**INTERNATIONAL TRAINING COLLEGE - LINGUA**

**Towards Educational Excellence**

**NCHE Reg. No: R0014**

**NQA Accreditation No: 000244**

**LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT**

## ASSIGNMENT ONE SECOND SEMESTER 2023

**READING AND DIRECTED WRITING**

## COURSE: ENGLISH FOR HRM, BA, AF, OA, HEALTH, LAW, TT, IT LEVEL 5

**MARKS**

**50**

## SUBJECT : ENGLISH LEVEL 5

**EXAMINER : Mrs. C.Van Wyk TOTAL MARKS : 50**

## INSTRUCTIONS

## PLEASE CONVERT TO PDF

## Student Surname:

##  Student First name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

## Student Number: Date:

**FT PT Distance (*Please Tick one box only)***

Section 1

Read the following passage before answering the questions that follow.

Passage 1

Social Networking Sites

Social networking sites are a recent and, sometimes, controversial innovation. They enable people, by means of the internet, to get in touch with friends easily, without having to worry about interrupting them in the way that telephone calls might.

People can keep in regular contact with their friends about such thingsas the clothes they wear and the music they listen to, even sharing photos. Using social networking sites is obviously much cheaper than long-distance travel, and maintaining relationships with friends or family in faraway places becomes much easier. Since the internet can be accessed outside the home on smartphones and on laptop or tablet omputers, it makes social networking sites a useful way to utilise down time, which is time otherwise wasted, for example, in the dentist’s waiting room or on the bus.

3 Social networking sites have a role to play in the world of work too. In certain businesses and professions, employees rely on them to keep themselves up to date with the latest developments in their fields.

People with no jobs or the desire for new or better ones do not have to wait for advertisements to appear in newspapers; they can be proactive and advertise themselves on such sites. Employers are also able to recruit the best potential employees by examining information about their background, experience and qualifications posted, and so make an informed choice which does not rely on interview skills alone.

4 However, more important, social networking sites have many critics who say that relationships formed through them, unlike face to face friendships, are too impersonal to be described as real friendships. They argue that it is all very well to have a hundred cyber friends, but this number of contacts devalues true friendship. Certainly, to describe a hundred people as your 'best' friends is absolute nonsense. Also, if your friend has read on screen every detail of your life that week, and she yours, what are you going to talk about when you meet? Information overload is another drawback of these sites, where readers are bombarded with intimate facts which might be best left unsaid because they are inappropriate. In fact, most information posted is utterly boring.

5 Additionally, the constant desire to know what their contacts are doing leads networking site users to become almost addicted to checking for updates. What could be more insulting than to be out with a friend who makes it clear that the friend he is contacting online is far more interesting than you are? People often cannot relax in the company of others because there is a persistent niggle about what their social networking contacts might be doing. In the business and professional sphere, too, there is often pressure for instant responses from social networking sites, so that even taking a short holiday becomes unthinkable.

In conclusion, it is clear that the trivial information about people on such sites might not only have social consequences but also have repercussions in the world of work. Therefore, stricter regulation of social networking sites are long overdue.

(Source: to be indicated)

For Questions 1 - 2, choose the correct answer and encircle only the appropriate letter.

1 The author's main intention in this text is to

A give an objective view of the advantages and disadvantages of social networking sites.

B inform people about the usefulness of social networking sites.

C promote the establishment of rules for social networking sites.

D warn people of the dangers of social networking sites. [1]

2 In paragraph 3, the pronoun "them" refers to

A businesses and professions.

B developments.

C employees.

D social networking sites. [1]

3 Indicate whether the following statements are True or False) According to the writer

A the disadvantages of social networking sites outweigh the advantages.

.………………………………………………………………………………… [1]

B social networking sites improve the value of friendships.

.………………………………………………………………………………… [1]

C social networking sites make job interviews unnecessary.

.………………………………………………………………………………… [1]

D it is a fact that people can often not relax in the company of others

.………………………………………………………………………………… [1]

4 Paragraph 2 gives 2 examples of 'down time'. Give one example of your own of 'down time' as defined in paragraph 2. Do not use the examples given in the text.

.………………………………………………………………………………………... [1]

5 Rhetorical questions are used in paragraphs 4 and 5 to create a strong tone of disapproval.

(a) What is a rhetorical question?

.………………………………………………………………………………… [1]

(b) Quote one of the rhetorical questions verbatim.

.………………………………………………………………………………. [1]

6 Write down one illogical or unreasonable assumption for which the author does not provide reasonable evidence from the fourth paragraph.

.………………………………………………………………………………………..

.

.………………………………………………………………………………………... [1]

 **[10]**

**Grammar and vocabulary**

7 Correct the two language errors in the first sentence of paragraph 4 by writing down the correct version of each error.

.………………………………………………………………………………………...

.………………………………………………………………………………………... [2]

8 What is the root/stem of the word “pro-active”? (paragraph 3).

.………………………………………………………………………………………... [1]

9 Provide a homophone for the word “site” (paragraph 1) and use it in a short sentence that clearly illustrates the meaning.

.………………………………………………………………………………………...

.………………………………………………………………………………………... [1]

10 “this number of contacts devalues true friendship” (paragraph 4). Identify this

string of words as a phrase, clause or a complete sentence.

.………………………………………………………………………………………...

.………………………………………………………………………………………... [1]

11 Explain the meaning of the following words/expressions in the context of this

text:

(a) trivial (paragraph 6)

.……………………………………………………………………………… [1]

(b) controversial (paragraph 1)

.……………………………………………………………………………… [1]

12 Correct the concord error in paragraph 5 by rewriting the entire sentence correctly, underlining the corrected verb.

.………………………………………………………………………………………...

.………………………………………………………………………………………... [1]

13 Read the following sentence before answering the questions that follow.

"Since the internet can be accessed outside the home on smartphone and on laptop or tablet computers, it makes social networking sites a useful way to utilise down time, which is time which might otherwise be wasted in, for example, the dentist’s waiting room or on the bus."

(a) Copy only the main clause of the above sentence.

.……………………………………………………………………………… [1]

(b) Is the above sentence a simple, complex or compound sentence?

.……………………………………………………………………………… [1]

[10]

**[20]**

Section 2

Read the following passage before answering the questions that follow.

Passage 2

**Monica**

1. I could not decide whether or not Monica’s odd behaviour was caused by old age. Obvious as that might have been, I could not avoid a suspicion: might it be caused by no more than her plan to get her own way – an old lady’s prerogative? Without doubt she was highly intelligent and wellinformed, but it was often hard to cope with the strands of her conversation because of the way in which memory and forgetfulness crossed and re-crossed each other. Who was the real Monica? I could not tell.

2. No doubt she had always been eccentric. For example, she would cross roads without so much as glancing to left or right. Drivers would slam on their brakes while this elderly lady wandered casually across the busiest roads in town. Although her idiosyncrasies must always have been there, perhaps they had become more accentuated as she became older. I remember well the occasion when my friend Cynthia and I took her to a concert.

3. To begin with, she insisted on taking her knitting. Neither Cynthia nor I remonstrated with her as we should have done, but that was only with the wisdom of hindsight. Knitting during a concert is uncommon; in fact, I had never seen anyone do it. We entered the packed village hall, and Monica wanted to sit in the front row. Like a queen she sailed down the central aisle, and sat down directly opposite the pianist’s chair. Everyone knew Monica, and from the outset I felt conspicuous and mortified.

4. Soon the musicians arrived and the concert was about to begin. ‘I think the pianist made her dress out of old curtains,’ said Monica. The pianist glared at her, offended and embarrassed. I was squirming, trying in vain to keep calm. The concert started and Monica took out her knitting.

5. Now, knitting is not generally considered to be a noisy occupation. I had often seen Monica knitting elsewhere and, when she dropped her knitting needles, as she often did, it had never caused a problem. But on this occasion the atmosphere in the room was different. Each time the knitting needles fell they clattered onto the wooden floor: it was absolute mayhem. Cynthia or I had to retrieve them, depending on which side they dropped. The ball of wool fell and rolled under several chairs. Someone about four chairs back kicked it back towards her, but the trailing end of the wool caught round a chair leg and pulled tight, thus yanking the needles out of Monica’s hands. ‘Be careful,’ she hissed, just as the pianist, her eyes closed in rapture, was approaching a particularly difficult section of music. She opened her eyes sharply, simultaneously hitting a wrong note.

6. An attendant came forward and asked Monica to be quiet. ‘What did you say?’ she asked loudly, as though she were deaf – which she wasn’t. I was grinding my teeth in fury and plotting murder in my heart. But worse was to come. As soon as the first piece of music finished, Monica decided to leave. With knitting needles dropping all around her, and in full view of the audience, she swept up the central aisle towards the door.

Tumultuous applause broke out from the audience, stamping, cheering, whistling – no musicians could have asked for a greater ovation. But we knew that the applause was not for the musicians or their music. They bowed stiffly, their faces set in grim smiles. At that point, I made up my mind that her apparent senility1 was no more than a deception designed for her own delight.

*(Source: to be mentioned)*

**1 a forgetful old person**

Answer the following questions in your own words as far as possible.

14 (a) What was the 'obvious' explanation for Monica's 'odd behaviour'?

.……………………………………………………………………………… [1]

(b) What did the writer suspect was the real reason for Monica's behaviour?

.……………………………………………………………………………… [2]

15 Name two ways in which Monica's way of crossing the road was 'eccentric'?

Explain in your own words.

.……………………………………………………………………………………

.……………………………………………………………………………………

.……………………………………………………………………………………

.…………………………………………………………………………………… [3]

16 Quote the simile used in the third paragraph and explain how it adds to the impression the reader gets of Monica's character.

.……………………………………………………………………………………

.……………………………………………………………………………………

.……………………………………………………………………………………

.…………………………………………………………………………………… [3]

17 Why is Monica’s knitting causing ‘mayhem’ in paragraph 5?

.……………………………………………………………………………………

.……………………………………………………………………………………

.……………………………………………………………………………………

.…………………………………………………………………………………… [2]

16 Why does the writer mention that Monica wasn't deaf?

.……………………………………………………………………………………

.…………………………………………………………………………………… [2]

17 Why is it ironic that Monica says, "Be careful!" (paragraph 5)

.……………………………………………………………………………………

.…………………………………………………………………………………… [2]

18 Why did the audience applaud so loudly?

.……………………………………………………………………………………

.…………………………………………………………………………………… [2]

19 Describe in your own words what the writer decided about Monica's 'apparent senility', and write down one occurrence that made her come to this conclusion

.……………………………………………………………………………………

.…………………………………………………………………………………… [2]

[20]

Directed Writing

22 Write the dialogue that takes place after the concert between the speaker/narrator and the pianist, where the pianist complains about Monica’s behaviour and the speaker/narrator apologises. Use information from Passage

Your piece must be between 180 – 200 words.

 **[10]**