

FINAL EXAMINATION
SEMESTER
NOV 2021

COURSE TITLE **ENGLISH 2**

COURSE CODE **FENG 0124**

DATE/DAY **JUNE 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 Two years ago, Desmond Hughes heard so many of his favourite 1
podcasters extolling AirPods, Apple's tiny, futuristic USD\$170 wireless
headphones, that he decided they were worth the splurge. He quickly
became a convert.
- II Hughes is still listening to podcasters talk about their AirPods, but now 5
they're complaining. The battery can no longer hold a charge, they say,
rendering them functionally useless. Apple bloggers agree: "AirPods are
starting to show their age for early adopters," Zac Hall, an editor at
9to5Mac, wrote in a post in January, detailing how he frequently hears a
low-battery warning in his AirPods now. Earlier this month, Apple Insider 10
tested a pair of AirPods purchased in 2016 against a pair from 2018, and
found that the older pair died after two hours and 16 minutes. "That's less
than half the stated battery life for a new pair," the writer William Gallagher
concluded.
- III The lithium-ion batteries that power AirPods are everywhere. One industry 15
report forecast that sales would grow to USD\$109.72 billion by 2026, from
USD\$36.2 billion in 2018. They charge faster, last longer, and pack more
power into a small space than other types of batteries do. But they die
faster, too, often after just a few years, because every time you charge
them, they degrade a little. They can also catch fire or explode if they 20
become damaged, so technology companies make them difficult, if not
impossible, for consumers to replace themselves.
- IV The result: A lot of barely chargeable AirPods and wireless mice and
Bluetooth speakers are ending up in the trash as consumers go through
products—even expensive ones—faster than ever.
- V This means the world will continue to generate a lot of waste. Of the 3.4 25
million tons of electronic waste generated in America in 2012—an 80
percent increase from 2000—just 29 percent was recycled. "Imagine that
every single thing in the world has the same life span as a battery, and
wore out after 12 to 18 months," Kyle Wiens, the founder of iFixit, an 30
open-source DIY repair guide, told me. "It would be catastrophic for
consumers and even worse for the planet."
- VI

- But, of course, companies design for performance and sales, not life span. They make money when they sell more units, and they're not financially responsible for disposing of products when consumers are finished using them. Nadim Maluf, the founder of the battery consultancy Qnovo, told me that a decade ago, he went to big tech companies telling them he could help them double the longevity of their products, by extending the life of the lithium-ion batteries they were beginning to use. "No one really cared," he said. "Extending product life wasn't consistent with growth on the financial side."
- VII** Apple officials declined to speak on the record for this story. But in 2017, the company announced that it was working toward a closed-loop supply chain, in which 100 percent of its materials will be recycled or renewed. Lisa Jackson, Apple's vice president of Environment, Policy, and Social Initiatives, has said the company wants to keep products in use as long as possible. Apple also encourages consumers to trade in their devices to be recycled, for a small credit. Someone trading in an iPhone 5, for instance, could get USD \$40 off the USD \$999 price of an iPhone XS.
- VIII** But even consumers who hang on to their iPhones as long as possible learned in 2017 that Apple released a software update that slows down old phones to counteract aging lithium-ion battery problems. And ultimately, there isn't a huge incentive for any company to make products that last for years. If Apple were to make its products longer-lasting, it would likely sell fewer new products and post lower profits. Already analyst concerns about lower iPhone sales sent shares tumbling late last year. Apple said in its most recent earnings report that sales of "wearables," including AirPods and Apple Watches, grew 50 percent from the same period in the previous year.
- IX** Some tech companies have figured out how to make more sustainable products. The Fairphone, for example, allows consumers to easily swap out the battery and other parts. Other companies have made it easier for consumers to recycle their electronics at the end of their useful life. For example, Dell offers prepaid shipping labels and has partnered with Goodwill to create a convenient place for consumers to drop off electronics; meanwhile HP provides customers with envelopes so they can recycle their ink cartridges.
- X** But even companies thinking about sustainability have two conflicting messages for consumers: Buy more, and be more environmentally friendly. On Wednesday, after Apple announced that it was launching the second generation of AirPods, fans on Twitter were ecstatic, bidding farewell to their old AirPods and thanking the CEO, Tim Cook, and the company for releasing the new product.
- XI**

Apple said the new AirPods contain a chip that allows users longer talk time before the battery runs out. But it didn't specify whether the battery would last more than two years. That doesn't bother Desmond Hughes. Sure, his AirPods lasted only two years, he told me, but he can't imagine living without them.

XII

Besides, most people will probably lose them before the battery runs out.

(Adapted from "Your AirPods will Die Soon", The Atlantic)

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.

Two years ago, Apple introduced AirPods, wireless headphones. Now many users complain that the battery can no longer hold a charge, rendering them (1)_____. Apple Insider tested a pair of AirPods bought in 2016 against one bought in 2018 - the older pair died after two hours and sixteen minutes, (2)_____ the stated battery life for a new pair.

The lithium-ion batteries powering AirPods charge faster and have more power, but they (3)_____ as every time they are charged, they degrade a little. These batteries may also catch fire or explode if damaged and consumers cannot replace them. As a result, many products, including AirPods, end up in the trash, generating electronic waste. Only (4)_____ of the 3.4 million tons of waste generated in 2012 by the United States could be recycled.

Unfortunately, companies design for (5)_____, not life span. They are also not financially responsible of disposing of products after consumers are done, nor are they interested, according to Nadim Maluf, founder of the battery consultancy Qnovo. "Extending product life wasn't consistent with growth on (6)_____" he said. There is no huge (7)_____ for companies to make long-lasting products as it would sell fewer new products and bring in (8)_____.

While companies like the Fairphone help to make more (9)_____ products and others help consumers recycle their electronics, they still send two (10)_____ messages for consumers: buy more and be more environmentally friendly.

Reading Passage 2

(25 marks)

- I Father Wolf waited till his cubs could run a little, and then on the night of the Pack Meeting took them and Mowgli and Mother Wolf to the Council Rock — a hilltop covered with stones and boulders where a hundred wolves could hide. Akela, the great grey Lone Wolf, who led all the Pack by strength and cunning, lay out at full length on his rock, and below him sat forty or more wolves of every size and colour, from badger-coloured veterans who could handle a buck alone, to young black three-year-olds who thought they could. The Lone Wolf had led them for a year now. He had fallen twice into a wolf-trap in his youth, and once he had been beaten and left for dead; so he knew the manners and customs of men. 1 5 10
- II There was very little talking at the Rock. The cubs tumbled over one another in the centre of the circle where their mothers and fathers sat, and now and again, a senior wolf would go quietly up to a cub, look at him carefully, and return to his place on noiseless feet. Akela from his rock would cry: "You know the Law — you know the Law! Look well, O Free People, look well, O Wolves!" And the anxious mothers would take up the call: "Look — look well, O Wolves!" 15
- III At last — and Mother Wolf's neck-bridles lifted as the time came — Father Wolf pushed "Mowgli, the Frog," as they called him, into the centre, where he sat laughing and playing with some pebbles that glistened in the moonlight. 20
- IV Akela never raised his head from his paws, but went on with the monotonous cry, "Look well!" A muffled roar came up from behind the rocks — the fierce voice of Shere Khan, the tiger, crying, "The cub is mine; give him to me. What have the Free People to do with a man's cub?" 25
- V Akela never even twitched his ears. All he said was, "Look well, O Wolves! What have the Free People to do with the orders of any save the Free People? Look well!"
- VI There was a chorus of deep growls, and a young wolf in his fourth year flung back Shere Khan's question to Akela: "What have the Free People to do with a man's cub?" 30
- VII Now the Law of the Jungle lays down that if there is any dispute as to the right of a cub to be accepted by the Pack, he must be spoken for by at least two members of the Pack who are not his father and mother.
- VIII "Who speaks for this cub?" said Akela. "Among the Free People, who speaks?" There was no answer, and Mother Wolf got ready for what she knew would be her last fight, if things came to fighting. 35

- IX** Then the only other creature who is allowed at the Pack Council — Baloo, the sleepy brown bear who teaches the wolf cubs the Law of the Jungle; old Baloo, who can come and go where he pleases because he eats only nuts and roots and honey — rose up on his hind quarters and grunted. 40
- X** "The man's cub — the man's cub?" he said. "I speak for the man's cub. There is no harm in a man's cub. I have no gift of words, but I speak the truth. Let him run with the Pack, and be entered with the others. I myself will teach him." 45
- XI** "We need yet another," said Akela. "Baloo has spoken, and he is our teacher for the young cubs. Who speaks besides Baloo?"
- XII** A black shadow dropped down into the circle. It was Bagheera, the Black Panther, inky black all over, but with the panther markings showing up in certain lights like the pattern of watered silk. Everybody knew Bagheera, and nobody cared to cross his path; for he was as cunning as Tabaqui the jackal, as bold as the wild buffalo, and as reckless as the wounded elephant. But he had a voice as soft as wild honey dripping from a tree, and a skin softer than down. 50
- XIII** "O Akela, and you, the Free People," he purred, "I have no right in your assembly; but the Law of the Jungle says [. . .] the life of a new cub may be bought at a price. And the Law does not say who may or may not pay that price. Am I right?" 55
- XIV** "Good! good!" said the young wolves, who are always hungry. "Listen to Bagheera. The cub can be bought for a price. It is the Law." 60
- XV** "Knowing that I have no right to speak here, I ask your leave."
- XVI** "Speak then," cried twenty voices.
- XVII** "To kill a naked cub is shame. Besides, he may make better sport for you when he is grown. Baloo has spoken in his behalf. Now to Baloo's word, I will add one bull, and a fat one, newly killed, not half a mile from here, if you will accept the man's cub according to the Law. Is it difficult?" 65
- XVIII** There was a clamour of scores of voices, saying: "What matter? He will die in the winter rains. He will scorch in the sun. What harm can a naked frog do us? Let him run with the Pack. Where is the bull, Bagheera? Let him be accepted." 70
- XIX** And then came Akela's deep bay, crying: "Look well — look well, O Wolves!"

(Adapted from 'The Jungle Book' by Rudyard Kipling)

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. The Council Rock was a hilltop covered with stones and rocks
12. Akela was a great grey Lone Wolf
13. When Mowgli was presented at the Rock,
14. Shere Khan the tiger demanded Mowgli be given to him because
15. The Law of the Jungle stated that if there was any doubt about a cub's acceptance to the Pack,

- wolves never usually associated with humans
- Akela twitched his ears and cried loudly
- where a hundred wolves could hide in
- that was a year old
- tigers must take charge of any lost human children
- two members who were not the cub's parents had to speak up for them.
- that was home to a hundred wolves
- Akela did not react in any way at all
- which had led the pack for a year
- the cub must be spoken for by the leader of the Pack

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

16. ...*Mother Wolf got ready for what she knew would be her last fight, if things came to fighting.* (Para. VIII) (2.5 marks)
17. *I have no gift of words, but I speak the truth.* (Para. X) (2.5 marks)
18. *Everybody knew Bagheera, and nobody cared to cross his path; for he was as cunning as Tabaqui the jackal, as bold as the wild buffalo, and as reckless as the wounded elephant. But he had a voice as soft as wild honey dripping from a tree, and a skin softer than down* (Para. XII) (4.5 marks)

19. *To kill a naked cub is shame. Besides, he may make better sport for you when he is grown.* (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 piece of clothing that is important to you. Provide suitable illustrations.
2. Write an example paragraph about the characteristics of a good colleague. Give appropriate examples.
3. Write an example paragraph about what an individual can do to be more organised. Give appropriate examples.
4. Write an opinion paragraph on what success means to you. Give reasons to support your opinion.
5. Write an opinion paragraph based on this statement: *"Play to win, or don't play at all"*. Give reasons to support your opinion.

*** END OF QUESTION PAPER ***