

Tribhuvan University

2081

Bachelor Level 4 Yrs. Prog. / Humanities / III Year

Reading and Writing across the Disciplines Full Marks: 70

Com. English - 403

Time: 3 hrs.

Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable. The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

Group A: Long Questions

Answer any TWO :

2×15=30

1. In "The Naked Face," Malcolm Gladwell explores the science of facial expressions and the ways in which emotions can be read or misunderstood through facial cues. Using this article as a foundation, write an essay in which you synthesize at least three sources to examine how nonverbal communication influences trust, perception, and human interaction in your society. Consider the roles of technology, culture, and psychology in shaping how we interpret or misinterpret others.
2. How can a writer use techniques of summarizing, paraphrasing, and quoting effectively to build a well-supported and original argument? Discuss strategies for balancing the use of these techniques, ensuring that each of the techniques is used appropriately to enhance the clarity and credibility of the paper.
3. In "The Egg and the Sperm," Emily Martin questions the idea of scientific objectivity by examining how cultural beliefs shape the way biological processes are described. Do you believe that a truly "pure" fact exists, or are all facts influenced to some degree by cultural assumptions? How does Martin suggest scientists should approach the presentation of reproductive facts to avoid reinforcing gender stereotypes?

Group B: Medium-Length Questions

Answer any FOUR:

4×10=40

4. Read the following excerpt from an article "The concept of the American Dream is flawed, because it is not for Americans" by Annie Jiyang and write its summary based on note-making.

I can still recall the time when my classmates in China expressed their admiration for me when my family decided to move to the U.S. for the betterment of my education. In our minds, America is a place where prosperity prospers, where opportunity abounds, and where wealth and education command respect.

This image, deeply ingrained in not only national, but global psyche, paints a nation where success is attainable for those who dare to dream and work. This image is essentially what people perceive as the American Dream.

As an immigrant student, I do agree with the term as a way of motivation. I recognize the history the dream stemmed from, and appreciate the successes many have accomplished under this motivator. The essence of the American Dream is commendable, but it has evolved in a way that has promoted toxicity because it embodies an endless pursuit of elitism in which its accessibility is only circumscribed to a limited extent. It's challenging to articulate the complicated flaws behind the American Dream without a thorough research paper. However, due to the pervasive materialism and stereotypes throughout American society, it becomes apparent that the American Dream is indeed superficial.

I moved to the United States at the age of 12, and I faced a significant language barrier many other immigrant students may have faced. I was fortunate to have access to extra support in improving my English, and I recognize that my ability to write this opinion is influenced by the privilege of benefiting from unequal opportunities alongside my pursuit of the American Dream.

Although I received a lot of compliments on how I excel in English as an immigrant student, how my activities at school are Americanized,

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and how I speak like a native speaker, I feel extremely uncomfortable. It took me a long time to figure out that the root of this confinement is how the term American is circumscribed by the idealization of White Americans.

In simple terms, it's not just about reluctance to accept compliments; it's about my inherent hesitation to be acknowledged as successfully assimilating into white culture.

Research has shown that our subconscious often shapes a hierarchical perspective of accents where we attribute varying values including pleasantness, prestige, and even intelligence. The term of the standard language ideology heralds a prevailing belief that the dialect possessing the highest social prestige is synonymous with the sole correct and legitimate form of the language.

I am not entering the workforce yet, but this phenomenon abounds even in education settings. ...

5. Write a critique of the following text:

I think any rational response to climate change involves first knowing what the facts and evidence are. That is the province of science. There are many indicators measured globally over many decades that show that the Earth's climate is warming. All the indicators expected to increase in a warming world are increasing, and all those expected to decrease in a warming world are decreasing. It's definitely warming. It's not a hoax. We observe it and measure it. The atmosphere is warming. So is the ocean. Sea level is rising. Ice sheets and glaciers and snow cover are shrinking. The amount of water vapor in the atmosphere is increasing. Climate change is real and serious. It's not a remote threat for the distant future. It's here and now.

It's us. We've done the detective work. Just as wildfire experts can say whether a fire was caused by lightning, or by a campfire accidentally left burning, or by arson, we can show what is now causing the world to warm. Yes, some past climate change was natural, like ice ages coming and going, but the warming we have observed in recent decades is clearly caused by human activities. The evidence for that is overwhelming.

We now know what paces the beginnings and ends of ice ages. It is slow changes in the Earth's orbit around the sun, that alter how sunlight is distributed over the surface of the Earth. We understand these changes in the orbit, and they take thousands of years to have an effect. They cannot possibly produce the climate changes that we observe occurring in just a few decades. Similarly, we can rule out other natural processes, such as changes in the energy in sunlight. They are quantitatively too small. Human activities, such as burning coal and oil and natural gas, are the dominant cause of the rapid climate change we now observe.

It hasn't stopped. The warming is still continuing. We have good estimates of the global average temperature of the Earth's surface from 1880 until the present; 1880 is about the time when we first had enough good thermometers located in enough places around the Earth to enable us to calculate a meaningful global average. The modern data is the most accurate. During about the last 50 years, from the 1970s until now, we know there has been a warming of about 1 degree Celsius, or 1.8 degrees Fahrenheit. All the warmest years on record are recent years.

The heat is mainly in the sea. Over 90 percent of the heat added to the climate system is in the oceans. How do we measure the heat stored in the ocean? That's a good question, and it has a fascinating answer. ...

6. How does Eric Schlosser create interest in audience in a commonplace topic like potato chips in "Why McDonald's Fries Taste So Good"? Explain Schlosser's writing methods.
7. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "Pilgrimage to Nonviolence" reflects on the development of his commitment to nonviolent resistance. What does this journey reveal about the ethical and philosophical principles behind his approach to social change?
8. Examine how George Orwell, in "Politics and the English Language," critiques the relationship between language and political manipulation?

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