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UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Second Semester Examination  
Academic Session 2006/2007

April 2007

**HXE 309 - TESTING AND EVALUATION**

Duration : 3 hours

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

Answer any FOUR questions.

1. Study the following test scores of 20 students on a Reading Comprehension test. Answer the questions that follow:

No.	Name of Student	Reading Test (100%)
1.	Tan Mei Ling	89
2.	Evelyn Ng	87
3.	Thanaletchumi	88
4.	Azian Omar	88
5.	Ganesh Muthusamy	85
6.	Tania Wee	85
7.	Ah Leng Theng	81
8.	Joseph Xavier	78
8.	Daisy Lim	72
10.	Baskaran	70
11.	Justine Jacobs	70
12.	Ong Mei Ling	69
13.	Usha Devi	69
14.	Yuvanni Krishnan	68
15.	Hashimah Aziz	64
16.	Kazimah Abu Bakar	62
17.	Chong Mei Cheng	61
18.	Mohd. Hisham	61
19.	Wee Tian Leng	54
20.	Zubaidah	52

- [a] Prepare a **Score Frequency Table** for the above test scores.
- [b] Calculate the **mean** for the test.
- [c] Calculate the **standard deviation (S)** for the test.
- [d] Comment on the significance of knowing the mean and the standard deviation on any language test.

[100 marks]

2. Brown (1996) states that it is important for language teachers to consider various theoretical issues before they design language tests. Discuss these theoretical issues in relation to ESL test contexts.

[100 marks]

3. Language testing experts advocate that cloze tests encourage test takers to use their pragmatic expectancy grammar when they attempt test formats which have fill-in items. What are some of the key considerations that language testers should take into account when designing cloze tests?

[100 marks]

4. Discuss, with examples, portfolio assessment as an evaluation strategy in ESL classrooms. Discuss at least **three** considerations that language teachers should take into account when designing such an evaluation strategy.

[100 marks]

5. "A test should give the same results every time it measures" (Brown, 1996). Discuss the concept of reliability in norm-referenced tests (NRTs) and elaborate on some of the common ways for computing reliability.

[100 marks]

6. Discuss any FOUR of the following concepts in relation to language testing:

- [a] Skewed distributions
- [b] Principles to adhere to when writing multiple-choice questions
- [c] Differences between CRT and NRT tests
- [d] Construct validity
- [e] Achievement Tests
- [f] Standard Error of Measurement

[100 marks]