

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**

**CERTIFICATE IN ADULT EDUCATION I**

**CERTIFICATE IN PSYCHO-SOCIAL SUPPORT I**

**SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION, JULY 2015**

**TITLE OF PAPER:      PROFESSIONAL ENGLISH I**

**COURSE CODE:        CAE 117**

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

**INSTRUCTIONS:      ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS**

**WRITE YOUR ANSWERS IN THE ANSWER BOOKLET PROVIDED**

**THIS PAPER MUST NOT BE OPENED UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR HAS GRANTED PERMISSION TO DO SO**

SECTION A

QUESTION 1

Read the passage and answer the questions.

**Passage: The First to Climb Everest**

1. The day was May 28, 1953. On this day, Sir Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing were to
2. attempt to reach the summit of Mount Everest, which was then only about 1200 feet
3. (360m) above them.
4. They rose about 4.00 a.m. and had breakfast. Hillary found his boots had frozen solid. He
5. cooked them over the stove until they were soft enough to put on. At 6.30 a.m. they
6. crawled out of their tent and set off for the top.
  
7. They soon found the oxygen bottles left by Evans and Bourdillon. Hillary scraped the ice
8. off the gauges and was relieved to find they still contained quite a lot of oxygen, enough,
9. he thought, to get them down to Camp VIII if very sparingly used. They left the bottles
10. there and climbed on. As they went on up they sometimes found the steps cut by Evans
11. and Bourdillon and were able to use them. Then at about 9.00 a.m., they reached the south
12. summit, and paused to gaze at the virgin ridge ahead.
  
13. Another 300 feet (90m). The ridge looked narrow, steep and difficult. Evans and
14. Bourdillon had warned them it would not be easy. It depended on whether the snow was
15. sufficiently hard.
  
16. They rested for ten minutes. Hillary checked their oxygen and made fresh
17. calculations. At three litres a minute they had enough to keep going for four and a half
18. hours. Well, they could only try.
  
19. "Everything all right?"
  
20. "All right."
  
21. "Let's go".
22. There was no oxygen to spare for unnecessary words.
23. Hillary's ice-axe bit into the first steep slope of the ridge, and he felt a surge of confidence.
24. The snow was hard and firm. A few more strokes of the axe and he had cut a good solid

25. step. Best of all, with a firm thrust he could sink his ice-axe to half-way up the shaft making

26. a good anchor.

27. It would have been too dangerous for them to climb together. Therefore, they took it in

28. turns. While one cut out the steps or climbed, the other anchored his axe and wrapped the

29. rope around it.

30. This way progress was slow and, if not exactly safe, less dangerous than without an

31. anchor. They were slowed down still further by periodical icing up of their oxygen

32. breathing sets.

33. The weather was perfect. They pushed on for an hour, gradually climbing up the ridge.

34. Then they reached the foot of their last big obstacle before the top – a cliff of rock that

35. they had seen on photographs and studied through binoculars and thought much about.

36. The rock was smooth and almost holdless and Hillary had to go up backwards while

37. Tenzing paid out the rope from below.

38. The climb, according to Hillary, was forty feet (12 m). Tenzing estimated it at fifteen feet

39. (4.5 m).

40. Certainly it was a tremendous ordeal.

41. They rested briefly and then went on. It was two hours since they had left the south

42. summit, and still they were not at the top. The ridge curved away to the right and the

43. summit disappeared.

44. They came round a hump and there was another one ahead. It seemed the ridge would

45. never end.

46. Then, suddenly, instead of going on up the ridge dropped away. They were looking down

47. on the mountains of Tibet. Ahead lay one more hump – the last hump – the summit,, a

48. bare thirty feet (9 m) away.

49. They stepped up on to the summit. Then they did what all climbers do when they reach the

50. top of a mountain – they shook hands. But both decided that was not enough for Everest,

51. and they thumped each other on the back, thrilled with triumph and delight.

52. They put up flags. Hillary took photographs. They looked down on the world below them,

53. from its highest point. They also looked for any relics of Mallory and Irvine, but found none.

54. Then it was it was time to go.

**A. Meaning in Context**

1. Choose the word closest in meaning to the underlined word taken from the passage.

A. Frozen solid (line 4)

- a) strong      b) hollow      c) hard      d) heavy

B. the south summit (line 11-12)

- a) peak      b) level      c) height      d) projection

C. the virgin ridge (line 12)

- a) unscaled      b) modest      c) unmarried      d) unsealed

D. a good anchor (line 26)

- a) hold      b) chain      c) aim      d) weight

E. a tremendous ordeal (line 40)

- a) judgement      b) trial      c) hardship      d) job

[ 5 marks]

2. Explain each word/phrase as used in the passage.

a) was relieved to find (line 8)

b) if very sparingly used (line 9)

c) was sufficiently hard (line 15)

d) a surge of confidence (line 23)

e) took it in turns (line 27)

f) progress was slow (1.24)

g) if not exactly safe (line 30)

h) almost holdless (line 30)

i) paid out the rope (line 36)

j) dropped away (line 46)

[ 20 ]

**B. Choose the best answer**

1. Why did Hillary and Tenzing leave the oxygen bottles where they found them?
  - a) The oxygen bottles did not belong to them.
  - b) The oxygen bottles were too heavy for them to carry along.
  - c) The oxygen bottles were for their descent to Camp VIII.
  - d) The oxygen bottles were meant for Evans and Bourdillon.
2. Why was their progress up the ridge slow?
  - a) They paused for rest too often.
  - b) They were poorly equipped for the climb.
  - c) Each had to cut his own steps up.
  - d) They had to climb the ridge in turns.
3. What was their last big obstacle before the top?
  - a) A cliff of rock.
  - b) The south summit.
  - c) The last hump before the summit.
  - d) The first hump before the ridge dropped away.
4. How did they congratulate each other in a fitting manner on reaching the summit?
  - a) They shook hands.
  - b) They thumped each other on the back.
  - c) They saluted each other.
  - d) They embraced each other.

[4 ]

**C. Answer these questions in your own word.**

- a) i) How long did it take Hillary and Tenzing to reach the south summit? [1]  
ii) What was the distance from there to the top of Everest? [1]
- b) i) On what did the success of their attempt to reach the top of Everest depend?[1]  
ii) When did Hillary feel confident they would be successful? [1]
- c) Why did Hillary and Tenzing speak so curtly to each other? [2]
- d) i) How did they feel when they reached the summit? [1]  
ii) Do you think they were justified in their feelings? [1]
- e) i) What did they put up on Everest? [1]  
ii) What does this show? [1]
- f) Why did Hillary take photographs? [1]

[40]

**Fill in each blank with the correct form of the verb in brackets.**

- a) He \_\_\_\_\_ (be) a student in this school two years ago.
- b) Many visitors \_\_\_\_\_ (come) to this resort every month.
- c) Everyone \_\_\_\_\_ (like) a cheerful person.
- d) She \_\_\_\_\_ (learn) to swim when she was young.
- e) He \_\_\_\_\_ (shut) the door when he left the room.
- f) The children \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to school five days a week.
- g) The club \_\_\_\_\_ (buy) a new car last week.
- h) The club \_\_\_\_\_ (hold) its annual general meeting last Monday.
- i) We usually \_\_\_\_\_ (have) three meals a day.
- j) The moon \_\_\_\_\_ (control) the tides of the ocean. [10]

**QUESTION 2 B**

Change the following statements into Indirect Speech

- a) She said, "My classmates are visiting me."
- b) He reported, "I have balanced the accounts."
- c) The teacher told us, "The earth is a comparatively young planet".
- d) He wrote, "I am coming at the end of the month".
- e) The student said, "I shall hand in my assignment tomorrow". [5]

**QUESTION 3**

Fill in the blank with the correct word.

1. My uncle is a \_\_\_\_\_ man.  
a) cheer                                 b) cheering                c) cheerful
2. The soldier was commended for his \_\_\_\_\_ in the war.  
a) bravery                                b) brave                    c) bravely
3. The police discovered a \_\_\_\_\_ body in the bush.  
a) deadly                                 b) deaden                   c) dead
4. She bears no \_\_\_\_\_ towards those who ill-treated her.  
a) Bitter                                  b) bitterness              c) bitterly
5. The old couple speak \_\_\_\_\_ of their adopted daughter who is now in Canada.  
a) Warm                                    b) warmth                   c) warmly
6. She was told to avoid doing \_\_\_\_\_ work.  
a) Strenuous                               b) strenuously             c) strained

7. My first trip abroad was a \_\_\_\_\_ one.  
a) Memory                      b) memorable      c) memorize
8. He received a \_\_\_\_\_ blow on the head and fell unconscious.  
a) Powered                      b) power            c) powerful
9. He was \_\_\_\_\_ to see me at the museum.  
a) Surprise                      b) surprised        c) surprising
10. Everybody enjoys his company as his conversation is always full of \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) Wit                              b) witty              c) wittingly.
11. We always make \_\_\_\_\_ for a margin of error.  
a) Allow                          b) allowance        c) allowing
12. The rumours he spread about John were \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) Malicious                      b) malice            c) maliciously
13. We must \_\_\_\_\_ with the work as planned.  
a) Procedure                      b) proceed            c) proceeding
14. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Roman from school came as a shock to his parents.  
a) Expel                            b) expulsion        c) expelled
15. There is a warning of \_\_\_\_\_ outside the dilapidated building.  
a) Dangerous                      b) dangerly        c) danger

[15]



**SECTION C**

**QUESTION 4**

**Answer True or False**

1. Communication is not good in organizations because it wastes time and disrupts operations.
2. All written communication channels take the same format.
3. A memorandum is an official communication document that is transmitted through the open mail.
4. The subject head must be written in a clear and precise sentence.
5. Since a memo is brief and precise, it is the best channel to use between organizations.
6. The tone of an informal letter is influenced by the kind of relationship there is between the sender and receiver.
7. Whatever the purpose of the business letter is, its tone should remain polite.
8. The introduction and conclusion of a letter are unimportant since they do not carry the actual message.
9. Every official letter must bear the personal stamp of the sender which is his/her signature.
10. One's official designation is part of one's identify.
11. A letter and a memo are interchangeable channels of organizational communication.
12. A good memo must have a friendly salutation.
13. The paragraphs of the indented style of writing are separated by a full blank line.
14. A memo is used to jog the memory.
15. A letter written to a parent is as unofficial as one written to a neighbour. [30]