

Daffodil International University
Department of Business Administration
Final Examination, Summer 2026

Course Code: 0231-111

Course Title: Communicative English

Semester: Summer 2026

Examination : Final Exam

Time: 2 Hours

Full Marks: 40

Section: 72 (A-H)

Teacher's Initial: FA, MHH

Answer ALL the Questions

[The figures in the right margin indicate the full marks and corresponding course outcomes.]

All portions of each question must be answered sequentially.]

1. Listening and Speaking (CLO-2, Level-2) 5+5=10

Listening: Listen to the audio and demonstrate it to answer questions 1 to 10 (Selecting and interpreting ideas; will be taken separately) & Speaking: A face-to-face interview for speaking test with the course teacher (Develop ideas for topics and construct answer of the questions; will be taken separately)

2. Write the sentences correctly. (CLO-1, level-1) 0.5x10=5

- i. The plan was risky; however, it worked.
- ii. Having spent years perfecting the recipe, only to have it rejected by the judges.
- iii. The economy contracted sharply, unemployment rose, consumer confidence plummeted, nobody expected a quick recovery.
- iv. Running through the rain without an umbrella.
- v. She revised the manuscript twelve times, still, the editor found flaws.
- vi. The students were excited they were going on a study tour.
- vii. She completed her presentation and submitted it before the deadline.
- viii. While waiting for the bus.
- ix. Which was very difficult for the students.
- x. She studied hard, she received a good grade.

3. Read Passages A and B below and apply your reading skills to answer Questions 3(i-iv).(CLO 3, Level 3)

Reading Passage A: Do animals dream?

Studies using electrodes attached to the heads of sleepers have shown that when we sleep, we do so in two ways that alternate throughout the night. The first is rapid eye movement (REM) or active sleep. During this stage our eyes move, even though our eyelids are closed. Our muscles also twitch slightly, though they are largely paralysed so we

don't hurt ourselves. In contrast, we also engage in non-REM sleep, during which we barely move at all. Most dream states, and certainly those with the most vivid dreams, happen during REM sleep.

There's some evidence that other mammals may also dream. For example, researchers compared the brain patterns of rats running through a maze when awake with their brain patterns during REM sleep. They found the patterns were very similar and concluded that the sleeping rats were dreaming about going through the maze.

But finding evidence of dreaming in non-mammals has proved more difficult. Their brains are very different from those of humans, and it can often be difficult to record their activity while they are sleeping. Recently, however, researchers succeeded in recording brain activity in sleeping pigeons. As in mammals, the recordings revealed both REM and non-REM sleep. Intriguingly, REM sleep activity was high in brain regions involved in processing visual information, especially images related to physical activities such as flying, which suggests that this may possibly be what the pigeons were dreaming about.

That said, dreaming and REM sleep are unlikely to be universal in the animal kingdom. For example, sponges don't have brains, so they lack the machinery for dreaming. There are also some animals with unusual sleep patterns. These include whales and dolphins, which do not shut down their entire brain when they sleep, but only half of it, keeping the rest awake. They also show no sign of REM sleep, suggesting that they may only experience non-REM dreams, which are less vivid. This is surprising because we tend to think of whales and dolphins as having complex inner lives. It's thought that they don't experience REM sleep because during REM sleep animals are more vulnerable to extremes of temperature.

Nevertheless, in many cases REM sleep does seem to have benefits. Growing evidence from birds and mammals suggests that REM sleep and dreaming are important for forming memories and learning. It is believed that when events are replayed in dreams, this helps to integrate memories into longer-term storage. As soon as animals evolved moderately complex lifestyles, they would have needed to dream in order to manage these lifestyles.

However, we still don't understand how this outward behaviour relates to internal experience. It seems impossible to know what it is like to be a rat or a pigeon, let alone imagine their dreamscapes. We are quick to interpret the twitching limbs and quiet barks of sleeping dogs, but the truth is that we don't know if there is an internal experience of chasing rabbits that comes along with that.

Another non-human dreamer offers insight here. In 2019, while making a documentary, David Scheel of Alaska Pacific University in the USA housed an octopus named Heidi in a tank in his living room. At one point, in the middle of the night, Heidi seemed to dream: her limbs and head moved, and her skin rapidly changed colour, as though she was pursuing a crab.

Similarly, a report recently emerged of a sleeping octopus apparently having a nightmare. Costello, as the octopus was called, thrashed around, extended his mantle as if trying to make himself look bigger, and squirted ink as though

he were being attacked by a predator. The nightmare study is intriguing, says Scheel, but is only based on one animal. He argues that as well as outward behaviour, brain imaging is needed to show that the octopuses are replaying sequences of activities from their waking lives in dreams.

The trouble is that we will never be able to experience any animal's dreams. That goes for other humans' dreams too. But we can try to imagine what these dreamscapes are like by meeting animals on their own terms. For example, vision is the dominant sense for many humans, and so our dreams are heavily visual too. Dogs primarily navigate the world using smell while spiders rely much more on vibrations.

It is likely that dreaming has served multiple purposes since the first complex animals evolved. And if this is the case, it is possible that better understanding of these purposes might shed light on the true purpose of our own dreams.

Requirement i-v Do the following statements agree with the information given in Reading Passage A? TRUE if the statement agrees with the information FALSE if the statement contradicts the information NOT GIVEN if there is no information on this i. Dreaming about past experiences helps us to create lasting memories of them. ii. It is now possible to tell what type of dream a dog is having. iii. David Scheel's documentary was influential on other research into the sleeping patterns of octopuses. iv. While it was asleep, the octopus called Costello reacted as if it was hunting. v. Scheel believes more research into octopuses' dreams should be carried out.	0.5x5=2.5
Requirement (vi-x) <i>Write the correct Answer on your answer sheet. Choose ONE WORD ONLY from the passage for each person.</i> Research into sleep and dreaming Humans • humans experience REM sleep and non-REM sleep	0.5x5=2.5

• in REM sleep, the eyes and muscles move vi. • similar brain patterns were observed when active and sleeping indicative of dreaming Pigeons • when sleeping, pigeons displayed activity in parts of the brain that deal with vii. Input may have been dreaming of flying Whales and dolphins • still have viii. their brain their awake when they sleep • don't experience REM sleep, as this could affect their sensitivity to ix. their dreams are probably not very x.	
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Reading Passage, B: Why we need silence

A) Humans are finely attuned to noise, and for good reason. From an evolutionary perspective, sounds give us vital information, helping us navigate the world and avoid danger. To help ensure loud or unexpected noises get the attention they deserve, our internal chemistry alters in response to them. Our blood pressure goes up, muscles tense and glands release hormones that prepare us for fight or flight. In the short term, this is a good thing. When we are exposed to too much noise over the long term, however, those responses can lead to a multitude of health issues, from sleep disturbance to even cardiovascular disease.

B) The World Health Organization has recently designated excessive noise as an 'underestimated threat' to public health, and has said that people living in cities such as Mumbai, Tokyo and Buenos Aires are being exposed to far more than the recommended 40 decibels of noise at night. A report from the European Environment Agency concluded that noise was an ongoing and widespread issue in Europe, with at least 1 in 5 people consistently exposed to levels considered harmful to health. 'There are no "earlids" that can protect your brain from noise,' says Nick Antonio, an acoustic consultant who has contributed to the British and international standards for noise.

C) The good news is that several cities have been working to turn the volume down. One of the first to do so was London. 'By providing recommendations for quieter buses, reducing noise from roads and also controlling noise from aircraft, they were able to make the city quieter,' says Antonio. Other cities have introduced noise-reducing road coatings, for instance, alongside greenery that muffles sound. Some solutions are more specific: Washington DC's ban on petrol-powered leaf blowers came into effect recently, while in New York City, legislation has been

approved to fine people who modify their vehicles to make them noisier. 'People are seeing the benefits of these more quiet environments in their cities,' Antonio says. 'I expect we will see much more of this in the future.'

D) Neurobiologist Tai Dotan Ben-Soussan is also an advocate of silence as a therapy. 'When we find ways to be quiet, we are not only quiet in our environment, but quiet in our inner selves,' she explains. 'This allows us to be more aware of what is happening around us and what the situation may require from us so we can provide [a more] adequate response.' Not everyone will benefit from silence to the same extent, but Ben-Soussan says one characteristic is key: the person must need to want to engage in the experience. 'We see from animal models and human studies that volition and intentionality is important,' she says. 'When people do not want silence, it can be very distressing.'

E) Eric Pfeifer, a psychotherapy researcher, also concedes that some people may not benefit from silence, particularly those who are in a heightened state of stress. 'People in these states may not be able to relax or calm down in a silent condition,' he says. Professional guidance can be useful, he adds, allowing people to approach silence slowly so that they can gradually enjoy the benefits. And Pfeifer is convinced that silence is more attainable in everyday life than people think. First, complete silence isn't necessary. In a recent study, he found that participants reported more relaxation and less boredom when they sat quietly in an outdoor garden compared with a completely silent room. Second, Pfeifer believes we don't need a lot of silence to gain benefits. 'You don't need to spend hours in silence,' he says. 'It is likely better to have more frequency of silence for a few minutes at a time than a longer period of silence only once a week. Just finding those places in your daily life where you can find some silence ... can make a big difference.'

Requirement (xi-xiv) Reading Passage B has five sections, A-E. Which section contains the following information? <i>Write the correct letter, A-E, in boxes xi - xiv on your answer sheet.</i> xi examples of strategies to decrease the noise that the public are exposed to xii data indicating the extent of the problem of excessive noise xiii a description of physiological changes in our bodies when we hear sudden noises xiv evidence that a relatively quiet environment can be more beneficial than a totally silent one	1x4=4
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4. a) **Describe** following terms briefly. (Any 2)

CLO 4 , 2x2=4

Level 6

- i) Minutes
- ii) Skimming
- iii) Plagiarism
- iv) Agenda

b) **Develop** a well-structured essay on **any one** of the following topics:

CLO 4 , 07x1=7

Level 6

- i. People can now access news instantly through social media and online platforms. What are the advantages and disadvantages of getting news in this way?
- ii. Living in a large city provides many opportunities, but it can also be stressful and expensive. Do the advantages of city life outweigh the disadvantages?

Instructions:

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience. Write at least 250 words.

C) You have recently completed a degree in Business Administration. During your university life, you actively participated in organizing university events, seminars, cultural programs, workshops, and other student activities. You have developed skills in communication, teamwork, leadership, coordination, and event planning.

CLO 4 , 5x1=5

Level 6

Task:

Create a formal cover letter applying for the position of Event Coordinator at an EventPro Bangladesh, Dhaka. Your letter should demonstrate your relevant academic background, event-organizing experience, transferable skills, and enthusiasm for the position.

Word Limit: 300–400 words

N.B: Maintain a formal, professional tone throughout the letter and follow the standard format of a professional cover letter.