

Cairo University
Faculty of Science

Mid-term Exam
English Course

Time: 45 minutes

20 Marks

I. Reading

(8 Marks)

We use a lot of energy to live. Whether we are playing, studying or eating, energy makes these activities possible. We also use energy for production—to run machines, for instance. Much of this energy comes from fuels like oil, coal or natural gas. Think of all the energy required planting, growing, harvesting, transporting and cooking your lunch, and you can start to understand that energy is a key to life!

Fuels like natural gas, oil and coal are important natural resources. They are known as fossil fuels and take millions of years to form. Unfortunately, fossil fuels are non-renewable forms of energy. Our power plants burn them faster than nature makes them, and when they are burned, power plants create emissions harmful to the environment. Using renewable energy is a good way to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels, though renewable energies have some negative *impacts* on the earth as well.

1. Put a title to the passage. 3 marks

.....

2. What is meant by “non-renewable forms of energy”? 3 marks

.....

.....

3. Examples of renewable sources of energy include (water and coal—water, wind and sun—sun and oil). 1 mark

4. As used in the passage, “impacts” means (creations—correlations—effects). 1 mark

II. Vocabulary:**(6 marks)**

Fill in the gaps using the following words: (Use each word for ONLY time)

prompt—sneak—eureka—exoplanet—galaxies

pull—scheme--cryptography

1. Her scientific curiosity.....her to ask few questions in the conference.
2. An.....is a planet which orbits a star outside the solar system.
3. His walks along the beach inspired him with some of his most creative ideas. Having.....moments for him is associated with the sand and the sea.
4. We know doctors are against any visits to her right now but could we.....a look at her? She is our only living parent.
5. Gravity is the force that causes two particles to.....towards each other.
6. There are billions of.....in the universe and trillions of stars and planets.

II. Grammar and Structure**(6 marks)**

Choose the most suitable answer from between the brackets:

1. *Before the movie started, Ali brought some candies.* The subordinate clause in this sentence is (before the movie started—Ali brought some candies—before the movie started, Ali brought some candies).
2. *Are you coming to my birthday or do you have any other plans?* This sentence is a (complex sentence—compound sentence—simple sentence).
3. *Muhammad and Samy play in our team.* The subject in this sentence is (Muhammad—Muhammad and Samy—Muhammad and Samy play).
4. *He lives in Cairo. His brother is living in Alexandria.* “He lives in Cairo” is a (compound sentence—subordinate clause—simple sentence).
5. *I was depressed when my mother died.* The main verb in this sentence is (was—died—my).
6. *Watch out for your family!* This sentence is a (simple sentence—compound sentence—complex sentence).

Faculty of Science

Name:

Duration: **45 minutes**

General English Midterm Exam

Total marks: 20

I. Reading

6 marks

Read the following passage then **choose** the most suitable answers for the following questions:

When we eat, our cells break down sugars, while their excess electrons flow through a series of chemical reactions until they're passed onto oxygen. This process generates the energy molecule ATP, vital to nearly all living things. "Life's very clever," Kenneth Nealson from the University of Southern California says. "It figures out how to suck electrons out of everything we eat and keep them under control."

Not too surprisingly then, there are bacteria out there that eat and excrete electrons -- and as it turns out, they're everywhere.

Years ago, researchers discovered two types of electric bacteria, *Geobacter* and *Shewanella*, which use energy in its *naked*, purest form: electrons harvested from the surface of rocks and minerals. Now, scientists show that many more electric bacteria can be fished out of rocks and marine mud by baiting them with a bit of electrical juice, New Scientist reports.

In unpublished work, the *USC scientists* have identified up to eight different kinds of bacteria that consume electricity, and they're all very different from each other.

A handful of other researchers are also working on electric bacteria. Daniel Bond's team from the University of Minnesota in St. Paul is growing bacteria that harvest electrons from iron electrodes. Lars Peter Nielsen and his colleagues at Aarhus University in Denmark have found that tens of thousands of electric bacteria can join together to form "daisy chains" that carry electrons over several centimeters (huge distances for a bacterium).

(By Janet Fang in www.iflscience.com)

1. "Life's clever" is said by (Daniel Bond—Lars Peter Nielsen—Kenneth Nealson—Janet Fang). **(Choose/ 1 mark)**
2. As used in the third paragraph, "naked" means (without adequate clothes—without any false appearance—outspoken—direct). **(Choose/ 1.5 mark)**

3. The central topic of this passage is (sugar-eating bacteria—electricity-sucking bacteria—electrons—daisy chains bacteria). **(Choose/ 1.5 mark)**

4. Who are the “USC scientists” as mentioned in the fourth paragraph? **(Answer in one complete sentence/ 1 mark)**

5. Put a title to the passage. **(Write a title/ 1 mark)**

II. Vocabulary

7 marks

A. Fill in the gaps using the following words while using each word only ONCE:

Impact- extinction- survive - asteroid- Fossils- evolution—lineages—
herbivores—carnivores—evolution—debris

1. Some scientists believe that a hugefrom space hit the Earth.
2. Thefrom the asteroid could have killed the dinosaurs.
3. Summers became too hot for the dinosaurs to
4.are the remains or traces of ancient life that are usually buried in rocks.
5. Scientists will definitely figure out the cause of dinosaur at some point.
6. Unlike, which are plant eaters and have teeth designed for chewing vegetation,have teeth that are designed for ripping meat from their prey.
7. Workmen were clearing the roads of thefrom shattered building.

III. Grammar and Structure

7 marks

A) *Choose the most suitable answer from between the brackets:* 6 marks

1. “The high population growth rate and the rapid spread of unplanned urbanization are the main causes of water pollution” is a (compound—simple—complex—complex-compound) sentence.
2. “Roses could never survive at the South Pole, because the climate is too cold” is a (compound—simple—complex—complex-compound) sentence.
3. Dinosaurs ruled the Earth until an unknown **catastrophic** event made them extinct. “Catastrophic” is a/an (adjective—adverb—verb—noun).
4. The cheetah ran **incredibly** quickly. “Incredibly” is a/an (adjective—adverb—verb—noun).

5. Scientists (believe- believes- are believing- is believing) that enough scientific evidence is present to prove that dinosaurs are the ancestors of birds.
6. Many evolutionists claim that some dinosaurs evolved into birds, and thus they are not extinct but (are flying -fly- flies- flying) around us today.

B) *Select the Correctly Punctuated Sentence:*

1 mark

- a. Millions of years ago, before humans existed dinosaurs ruled the Earth.
- b. Millions of years ago, before humans existed, dinosaurs ruled the Earth.
- c. Millions of years ago, before humans existed. Dinosaurs ruled the Earth.
- d. Millions of years ago, before, humans existed, dinosaurs ruled the Earth.

Good luck!

Cairo University

Faculty of Science

Name:

Duration: **45 minutes**

Code:.....

General English Midterm Exam

Total marks: 20

I. Reading

6 marks

Read this passage then choose the most suitable answer for the following questions:

Humanity is pumping climate-warming carbon dioxide into the atmosphere 10 times faster than at any point in the past 66m years, according to *new research*. The revelation shows the world has entered “uncharted territory” and that the consequences for life on land and in the oceans may be more severe than at any time since the extinction of the dinosaurs.

It comes as the World Meteorological Organisation released its Status of the Climate Report detailing a string of *weather and climate records that were broken in 2015*. “The future is happening now,” said WMO secretary-general Petteri Taalas in a statement released alongside the report. “The *alarming* rate of change we are now witnessing in our climate as a result of greenhouse gas emission is unprecedented in modern records.”

“The new results indicate that the current rate of carbon emissions is unprecedented ... the most extreme global warming event of the past 66m years, by at least an order of magnitude,” said Peter Stassen, a geologist at the University of Leuven in Belgium, and who was not involved in the work.¹

1. According to this new research, humans are (dealing with climate change by cutting carbon emissions rate—accelerating climate change by an unprecedented rate of carbon emissions—affecting life on earth positively—witnessing the decline of life).
2. As mentioned in the passage, WMO is the (Wireless Monitoring Organization—Work Management Office—World Meteorological Organisation—Waste Management Operation).
3. What is meant by “weather and climate records...were broken in 2015” is that (the climate in 2015 has been hotter than average—scientists stopped recording the weather

¹ These paragraphs are excerpted from Damian Carrington’s “Carbon emission rate ‘unprecedented’ in past 66m years” as published in The Guardian on March 21st 2016.

and climate conditions in 2015—the tools used in observing climate have been damaged—climate in 2015 was average).

4. Which one of the following names was involved in this new research? (Peter Stassen--Petteri Taalas—WMO—none of these names).
5. As used in the second paragraph, “alarming” means (comforting—soothing—precise—worrying).

II. Vocabulary

9 marks

Fill in the gaps using the following words: (Use each word only ONCE)

spew—lineages—vegetation—herbivores—carnivores—evolution—debris—dominant

1.are also called predators since they mostly consume meat or the flesh of other animals.
2.range from insects to large mammals. They feed only on plant tissues.²
3. Cars.....black exhaust fumes.³
4. High mountains typically display.....that is different from the climactic zones from which they arise. *Plant life* of mountains may contain ancient plant species.⁴
5. Fire destroyed our farm. The.....of the farmhouse is really saddening.
6. Humans are the.....species on earth given their abilities to control and affect the biosphere.

III. Grammar and Structure

5 marks

Choose the most suitable answer from between the brackets:

1. “Would you like a cup of coffee?” is a (compound—simple—complex—complex-compound) sentence.
2. Mourad and his brothers (are—is—were—was) in the conference today.
3. Every one of those people (are—is—had—got) happy.
4. There (are—is—has—had) many expensive cars in this garage.

² From Britannica.com

³ www.macmillandictionary.com

⁴ Adapted from <http://www.britannica.com/place/Africa/Land#ref418453>

5. *Ali lives in Paris but his wife studies physics in Berlin.* The main verb(s) in the aforementioned sentence is/are (lives—studies—lives, studies—studied).

Good luck!

Faculty of Science

Name:

Duration: **45 minutes**

General English Midterm Exam

Total marks: 20 (15 marks for this exam and another 5 marks on active participation in class)

I. **Reading**

5 marks

*Read the following passage then **choose** the most suitable answers for the following questions:*

Leading climate scientists have warned that the Earth is *perilously* close to breaking through a 1.5C upper limit for global warming, only eight months after the target was set. The decision to try to limit warming to 1.5C, measured in relation to pre-industrial temperatures, was the headline outcome of the Paris climate negotiations last December. The talks were hailed as a major success by scientists and campaigners, who claimed that, by setting the target, desertification, heatwaves, widespread flooding and other global warming impacts could be avoided.

However, figures – based on Met Office data – prepared by meteorologist Ed Hawkins of Reading University show that average global temperatures were already more than 1C above *pre-industrial* levels for every month except one over the past year and peaked at +1.38C in February and March. Keeping within the 1.5C limit will be extremely difficult, say scientists, given these rises.

(By Robin McKie as published in The Observer on August 6th 2016)

1. When was it decided to limit global warming to 1.5C? (December 2015—August 2016—December 2016)
2. As used in the passage, “*perilously*” means..... (safely—dangerously—suddenly)
3. The author of this excerpted passage is..... (Ed Hawkins—Robin McKie—Reading University)
4. As used in the passage, “*pre-industrial*” means..... (before industrialization—during industrialization—after industrialization)
5. This passage revolves around (global warming—the actual success of humans to limit global temperatures to 1.5C above preindustrial levels—the excepted failure to limit global temperatures to 1.5C above preindustrial levels).

Vocabulary

5 marks

Choose the most suitable answer from the brackets:

1. The harbor area will be closed to all (internet—marine—space—road) traffic from 4:00 a.m. to 7 a.m. Ships, along with any other kinds of vessels, are not allowed to sail in this area.
2. African penguins are an endangered (group of animals—individuals—species--creatures).
3. Some people predict the (extinction—failure—education—entrance) of public universities as we know it today. These universities might disappear or be sold to the private sector.
4. Cows and sheep are (carnivores—carnivorous—herbivores—herbalist)¹. They eat plants.
5. Since the volcano last (spewed—vanished—moved—erupted), people have left the surrounding areas to the nearby coasts. That past volcanic activity claimed the lives of many locals.

II. Grammar and Structure

5 marks

*Correct at least **two mistakes** in each of the following sentences:*

1. Ali or Ayman are the men of the match.
2. A galaxies of stars have been discovered recently.
3. He lost his keys these afternoon. He is still looking for them.
4. There are no scientific evidences to suggest that this country is unsafe.
5. I are thinking he is evil.

Good luck!

¹ From dictionary.cambridge.com



Cairo University

اعتماد كلية العلوم 2015

Botany & Microbiology Department

2016/2017

Midterm Exam for University Requirements

General Program

Second Term



Cairo University

Name:

Duration: 45 minutes

Total marks: 20

I. Reading

6 marks

Read the following passage then **choose** the most suitable answers for the following questions:

Climates can change a lot over centuries. Sometimes a region will be warmer than average for 100 years! Until recently, warmer temperatures have occurred for natural reasons. Today, humans may be changing the climate and making it warmer.

Human activity can have a negative impact on the environment. Humans destroy the habitats of animals and plants when they build cities and cut down forests. When people burn oil, coal, and natural gas, they can also change the climate. How does this happen?

Pollution from factories and cars adds gases and toxic contaminants to the air. Gases such as carbon dioxide rise to the Earth's atmosphere. As the sun's rays warm the Earth, the gases work much like the glass in a greenhouse. They help trap the heat in the atmosphere, which makes the Earth grow warmer. That's why they are nicknamed "greenhouse gases."

If the Earth continues to warm up, all of the ice on the North and South Poles could melt. Global warming would cause the oceans to rise and cover more land. Many places along the coasts of every continent, including the city of New York, would be underwater.

Some people do not believe that global warming is an effect of human activity. Regardless, in the last 100 years, average temperatures have risen 0.7 degrees Celsius, or about 2 degrees Fahrenheit. This may not sound like a lot. Yet, this change is more than twice as much as previous temperature increases. The average temperature rose only 5 degrees Celsius over the last 5,000 years. Scientists think the average temperature could rise another five degrees in the next 100 years.

1. If a lot of Earth's ice melts, an effect could be that (pollution would be added to the atmosphere— more of the sun's rays reach the earth— many places on coasts would be underwater). (Choose/ 1 mark)
2. Based on the passage, which of these could help stop global warming? (melting the ice at the North and South Poles— people creating less pollution from factories and cars— trapping the sun's rays in the Earth's atmosphere). (Choose/ 1 mark)
3. "Until recently, warmer temperatures have occurred for **natural** reasons. Today, humans may be changing the climate and making it warmer." In this passage, the

word **natural** means (very obvious— mysterious or secret – not changed by people).

(Choose/ 1 mark)

4. What is the main idea of this passage? (Global warming could cause huge problems for Earth— Cars are the biggest source of pollution— The North and South Poles are in serious danger). (Choose/ 1.5 mark)
5. Mention some of the activities people in a community could do that would help protect the environment and the atmosphere? (Choose/ 1.5 mark)

II. Vocabulary

7 marks

A. Fill in the gaps using the following words while using each word only ONCE:

Impact- bolide- extinction- survive - peninsula -- fossils- evolution—lineages—
species- herbivore— decimate - carnivore—evolution—debris

1. A/An is an extremely bright meteor, especially one that explodes in the atmosphere.
2. A nuclear bomb willmost of the population in the region.
3. The principal reason for the extinction of differentis the loss of their natural habitats.
4. Geologically speaking, the Gulf of Suez is located between the Sinai.....and the Eastern Desert mountains
5. As a/an....., the giraffe has teeth that are broad and capable of chewing tough plants.
6. In most cases, a/anhas sharp teeth which are used for biting into raw meat.
7. Whilereveal what ancient living things looked like, they keep us guessing about their color, sounds, and most of their behavior.

III. Grammar and Structure

7 marks

A) *Choose the most suitable answer from between the brackets:* 6 marks

1. Leaves were scattered **everywhere**. “*Everywhere*” is a/an (adjective—adverb—noun—conjunction).
2. “*If the Earth continues to warm up, all of the ice on the North and South Poles could melt*” is a (simple— compound— complex— complex-compound).

3. (Do— Does— Have— Had) you have a permanent job?
4. Penguins could never survive in a region with **arid** climate. “*arid*” is a/an (adjective—adverb—noun—conjunction).
5. The earth (travels- is travelling- travelling- travelled) around the sun in approximately 365 days.
6. When (are you getting- will you get- do you get- you are getting) married?

B) *Select the Correctly Punctuated Sentence:*

1 mark

- a. I need to locate the four states on the map: Minnesota; Michigan; California; and Nevada.
- b. I need to locate the four states on the map; Minnesota; Michigan; California; and Nevada.
- c. I need to locate the four states on the map. Minnesota; Michigan; California; and Nevada.
- d. I need to locate the four states on the map. Minnesota; Michigan; California; and Nevada.

Good luck!