks)

b) in percentage terms the number of medals won by Japan in relation to the total number of medals won in the Asian Games. (Answer to one decimal place).

_____

_____

_____

_____

(2 marks)

c) the ratio of medals won by Uzbekistan to those won by South Korea. (Answer to the nearest whole number).

_____

_____

_____

_____

(2 marks)

2. Assuming that the percentage of medals won by China remains the same in the next Asian Games, how many medals will China win if there are 1500 medals at stake? (Answer to the nearest whole number).

(4 marks)

3. Do you agree that there should be as many events as possible to be included in the Asian Games? Give two reasons to support your answer.

(5 marks)

4. Suggest two reasons why China has emerged as the top sporting nation in Asia.

(5 marks)

5. Suggest two measures that can be taken to improve the standard of sports in Malaysia so that we can win more medals in the future Asian Games.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

(5 marks)

Essay (40 marks)

Write an essay of about 400 words on any **one** of the following topics.

1. Describe a journey by train.

2. End your narrative essay with the sentence below.

   ..... Never again will I go hiking in the jungle.

3. In what ways can we lead a healthy lifestyle?

4. How can parents ensure that their children will grow up to be useful and responsible citizens?

- oooOOOooo -