



**NAMIBIA UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

**HAROLD PUPDEWITZ GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT**

COURSE CODE: EPR521C	COURSE NAME: ENGLISH IN PRACTICE
DATE: JULY 2024	MODE: PM
DURATION: 3 Hours	MARKS: 100

SECOND OPPORTUNITY EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER	
EXAMINER:	Ms C. Botes
MODERATOR:	Ms T. Kavihuha

INSTRUCTIONS
1. Answer ALL the questions. 2. Write clearly and neatly. 3. Number the answers clearly.

PERMISSIBLE MATERIALS

1. Examination paper
2. Examination script

THIS QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF 9 PAGES (INCLUDING THIS FRONT PAGE)

Section A: Reading Comprehension

[25 marks]

Read the passage below and then answer the questions that follow.

Human beings are in the process of dramatically reshaping the Earth's ecosystems. As far back as the 19th century, some scientists have noted that the current era is defined mainly by the impact of human activity. Now, there is an emerging consensus among Earth scientists that we have indeed entered a new period of geological time, the Anthropocene epoch.

Scientists who study the history of the Earth usually divide geological time according to major changes to the ecology and climate of the Earth. For instance, the Cambrian period, some five hundred million years ago, is distinguished by a sudden explosion in the diversity of life, including the emergence of the ancestors of many modern species. More recently, the Pleistocene epoch, which ended about ten thousand years ago, is notable for its glaciers that swept over much of the Earth. The new Anthropocene epoch would be distinguished from all earlier times in Earth's history by the dramatic impact of human activity on the Earth.

Though Earth scientists debate exactly when the Anthropocene began, there is a clear consensus that human changes to the environment are real and extreme. For example, many life forms have become, and are becoming extinct as a direct result of human activity. Some palaeontologists thus argue that the human impact of the Anthropocene began at the end of the last Ice Age, around ten thousand years ago. The fossil record indicates that around that time, many large animals, like woolly mammoths and giant sloths, went extinct shortly after **humans arrived in their ranges. Their** sudden disappearance suggests that habitat destruction and overhunting by humans may have contributed to their demise. Indeed, many large animals, like elephants and gorillas, are endangered for those same reasons today.

The pace of human-caused extinctions has only increased in the past several hundred years. The growth and spread of human populations, caused by advances in seafaring technology and agriculture, has led to overexploitation of fragile ecosystems, introduction of invasive species, and pollution, causing many extinctions. Scientists have estimated the rate of extinction by studying the fossil record, monitoring existing species, and using statistical models to estimate the number of undiscovered species that have been lost. Estimates vary, but most scientists believe that diverse species are going extinct at hundreds or thousands of times the natural rate. Indeed, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature has found that, of species surveyed on its Red List of Threatened Species, about a fifth of all mammals and reptiles and nearly a third of amphibians are in danger of extinction. This ongoing, rapid loss of species has been described as a mass extinction, as severe as the vent that wiped out the dinosaurs sixty-five million years ago. To some ecologists, this steep decline in biodiversity suggests that the Anthropocene epoch began in the 17th and 18th centuries, when the rate of extinction shot up dramatically.

Human activity is also altering the climate as a whole. Since the Industrial Revolution in the 18th and 19th centuries, humans have significantly altered the atmosphere by mining and burning fossil fuels such as coal, oil, and natural gas. Some by-products of the use of these fuels, such as carbon dioxide, are greenhouse gases that trap solar energy in the Earth's atmosphere. To assess the impact of these greenhouse gases on the Earth, scientists have

had to investigate the history of the Earth's climate. Ice cores, samples of ice layers that have trapped atmospheric chemicals over time, have supplied scientists with millennia of year-by-year information about greenhouse gas concentrations and atmospheric temperature. Evidence from ice cores clearly shows that the Industrial Revolution brought about a sudden jump in carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, along with an increase in temperatures. There is a scientific consensus that this ongoing rise in temperatures has resulted in warming of the oceans, rising sea levels, and more frequent extreme weather events. Thus some climatologists propose that the Anthropocene's onset occurred with the Industrial Revolution and **its** effects on Earth's atmosphere.

Whenever the Anthropocene is judged to have begun, its impact is undeniable. Human activity has changed the face of the planet; the global ecosystem has been and is being reshaped, the composition of the atmosphere has been altered, and even weather patterns are changing in response to human activity. The consequences of these changes will affect life on Earth for millions of years to come, leaving a mark of human activity that will long outlive humanity itself.

1. Which factors do scientists consider when determining geological time? (2)
2. From which period do most modern species stem? (1)
3. What makes the Anthropocene period different from other time periods? (1)
4. On which point do earth scientists all agree? (1)
5. What lead palaeontologists to the conclusion that the impact of human activity began at the end of the last Ice Age? (1)
6. Which human activities are endangering the existence of animals today? (2)
7. (i) What are the causes of the rapid growth and spread of human populations? (2)
(ii) Discuss the consequences of such rapid population growth and spread. (3)
8. How do scientists determine the number of undiscovered species that went extinct? (3)
9. Which species on the Red List is the most endangered? (1)
10. What did scientists conclude about the continuous rise in temperatures after studying data from ice cores? (3)
11. Name two things that have been altered by human activity on Earth. (2)
12. What do the following pronouns in bold in the passage refer to? (2)
 - (i) "their" in paragraph 3
 - (ii) "its" in paragraph 5

13. Explain the following phrase as used in paragraph 3 in your own words.

“humans arrived in their ranges”

(1)

Section B: Grammar

[25 marks]

Read the passage below and then answer the grammar questions.

Namibia: Living in balance with nature

Despite its arid lands, Namibia is rich in biodiversity. To date, it (i) (to establish) twenty state-run protected areas comprising nearly 17% of the country's total land area. These protected areas are a centrepiece of Namibia's tourism industry, which in turn sustainably (ii) (to support) the country's economic development.

National parks and other protected areas serve as important reservoirs for biodiversity and environmental health. But such landscapes do not limit wildlife movement, plant dispersal and climate conditions – underscoring the interrelationship between landscapes and ecosystems which extend across the boundaries of protected areas.

Rehabeam Erckie, chief control warden at Etosha National Park says: “Thirty years ago, the parks were managed in isolation but we realised that it make makes much more sense to protect biodiversity in a wider area.”

In the past, conventional approaches to protected areas (iii) (to be) insufficient to prevent biodiversity loss, land degradation, and consequent economic decline. That is why Namibia (iv) (to currently work) to take conservation beyond its traditional boundaries. Through the creation of communal conservancies, Namibia is one of the few countries in the world where landowners have come together to manage the ecosystems at the landscape level using private land for conservation.

The support of various stakeholders, (v) (to make) it possible to keep biodiversity in balance with human activities. The government agencies (vi) (to work) to lift conservation barriers and advocate for the establishment of a large-scale network of protected landscapes in order to address imminent threats to habitat and species loss. Specifically, resources from the Global Environmental Facility are being used to ensure that Namibia's biodiversity and ecosystem values are conserved and (vii) (to continually provide) benefit flows at local, national and global levels. The Government recognises that if biodiversity is endangered, the environment ceases to support economic development and the people who depend on it.

The long term solution to protecting biodiversity requires that land uses adjacent to protected areas are also compatible with biodiversity conservation aims. Government ensures that the establishment of Landscape Conservation areas is supported, and also that adjacent land use is compatible with biodiversity conservation objectives. Stakeholders have worked to create wildlife corridors to sustain the viability of wildlife populations in Namibia. This successful

project is working to support both Namibian biodiversity and sustainable, long-term economic development.

1. Change each of the verbs numbered (i) to (vii) in the passage above into the correct verb tense. (7)

2. Identify whether the sentences below are in the active or passive voice. (3)

- (i) Landowners are using private land for conservation.
- (ii) The country's economic development is supported by these protected areas.
- (iii) The Government has allocated resources for more conservation efforts.

3. Change the sentences in Question 2 above into the opposite voice. (3)

4. Write the following statement in reported speech starting with:

Rehabeam Erckie, chief control warden at Etosha National Park said that ... (5)

Rehabeam Erckie, chief control warden at Etosha National Park says: "Thirty years ago, the parks were managed in isolation but we realised that it make makes much more sense to protect biodiversity in a wider area."

5. Write down one example of each of the following from the last paragraph: (4)

- (i) Infinitive
- (ii) Gerund
- (iii) Present participle
- (iv) Past participle

6. (i) Identify the type of conditional used in the sentence below. (1)

If stakeholders had not worked together, Namibia's biodiversity would have been threatened.

(ii) Change the sentence above into a first conditional. (1)

7. Complete the sentence below with a suitable result clause. (1)

The Government recognises that if biodiversity was endangered,

Section C: Critical Reading [20 marks]

Question 1 [10 marks]

Read the passage below and then answer the questions that follow.

Passage 1

Dolphins are regarded as the friendliest creatures in the sea and stories of them helping drowning sailors have been common since Roman times. The more we learn about dolphins, the more we realise that their society is more complex than people previously imagined. They look after other dolphins when they are ill, care for pregnant mothers and protect the weakest in the community, as we do.

In a classic study published in 1984, researchers trained a female bottlenose dolphin called Adeakamai to mimic sounds generated by a computer. The electronic sounds, and Adeakamai's responses, are remarkably similar. Then the biologists began to link these sounds to objects like a hoop, pipe, Frisbee or ball. Adeakamai was quick to figure out the connection and make the vocalisation appropriate to each object. In essence, she had learned a new vocabulary. Wild dolphins achieve similar feats. Each dolphin has its own signature whistle, which acts like a name.

In 2001 two bottlenose dolphins at the New York Aquarium passed the "mirror test". After researchers drew patterns and shapes on the animals' skin using a non-toxic temporary black ink marker, the dolphins quickly swam over to a mirror and spent long periods studying themselves. This suggests they can recognise themselves, at least to some degree, something only a handful of species can do.

Dolphins are kings of communications! They send each other messages in different ways – they squeak and whistle and also use body language, leaping out of the water, snapping their jaws and even butting heads.

[Adapted from National Geographic, 2019]

1. Answer the following questions by writing only the number and the letter of the answer that you choose in the answer book, e.g. 1.1 A.

1.1 It is clear from the passage that dolphins ...

- A are proven to be less intelligent than once thought.
- B have a reputation for being friendly to humans.
- C are the most powerful creatures that live in the oceans.
- D are not capable of learning a language and communicating with humans.

1.2 One can infer from the passage that ...

- A dolphins are quite abundant in some areas of the world.
- B dolphins are uncaring.
- C it is not usual for dolphins to communicate with each other.
- D dolphins have some social traits that are similar to those of humans.

1.3 The study conducted in 1984 showed that ...

- A captive dolphins can be taught new vocabulary.
- B dolphins do not have a signature whistle.
- C it is hard for dolphins to communicate in the wild.
- D dolphins cannot communicate without being taught.

1.4 The mirror test proves that ...

- A dolphins can identify themselves.
- B dolphins like patterns and shapes.
- C dolphins are the only species that can recognize themselves in a mirror.
- D dolphins cannot recognize themselves.

1.5 Which of these is not true about dolphins?

- A dolphins use their bodies to communicate.
- B dolphins have evolved a complex system of communication.
- C dolphins are solitary creatures.
- D dolphins can save human beings from drowning.

(5x2=10)

Question 2

[10 marks]

Read the passage below and then answer the questions that follow.

Passage 2

Light pollution is a significant but overlooked driver of the rapid decline of insect populations, according to the most comprehensive review of the scientific evidence to date. Artificial light at night can affect every aspect of insects' lives, the researchers said, from luring moths to their deaths around bulbs, to spotlighting insect prey for rats and toads, to obscuring the mating signals of fireflies.

Insects are important prey for many species, but light pollution can tip the balance in favour of the predator if it traps insects around lights. Spiders, bats, rats, Shorebirds, geckos and cane toads have all been found feeding around artificial lights. Such increases in predation risk was likely to cause the rapid extinction of affected species, the researchers said.

The researchers said light pollution is particularly hard for insects to deal with. Most human-caused threats to insects have natural analogues, such as climate change and invasive species, meaning some adaptation may take place. But the daily cycle of light and dark had remained constant for all of evolutionary time, they said.

However, light pollution was the easiest of all the threats to insects to deal with, Seymore said, "Once you turn off a light, it is gone. You don't have to go and clean up, like you do with most pollutants. I am not saying we need to get rid of light at night, I think we just need to use it wisely."

Simply turning off lights that are not needed is the most obvious action, he said, while making lights motion activated also cuts light pollution. Shading lights so only the area needed is illuminated is important, as is avoiding bluewhite lights, which interfere with daily rhythms. LED lights also offer hope as they can be easily turned to avoid harmful colours and flicker rates.

“The evidence that light pollution has profound and serious impacts on the ecosystem is overwhelmingly strong.” Said Matt Shardlow, the chief executive of the conservation charity, Buglife. “It is imperative that society now takes substantial steps to make the environment safer for insects”.

[Source: Adapted from The Guardian]

2. Answer the following questions by writing only the number and the letter of the answer that you choose in the answer book, e.g. 2.1 B.

2.1 The main theme of the passage is:

- A evolution
- B climate change
- C LED lights
- D light pollution

2.2 What is the author’s main claim?

- A Pollution has serious impacts on the ecosystem.
- B Light pollution is a serious threat to insect populations.
- C Insects are important prey for many species.
- D Light pollution is a threat that can be dealt with easily.

2.3 The first sentence of the passage mentions that light pollution is an “overlooked driver”. This means that light pollution:

- A is taken seriously as a cause for trends in insect population.
- B is irrelevant as a cause for trends in insect population.
- C is the only cause for trends in insect population.
- D is ignored as a cause for trends in insect population.

2.4 Which of the following does the author use to support his main claim?

- A quoting experts in the field
- B the bandwagon technique
- C statistics, figures and numbers
- D appealing to the reader’s emotions

2.5 Which of the following is not recommended in the passage?

- A avoiding certain kinds of lights

- B changing predator behaviour
- C lights that are activated by movement
- D lighting up only needed areas

(5x2=10)

Section D: Creative writing

[30 marks]

Write an essay based on **ONE** of the following topics. You should write between **300 and 350** words (about one and a half pages). Indicate the number of words used.

1. If you could change or invent one law to be implemented across the world, what would it be? Discuss three reasons for your choice.
2. In some countries the average worker is obliged to retire at the age of 60, while in others, people can work until they are 65 or 70. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of later retirement for a country and individuals.
3. If you had the opportunity to emigrate to another country which country would you choose? Discuss three reasons why you would consider that country.
4. Some people are addicted to cosmetic procedures. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of cosmetic surgery.
5. 'Only people who pay taxes should be allowed to vote in national elections.' Write an essay to explain to what extent you agree or disagree with this statement.
6. Many people feel that cash payments should be abolished and that the only acceptable form of payment should be debit/credit cards. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of abolishing cash as a form of payment.