NAMIBIA UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

FACULTY OF HUMAN SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION

QUALIFICATION: BACHELOR OF ENGLISH	
QUALIFICATION CODE: 07BAEN	**LEVEL:** 5
COURSE CODE: IDL521S	**COURSE NAME:** INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL LITERATURE
SESSION: JANUARY 2020	**PAPER:** 1 OF 1
DURATION: 3 HOURS	**MARKS:** 100

SECOND OPPORTUNITY/SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER	
EXAMINER(S)	DR K. CARTER
MODERATOR:	DR H. ELLIS

INSTRUCTIONS
1. Answer all questions.
2. Write clearly and neatly.
3. Number the answers clearly.
4. Use blue or black ink

THIS EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF 6 PAGES (Including this front page)

SECTION 1:

MULTIPLE CHOICE: Write only ONE correct letter: A, B, C, or D for each of the following multiple choice questions: [26 marks]

1) What is a concordance?
    A. A programme that stores digital text.
    B. An index of all the main words in a book, along with their immediate contexts.
    C. A plagiarism detection programme.
    D. A standard encoding scheme for humanities electronics arts.

2) What was the significance of Robert Busa's trip to the IBM's Literary Data Processing Centre in 1949?
    A. It was there that he began working on a collection of pre-1642 editions of William Shakespeare's plays.
    B. It was there that he met Thomas Watson's sister who would later become his wife.
    C. It was there that the seeds for creating the Internet and Web Browsing were planted.
    D. It was there that the texts of St Thomas Aquinas were transferred to punch cards and an index was created.

3) In the 1960's, what deterred many people from doing computer-based work?
    A. Travelling to computer centres took time and money.
    B. Computer viruses were rampant and no programmes existed to fix such problems.
    C. Data still had to be entered by hand, on punch cards or paper tape.
    D. People were not interested in computers.

4) During the 1970's – mid-1980's, how did digital humanities evolve?
    A. Mapping the correspondences and networks among scientific academies took place.
    B. Many people had started using computers in their daily lives, and began to consider what benefits they could offer.
    C. Animated poetry (Kinetic poetry) was created and used widely among poets in the United States and Europe.
    D. Group collaborative projects among universities began to be formed.

5) During the early 1990s until today, how did digital humanities evolve?
    A. A significant amount of digital text and image archives emerged at digital humanities centres around the world.
    B. The organisation, South African Humanities Association, was created.
    C. The first internet browser became available in 2000, and this had a great impact on digital humanities.
    D. Text Encoding Initiative (TEI) was launched. Its purpose was to create a standard encoding scheme for humanities electronics arts.

6) In the United States, writers and printers became heroes for their writing and dissemination of ideas during tense political times. This eventually led to the:

    A. Civil War

    B. American Revolution

    C. US-Mexico war

    D. Korean War

7) What is a characteristic of a blog?

    A. Blogs are not static or fixed like a webpage, but not private like an email.

    B. Blogs allow any user to add and edit content.

    C. Blogs allow any user to use electronic highlights and insert comments.

    D. Blogs allow any user to magnify it, change the font, change the colours, etc.

8) Through the *Mapping the Republic of Letters* project, one can:

    A. Follow the correspondences during a 4-year expedition of a British explorer who covered more than 7000 kilometers throughout Southern Africa.

    B. Learn about different species of birds of Damara land.

    C. Learn about rare plants in Namibia.

    D. Follow the correspondences sent to religious leaders, scientists, doctors and astronomers throughout England, France and the Netherlands during the 17th century.

9) In digital humanities:

    A. The digital humanist has access to so much information, that sorting through it all is becoming a skill on its own.

    B. The digital humanist can search through entire collections, looking for a word or a phrase, or a frequency of a word.

    C. The digital humanist can analyze information in ways that was not possible before.

    D. All of the above.

10) Which statement below is FALSE?

    A. Through digital humanities tools, we can view old manuscripts that are only stored in one place in the world, such as the British Museum in London.

    B. Through digital humanities tools, we can analyse the text of different documents to confirm authorship.

    C. Through digital humanities tools, we can conduct a network analysis of an HIV positive man who infects multiple women, while at the same time discussing the social implications of the disease.

    D. Through digital humanities tools, we can find out the names of the more than 12 million Africans who were forced into slavery.

11) Which statement below is FALSE?

   A. Digital humanists sometimes use mathematical tools.

   B. The tools that digital humanists use are complex.

   C. The tools that digital humanists use are cost efficient.

   D. Examples of tools digital humanists use include GIS mapping, spatial analysis, text analysis, network analysis and data visualization.

12) Thirty years ago, academics experienced challenges when conducting research. Which statement below is an example of a challenge academics experienced?

   A. Academics in these times did their research primarily by using index cards and finding books in the libraries.

   B. If a rare book was sought, academics would write a letter to the author of the book and then travel by horse to collect the book.

   C. If finding a book in a library, academics would never be allowed to take the book out of the library.

   D. Academics in these times were not allowed use photocopying machines as they were extremely fragile.

13) There are many different types of digital literature. The most basic is moving words and images, which play through a flash file and resemble a video. An example of this effect is:

   A. Alison Clifford's *The sweet old etcetera*

   B. Michael Smith's *The Meaning of Life*

   C. William Poundstone's *Project for Tachistoscope*

   D. Emily Short's *Galatea*

SECTION 2:   **TRUE OR FALSE?**   **[24 marks]**

1) Early manuscripts were produced on a surface that could survive long periods of time.

   A. True

   B. False

2) In some cases, only one copy of an early manuscript existed. Therefore, the manuscript could only be viewed in one place in the world.

   A. True

   B. False

3) Before email, no message could travel faster than a human being could travel (by foot, horse, ship or plane). Therefore, in the days before digital literature, communicating with other scholars was done by letters or face-to-face encounters.

   A. True

   B. False

4) **The Oxford Text Archive was the beginning of the first digital library.**
   A. True
   B. False

5) **Digital humanities are studies about human culture, which includes literature, philosophy and history. Subject matter is often in the form of artefacts, text, objects and digital objects.**
   A. True
   B. False

6) **With new software being invented all the time, the term digital humanities is constantly being revised and reconsidered.**
   A. True
   B. False

7) **Digital Humanities was initially called, "Computer Literacy."**
   A. True
   B. False

8) *Beowulf* **is the longest surviving poem in Old English.**
   A. True
   B. False

9) **Many universities offer Bachelor, Master's or Ph.D. degrees in the field of Digital**
   A. True
   B. False

10) **A blogroll is a list of links to webpages that the author of a blog finds interesting.**
   A. True
   B. False

11) **A biography is a story or account that a person writes about themselves.**
   A. True
   B. False

12) **Academics sometimes differentiate digital humanities and traditional humanities by describing digital humanities as "better" and traditional humanities as "worse."**
   A. True
   B. False

SECTION 3: SHORT ANSWER   **[50 marks total]**

1) The literature journey in humanities began with <u>manuscripts</u>. Describe the early days of manuscripts.   **[10 marks]**

2) Your friend is enrolled in an African history course and must write a paper about the millions of Africans who were taken and then forced into slavery in Europe and the Americas from 1500-1870. He locates a book on slavery in the library that was written 30 years ago. Based on the book he found, you tell your friend that he may only find broad, general information on the subject. You want to convince him that he can find more detailed information about slavery on the internet. Convince your friend of the specific information he can find based on the *Animated Interactive History of the Atlantic Slave Trade* described in Unit 1. List 5 examples of what he could find.   **[5 marks]**

3) There are different types of digital literature projects. One of these is digitising rare manuscripts. An example of this *The Shakespeare Quartos Archive*. Describe *The Shakespeare Quartos Archive* project and its achievements.   **[6 marks]**

4) Brad Huddleston makes several important points in the article "Beware of the dark side of technology," from the book, *Digital cocaine: A journey toward ibalance*. List 5 points that the author makes and give an example for each one to explain your point.   **[10 marks]**

5) In Europe, how did <u>print</u> lead to major <u>changes</u> in <u>religion, science</u> and <u>culture?</u> Write three complete paragraphs: one on religion, one on science, and one on culture. **[13 marks]**

6) What did written text look like thirty years ago? Describe 3 characteristics or features of written text thirty years ago. What was conducting research like thirty years ago? Describe 3 characteristics or features of conducting research thirty years ago.   **[6 marks]**

End of paper