

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ADULT EDUCATION**  
**PART-TIME CERTIFICATE IN ADULT EDUCATION YEAR I**  
**FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2006**

**TITLE OF PAPER** : **PROFESSIONAL ENGLISH I**

**COURSE CODE** : **CAE 106**

**TIME ALLOWED** : **THREE (3) HOURS**

**INSTRUCTION** : **ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS.**

**THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.**



**SECTION A****Answer all Questions in this Section****QUESTION 1**

Read the passage below and answer the following questions.

The Atlantic Ocean

1 The Atlantic Ocean is one of the oceans that separate the Old World from the New. For centuries it kept  
2 the Americans from being discovered by the people of Europe.

3 Many wrong ideas about the Atlantic made early sailors unwilling to sail far out into it. One idea was that  
4 it reached out to “the edge of the world”. Sailors were afraid that they might sail off the earth. Another  
5 idea was that at the equator the ocean would be boiling hot.

6 The Atlantic Ocean is only half as big as the Pacific, but it is still very large. It is more than 4 000 miles  
7 (6 400 km) wide where Columbus crossed it. Even at its narrowest it is about 2000 miles (3 200 km) wide.  
8 This narrowest place is between the bulge of South America and the bulge of Africa.

9 Two things make the Atlantic Ocean rather unusual. For so large an ocean it has very few islands. Also,  
10 it is the world’s saltiest ocean.

11 There is so much water in the Atlantic that it is hard to imagine how much there is. But suppose no more  
12 rain fell into it and no more water was brought to it by rivers. It would take the ocean about 4 000 years  
13 to dry up. On the average the water is a little more than two miles (3.2 km) deep, but in places it is much  
14 deeper. The deepest spot is near Puerto Rico. This “deep” measures 30 246 feet - almost six miles (9.6  
15 km).

16 One of the longest mountain ranges of the world rises from the floor of the Atlantic. This mountain range  
17 runs north and south down the middle of the ocean. The tops of a few of the mountains reach

18 up above the sea and make islands. The Azores are the tops of peaks in the mid-Atlantic mountain range.

19 Several hundred miles eastward from Florida there is a part of the ocean called the Sargasso Sea. Here the  
20 water is quiet, for there is little wind. In the days of sailing vessels the crew were afraid they would be  
21 becalmed here. Sometimes they were. The sea gets its name from sargassum, a kind of seaweed that is  
22 brought in from far and wide by ocean currents.

23 Ocean currents are sometimes called "rivers in the sea". One of these rivers in the Atlantic is called the  
24 Gulf Stream. It is a current of warm water. Another is the Labrador current - cold water coming down  
25 from the Arctic. Ocean currents affect the climates of the lands near which they flow.

26 The Atlantic furnishes much food for the people on its shores. One of its most famous fishing regions, the  
27 Grand Banks, is near Newfoundland.

28 Today the Atlantic is a great highway. It is not, however, always a smooth and safe one. Storms sweep  
29 across it and pile up great waves. Icebergs float down from the Far North across the paths of ships.

30 We now have such fast ways of travelling that this big ocean seems to have grown smaller. Columbus  
31 sailed for more than two months to cross it. A fast modern steamship can make the trip in less than four  
32 days. Aeroplanes fly from New York to London in only eight hours and from South America to Africa in  
33 four!

*(From: Understand and Communication Vol. 2)*

**QUESTIONS****A. Meaning in context**

1. Give a synonym for each of the following words:

- a) separate(1.1)
- b) unwilling (1.3)
- c) idea (1.3)
- d) large (1.6)
- e) unusual (1.9)
- f) hard (1.11)
- g) tops (1.17)
- h) becalmed (1.22)
- i) furnishes (1.27)
- j) smooth (1.29)

[10 marks]

2. Use each phrase in a sentence.

- a) reach out (1.4)
- b) hard to imagine (1.11)
- c) brought in (1.23)
- d) a great highway (1.29)
- e) the paths of ships (1.30-31)

[10 marks]

**B. Choose the best answer.**

1. What is a unique feature of the Atlantic Ocean?

- A. It has few islands.
- B. It has a great quantity of water.
- C. It is boiling hot.
- D. It is very deep.

2. According to the passage, why did the Americas remain undiscovered for centuries?

- A. There were too many wrong ideas about the Americas.
- B. The Americas were too difficult to reach.
- C. Early sailors were too afraid to sail far out into the Atlantic.
- D. The early Europeans lacked the spirit of discovery.

3. Which of the following is correct?
- A. The Atlantic is as big as the Pacific.
  - B. The Atlantic will dry up in 4000 years.
  - C. The Atlantic is the saltiest ocean in the world.
  - D. The average depth of the Atlantic is 5.2 k.m.
4. The Atlantic is today
- A. not as much used as before.
  - B. an important waterway.
  - C. much smaller than before.
  - D. a safe ocean for ships.

C. Answer these questions.

- 1. Two fallacies about the Atlantic are given in the second paragraph. What are they? (2)
- 2. Which is larger, the Atlantic or the Pacific? (1) How much bigger? (1)
- 3. What two features about the Atlantic are unusual? (2)
- 4. What are "rivers in the sea"? (1) Give two such examples from the passage. (2)
- 5. Name one hazard ships face in the Atlantic? (1)
- 6. What are the Azores? (1).

## QUESTION 2

Read the poem and answer the questions below.

### Village Woman

Look at the woman,  
Tired, hungry baby  
Clinging to her back,  
And she herself so tired  
She drags her legs,  
The firewood, bundled on her head,  
Weighs heavily,  
But still she trudges on.

Her skin, once smooth and lovely,  
Is now muddied and dark,  
Her clothes are dusty and torn,

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Her clothes are dusty and torn,

Her feet dirty and cracked.

The child cries.  
 With parched throat but gentle voice  
 She sings a soothing song.  
 She refuses to pity  
 Her aching, burdened back,  
 A back that has submitted to the hoe  
 For hours on end.  
 Neither old nor ugly,  
 She is gentle, tireless and brave.  
 When she reaches home  
 She fetches water from the well.  
 Light the fire, prepares the food.  
 There is more work in the field  
 Till the sun sets.  
 Dear God! When will she rest?

By: David Mwenga

1. What word does the poet use twice, in the first verse, to describe how the woman feels? (1)
2. What burdens is she carrying? (2)
3. What has she been doing that made her so tired? (1)
4. In the first verse the poet uses two expressions to describe how the village woman is walking. What are these two expressions? (2)
5. What is her skin like? Why has it changed do you think? (1)
6. Why do her feet look the way they have been described? (1)
7. When she returns home, what else has she got to do? (1)
8. When the child cries, what does the mother do? (1) Why do you think she has a parched voice? (1)
9. What three words does the poet use to describe the woman's character? (3)

### SECTION B

#### QUESTION 3

- A. Construct sentences to bring out the difference in meaning. Each word must be used separately.
- (a) stationery; stationary
  - (b) terminal; terminus
  - (c) entrance; entry
  - (d) abroad; aboard
  - (e) runway; runaway
- (10)



B. Study the sentences in each pair and explain the meaning of the underlined phrase.

1. (a) Get ready but do not put on your shoes until he is here.  
(b) The school will put on a play at the end of the year.
2. (a) They set off for town ten minutes ago.  
(b) The scarf she wore yesterday set off her dress very well.
3. (a) As the road was blocked, we came round by the field.  
(b) When water was splashed on his face, he soon came round.
4. (a) They looked down on the street when they reached the top of the building.  
(b) He looked down on his friends when he won the first prize in the lottery.
5. (a) Hillary and Tenzin put up flags on the summit of Everest.  
(b) We put up our cousin from Kenya at our house for a night before she flew to

Engla  
n d .  
(10)

### SECTION C

#### QUESTION 4

Name the different sections of a special report in their correct order and say what kind of information is found in each section. (10)

#### QUESTION 5

You are a head of department and you have been nominated to attend a course outside the country.

You have decided to ask a colleague who heads another department to oversee your subordinates while you are away.

Write a memo stating your request to the colleague.

(30)