

(TLX 202)

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Seat No.

UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Peperiksaan Akhir Sidang 1996/97

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Kursus Sains Matrikulasi II

TLX 202 - Bahasa Inggeris Matrikulasi - Kertas II

Masa : (3 jam)

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Answer ALL questions.
2. Write your answers in the spaces provided in the booklet.

Questions	Full Marks	Score
1 (Section A)	30	
(Section B)	20	
2	10	
3	40	
Total		
3	100	

NOTE

This booklet consists of 16 printed pages.

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Question 1 - Reading Comprehension**Section A**

Read the passage below and then answer all the questions that follow.

ALL SPACE POLITICS

The race to the moon was won by the Americans in 1969. The rivalry between the U.S. and the former Soviet Union meant that the two countries were determined to be the first to put a man on the moon. President John F. Kennedy promised that America would win this race and he inspired the nation to think of space exploration as the ultimate test of America's superiority over her Soviet enemy.

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America's success as the first nation to reach the moon, *coupled with* continuing cold war rivalry, created much public support for the space programme and Washington was able to fund many more missions.

But by the 1980s, public support for space exploration was declining. It faded almost *entirely* after the Challenger disaster of 1986, and the U.S. government was under pressure to scale back its space programme. Politicians reacted by demanding cuts in spending, which put the future of many space missions in doubt.

10

But in the last few years, politicians seem to have changed their attitude to space exploration, even though there is little evidence that the public have. And spending is likely to increase in the coming years: currently, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is planning a number of missions to Mars, and it is pressing ahead with the most expensive project ever undertaken in space exploration history - the International Space Station.

15

The Europeans, Canadians and Japanese are expected to spend U.S. \$9 billion on their share of the space station, and Europe has already spent huge sums developing its Ariane rockets, the most recent of which - Ariane 5 - blew up shortly after take-off. The Russians too claim they are committed to supporting the International Space Station - an expense that the country seems ill-able to afford.

20

So, if there is little public support for space exploration, where does the impetus to *fund* those activities come from? Furthering the cause of science is one possible answer. But, recently, there has been controversy over whether projects like the International Space Station have enough scientific value to merit the billions that have and will be spent on it.

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Nasa's reasons for building the space station are "to **conduct** medical research in space" and "to develop new materials and technologies that will have immediate, practical applications." However, for such research to be worthwhile, Nasa needs private companies to develop and help pay for extraterrestrial research. Significantly, Nasa has so far not managed to get any **substantial** private investment to manufacture products in space. 30 35

The result is that the station seems, at present to have only one tangible objective: research into how people can live and work safely and efficiently in space. But how important is this research? And can it possibly justify the cost of this huge orbiting laboratory?

Given the shortage of funds in many other areas of scientific research, it would seem not. So why build it? There are good political reasons for doing so. It will provide work for the thousands of unemployed defence workers who depended on the Cold War for their jobs. It will also help keep American/Russian ties strong - another reason Nasa believes the space station is a good investment. 40

However, Nasa and the U.S. government still seem to believe in the ideas of one nation's superiority in space. Indeed, Nasa describes the space station as "a powerful symbol of U.S. leadership". It seems that the world's politicians are caught in a time-warp. They still believe, as they did in the 1960's that man must conquer space in order to prove he is master of his universe. If only it was not so expensive. 45 50

Adapted from:
NIE - BBC English
Wed, Jan 29 1997
(⌂ length 595 words)

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A. Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. In what way was the space exploration programme affected by the Challenger disaster?

(2 marks)

2. What 2 factors contributed to increased public support for space exploration in the 1970's?

(3 marks)

3. What does the writer mean by "It seems in a time-warp" (line 47)?

(3 marks)

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4. Did Nasa achieve its original purpose in setting up the International Space Station? Explain.

(3 marks)

5. Do you think countries should spend billions of dollars on space exploration programmes? Elaborate.

(4 marks)

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B. Vocabulary

Give a word/phrase that is similar in meaning to the word/s listed below.

<u>Word</u>	<u>Word/Phrase with same meaning</u>
1. coupled with	_____
2. entirely	_____
3. fund	_____
4. conduct	_____
5. substantial	_____

(5 marks)

C. References

State what the following word/s refer to.

1. the two countries	_____
2. this race	_____
3. it	_____
4. which	_____
5. the most recent of which	_____
6. such research	_____
7. their	_____
8. a powerful symbol of U.S. leadership	_____
9. they	_____
10. his	_____

(10 marks)

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Section B

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

Juvenile Delinquency

Juvenile crimes are on the increase and the alarming fact is that there are more violent crimes being committed by teenagers below 18 years of age.

Just what leads to juvenile delinquency? The answer is hard to find. Society would point an accusing finger at the government, teachers at the broken family and parents at bad company.

A.S.P. Ahmad Noordin Ismail, head of the car theft section at the Criminal Intelligence Unit at Bukit Aman says that Bukit Aman is very concerned and keen to reach out to districts where such problems persist. However, in the city there are more attractions and pressures on the youths and therefore a greater tendency to get into trouble.

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Number of Juvenile Crimes							
<i>Serious Crimes</i>	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996 (Jan-June)
Homicide	6	7	17	12	11	6	6
Attempted Murder	0	0	0	4	1	1	1
Armed Robbery Committed by More Than One Person	8	3	0	2	5	7	0
Robbery Committed by More Than One Person	12	6	16	15	7	18	3
Robbery With Firearms	8	3	7	4	1	3	2
Robbery Without Using Firearms	23	10	37	40	38	30	18
Rape	27	24	36	53	66	70	36
Causing Hurt	83	58	116	111	103	154	71
Total	167	111	229	241	232	289	137
<i>Crimes On Property</i>							
Day-time Burglary	143	87	166	207	141	148	57
Night-time Burglary	243	230	311	341	289	324	148
Auto Thefts	375	270	240	345	325	406	223
Other Thefts	205	132	541	480	286	728	249
Total	966	719	1258	1373	1041	1606	677
Overall Total	1133	830	1487	1614	1273	1895	814

Source: The Sun Magazine
1976

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

1. The trend for juvenile crimes is a fluctuating one.

T F

2. Most juvenile crimes are recorded in the urban areas.

T F

3. The lowest number of juvenile crimes was recorded in 1996.

T F

4. Between 1993 and 1995, rape cases made up almost 25% of the total number of serious crimes.

T F

5. The government is to be blamed for the increasing number of juvenile crimes.

T F

(5 marks)

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B. Answer all questions in complete sentences.

1. Calculate the percentage increase in the total number of juvenile crimes committed between 1990 and 1995. (Answer to one decimal point).

(2 marks)

2. Calculate the average annual number of juvenile crimes committed between 1990 and 1995. (Answer to the nearest whole number).

(2 marks)

3. The number of juvenile crimes rose by 49% between 1994 and 1995. Assuming that this increase remained constant, calculate the number of juvenile crimes that would be recorded in 1997. (Answer to the nearest whole number).

(3 marks)

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4. In your opinion, who should play a greater role in curbing juvenile delinquency - the government, the school or the parents? Elaborate.

(3 marks)

5. Juvenile delinquency is on the rise. Apart from pressures faced by youths, give two other possible reasons to account for this.

(5 marks)

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Question 2 - NOVEL

Choose either 1 **OR** 2.

Answer the question in **ONE** paragraph of about 150 words.

1. The Red Pony

Question: Carl Tiflin was a good role model for his son, Jody. Do you agree? Elaborate with two examples from the book to support your answer.

OR

2. Things Fall Apart

Question: Do you agree that Okonkwo was a hero to his society? Elaborate with two examples from the book to support your answer.

(10 marks)

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This image shows a single page of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

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Question 3 - Writing

Write an essay of between 400 - 450 words on any **ONE** of the following topics.

1. In your opinion, should foreign universities be allowed to set up their branch campuses here?
2. Why do you think the Rakan Muda Programme has not succeeded in reducing the loafing problem in our country?
3. Modernisation has brought about a decline in health standards in the country. Do you agree?
4. In Malaysia, which do you think has more serious consequences — river or sea pollution?
5. What are the advantages **OR** disadvantages of replacing teachers with computers in schools?

(40 marks)

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