



Higher National Diploma in English

First Year, Second Semester Examination – 2015

EN 1211: Intermediate Reading & Vocabulary Development (FT / PT)

Instructions for candidates:

No. of questions : 06

Answer five questions only.

No. of pages : 08

All questions carry equal marks.

Time : Three hours

1). Read the passage carefully and write the answers for the questions given below.

Bringing Up Children

It is generally accepted that the experiences of the child in his first years largely determine his character and latter personality. Every experience teaches the child something and the effects are cumulative. 'Upbringing' is normally used to refer to the treatment and training of the child within the home. This is closely related to the treatment and training of the child in school, which is usually distinguished by the term 'education'. In a society such as ours, both parents and teachers are responsible for the opportunities provided for the development of the child, so that upbringing and education are interdependent.

The ideals and practices of child rearing vary from culture to culture. In general, the more rural the community, the more uniform are the customs of child upbringing. In more technologically developed societies, the period of child hood and adolescence tends to be extended over a long time, resulting in more opportunity for education and greater variety in character development.

Early upbringing in the home is naturally affected both by the cultural pattern of the community and by the parents' capabilities and their aims and depends not only on upbringing and education but also on the innate abilities of the child. Wide differences of innate intelligence and temperament exist even in children of the same family.

Parents can ascertain what is normal in physical, mental and social development, by referring to some of the many books based on scientific knowledge in these areas, or, less reliably, since the sample is smaller, by comparing notes with friends and relatives who have children.

Intelligent parents, however, realize that the particular setting of each family is unique, and there can be no rigid general rules. They use general information only as a guide in making decisions and solving problems. For example, they will need specific suggestions for problems such as speech defects or backwardness in learning to walk or control of bodily functions. In the more general sense, though, problems of upbringing are recognized to be problems of relationships

within the individual family, the first necessity being a secure emotional background with parents who are united in their attitude to their children.

All parents have to solve the problems of freedom and discipline. The younger the child, the more readily the mother gives in to his demands to avoid disappointing him. She knows that if his energies are not given an outlet, her child's continuing development may be warped. An example of this is the young child's need to play with mud and sand and water.

A child must be allowed to enjoy this 'messy' but tactile stage of discovery before he is ready to go on to the less physical pleasures of toys and books. Similarly, throughout life, each stage depends on the satisfactory completion of the one before.

A. Say whether the following statements are **true or false** according to the information given in the above passage.

- i) An adult's character is in a great measure decided by his childhood experiences.....
- ii) Upbringing and education are merely two different words for the same process.....
- iii) The way people bring up their children varies throughout the world according to differences in culture.....
- iv) Children in more technologically developed societies have stronger characters than those from rural communities.....
- v) Although the cultural pattern of the community affects early upbringing in the home, it is nevertheless not the only factor.....
- vi) Personal contacts tend to be less reliable a method of establishing norms of child behavior than scientific books on the subject.....
- vii) Intelligent parents do not seek outside advice with child problems.....
- viii) Regarding relationships within the family, the first necessity is a secure emotional background.....
- ix) If a child were subjected to unusually firm discipline, his development might well be adversely affected.....
- x) The development of the human personality is presented in the passage as a series of stages, rather than a smooth progression.....

(10 marks)

B. Find the following words in the passage and select the meaning which is most likely to correspond among the choices given.

- i) **determine**
 - a) decide
 - b) be positive
 - c) be determined
 - d) make up one's mind
- ii) **are cumulative**
 - a) are dangerous
 - b) are beneficial
 - c) become progressively greater
 - d) immediate

- iii) **distinguished**
 - a) made honourable
 - b) defined
 - c) made famous
 - d) approved
- iv) **uniform**
 - a) wearing the same clothes
 - b) different
 - c) similar
 - d) uninformed
- v) **innate**
 - a) great
 - b) unsatisfactory
 - c) inborn
 - d) inoperative
- vi) **ascertain**
 - a) find out
 - b) bring about
 - c) assert
 - d) assure
- vii) **comparing notes**
 - a) sharing experiences
 - b) written down
 - c) making notes on
 - d) sharing scientific books
- viii) **readily**
 - a) prepared
 - b) quickly
 - c) doubtfully
 - d) reluctantly
- ix) **warped**
 - a) distorted
 - b) woven
 - c) speeded up
 - d) stopped
- x) **tactile**
 - a) touching and feeling
 - b) immature and unnecessary
 - c) tactical
 - d) intellectual

(10 marks)
(Total 20 marks)

2). Read the following passage carefully and then answer all the questions.

The narrator of this story is called Christopher Banks. This passage is about an incident from Christopher's childhood in China in the 1930s, which happened when he was nine years old.

A Mysterious Disappearance

The following day was again hot and humid. I have down the years, many times, gone over everything I can remember of that day, trying to put the various details in some coherent order. I cannot remember a great deal about the first part of the morning. I have a picture of how I said goodbye to my father as he went off to work. I was already outside, loitering around the driveway waiting for him to emerge. He eventually did so, in a white suit and hat, holding a briefcase and a stick. He paused and glanced out toward our gateway. Then, as I waited for him to come further toward me, my mother appeared on the doorstep behind him and said something. My father walked back a few steps, exchanged some words with her, smiled, kissed her lightly on the cheek, then came striding out to where I was waiting. That is all I remember of how he left that day. I do not remember now if we shook hands, if he patted my shoulder, if he turned back at the gate for a last wave. My overall recollection is that there was nothing in the manner of his parting that morning to set it apart from the way he had left for work on every other day.

All I remember of the rest of the morning is that I played with my toy soldiers on the rug in my bedroom. I remember my mother going out at some point and that I ate lunch with Mei Li in the kitchen. After lunch, needing to pass time until three o'clock, I walked the short distance along our road to the spot where two large oak trees stood, set back from the road, yet well in front of the nearest garden wall.

Perhaps it was because I was already stoking up my courage, but I succeeded that day in climbing one of the oaks to a new height. Perched triumphantly in its branches, I found I had a view across the hedges and grounds of all the neighboring houses. I remember I sat up there for some time with the wind on my face.

Eventually I climbed down the oak, wishing to go home for a glass of water and to check the time. As I came in through our gate, I saw two cars in the driveway. I was mildly curious about these, but by this stage was far too preoccupied to give them much attention. Then, as I was crossing the hallway, I glanced through an open door and saw the three men, standing with their hats in their hands, talking with my mother. There was nothing particularly unusual about this but something in the atmosphere made me pause a moment there in the hall. As I did so, the voices broke off and I saw their faces turn to me. I recognized one of the men to be Mr. Simpson, my father's colleague at the office; the other two were strangers. Then my mother came into view as she too leaned forward and looked at me. I suppose I might have sensed then that something out of the ordinary was unfolding. In any case, the next moment, I was hurrying off in the direction of the kitchen.

No sooner had I reached the kitchen than I heard footsteps, and my mother came in. I have often tried to recall her face—the exact expression she was wearing—at that moment, but with no success. Perhaps some instinct told me not to look at it. What I do remember is her presence, which seemed looming and large, as though suddenly I were very young again, and also the texture of the pale summer frock she was wearing. She said to me in a lowered, but perfectly composed voice: “Christopher, the gentlemen with Mr. Simpson are from the police. I must finish talking with them. Then I want to talk to you straight afterwards. Will you wait for me in the library?” I was about to protest, but my mother silenced me with a stare that frightened me. “In the library then,” she said, turning away. “I’ll come as soon as I’ve finished with the gentlemen.”

“Has something happened to father?” I asked.

My mother turned back to me. “Your father never arrived at the office this morning. But I’m sure there’s a perfectly simple explanation. Wait for me in the library. I won’t be long.”

- I. Which phrase of three words from paragraph one (The following day...) tells you that Christopher is describing events that happened a long time ago? (2 marks)

- II. Explain, using your own words, what Christopher means by ‘My overall recollection’ in paragraph one. (2 marks)

III. By referring to the first three paragraphs only (The following day...wind on my face.), give three details about the outside of the house in which Christopher lived and the area surrounding it. (3 marks)

IV. Using your own words, explain why Christopher says that he did not give much attention to the two cars in his drive. (2 marks)

V. Explain, using your own words, what Christopher means by the words in italics in the following phrases:
 (i) 'trying to put the various details *in some coherent order*'
 (ii) '*perched triumphantly* in its branches' (2.5x2 = 5 marks)

VI. Write a summary in about 50 - 60 words of what Christopher did on that day. (6 marks)

(Total 20 marks)

3). The following is a little story with a moral, but the texts are not in order. Re-arrange them in order to get the meaningful story. *The first one is done for you.*

A box full of kisses

A. In a very real sense, each one of us, as humans beings have been given a gold container filled with unconditional love and kisses... from our children, family members, friends, and God.

B. Only a short time later, an accident took the life of the child.

C. The father was crushed. He put his arms around his little girl, and he begged for her forgiveness.

D. The story goes that some time ago, a man punished his 3-year-old daughter for wasting a roll of gold wrapping paper.

E. The man was embarrassed by his earlier overreaction, but his anger flared again when he found out the box was empty.

F. Money was tight and he became infuriated when the child tried to decorate a box to put under the Christmas tree.

G. The little girl looked up at him with tears in her eyes and cried, "Oh, Daddy, it's not empty at all. I blew kisses into the box. They're all for you, Daddy."

H. Nevertheless, the little girl brought the gift to her father the next morning and said, "This is for you, Daddy."

I. It is also told that her father kept that gold box by his bed for many years and, whenever he was discouraged, he would take out an imaginary kiss and remember the love of the child who had put it there.

J. There is simply no other possession, anyone could hold, more precious than this.

K. He yelled at her, stating, "Don't you know, when you give someone a present, there is supposed to be something inside?"

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
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(10x2=20 marks)

4). A. Select the correct homonym from the options given below to complete the sentences.

- The bride walked slowly down the ____.
 - aisle
 - isle
- He walked for days in the ____ without seeing another living thing, only sand.
 - desert
 - dessert
- The female dog was ____ so that she could no longer have puppies.
 - spade
 - spayed
- How can you make such a ____ suggestion?
 - vial
 - vile
- Step on the ____! Stop!
 - brake
 - break
- An introductory essay in a book is called the ____.
 - foreword
 - forward
- I am just ____ to see you!
 - dyeing
 - dying
- Go out and check the ____ box, will you.
 - mail
 - male
- Separate the egg white from the ____.
 - yoke
 - yolk
- I learned to ____ when I was eleven years old.
 - sew
 - so
 - sow

(10 marks)

B). Make two different sentences using the homonyms given below

- I. fair/ fare
- II. read/reed
- III. style/stile
- IV. knight/night
- V. cite/sight

(10 marks)

(Total 20 marks)

5) A. Choose the suitable word for the following bolded words in the sentences from the box.

American English

Cab, trash, deck, drugstore, faucet, parking lot, restroom, round trip,
subway, clerk

1. Don't leave **rubbish** in the park. Take your empty drink cans home with you.
American English
2. Excuse me, where's the nearest **toilet**, please?
American English
3. He works as a **sales assistant** in a big department store.
American English
4. I can't walk any further. Let's take a **taxi**.
American English
5. I have to go to the **chemist's** to buy some film for my camera.
American English
6. I'd like to return **ticket** to Bristol, please.
American English
7. It's quicker to go there by **underground** than by bus.
American English
8. There's something wrong with the **hot water tap**. I can't turn it off.
American English
9. We can leave the car in the **car park** behind the supermarket.
American English
10. We could play a game of **poker** if someone has a pack of cards.
American English

(10 marks)

B. Find out the correct British English words for the following American English words.

American English	British English
i) Check
ii) Plow
iii) Lawyer
iv) Carriage /coach
v) Bath room
vi) Flash light
vii) Gas
viii) Truck
ix) Vacation
x) Period

(10 Marks)
(Total 20 marks)

6). A. Fill the blanks in these sentences with a word that combines with the one given to make a suitable compound word.

- I. When Brian got his promotion, he bought a brand-.....car.
- II. Look at Leila, She's wearing an old-.....skirt. She found it in her grandmother's drawer.
- III. Nancy is such a short-.....girl. She can't even read what's on the blackboard.
- IV. Some people think that we should preserve the deeply-.....traditions of countries.
- V. Cathy is a well-.....girl. She's very polite.
- VI. We have got a new high-.....microwave oven.
- VII. I'm afraid I have chipped one of your coffee-.....
- VIII. I'd like my steak well-....., please.
- IX. We always eat home-.....vegetables in the summer.
- X. Could I have some saladto put on my salad, please.

(10 marks)

B). Write two compound adjectives using the words given in the first column.

- I. First
- II. Middle
- III. Second
- IV. Home
- V. High

(10 marks)
(Total 20 marks)