

DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
UNIVERSITY OF COMPUTER STUDIES, YANGON
FIRST YEAR (B.C.Sc/ B.C.Tech)
FINAL EXAMINATION
SEPTEMBER, 2018
ENGLISH

Answer all questions.

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

QUESTION I

Distance Learning Vs. Face-to-Face Learning

(30 marks)

Although many people think it is a modern phenomenon, distance learning has been around for at least 200 years in one form or another. Historical examples of long-distance learning include students being sent a series of weekly lessons by mail. The technological advances of the past 20 or so years, however, have meant that this form of education is now a credible alternative to face-to-face learning. Indeed, 1996 saw the establishment of the world's first "virtual university" in the United States, showing how far distance learning has come in a relatively short space of time. While it is now possible to obtain a variety of online degrees, which is the best type of education to pursue? A closer examination of this topic reveals that distance and traditional educational instruction have significant differences but also some similarities.

When comparing the two systems, the most obvious difference lies in the way that instruction is delivered. Distance learning is heavily dependent on technology, particularly the Internet. In a face-to-face course, students may only require a computer for the purpose of writing an essay. In comparison, when learning remotely, technology is the principal means of communication. Face-to-face instruction must take place in real time and one location. Conversely, distance learning can happen at any time and in any location, since the learning is not restricted by geography. The flexibility this provides means that students may be better able to learn at their own pace, but it may also mean that learners have to be well organized and self-disciplined. In other words, they must be more highly motivated in order to do well in distance-learning courses. Finally, with face-to-face learning, the teacher and student have the opportunity to develop a personal relationship. In a virtual classroom, by contrast, the teacher may seldom or never actually meet the student. This may make it hard for teachers to understand their students' specific learning needs.

Although the nature of the teacher-student relationship may differ in the two methods, they do share the same core principles. Just as a teacher is the "knower" in a classroom, he or she is the one responsible for helping students understand the key sections of an online course. The teacher needs to decide how to best present the material to be learned and in which sequence the topics should be introduced. He or she must also create the assignments for the course and help the students know what resources (textbooks, websites, and so on) will best support their learning. Additionally, a teacher needs to provide feedback in some way. For example, a language teacher in a classroom may be able to correct a student's grammar or pronunciation in the moment, whereas a distance-learning teacher may need to provide written or recorded feedback to be delivered later. In any case, all the usual elements of the teacher's role are necessary, no matter what kind of instruction is being used.

It is difficult to state whether one form of learning is better than another, since they are geared toward different learning situations. They are certainly different experiences. Nevertheless, there are strong similarities between the two systems, which can both produce positive results. A student who has the choice should consider the advantages and disadvantages of each method before deciding to take a course.

Questions 1-5 Match the words with their meanings.

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. core principles | a. recent trend |
| 2. credible alternative | b. important distinction |
| 3. modern phenomenon | c. online course |
| 4. significant difference | d. reliable substitute |
| 5. virtual classroom | e. key values |

Questions 6-10

Do the following statements agree with the information given in the Reading Passage?

True if the statement agrees with the information

False if the statement contradicts the information

Not Given if there is no information on this

- Distance learning is a new idea.
- Learners prefer distance learning to conventional one.
- Distance learning requires good technological access.
- In a virtual classroom, the teacher can often meet the learner.
- There are strong similarities between distance and traditional learning.

Questions 11-15

Which of the learning systems refers to the following statements?

Write only '**D**' for Distance Learning, '**F**' for Face-to-Face Learning and '**B**' for Both.

D Distance Learning

F Face-to-Face Learning

B Both

Note: You may use any letter more than once.

- It develops a strong student-teacher relationship.
- It relies heavily on technology.
- It can be an effective way of teaching.
- It must take place in real time and one location.
- It is not limited by geography.

QUESTION II (A): Put the verbs in brackets in the **Present Perfect** or **Past Simple**. (10 marks)

- I'd like to meet a ghost because I ----- (never/see) one yet.
- What time ----- (you/get) to work this morning?
- The President ----- (come) out of the building and is going to make a speech.
- Janet ----- (be) very ill three years ago.
- We moved here in 1993. We ----- (live) here for a long time.
- Last week, I was offered a job at a local bank, but I ----- (not/ accept) it.
- It's an interesting book. I ----- (already/read) this book.
- They ----- (rescue) five men from a burning house yesterday.
- The Prime Minister ----- (be) in office since 2011.
- We ----- (go) to Singapore last month.

QUESTION II (B): Complete the Conditional Sentences (Type I or II) by putting the verbs into the correct form. (10 marks)

- If I were rich, my life ----- (change) completely.
- I will invite all my friends if I ----- (have) a house by the beach.
- If we ----- (have) a yacht, we could sail.
- If they tell their father, he ----- (be) very angry.
- We ----- (help) you if we knew your problem.
- My brother ----- (buy) a sports car if he had a lot of money.
- If you speak English, she ----- (understand).
- I ----- (send) a postcard to you if I had your address.
- If it ----- (not/ start) to rain, we could go to the museum.
- If she took the bus, she ----- (not / arrive) on time.

QUESTION III (A): *These are the words connected with money and buying and selling. Match the words and definitions.* (10 marks)

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 1. funds | a. how much something costs to buy in a shop |
| 2. commodity | b. available money |
| 3. retail price | c. how much something costs to buy in large quantities |
| 4. market price | d. money that someone gets from working |
| 5. income | e. something that can be bought and sold |
| 6. middleman | f. someone who lends money to people at a very high rate of interest |
| 7. loan shark | g. someone who buys and sells things |
| 8. trader/dealer | h. someone who buys something or uses services |
| 9. player | i. a person or company that buys from producers and sells to customers at a profit |
| 10. consumer | j. a person or organization that influences a situation, especially in business or politics |

QUESTION III (B): *Choose the correct spelling of these words below. Just write down the number and the answer.* (10 marks)

1. There has been huge improvements in robot *technologi/technology* in recent decades.
2. I received beautiful *stationery/stationary/* with my name printed on it.
3. Asimo's capabilities were *demonstrated/demonsated* at a conference in New York.
4. I bought a new *scanner/scannar* yesterday.
5. *Communicasion/ Communication* has grown increasingly important in today's world.
6. We failed to get up-to-date *informations/ information* because of bad connection.
7. You need to add a suitable *preposition/proposition* here.
8. The university has a good *reputation/ reptasion* for supporting overseas students.
9. Many of the *develpments/ developments* in computer science have been essential for business.
10. The Internet was a very *significant/ signifificent* recent advance in technology.

QUESTION IV: *Describe a situation you remember when you had to use a foreign language to communicate.* (10 marks)

You should say:

- what you were doing
- what happened
- how well you communicated in the language and
- explain why you remember this situation or experience.

QUESTION V: Essay (20 marks)

It is said that the internet is bad for young people.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Write at least 250 words.

-----The End-----