

FINAL EXAMINATION
SEMESTER
NOV 2021

COURSE TITLE	ENGLISH 2
COURSE CODE	FENG 0124
DATE/DAY	FEBRUARY 2022
TIME/DURATION	2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES :

1. Please read the instruction under each section carefully.
2. Candidates are reminded not to bring into examination hall/room any form of written materials or electronic gadget except for stationery that is permitted by the Invigilator.
3. Students who are caught breaching the Examination Rules and Regulation will be charged with an academic dishonesty and if found guilty of the offence, the maximum penalty is expulsion from the University.

(This Question Paper consists of Printed Pages including front page)

This paper has TWO (2) Sections. Answer ALL questions in the answer booklet.
(100 marks)

SECTION A **(50 marks)**

This section has TWO (2) reading passages. Each question is worth 2.5 marks unless stated otherwise.

Reading Passage 1 **(25 marks)**

- I It is widely believed that young people are hopelessly devoted to social media. Teenagers, according to this stereotype, tweet, gram, snap and scroll. But for every young person hunched over a screen, there are others for whom social media no longer holds such an allure. These teens are turning their backs on the technology – and there are more of them than you might think. 1 5
- II While many of us have been engrossed in the Instagram lives of our colleagues and peers, a backlash among young people has been quietly boiling. One 2017 survey of British schoolchildren found that 63% would be happy if social media had never been invented. Another survey of 9,000 internet users from the research firm Ampere Analysis found that people aged 18-24 had significantly changed their attitudes towards social media in the past two years, from 66% of this demographic agreeing with the statement “social media is important to me” in 2016 to only 57% in 2018. As young people increasingly reject social media, older generations increasingly embrace it: among the 45-plus age bracket, the proportion who value social media has increased from 23% to 28%. 10 15
- III This is part of a wider trend. According to a study by US marketing firm Hill Holliday of Generation Z – people born after 1995 – half of those surveyed stated they had quit or were considering quitting at least one social media platform. When it comes to Gen Z’s relationship to social media, “significant cracks are beginning to show”, says the firm’s Lesley Bielby. 20
- IV She believes we will definitely see an increase in younger people quitting or substantially reducing their use. “And as younger Gen Zers notice this behaviour among their older siblings and friends, they too will start to dial down their use of social media.” 25
- V Even teenagers who are not ready to quit entirely are stepping back for a while. Dr Amanda Lenhart, who researches young people’s online lives, conducted a survey of US teenagers, asking them about taking time off social media. “We found that 58% of teenagers said they had taken at least one break from at least one social media platform. The most common reason? It was getting in the way of schoolwork or jobs, with more than a third of respondents citing this as their primary reason for leaving social 30

- media. Other reasons included feeling tired of the conflict or drama they could see unfolding among their peer group online, and feeling oppressed too by the constant firehose of information." 35
- VI** As the first generation to grow up online, Gen Z never had to learn social media, or at least not exactly. They glided through every iteration: Facebook (2004), Twitter (2006), Instagram (2010) Snapchat (2011) in real time, effortlessly adopting each one. But a life lived in pixels from your earliest age is no easy thing. 40
- VII** The fact that Gen Z have had their every move documented online since before they could walk, talk, or even control their bowels helps explain their antipathy to social media: it makes sense for them to strive for privacy, as soon as they reach the age when they have a choice over their online image. 45
- VIII** "I've seen parents post pictures of their child's first potty online," says Amy Binns of the University of Central Lancashire. "You think: 'Why are you doing this to your child? They wouldn't want this to be public.'" 50
- IX** Gen Z has an interest in privacy that subtly sets them apart. "Young people want to get away from the curtain-twitching village, where everyone knows everything about you," Binns says. So while today's teens spend a lot of time online, they don't actually share that much personal information. And when they do share, it's strategic. "You're painting a picture of who you are and your image," says Binns. "It's your own shop window or brand." 55
- X** But quitting social media can create new anxieties. "Our research shows that the biggest fear of quitting or pausing social media is missing out," Bielby says. 60
- XI** Some are more sanguine than others. "Do I miss out on stuff?" 18-year-old Tyreke Morgan asks. "Yeah, of course. People find it hard to keep in contact with me. They say: 'It would be easier if you had this or that.' But I don't think it's that hard to type in my number and send a text. You're just not willing to do it." 65
- XII** Others struggle with the fear of missing out. "It's like everyone in your friend group has gone to a party without telling you," says Jeremiah Johnson, 18. At times, he questions himself. "I second-guess myself a lot. There are some days I'm really convinced I want to reinstall [social media apps], not for myself, but because I want to appear normal." 70
- XIII** Quitting social media is a determined move: apps including Facebook and Instagram are designed to be addictive. "Social media is so ingrained in teenage culture that it's hard to take it out. But when you do, it's such a relief," 17-year-old Mary Amanuel says. She has received a lot of "admiration" from her peers for quitting. "They wish they were able to log off." 75

People feel like social media is a part of them and their identities as teenagers and something you need to do," she says. "But I'm no less of a teenager because I don't use it."

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XIV Still, refuseniks like Johnson and Amanuel may not be outliers forever. In a world in which everyone is online, renouncing social media is a renegade, countercultural move: as quietly punk as shaving your head or fastening your clothes with safety-pins. Morgan has become an inspiration for classmates wanting to escape. "My friends come to me and say: 'Tyreke, I don't have social media any more,' and I go: 'Why? I thought that's what you guys do.' And they say: 'Thanks to you, because of the things you said and the stuff you're doing.' It's quite cool."

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(Adapted from "Logged off: meet the teens who refuse to use social media", The Guardian)

Questions 1 to 10 are based on Reading Passage 1.

Complete the summary below. Choose **NO MORE THAN THREE (3) WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER** from the passage to fill in each blank in the summary.

Contrary to popular belief, an increasing number of young people are turning their backs on social media. As Lesley Bielby from the marketing firm, Hill Holliday, says, "(1)_____ are beginning to show" when it comes to Generation Z's relationship with social media. The most commonly cited reason for leaving is that it was getting in the way of schoolwork or jobs. Others were tired of (2)_____ among their peers online or overwhelmed by constant information.

This change could be because Gen Z was the first generation to (3)_____, going through every single version of social media, from Facebook to Snapchat. This means they have had their every move (4)_____ practically since birth and as a result, develop an (5)_____ to social media. They would then (6)_____ as soon as they have a choice about their online image. Even if teenagers spend a lot of time online, they share (7)_____ strategically. According to Amy Binns of the University of Central Lancashire, it is meant to paint a picture of your image, like your own (8)_____ or brand.

However, quitting social media is not easy, with the biggest fear being missing out on events or news. Quitting social media is also a determined move, with apps specifically designed (9)_____. Nonetheless, (10)_____ is a countercultural move with those who do it becoming an inspiration for others.

Reading Passage 2

(25 marks)

- I For Scrooge saw himself as he had been in the past: a man in the prime of life. His face had not the harsh and rigid lines of later years; but it had begun to wear the signs of stress and greed. There was an eager, greedy, restless motion in the eye, which showed the passion that had taken root, and where the poisonous plant would grow. 1
5
- II He was not alone, but sat by the side of a fair young girl in a mourning-dress. In her eyes, there were tears which sparkled in the light.
- III "It matters little," she said, softly. "To you, very little. Another idol has displaced me; and if it can cheer and comfort you in time to come, as I would have tried to do, I have no just cause to grieve." 10
- IV "What idol has displaced you?" he demanded.
- V "A golden one."
- VI "This is the even-handed dealing of the world!" he said. "There is nothing on which it is so hard as poverty; and there is nothing it professes to condemn with such severity as the pursuit of wealth!" 15
- VII "You fear the world too much," she answered, gently. "All your other hopes have merged into the hope of being beyond the chance of its sordid reproach. I have seen your nobler aspirations fall off one by one, until the master-passion, Profit, engrosses you. Have I not?"
- VIII "What then?" he retorted. "Even if I have grown so much wiser, what then? I am not changed towards you. Am I?" 20
- IX She shook her head. "Our engagement is an old one. It was made when we were both poor and content to be so, until, in good season, we could improve our fortune by patient, hard work. You *are* changed. When you made your promises to me, you were another man." 25
- X "I was a boy," he said impatiently.
- XI "Your own feeling tells you that you were not what you are," she returned. "Yet I am still the same as I was. That which promised happiness when we were one in heart, is fraught with misery now that we are two. How often and how keenly I have thought of this, I will not say. It is enough that I *have* thought of it, and can release you." 30
- XII "Have I ever sought release?"

- XIII** "In words. No. Never."
- XIV** "In what, then?"
- XV** "In a changed nature; in an altered spirit; in another atmosphere of life; another Hope as its great end. In everything that made my love of any worth or value in your sight. If this had never been between us," said Scrooge's fiancée*, looking mildly but with steadiness upon him; "tell me, would you seek me out and try to win me now? Ah, no!" 35
- XVI** He seemed to admit to the justice of this assumption in spite of himself. But he said with a struggle, "You think not." 40
- XVII** "I would gladly think otherwise if I could," she answered, "Heaven knows! But if you were free today, can even I believe that you would choose a girl without a dowry? You who weigh everything by Profit: or, if you did choose her, if for a moment you did not listen to your one guiding principle to do so, do I not know that your repentance and regret would surely follow? I release you. With a full heart, for the love of him you once were." 45
- XVIII** He was about to speak, but with her head turned from him, she resumed.
- XIX** "You may—the memory of what is past half makes me hope you will—have pain in this. A very, very brief time, and you will dismiss the recollection of it, gladly, as an unprofitable dream, from which it happened well that you awoke. May you be happy in the life you have chosen!" 50
- XX** She left him, and they parted.

*fiancée: the woman that somebody is engaged to

(Adapted from 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens)

Questions **11** to **20** are based on Reading Passage 2.

Complete each sentence with the correct ending, **A-G**, as given in the box below.

11. Scrooge said that the world in general criticized those who are poor
12. Scrooge had asked his fiancée to marry him
13. Scrooge had never asked to break his engagement
14. Scrooge's fiancée strongly believed that if he were single now,

15. Before she left, Scrooge's fiancée wished him well and predicted that

- A. but his fiancée knew he regretted it since his personality had changed so much
- B. and also judged those who wanted to help people in poverty
- C. Scrooge would never ask her to marry him since she was poor
- D. when they had both been younger and poorer
- E. she told him to find a richer woman to make his wife
- F. yet it also condemned those who wish to make their fortune
- G. but his fiancée knew she would regret it since his personality changed so drastically
- H. he would be very glad to escape this engagement
- I. because she was the only one who could tolerate his behaviour
- J. he would not get married at all

In your own words, explain the following sentences in the context of the passage.

16. *His face had not the harsh and rigid lines of later years; but it had begun to wear the signs of stress and greed.* (para. I) (2 marks)
17. *"What I do! has displaced you?" he demanded.*
"A golden one." (para. IV & V) (3 marks)
18. *I have seen your nobler aspirations fall off one by one, until the master-passion, Profit, engrosses you* (para. VII) (3.5 marks)
19. *When you made your promises to me, you were another man* (para. IX) (1 marks)
20. *...I release you. With a full heart, for the love of him you once were.* (para. XVII) (3 marks)

SECTION B

(50 marks)

Answer TWO (2) questions ONLY in the answer booklet. Each question is worth 25 marks. Each paragraph should be at least 120 words long.

1. Write a descriptive paragraph about a time you rediscovered something you had lost. Provide suitable illustrations.
2. Write an example paragraph about the skills students need in order to do groupwork effectively. Give appropriate examples.
3. Write an example paragraph about what you consider a healthy diet. Give appropriate examples.
4. Write an opinion paragraph on whether attending university is worth the energy, time and money spent or not. Give reasons to support your opinion.
5. Write an opinion paragraph based on this statement: "*The duty of youth is to challenge corruption*". Give reasons to support your opinion.

*** END OF QUESTION PAPER ***.