

UNIVERSITY OF RUHUNA

Faculty of Engineering

End-Semester 1 Examination in Engineering: August 2015

Module Number: IS 1302 Module Name: Communication for Engineers

[Three hours]

[Answer all questions]

Question 01

Correct all the Errors in the Following Sentences and Rewrite Them.

(10 Marks)

1. my sister is called sara she was born in may
2. friday is my favourite day of the week
3. when is kamal going to play baseball
4. we went to galle to do some shopping
5. i live in main street in galle sri lanka
6. he told me the dog was a dalmation
7. my uncle drives a silver bmw
8. did she say her name was anne or jane
9. i like to cook i like to make cake bread and biscuits
10. in colombo i saw madhava tharaka and vimal

Question 02

Read the Following Text and Answer the Questions

(15 Marks)

First introduced in 1927, The Hardy Boys Mystery Stories are a series of books about the adventures of brothers Frank and Joe Hardy, teenaged detectives who solve one baffling mystery after another. The Hardy Boys were so popular among young boys that in 1930 a similar series was created for girls featuring a sixteen-year-old detective named Nancy Drew. The cover of each volume of The Hardy Boys states that the author of the series is Franklin W. Dixon; the Nancy Drew Mystery Stories are supposedly written by Carolyn Keene. Over the years, though, many fans of both series have been surprised to find out that Franklin W.

Dixon and Carolyn Keene are not real people. If Franklin W. Dixon and Carolyn Keene never existed, then who wrote The Hardy Boys and Nancy Drew mysteries?

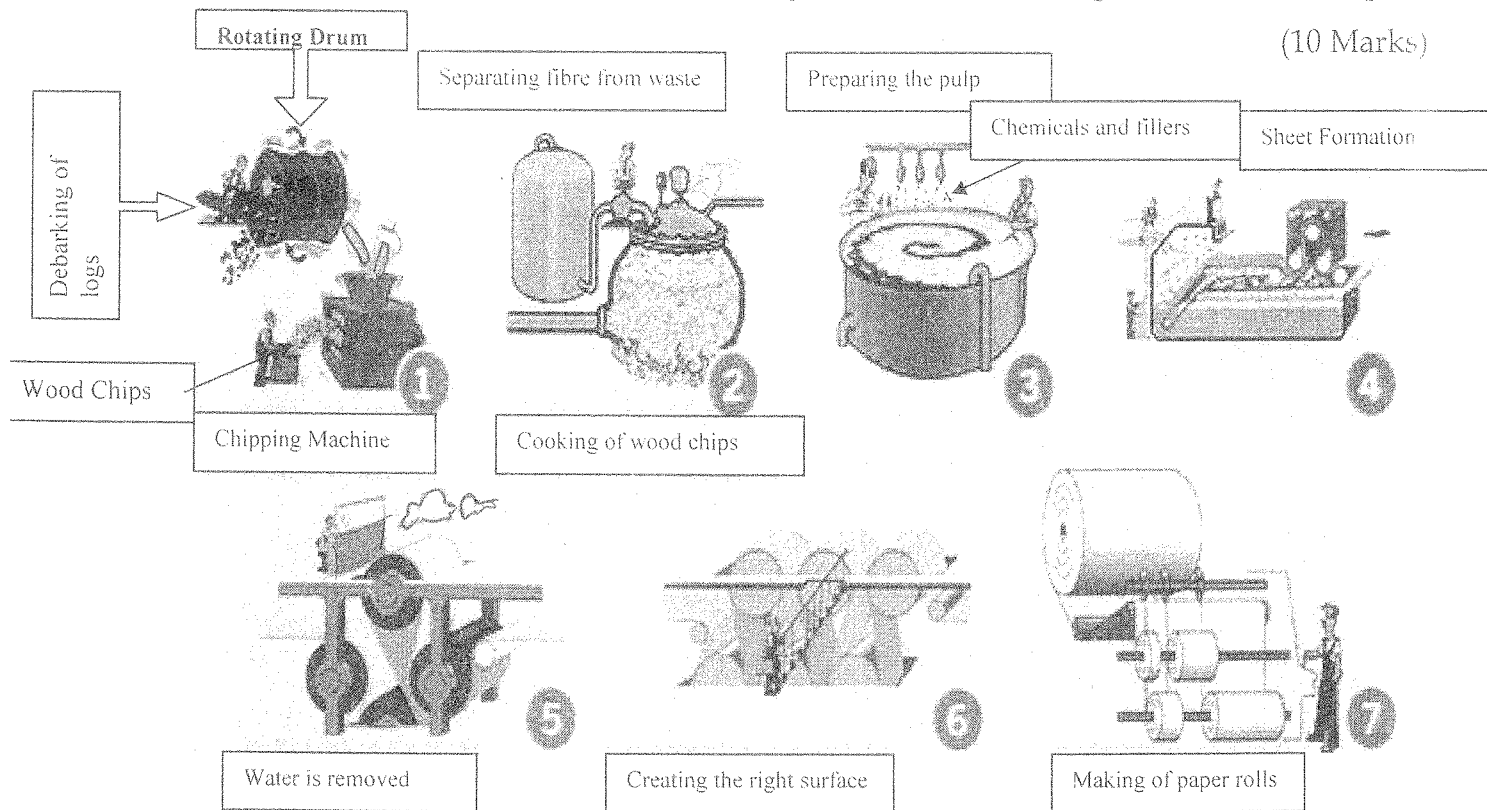
The Hardy Boys and the Nancy Drew books were written through a process called ghostwriting. A ghostwriter writes a book according to a specific **formula**. While ghostwriters are paid for writing the books, their authorship is not acknowledged, and their names do not appear on the published books. Ghostwriters can write books for children or adults, the content of which is unspecific. Sometimes they work on book series with a lot of individual titles, such as The Hardy Boys and the Nancy Drew series.

The initial idea for both The Hardy Boys and the Nancy Drew series was developed by a man named Edward Stratemeyer, who owned a publishing company that **specialized** in children's books. Stratemeyer noticed the increasing popularity of mysteries among adults, and *surmised* that children would enjoy reading mysteries about younger **detectives** with whom they could identify. Stratemeyer first developed each book with an outline describing the plot and setting. Once he completed the outline, Stratemeyer then hired a ghostwriter to convert it into a book of slightly over 200 pages. After the ghostwriter had written a draft of a book, he or she would send it back to Stratemeyer, who would make a list of corrections and mail it back to the ghostwriter. The ghostwriter would revise the book according to Stratemeyer's **instructions** and then return it to him. Once Stratemeyer approved the book, it was ready for publication.

Because each series ran for so many years, Nancy Drew and The Hardy Boys both had a number of different ghostwriters producing books; however, the first ghostwriter for each series proved to be the most influential. The initial ghostwriter for The Hardy Boys was a Canadian journalist named Leslie McFarlane. A few years later, Mildred A. Wirt, a young writer from Iowa, began writing the Nancy Drew books. Although they were using prepared outlines as guides, both McFarlane and Wirt developed the characters themselves. The **personalities** of Frank and Joe Hardy and Nancy Drew arose directly from McFarlane's and Wirt's imaginations. For example, Mildred Wirt had been a star college athlete and gave Nancy similar athletic abilities. The ghostwriters were also responsible for numerous plot and setting details. Leslie McFarlane used elements of his small Canadian town to create Bayport, the Hardy Boys' fictional hometown.

Question 3

Study the following process of papermaking and describe it using seven or more steps



Question 04

Correct Grammar and Spelling Mistakes (if there are any) in the Following Sentences and Rewrite Them. (10 Marks)

Example: Tomorro we will be goin to Toms birthday party.

Tomorrow, we will be going to Tom's birthday party.

1. Sophia said, Get out of the rain!
2. Once the train arrives we will be on are way.
3. Gas in Alaska is the most cheapest gas in all the world.
4. When I turn forty five I would have been a coal miner for twenty two years.
5. Apollo 11 was the first manned mission to land on the moon.
6. The cashere gave me two hundred and sixteen dollars sixty two cents.
7. Spot my dog is the faster runner in the hole neighborhood.
8. When i am sixteen i am gonna get my lisence.
9. If I was president I will make health care more afoardable.
10. We going to the super market later?

Question 05

Read the Following Passage and Write a Summary of it Using 95 – 115 Words. (15 Marks)

A new form of lie detector that works by voice analysis and which can be used without a subject's knowledge has been introduced in Britain. The unit is already widely employed by the police and private industry in the US, and some of its applications there raise serious worries about its potential here. The Dektor Psychological Stress Analyser (PSE) is used by private industry for pre-employment screening, investigating thefts, and even periodic staff checks. Although at least 600 of the devices are used in the US, there are apparently only three in Britain. Burns International Security Services showed its PSE at the International Fire and Security Exhibition in London last week.

In addition to the normally understood voice generation mechanisms - vibrations of the vocal chords and resonance of cavities inside the head - there is a third component caused by vibration of the muscles inside the mouth and throat. Normally, but not under stress, these voluntary muscles vibrate at 8-12 Hz, and this adds a clearly noticeable frequency-modulated component to the voice. The PSE works by analysing this infrasonic FM component. Dektor claims that the muscle tightening occurs very quickly, and can change from one word to the next, so that it is possible to pick out a word or phrase that caused stress.

Dektor emphasises that the device shows only stress, not dishonesty. Three steps are suggested to overcome this difficulty. First, the subject is supposed to see a full list of the questions in advance. Second, there are 'neutral' questions and one to which the subject is specifically asked to lie. Third, if an individual shows stress on a vital question (such as have you stolen more than £100 in the last six months?), then additional questions must be asked to ensure that this does not reflect an earlier theft or the subject's knowledge of someone else responsible.

The potential application of the PSE in Britain is extremely disquieting, especially as there seems no law to prevent its use. The most serious problem is that its primary application will be in situations where people may not object - such as pre-employment interviews. But it can also be used to probe a whole range of personal issues totally unrelated to job - union and political affiliations, for example. And, of course, the PSE can be used without the subject even knowing; its inventors analysed the televised Watergate hearings and told the press who they thought was lying. Finally, the device is not foolproof but depends on the skill of the investigator, who receives only a one-week course from Dektor. (431 words)

Question 06

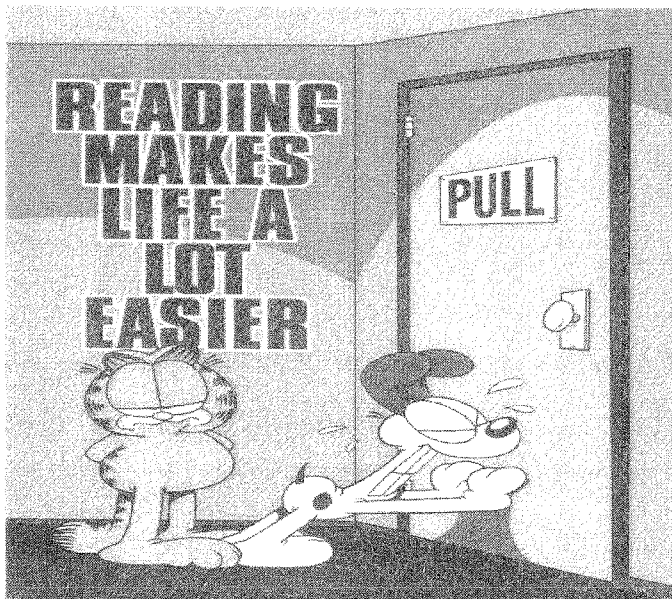
Write Short Descriptions on Any Three of the Following Topics. (80 - 100 words each)

(15 Marks)

1. Non-Verbal Communication
2. Intrapersonal Communication
3. Ways of Improving Effective Listening Skills
4. "Engineers are Critical Thinkers"
5. Ways of Using Modern Technology in Improving Communication Skills

Question 07

- a) Write a small paragraph of the importance of reading skills considering incident in the following picture. (10 Marks)



- b) You are a civil engineer who is responsible in constructing a new seven storied building for a five star hotel facing a main road. The land suggested for this purpose has a temple next to it. The villagers along with a Buddhist association oppose this construction. As a civil engineer and a critical thinker discuss how you can convince the public on positive and negative aspects of this issue in order to carry out this construction.

(15 Marks)