

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

Faculty of Health Science

Department of Environmental Health science

NOVEMBER 2014 Main Examination

Title of Paper: Risk Assessment and Risk Communication

Course Code: EHS 567

Time: 2 HOURS

Marks allocation: 100 Marks

Instructions:

- 1) Answer all questions
- 2) Each question is weighted 25 marks
- 3) Write neatly and clearly
- 4) Begin each question in a separate sheet of paper
- 5) Numbering within a question chosen should be in a sequential order

This paper is not to be opened until the invigilator has granted permission

Question 1:

- a) What is meant by risk assessment? (3 marks)
- b) Differentiate between Risk Management and Risk Communication. (6 marks)
- c) Give an outline of the steps involved in an effective risk assessment. (6 marks)
- d) What is the difference between a hazard and a risk? (5 marks)
- e) What is risk characterization? Discuss briefly (5 marks)

Total =(25 marks)

Question 2:

- a) What are risk matrices? (10 marks)
- b) What is a hierarchy of control? Discuss the headings in the order of effectiveness to reduce risks you have identified in the workplace. (15 marks)

Total =(25 marks)

Question 3:

- a) What are the components of a workplace health and safety risk management? (10 marks)
- b) Risk assessments may either be qualitative or quantitative. Explain the difference(s) between the two and discuss the advantages and disadvantages of either qualitative or quantitative risk assessment. (15 marks)

Total =(25 marks)

Question 4:

- a) Read the following scenario and answer the questions below:

Scenario:

Five people work at the dry cleaning shop. The manager and deputy manager, who work full time and three part-time staff. The shop is a two-storey building with a counter at the front, where staff deals with customers and dry cleaning equipment in the back and upstairs. The landlord has surveyed the building for asbestos and none was found.

- a) How would you undertake a risk assessment of this shop? (10 marks)
- b) What types of hazards that may be encountered? Be specific. (10 marks)
- c) Who might be harmed by these hazards and how? (5 marks)

Total=(25 marks)