



Student's Number _____
Student's Name _____

**EL111: English
Communication Skills (I)
FORM A**

FINAL EXAMINATION

**Day & Date: Saturday, Jan 15, 2011
First Semester 2010/2011**

Pages 1- 11

Tutor's Name: _____ Student's Section No: _____.

EXAM COMPONENTS, GRADES AND TIME YOU ARE ADVISED TO SPEND ON EACH SECTION:

SECTION	MINUTES	TOTAL POINTS	EARNED POINTS*
1. READING	40	15	
2. GRAMMAR	30	15	
3. VOCABULARY	10	05	
4. WRITING	40	15	
TOTAL	120	50	

- To be filled by tutor.

SECTION	1	READING	15 POINTS	40 MINUTES
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Read the following passage carefully and then answer the questions that follow.

- 1 The diversity of students in today's classrooms underscores the importance of developing curricula, teaching strategies, and policies to help all students succeed in school. Efforts to welcome, understand, and affirm all students--and to treat their cultural and linguistic backgrounds as equally valid and important--should be reflected
- 5 in every aspect of the school environment. This approach is especially important when addressing literacy for an increasingly **diverse** student population. Effective literacy instruction builds upon the cultural and linguistic backgrounds, ways of making meaning, and prior knowledge that all children bring to the classroom. Such instruction also acknowledges the important role of culture in language and literacy learning.
- 10 Cultural knowledge is an understanding of the importance of culture in affecting students' perceptions, self-esteem, values, classroom behavior, and learning. Research on culturally relevant and responsible instruction clearly shows that knowledge of students' family, community and socioethnic cultures--their languages, literacy practices, and values--can help teachers address the interests and build on the skills of
- 15 their students.

Celebrating the cultural similarities among diverse cultural groups has been promoted by some educators as a way of uniting all cultural groups in the community. However, it is not the similarities among the various groups that challenge people's thinking, behavior, and beliefs; it is the cultural differences. Learning to acknowledge and

20 understand cultural differences should be an ongoing process in a diverse society. As teachers gain insight into and acceptance of various cultures, they should develop an all-inclusive acceptance of their diverse students. All children should feel welcomed, affirmed, respected, and valued in school.

- 25 Equally important is knowing how to address the literacy needs of children of cultures that are different from the teacher's culture. Teachers can acquire or develop an understanding and accepting attitude toward other cultures and build upon the linkages and interplay among culture, language, and literacy. Experts argue that deeply ingrained cultural socialization becomes problematic in education when the schooling process operates on one cultural model to the exclusion of all others, or when culturally
- 30 different children are expected to **set aside** all their cultural habits as a condition of succeeding in school. Teachers may talk about developing a community of readers and writers, but the concept of community must be more than a school-bound model. Rather, **it** must include the students' home communities, reflect the influence that those communities will have on the understanding of literacy, and provide the most effective
- 35 literacy instruction for each child. Home cultures and native languages sometimes get in the way of student learning *not* because of the nature of the home cultures or native languages themselves but rather because they do not conform to the way that schools define learning.

- 40 Literacy instruction that **explicitly** builds upon the cultural knowledge, ways of making meaning, and prior knowledge that all children bring with them to the classroom will encourage children to feel that their culture is important and valued in schools.

To effectively reach all students, educators need to understand how students' patterns of communication and various dialects affect their classroom learning. They also need to know how second-language learning affects literacy acquisition.

- 45 When planning instruction, educators need to consider the role of students' home language and literacy patterns. Instruction should build upon the linguistic strengths that children bring with them to school. Thus, educators can **foster** children's literacy development by supporting the languages that children bring to the classroom and moving them to a more standard form of language.
- 50 Lack of academic achievement among children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds often has been tied to the students' dependence on their home or first language. Some researchers contend that this claim is overly simplistic and disregard larger sociopolitical issues. In fact, students' low academic performance may
- 54 be related to teachers' inaccurate assumptions and lack of cultural understanding.

I. Say whether the following statements are True (T) or False (F). (1 point each)

1. Successful literary instruction depends only on cultural and linguistic backgrounds. _____
2. Adopting one single cultural model and excluding others is indicative of effective learning. _____
3. The passage signals a positive correlation between teachers' understanding of the students' cultural background and the students' high academic achievement. _____
4. A student will be motivated once he realizes that, among other factors, his home language and literacy patterns contribute significantly to improving his/her literacy and schooling. _____
5. People's thinking and behavior are usually more challenged by cultural similarities among groups than by cultural differences. _____
6. Unlike cultural knowledge, linguistic knowledge is not an essential element for providing effective literacy instruction for children. _____

II. Circle the letter of the best answer (a, b, c, or d). (1 point each)

7. A child's literacy development can be achieved through:
 - a) Children's complete dependence on their home or first language
 - b) A schooling process which operates on one cultural model
 - c) Developing the child's local form of language/dialect into a more standard form.
 - d) Celebrating the cultural similarities among diverse cultural groups

8. Lack of academic achievement among children of culturally and linguistically diverse groups:

- a) Has constantly been attributed to children's reliance on their first language.
- b) Has always been related to teachers' inaccurate assumptions and lack of cultural understanding.
- c) Results from disregarding larger sociopolitical issues.
- d) Is likely to relate to teachers' inaccurate assumptions and lack of cultural understanding.

9) Home cultures and native languages:

- a) May interfere with the way schools define learning.
- b) Conform to the way schools define learning.
- c) Are problematic in nature.
- d) Always interfere with the way schools define learning.

10) The word **diverse** (line 6) means:

- a) crowded
- b) grouped
- c) different
- d) equivalent

11) The phrase **set aside** (line 30) means:

- a) depend on
- b) make use of
- c) leave and forget
- d) respect and value

12) The word **explicitly** (line 39) means:

- a) vaguely
- b) rarely
- c) basically
- d) clearly

13) The word **foster** (line 47) means:

- a) promote
- b) explain
- c) discourage
- d) acquire

14. The pronoun **it** (line 33) refers to: _____ .

15. The main idea of the passage is:

- a) The importance of instruction and literacy
- b) Celebrating cultural similarities among student learners
- c) A healthy learning environment should reflect students' cultural and linguistic diversity
- d) Definition of language and culture

SECTION	2	GRAMMAR	15 POINTS	40 MINUTES
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I. Complete the following sentences with the correct forms of the verbs in parentheses (0.5 point each).

1. Jack _____ to taking a nap after lunch. (use)
2. British Petroleum _____ to fix the oil leakage for months without success. (try)
3. Only Martha was working in the office when the fire alarm _____ off. (go)
4. I wish I _____ another week to work on my graduation project more carefully. (have)
5. Did you have your car _____, Susan? (fix)
6. Mr. Brown is a bit strict with his staff, he makes them _____ extra hours without compensation. (work)
7. Linda enjoys _____ far away places. (visit)
8. Had I known about the meeting in advance, I _____ it. (not miss it).
9. The technician _____ the faulty wiring system in the network, but he was so negligent and failed to do so. (should fix)
10. Why did John miss the final exam? He must _____. (oversleep)

II. Complete the sentences with the correct choice (a, b, c, or d). (0.5 point each).

11. The new manager promised to improve the work conditions, but he _____ up to his word.
- a) hasn't being b) hasn't be c) hasn't been d) hasn't
12. I am taking a trip to New York State. Should I visit the Empire State Building? Yes, but you _____ go to Niagara Falls, too.
- a) had better to b) ought to c) ought d) should to
13. How long _____ for General Motors now?
- a) you have been working b) you are working c) have you been working d) have you been worked
14. John is becoming _____ of our reformation plan than anybody else.
- a) more critical b) as critical as c) more critically d) most critical
15. Many of the people _____ I know encourage the idea of speed cameras.
- a) which
b) whose
c) of whom
d) none of the above
16. If our players had more physical fitness, they _____ the competition.
- a) will win b) would have won c) would win d) would have been winning
17. The executive committee meeting _____ in February 2011.
- a) will be holding b) will held c) will hold d) will be held
18. Felix always worries about _____ mistakes in filling out his income tax return form.
- a) having to make b) making c) to make d) to making

19. "When will your house be painted, Jim?" [Rewrite the sentence in reported speech].

I asked Jim _____.

- a) when his house would be painted
- b) when would his house be painted?
- c) when your house will be painted
- d) when will his house be painted?

20. What _____ the new Chief Executive Officer _____ so far?

- a) does... achieve
- b) has ... achieved
- c) will ... achieve
- d) have ... achieved

21. The first electric bulb _____ by Addison.

- a) invented
- b) was invented
- c) had invented
- d) should have invented

22. _____ car is this? Well, it looks like John's.

- a) Whose
- b) Whom
- c) Who
- d) Which

23. Will you be coming to the baseball game, Mike? [Rewrite the sentence in reported speech]

I asked Mike _____ baseball game?

- a) if would he be coming to the baseball game?
- b) if he will be coming to the baseball game.
- c) if he would be coming to the baseball game.
- d) would he be coming to the baseball game?

24. Unless the bank makes some drastic financial adjustments, it _____ bankruptcy.

- a) would declare
- b) would be declared
- c) will declare
- d) would have declared

25. Mary's participation in welfare activities is considered _____ outstanding of all her other career activities.

- a) more
- b) most
- c) the much
- d) the most

26. Mark is the person who seems to _____ all those secrets.
 a) revealing b) have revealed c) be revealed d) have been revealed
27. John and Peter _____ until next month.
 a) aren't leaving b) are leaving c) will leave d) will be leaving
28. _____ you ever _____ to a safari trip?
 a) Did ... be b) Have ...being c) Have... been d) Having ... been
29. Fred _____ in the meeting yesterday because, to my knowledge, he is out of town.
 a) couldn't have being b) could be c) could have been d) couldn't have been
30. I will have the secretary _____ the report.
 a) to type b) type c) typing d) to typing

SECTION	3	VOCABULARY	5 POINTS	10 MINUTES
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Fill in the blanks with the appropriate words from the list below. (0.5 point each)

appliances	put out	allowance	fashionable
contestants	aggressive	speculate	to offend
abandoned	debated	aggravate	

- The coach advised the player not to exercise for a couple of weeks because any extra effort will _____ his injury.
- Nowadays, most teenagers look for _____ clothes, music, shoes, etc.
- What Mary is proposing needs further clarification before we can vote on it. In fact, her proposal is a highly _____ issue.
- John's opponents do not have any solid evidence against his involvement in the fraud case; they simply _____.
- After the manager's big scandal, he was _____ by everyone, even by his closest friends.

6. Our next game is going to be very tough. In order to win it, we have to know everything about our _____.
7. It took the fire fighters a long time before they were able to _____ the fire in the steel plant.
8. The new apartment is so spacious and comfortable as it has many good _____.
9. My monthly _____ is too small. I need to look for a new source of income.
10. In most cultures, it is not acceptable _____ the elderly.

SECTION	4	WRITING	15 POINTS	40 MINUTES
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Write an extended paragraph of approximately (250) words on **ONE** of the following topics:

1. **“Both parents should assume equal responsibility in raising children.” Discuss.**
2. **“What do you plan to do with your college degree?”**

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Your paragraph should include: a topic sentence, supporting sentences, and a concluding sentence. But most important of all is for your paragraph to reflect:

- **“GOOD COMMAND OF ENGLISH” (i.e., *sentence structure and mechanics of writing*)**
- **Revision, editing, and proofreading**

Write your paragraph on the lined pages (10 & 11) below.

