

# **NAMIBIA UNIVERSITY**OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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# 1st OPPORTUNITY EXAMINATION

**EXAMINER: MS. A. SMITH** 

MODERATOR: MR. A. TJIJORO

- This examination paper consists of **3** pages (including this front page)
- 2. Instructions
- 3. Answer ALL questions.
- 4. Please write down your answers in the answer book provided.

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#### Section 1: READING COMPREHENSION

(30 marks)

Read the passage below carefully and then answer the questions, which follow in your own words as far as possible. Write in full sentences unless otherwise indicated.

#### Video Games, Literacy and Learning

#### By James Paul Gee

- 1. When people learn to play video games, they are learning a new literacy. Of course, this is not the way the word "literacy" is normally used. Traditionally, people think of literacy as the ability to read and write. Why, then, should we think of literacy more broadly, in regard to video games or anything else, for that matter? There are two reasons.
- 2. First, in the modern world, language is not the only important communicational system. Today images, symbols, graphs, diagrams, artefacts, and many other visual symbols are particularly significant. Thus, the idea of different types of "visual literacy" would seem to be an important one. For example, being able to "read" the images in advertising is one type of visual literacy. And, of course, there are different ways to read such images, ways that are more or less aligned with the intentions and interests of the advertisers. Knowing how to read interior designs in homes, modernist art in museums, and videos on MTV are other forms of visual literacy.
- 3. Furthermore, very often today words and images of various sorts are juxtaposed and integrated in a variety of ways. In newspapers and magazines as well as in textbooks, images take up more and more of the space alongside words. In fact, in many modern high school and college textbooks in the sciences images, not only take up more space, but also carry meanings that are independent of the words in the text. If you cannot read these images, you will not be able to recover their meanings from the words in the text as was more usual in the past. In such multimodal texts (texts that mix words and images), the images often communicate different things from the words. And the combination of the two modes communicates things that neither of the modes does separately. Thus, the idea of different sorts of multimodal literacy seems an important one. Both modes and multimodality go far beyond images and words to include sounds, music, movement, bodily sensations, and smells.
- 4. Additionally, we very obviously live in a world awash with images. It is our first answer to the question why we should think of literacy more broadly. The second answer is this: Even though reading and writing seem so central to what literacy means traditionally, reading and writing are not such general and obvious matters as they might at first seem. After all, we never just read or write; rather, we always read or write something in some way.
- 5. There are many different ways of reading and writing. We do not read or write newspapers, legal tracts, essays in literary criticism, poetry, rap songs, and so forth through a nearly endless list in the same way. Each of these domains has its own rules and requirements. Each is a culturally and historically a separate way of reading and writing, and, in that sense, a different literacy. Furthermore, in each case, if we want to "break the rules" and read against the grain of the text-for the purposes of critique, for instance, we have to do so in different ways, usually with some relatively deep knowledge of how to read such texts "according to the rules."

- 6. So, there are different ways to read different types of texts. Literacy is multiple, then, in the sense that the legal literacy needed for reading law books is not the same as the literacy needed for reading physics texts or superhero comic books. And we should not be too quick to dismiss the latter form of literacy. Many a superhero comic is replete with post-Freudian irony of a sort that would make a modern literary critic's heart beat fast and confuse any otherwise normal adult. Literacy, then, even as traditionally conceived to involve only print, is not a unitary thing but a multiple matter. There are, even in regard to printed texts and even leaving aside images and multimodal texts, different "literacies."
- 7. Once we see this multiplicity of literacy (literacies), we realize that when we think about reading and writing, we have to think beyond print. Reading and writing in any domain, whether it is law, rap songs, academic essays, superhero comics, or whatever, are not just ways of decoding print; they are also caught up with and in social practices. Video games are a new form of art. They will not replace books; they will sit beside them, interact with them, and change them and their role in society in various ways, as, indeed, they are already doing strongly with movies. Today, many movies are based on video games and many more are influenced by them. We have no idea yet how people "read" video games and what meanings they make from them. Still less do we know how they will "read" them in the future.

1.	What is the main idea of the text?	(2)
2.	According to the first paragraph, how was literacy perceived in the past?	(2)
	From the passage, what are the ideal types of visual literacy according to paragraph 2? Indicate whether the following statements are true or false	(3) (4)
	<ul> <li>(i) In the modern world, language seems to be the vital communicational tool</li> <li>(ii) Images communicate various things in multimodal texts</li> <li>(iii) Reading and writing are also caught up with and in social practices</li> <li>(iv) Learning a new literacy also incorporates playing video games</li> </ul>	
5.	From the passage, what could be an example from a science textbook of the phenomenon author describes in the third paragraph.	the (2)

- author describes in the third paragraph. (2)
- 6. According to paragraph 4, explain the two broad definitions of literacy (4)
- 7. What is the author's views on video games? (2)
- 8. Explain the meaning of the following expressions as they are used in the text:
  - (i) '...words and images of various sorts are juxtaposed and integrated in a variety of ways...' (Paragraph 3) (2)
  - (ii) '...live in a world awash with images...' (Paragraph 4)
- Explain the meaning of the idiom "read against the grain of the text" in the sixth Paragraph.

- 10. Why does the author give the example of superhero comics to explain multiple literacies?(2)11. Why does the author give the example of superhero comics to explain multiple literacies?12. What does the author mean by literacy being multiple?(2)
- SECTION 2: GRAMMAR (25 marks)

### Read the text below and then answer the questions that follow:

- 1. We (1) are now more likely to tell our daughters they can be anything they want to be an (2) astronaut and a mother, a tomboy and a girlie girl. (3) But we do not do the same for (4) our sons. Even as we (5) have given girls more choices for the roles they play, boys' worlds are still confined, social scientists say. They are discouraged from having interests that are considered feminine. They are told to be tough at all costs, or else to tamp down their so-called boy energy. Girls remain passive in our communities.
- 2. If we want to create an equitable society, one in which everyone can thrive, we need to also give boys more choices. As Gloria Steinem says, "I'm glad we've begun to raise our daughters more like our sons, but it will never work until we raise our sons more like our daughters." That's because women's roles can't expand if men's don't, too. But it's not just about women. Men are falling behind in school and work because we are not raising boys to succeed in the new globalised economy. Men are not preparing to face the world of gender equality.
- 3. In her new book entitled 'We Are All Feminist', Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, the Nigerian-born author, gives instructions for raising a feminist daughter. But how can we raise feminist sons? I asked neuroscientists, economists, psychologists and others to answer that question, based on the latest research and (i) data/datas we have about gender. I defined feminist simply, as someone who (ii) believes/believe in the full equality of men and women. Their (iii) advice/advise applied broadly: to anyone who wants to raise children who are kind, confident and free to pursue their dreams.
- Re-write the underlined sentence in Paragraph 1 in the negative form. (2)a) b) Identify the tense of the sentence underlined in Paragraph 1. (1)Identify the parts of speech of the words numbered 1 to 5 in Paragraph 1. (5)c) d) Change the underlined sentence in Paragraph 2 into the following tenses: (8)(i) Past continuous tense (2)(ii) (2)Present perfect tense (iii) Future continuous tense (2)e) Choose the words numbered i to iii in Paragraph 3 to complete the sentence correctly.

Read the following essay and use the information to answer the questions that follow.

#### Why Should You Become a Vegetarian?

Vegetarianism has become the most popular diet among the young generations facing the new millennium. This discipline eliminates the intake of meat and in some cases also the consumption of dairy products and eggs. Are there enough reasons to make you change your eating habits? My purpose is to prove that vegetarianism is the diet that offers more benefits to our health, spirit, and society.

Nowadays, health is the number one individual and governmental concern. Health is a fragile factor, and its behaviour relies mostly on the nutritional quality of the food we ingest. A balanced non-vegetarian diet allows the consumption of all four main food groups, including meat and other animal by-products that are important protein and fat sources. Most of us consume more proteins and fats than we need. An excess of proteins can cause kidney failure and/or osteoporosis, and a high-fat diet can eventually lead to heart disease, cancer, obesity, and diabetes. On the other hand, vegetarians get protein from grains, beans, vegetables, and low-fat food. This is how they reduce the risk of most diseases caused by fats. It is a myth to believe that vegetarians don't get enough proteins or that their diet is not balanced because they don't eat meat. The key is variety and accurate combinations of energy and protein sources.

If I were asked to describe a vegetarian, I would immediately mention that they are very disciplined people. It has been proven that there exists a remarkable correlation between the people who succeed and people who follow a disciplined lifestyle. People who are faithful to the disciplines they have acquired show integrity, a remarkable behaviour, and they are usually in a good mood. Vegetarians, always concerned about quality and discipline, develop a greater social responsibility that motivates them to improve their environment.

Moreover, environmental issues have been capturing public attention because of their relevancy and the increasing deterioration of our quality of life. If you are concerned about the environment, consider that massive meat production can have a negative impact on tropical rain forests, soil stability, and air and water quality. Furthermore, large extensions of forests have been cut and changed into grasslands that provide cattle with food. To conserve grasslands, fertilisers and other chemical substances are used, soil and water resources are polluted. Even though there are methods that avoid this kind of deterioration, producers prefer to ignore them so they can keep satisfying the increasing meat demand without affecting their production rates.

Vegetarians' life spans are increased and through this discipline they learn to live a quality life in all the possible aspects. Besides, their beliefs are congruent with their lifestyle and they take responsibility and action for problems. Within their own bodies and in their surroundings. Take a look at yourself. Is your health at risk have you been able to reach your goals? Are you a factor of change and improvement within your society? You must at least try becoming a vegetarian now that you know it is a tempting challenge and an exciting experiment that has advantages and no risks. Whether you do it for your body, for your lifestyle, or for your environment, just do it. Stop letting others have all the credit, the fun, and the quality.

http://www.eslbee.com/why should you become a vegetarian.htm

1.	identify and write down the thesis statement of the essay.	(1)
2.	(a) Identify and write down the topic sentence of Paragraph 2.	(1)
	(b) Write down the topic of topic sentence you identified in Question 3(a).	(1)
	(c) Write down the controlling idea of the topic sentence in Question 3(a).	(1)
3.	Write down the concluding remark expressed in Paragraph 2.	(1)
4.	Write down 2 transitional words in Paragraph 4.	(2)
5.	(a) Identify and write down a sentence fragment in Paragraph 5.	(1)
	(b) Suggest one way of correcting the sentence fragment in Question 6.	(1)
6.	Identify the run-on sentence in Paragraph 5 and write down the correction of	
	the run-on sentence you have identified.	(3)
	Is your health at risk have you been able to reach your goals?	
7.	Identify the comma splice in Paragraph 4 and write down the correction of the comma you have identified.	splice (3)

## **SECTION 4: ESSAY WRITING**

[30 marks]

Choose one topic below and write an essay of about 250 to 300 words. Pay attention to essay structure, coherence, punctuation and language usage.

- a) Education is the key to success
- b) Spare the rod and spoil the child
- c) If I could change one thing about myself
- d) A place I have always wanted to visit