

ENG101 English Comprehension

Mid Term Examination - April 2003

Session -1

TIME ALLOWED: 120 Minutes

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions given at the end.
2. Answer all questions.
3. P1 is MCQ's. You can tick the correct answer. You can view its parts as P1.1, P1.2, P1.3, P1.4, P1.5 and P1.6.
4. Your paper is in two parts. The time allowed for the **first part is 75 minutes**. Make sure that you finish the first part within the given time. After that you should start **Part II** for which you have **45 minutes**. Thus the total time for your paper is two hours.
5. Part I has five questions which you can see as P1, P2, P3, P4, and P5. Part II has 6 exercises to fill in the blanks. You might see the questions of Part I in a random form. You can guess them by recognizing P1, P2, P3, P4, and P5.

Total Questions 11

PART - I

Note: You will be given a printed paper which will have the passage about which these questions are asked.

P1.1

What time of year was it in this story?

- spring
- fall
- summer
- winter

P1.2

At what time of day did Robin cross the river?

- morning
- late afternoon
- midday
- night

P1.3

The stockings that Robin wore were obviously:

- well worn
- handsome
- very expensive
- much too big

P1.4

From the way he looked, it was evident that Robin was

- a wealthy merchant's son
- a soldier
- a country boy
- a foreigner

P1.5

Robin was apparently going to the town:

- to buy new clothes
- for the first time in several years
- for the first time
- on one of his regular trips there

P1.6

How far had Robin travelled?

- from a nearby town
- over thirty miles
- from Madrid
- from London

P.2

Look at the text again and find out what the words in bold typeface refer to. **Marks [10]**

An example is given below:

He was wearing
Ans. The boy /Robin

- a. at **that** unusual hour
- b. **he** took a very accurate survey
- c. but **which** had seen many winters before this one
- d. **which** in its better days had perhaps sheltered
- e. **were** nature's gift

P.3.

Give brief answers to the following questions. (Your answer to each question should not be more than two lines)

- a. How did Robin appear as he walked into town? [3]
- b. What sort of person do you think Robin was? [4]
- c. Who had come with Robin, apart from the ferryman? [3]

P.4 Give a suitable title to the passage.

[3]

P.5 Choose the appropriate form of the words to complete the sentences.

[6]

Reliably, rely on, reliable, reliability

- a. Computers are machines.
- b. If you don't know the meaning of a computer term, you cannot always..... an all-purpose dictionary for the answer.
- c. Computers can do mathematical operations quickly and.....

PART - II

TIME ALLOWED 45 MINUTES

MAXIMUM MARKS 40

Read the passages a couple of times before you attempt to fill the gaps with appropriate words.

This is a text about computers from an old book on computers. Trust your knowledge of the history of Computers and fill in the blanks. The blanks have been numbered. When you type your answer mention the exercise number first and then the number of the blank you are writing your answer of. The first letter of the word with which you have to fill the blanks is given in every blank for your convenience.

What is a computer?

EXERCISE 1

A computer is a **m**__1__ with an intricate network **o**__2__ electronic circuits **t**__3__-operate switches or magnetize tiny metal cores. The switches, **l**__4__ the cores, are capable **o**__5__ being in one of two possible states, that is, **o**__6__ or of, magnetized or demagnetized. The machine is **c**__7__ of storing and manipulating numbers, letters, and characters. The basic **i**__8__ of a computer is that we can make the machine do **w**__9__ we want by inputting signals that turn certain **s**__10__ on and turn others off, or that **m**__11__ or do not magnetize the **__12__**.

EXERCISE 2

The basic job of computers is the processing of information. For this reason, **c**__1__ can be defined as devices which accept **i**__2__ in the form of instructions **c**__3__ a program and characters called data, **p**__4__ mathematical and / or logical operations **o**__5__ the information, and then supply results **o**__6__ these **o**__7__. The program, or part of **i**__8__, which tells the **c**__9__ what to do and the data, which provide the information **n**__10__ to solve **t**__11__ problem, are kept **i**__12__ the computer in a place called memory.

EXERCISE 3

Computers are thought **t**__1__ have many remarkable powers. However, most **c**__2__, whether large **o**__3__ small have three basic capabilities. First, computers **h**__4__ circuits of performing arithmetic operations, such as: addition,

subtraction, **d**____5_, multiplication and exponentiation. Second, computers have a **m**____6_ of communicating with the user. After all, if we couldn't feed information **i**____7_ and get results back, **t**____8_ machines wouldn't be **o**____9_ much use. However, **c**____10_ computers (commonly minicomputers and microcomputers) are used **t**____11_ control directly **t**____12_ such as robots, aircraft's navigation systems, medical instruments, etc.

EXERCISE 4

Some of the **m**____1_ common methods **o**____2_ inputting information are to **u**____3_ punched cards, magnetic tape, disks **a**____4_ terminals. The computer's input **d**____5_ (which might be a card reader, a tape drive or disk drive, depending on the medium used in putting information) reads the information **i**____6_ the computer. For outputting **i**____7_, two common devices **u**____8_ are a printer which **p**____9_ the new information on **p**____10_, or a CRT display **s**____11_ which shows the results **o**____12_ a TV-like screen.

EXERCISE 5

Third, computers **h**____1_ circuits, which **c**____2_ make decisions. The kinds of **d**____3_ which computer circuits can make are not **o**____4_ the type: 'Who would win a war between **t**____5_ countries?' or 'Who is the richest person in the **w**____6_?' Unfortunately, the computer can only **d**____7_ three things, namely: Is one number less than another? Are **t**____8_ numbers equal? And, is one number greater than **a**____9_?

EXERCISE 6

A **c**____1_ can solve a series of **p**____2_ and make hundreds, even thousands, of logical decisions without **b**____3_ tired or bored. It can **f**____4_ the solution to a problem in a fraction of the **t**____5_ it takes a human being to **d**____6_ the job. A computer can replace **p**____7_ in dull, routine tasks, **b**____8_ it has no originality; it works according to the instructions given to it and **c**____9_ exercise any value judgments. There are times when a **c**____10_ seems to operate like a **m**____11_ 'brain', but its achievements are **i**____12_ by the minds of human beings. A computer cannot do anything unless a **p**____13_ tells it what to do and gives **i**____14_ the appropriate **i**____15_; but because electric pulses can move at the **s**____16_ of light, a computer can carry out vast **n**____17_ of arithmetic-logical operations **a**____18_ instantaneously. A person can do **e**____19_ a computer can **d**____20_, but in many cases **t**____21_ person would be dead long **b**____22_ the job was finished.

Text taken from: N. Mullen & P. Brown: *English for Computer Science*; OUP 1984, pg 16-18 and adapted for Cloze.