



**NAMIBIA UNIVERSITY  
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

**QUALIFICATION: DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS PROCESS MANAGEMENT**

**QUALIFICATION CODE: 06DBPM**

**LEVEL: 4**

**COURSE: PRINCIPLES OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE USE**

**COURSE CODE: PLU 411C**

**SESSION: NOVEMBER 2019**

**PAPER: THEORY AND PRACTICE**

**DURATION: 3 HOURS**

**MARKS: 100**

**MODE: PART TIME**

**SECOND OPPORTUNITY EXAMINATION**

**EXAMINER** Ms A. Smith

**MODERATOR:** Dr V de Voss

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- 1. Answer all questions**
- 2. Write clearly and neatly**
- 3. Number the answers clearly**

**THIS EXAMINATION PAPER CONSIST OF 6 PAGES (INCLUDING THE FRONT PAGE)**

## SECTION 1: READING COMPREHENSION

(30 marks)

Read the passage below and then answer the questions that follow in full sentences where appropriate and in your own words as far as possible:

### The Science behind the Flamingo's One-Legged Stance

By JOANNA KLEIN, 24 MAY 2017

1. Squat down as if you're going to sit in a chair. Make sure to keep your back straight, use your hips as a hinge and push your butt backward. Try not to lean forward. Maintain your knees and ankles at 90-degree angles. Now try it on just one leg, and then swap that one with the other. To make it even harder, stand on a foam mat — and close your eyes. You may **feel your body wobbling**, or you may fall over. If only you were a flamingo.
2. Flamingos can stand on one leg for a really long time. They even do **it** while sleeping. And according to a study published in *Biology Letters*, flamingos may not even need to use their muscles for the task. "It's not tiring for them to stand on one leg and they can achieve it with very little effort," said Lena Ting, a biomedical engineer at Emory University and the Georgia Institute of Technology who co-led the study. "It might even be easier for them to stand on one leg than to stand on two."
3. Plenty of birds adopt a **one-legged posture**, often while sleeping, but the flamingo provides an extreme example. The prevailing hypotheses say the birds do it either to reduce muscle fatigue caused by switching legs, or to conserve heat. But both assume it takes muscles to stand this way, and that hadn't actually been tested. Dr Ting and her colleague, Young-Hui Chang, a neuromachinist at Georgia Tech who works with prosthetics, analysed the behaviour of flamingos in a zoo and examined the joints of flamingo cadavers. With the help of zoo keepers, the researchers coaxed eight young flamingos who had just eaten and were getting sleepy onto a device called a force plate to measure their postural sway, or the movements of an unsteady body as it tries to stabilise itself.
4. Remarkably, when **they** are falling asleep, the motion and the speed of the body was very, very low," said Dr. Ting. "That's counterintuitive because when you and I stand on one leg and close our eyes, we generally have more postural sway." That's because our response is complicated. The nervous system senses instability and sends messages to muscles to tell them to contract to stabilise the body. But the steady zoo flamingos appeared to use some kind of passive strategy that relied less on muscles and nerves, and more on the simple mechanics of how their bodies fit together.
5. The researchers used flamingo cadavers, which obviously **lack active muscles**, to see if muscles were necessary for this stability. Dr Chang stood the cadavers up in a one-legged position. Rather than **flopping over as expected**, the bird settled into a stable, one-legged posture that stayed put even when the top of its body was tilted backward and forward. On two legs, or if the foot was not right below the body, the cadaver was far less stable.
6. The joints were easily unfolded also, suggesting that a flamingo can transition out of this position without much effort, either to switch legs, respond to wind or muddy water, or escape a threat. The birds showed that "it's possible to maintain what we'd consider very difficult posture without having to activate muscles," said Dr. Ting. The birds might, she added, rely on gravity and some interaction between joints and ligaments to keep everything in place. Because moving in and out of the one-legged stance appears to use little energy, flamingos could inspire improvements for robotics and powered prosthetics, said Dr. Ting, who studies the process of recovering movement after an injury.

“Usually as humans we take the standing behaviour for granted until we lose that ability,” she said. Simplicity may be for the birds, but we complicated humans can appreciate its lessons.

[Source: *The New York Times*, 26 May 2017]

- a) In a sentence or two, explain what the article is all about. (2)
- b) According to Lena Ting, give two reasons why flamingos may not need to use their muscles to stand on one leg. (2)
- c) Explain why plenty of birds adopt a one-legged posture. (2)
- d) What were Dr. Ting and Young-Hui’s research roles in the study of flamingos? (4)
- e) Explain what a force plate was used for in the study of flamingos. (4)
- f) Say whether the following statements are true or false. (2)
  - (i) Flamingos do not rely on gravity and some interaction between joints and ligaments to keep everything in place.
  - (ii) Flamingos cannot stand on one leg for a long time while sleeping.
- g) Explain the following expressions in bold as used by the author in the article. (8)
  - (i) “feel your body wobbling” paragraph 1
  - (ii) “One-legged posture” paragraph 3
  - (iii) “lack active muscles” paragraph 5
  - (iv) “flopping over as expected” paragraph 5
- h) What do the following underlined pronouns refer to in the article? (2)
  - (i) It (paragraph 2)
  - (ii) They (paragraph 4)
- i) In paragraph 6 we read “flamingos could inspire improvements for robotics and powered prosthetics”. Explain why Dr Ting feels this way. (3)  
or similar
- j) What does the article conclude about simplicity in relation to birds and humans? (1)

## SECTION B: GRAMMAR

(20 marks)

Read the article below and then answer the questions that follow:

1. Police fired **(i) tear** gas, stun grenades and rubber bullets **(ii) at** protesters who were voicing frustration over the cost of university education at **(iii) a** Johannesburg university. Details of the **(iv) unrest** at Wits University on Tuesday were widely shared on social media. Some protesters threw rocks as police and private security guards tried to clear the **(v) scene**.
2. However, Twitter users —using the hashtag #feesmustfall—said that some students also offered flowers to the police, and shouted “we want peace.” Student leader Mcebo Dlamini condemned “police brutality” but was later arrested, according to reports from witnesses at the scene.



3. The fees issue sparked previous **(1) violet/violent** protests in South Africa last year, when demonstrators barricaded universities and stormed the South African Parliament to press **(2) their/they** message that university education in the country is **3. to/too** expensive, among **4. other/others** issues. President Jacob Zuma later announced that universities would not increase fees in 2016 as planned. Students celebrated, but many posting on social **5. media/medias** said fees remained too high and worried about what would happen after 2016.
4. Last month, a fresh wave of protests and unrest broke out at universities across South Africa after the government announced fees will rise next year, with an 8% cap. This university has been shut down for the past several weeks. It reopened this week, but the senior executive team at the university said in a statement issued Tuesday that a group of students wearing balaclavas had refused to disperse at the main campus in Braamfontein and there had been an attempt to disrupt lectures.
5. "We have reports of two students being arrested and one student and one staff member being injured," a further statement added. They advised staff and students, who are not involved in the protest, to stay indoors. Major General Vuyisile Ngesi, a spokesman for the South African Police Service, told CNN Tuesday: "At the moment we cannot determine the exact number of protestors but it was a considerably huge number of the student population involved. Police used tear gas, rubber bullets as well as stun grenades to disperse the protesters in order to prevent them from taking the protest action to the streets closest to the university." "The situation is calm now on campus but the police are present and monitoring the situation," added Ngesi.

(Adapted from: www.cnn.com)

- a) Identify the parts of speech of the words numbered (i) to (v) in paragraph 1. Write down each part of speech next to the number (i) to (v). (5)
- b) Identify the tense of the underlined sentence in paragraph 4. (2)

**This university has been shut down for the past several weeks**

- c) Rewrite the sentence (in b) above in the following tenses:
  - (i) Simple past tense (2)
  - (ii) Past perfect tense (2)
- d) Re-write the underlined sentence in paragraph 5 in the in the forms indicated below.
 

**They advised staff and students, who are not involved in the protest, to stay indoors.**

  - (i) Question form (2)
  - (ii) Negative form (2)
- e) Choose the correct answer from the option numbered 1 to 5 in paragraph 3. Write down the answer next to the number. (5)

**SECTION C: ESSAY ANALYSIS**

**[20 MARKS]**

**Read the following essay, and then answer the questions below. Use the information from the text to complete the questions.**

**The Pros of School Uniforms**

1. Historically, the concept of school uniforms is familiar to many European schools and private schools within the United States. However, much more attention to the importance of school uniforms arose when a significant movement began in the 1980's to introduce dress codes within public schools in the United States. As more and more public schools implemented dress codes, more and more parents and students questioned the real value of school uniforms as a tool to curb violence in schools and promote achievement. Both sides of this controversy can present valid arguments for their respective views. However, **school uniforms are a real solution to many of the issues that schools face. School uniforms help produce a safe academic learning environment which helps students achieve.** School uniforms reduce competition among students for designer clothes; reduces tension due to gang-related clothing; and creates a sense of team spirit and respect.
2. One of the major arguments for school uniforms is that wearing a uniform helps prevent students from feeling that they need to have the latest and greatest clothes or other objects to keep pace with their fellow classmates. The desire that children have to find acceptance from their peers is a natural part of life. As the child develops throughout his/her young life, the child becomes aware of what others think about them. The implementation of school uniforms helps with positive child development. With a dress code, competition based on designer clothes, shoes, and other such materials are eliminated. Students who cannot afford expensive designer clothing do not have to feel economically inferior to anyone. Social-economic barriers are removed from the learning environment. Clothing is no longer a factor in terms of how students judge each other. Students can belong to one big peer group that respects each other, which helps with creating a positive identity and self-esteem.
3. Gang action presents all kinds of problems for schools. Gangs are known to associate with a variety of illegal or unwanted activities including drugs, theft, intimidation and violence. The influence of a gang can be present all through a school whether it is in the classrooms, gym, cafeteria or on the outside grounds. Gang presence has to be curbed in order to provide a safe learning environment. School uniforms can help eliminate the baggy gang-inspired look that makes it easy for students to smuggle in weapons, drugs and other such items. With a dress code, gang members who attend school may not be able to recognise rival gang members. There is no place for gang colours and messages on school uniforms.
4. From middle school through high school, many students continue to face challenges of self-identity, self-image, and self-esteem. School uniforms help students have a sense of belonging, school spirit, team work and school pride. A dress code establishes order, discipline and less distractions.
5. Definitely, the implementation of school uniforms within a school system has advantages and disadvantages. Each school system and community is different. However, the constant is that most school administrators, teachers, students, parents and communities want to see students achieve. In order to achieve, one of the main factors that has to be considered is a safe and

secure learning environment with the least possible distractions. There are plenty of anecdotal and a few research studies that show that school uniforms reduce competition among students for designer clothes; reduces tension due to gang-related clothing; identifies intruders and creates a sense of team spirit and respect, which all contribute to create a positive force to help create the necessary conditions to produce an environment that promotes student achievement.

**Write down complete sentences for the thesis, topic and concluding sentences. Remember to shorten the supporting sentences. (20 marks)**

1. Write down the thesis statement. (2)
2. Write down the topic sentences for paragraphs 2, 3 and 4. (6)
3. Write down the topic of the topic sentence you identified in paragraph 2,3 and 4 (3)
4. Write down the controlling idea of the topic sentence in paragraph 2,3 and 4 (3)
5. List **two** support statements from paragraph 3 and 4. (4)
6. Write down the sentence that best summarises the essay in the concluding paragraph. (2)

**SECTION 4: ESSAY WRITING [30 marks]**

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

1. Many people spend their time on social media instead of having constructive discussions with each other in their homes. Write an essay in which you discuss how social media impact relationships in many families.
2. Various organisations are advocating for the education of the girl child. Write an essay in which you explain the benefit of educating girls in the country.
3. What are the effects of drug and alcohol abuse on teenagers in Namibia?
4. Obesity has become a 21st century problem in most countries. What are the causes and effects of obesity and what can governments do to reduce the increasing number of obesity cases?

**TOTAL: 100**

**END OF EXAMINATION PAPER**