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UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO, SRI LANKA  
FACULTY OF ARTS  
FIRST YEAR EXAMINATION IN ARTS  
FIRST SEMESTER END EXAMINATION - 2023/24  
FNDE 11081– Proficiency Course in English (Level 1)  
Two (02) Hours

Answer All Questions

(This question paper consists of 9 questions on pages 2 – 7.)

Important Instructions to Candidates

- If a page or part of this question paper is not printed, please inform the supervisor immediately.
- Enter your **Index Number** on all the pages including the cover page.
- Write the answers to the questions in the space provided in the question paper.

Question Number	Marks
01 (05 marks)	
02 (05 marks)	
03 (05 marks)	
04 (05 marks)	
05 (08 marks)	
06 (06 marks)	
07 (06 marks)	
08 (10 marks)	
09 (10 marks)	
Total (60 marks)	



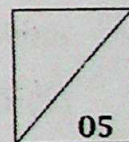
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**Question 01: Fill in the following application form with information about yourself.** (5 marks)

**Application Form for University Students  
Workshop on Academic Writing  
Organised by the Public Library**

- 1) Full name: .....
- 2) Name with initials: .....
- 3) Age: .....
- 4) Date of birth (write the name of the month in letters): .....
- 5) Home address: .....
- 6) Name of university: .....
- 7) Name of faculty: .....
- 8) Name of your degree: .....
- 9) Your subjects: .....
- 10) Availability (mention at least one day of the week you are available): .....

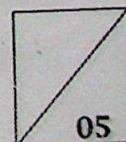
Q.1



**Question 02: Fill in the blanks with “a”, “an”, or “the”.** (5 marks)

Menaka Rathnayake is my friend. She is 20 years old. Her hometown is Ganemulla. She has (1)..... older sister and (2)..... younger brother. Her older sister is (3)..... teacher at (4) ..... school in Ganemulla. Her younger brother works at (5)..... Ganemulla Teaching Hospital as (6)..... doctor. Menaka is following (7)..... computer course at (8)..... Vocational Training Centre in Ganemulla. Her hobbies are listening to music, reading books and playing (9)..... violin. I like Menaka because she is (10)..... honest girl.

Q.2



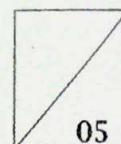


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**Question 03: Fill in the blanks in the following sentences by writing the singular or the plural form of the noun given within brackets.** (5 marks)

- (1) A cat has nine ..... (life).
- (2) The ..... (nurse) at the city hospital are very kind.
- (3) There are five ..... (woman) at the counter to withdraw money.
- (4) We want to paint all the ..... (shelf) white.
- (5) He travels to many ..... (city) for business.
- (6) The little girl has lots of ..... (toy).
- (7) Can you ask those ..... (person) where they are going?
- (8) This ..... (photo) is of my grandmother when she was young.
- (9) I keep all the ..... (knife) in the drawer.
- (10) The students did not complete all the ..... (homework) on time.

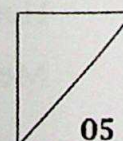
Q.3



**Question 04: Fill in the blanks by underlining the correct word given within brackets.** (5 marks)

- (1) Can you give me ..... (that / these / those) newspaper?
- (2) ..... (This / These / That / Those) buildings over there belong to our university.
- (3) This recipe doesn't need ..... (many / much) milk.
- (4) How ..... (many / much) oranges did you put in the box?
- (5) I didn't get ..... (many / much) sleep last night.
- (6) There are too ..... (many / much) students in this class.
- (7) I need five ..... (bars / loaves / kilos) of bread to make sandwiches for the trip.
- (8) Add another ..... (cup / bowl / pinch) of salt to the curry.
- (9) The ..... (thickness / sweetness / softness) of the sugar made me dizzy.
- (10) The boy laughed, and everyone saw his ..... (sadness / honesty / happiness) on his face.

Q.4





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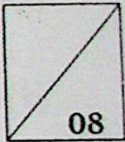
**Question 05: Fill in the blanks using the correct form of the verb given in brackets.**

(8 marks)

Lionel Messi is a great footballer. He usually (1)..... (get) up at 6:30 a.m. and (2)..... (go) swimming. After that, he (3)..... (eat) breakfast and (4)..... (take) a bath. At 8 am, Lionel (5)..... (start) football training. He always (6)..... (have) lunch at about half past one and then (7)..... (sleep) for a while. He (8)..... (continue) his training at 4 p.m. On the field, Lionel often (9)..... (kick) goals. His name (10)..... (be) "The Flea" because he is tall and fast. People (11)..... (say) he's got magic feet! When Lionel (12)..... (not have) training or a match, he (13)..... (like) to read and (14)..... (play) video games. He also (15)..... (work) for his company that (16)..... (help) poor children.

(Adapted from: [www.scribd.com](http://www.scribd.com))

Q.5



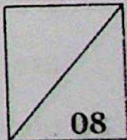
**Question 06: Describe six (6) routine activities you do on weekdays using any six (6) verbs from the list of verbs given below. Write meaningful sentences. Use one verb only once.**

(6 marks)

go / watch / do / make / read / listen / meet / spend / sweep

- 1) .....
- 2) .....
- 3) .....
- 4) .....
- 5) .....
- 6) .....

Q.6





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**Question 07: Read the following passage and indicate whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).** (6 marks)

Astronauts on the International Space Station have a busy schedule. Every day they wake up at 7:00 GMT. From 7:00 to 8:00, they wash up and eat breakfast. At 8:00 in the morning, they call Ground Control in their countries. After talking to Ground Control, their workday begins. The astronauts don't do the same thing every day. Their schedules change every week. Each day they exercise for an hour in the morning and an hour in the afternoon. After dinner, they have some time off. Then, it's time to go to sleep. Sometimes this isn't easy because the sun rises and sets 16 times each day on the space station. The astronauts' work doesn't end on Friday. They work a half day on Saturday and all day on Sunday. Astronauts are very busy people.

(Adapted from: [www.scribd.com](http://www.scribd.com))

(1) This passage is about astronauts who work at the International Space Station.

T / F

(2) When the astronauts' workday starts, they call Ground Control in their countries.

T / F

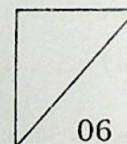
(3) Astronauts exercise for two hours every day. T / F

(4) Astronauts work the whole day, and they don't have any free time because they have a very busy schedule. T / F

(5) It is difficult to sleep at the International Space Station. T / F

(6) Astronauts usually have the weekend off. T / F

Q.7



**Question 08: Read the following passage and give short answers to the questions below.** (10 marks)

Jim Sullivan likes music. He plays many instruments. He plays the piano, saxophone, trumpet, guitar, and bagpipes. The bagpipes are his favourite instrument. The bagpipes are a wind instrument, and they are sometimes called "pipes." Not very many people play the bagpipes. Jim learned to play the bagpipes when he was young. He learned it



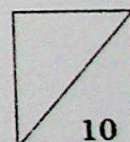
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from his grandfather. Jim plays the bagpipes in celebrations and parades. The audience claps for Jim after his performance. They enjoy the music of the bagpipes. Jim also teaches people how to play the bagpipes. He gives lessons to children and adults. Additionally, he teaches them the history of the bagpipes. Jim is a good teacher.

(Adapted from: [www.scribd.com](http://www.scribd.com))

- (1) What does Jim like? .....
- (2) Name two instruments Jim plays. ....
- (3) What is Jim's favourite instrument? .....
- (4) What kind of instrument are the bagpipes? .....
- (5) What is another name for the bagpipes? .....
- (6) When did Jim learn to play the bagpipes? .....
- (7) Who taught Jim to play the bagpipes? .....
- (8) Name two events where Jim plays the bagpipes. ....
- (9) Name two groups of people Jim teaches how to play the bagpipes.  
.....
- (10) What does Jim additionally teach his students? .....

Q.8



**Question 09: Read the following information about Meera de Silva. Then write a paragraph about her. Use all the information given below.** (10 marks)

Meera de Silva (28 years old; politician)

Residence: Polonnaruwa

School: Lankapura Maha Vidyalaya

University: University of Peradeniya

Husband: Rajeeva Premarathne (30 years old; lawyer)



**Ambition:** To get elected to the Sri Lankan parliament and end poverty in her community

- End of paper -

**Q.9**

