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CARIBBEAN EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL

CARIBBEAN ADVANCED PROFICIENCY EXAMINATION®

COMMUNICATION STUDIES

Paper 032

1 hour 30 minutes

06 MAY 2015 (a.m.)

READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY.

1. This paper consists of THREE questions.
2. Answer ALL questions.
3. You are advised to take some time to read through the paper and plan your answers.

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SECTION A

MODULE 1 – GATHERING AND PROCESSING INFORMATION

1. Read the excerpt below carefully and answer the questions that follow.

For most people, bugs are organisms to be avoided, but perhaps we have been unfair to them, and guilty of unwarranted prejudice. Just as human beings can be good, bad, or indifferent, and while there are definitely bad bugs, there are also good bugs, which are increasingly being studied by scientists and used by technologists. In fact, it has been stated that maybe 99 per cent of all bugs are helpful — a striking example of how the presence of a few bad apples can give a bad reputation to the whole barrel.

In an age of instant everything, including food, the public demands the convenience of ready-to-eat products, including packaged fresh salads, but they prefer these foods to be preservative free. It has been found that non-pathogenic bacteria (aka good bugs) can be used to preserve food by producing acids that prevent the growth of spoilage bacteria like *Listeria* and *E. Coli*. One such bacterium is the lactic acid bacterium — *Lactobacillus* or LAB — which is amazingly versatile. Both good and bad bacteria thrive under conditions in common, but LAB can prevent the growth of harmful bacteria.

Amazing as it may seem, in the human body, where bugs reside in the intestines, lungs, and skin, there are 10 times more bacterial cells (10 trillion) than human cells. While some of these bacteria are harmful, the majority are helpful, and essential for human health. Scientists are now investigating the possibility of introducing helpful bacteria, including LAB, into therapeutic remedies. These remedies can be safely taken, even by infants, for complaints such as severe diarrhoea.

Helpful bacteria do not confine themselves to the human body. They also help to promote the growth of certain plants by fixing nitrogen in the soil to purify water in sewage treatment plants and septic tanks, and to break down oil after accidental spills. We are all familiar with the damage caused by the latter — the ruined beaches and fouled boats, the consequent impact on tourism, and the loss of marine life and sea birds. In 1989, a mammoth oil spill from the Exxon tanker *Valdez* made headline news, as it coated miles of beaches in Alaska. Various clean-up techniques were immediately used, but one of the most effective was the use of naturally occurring oil-eating bacteria.

*Adapted from Caribbean Beat, May/June,
Media and Educational Project Ltd, 2003, pp. 86–87.*

(a) In no more than 60 words, summarize the arguments put forward by the author.

[5 marks]

(b) In no more than 150 words, write an evaluation of the article that explores the validity of the information.

[15 marks]

Total 20 marks

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SECTION B

MODULE 2 – LANGUAGE AND COMMUNITY

2. Read the excerpt below carefully and answer the question that follows.

The next day and the next Glen did not come near the house, and as it was he who always split the firewood for the kitchen, Bess was considerably put out. In her fussy, blundering way she kept fretting over this irritation, and Miriam got in the way.

‘They are all alike,’ she grumbled. ‘They are only around when there is something to be
5 got. Good-for-nothing bunch, the lot of them, I say.’

‘He’s not like that at all, Ma,’ said Miriam, instantly.

Bess just stood still for a moment, glaring at her, her mouth gaping a little.

‘Gal, you stand there contradicting me! What you know ’bout it, at all? You must be want me fire you a box side of you’ face!’

10 Miriam just shrugged and turned away.

Bess saw the gesture, read in it a certain assertiveness that she was not prepared to let pass like that. She set her lips together tightly.

‘Come here,’ she said.

Miriam came up to her obediently, looking her squarely in the eye, instead of hanging her
15 head before her, looking down at her feet.

This to Bess was an act of overt defiance. Her own daughter! Things had come to a pass, indeed! It was time she took a hand.

‘What you have with him?’ she demanded, coldly, grimly.

‘What you mean?’

20 ‘Don’t back-answer me like that. I asked you a question, like I have a right to. You watch you’ step, and answer me good.’

‘I don’t understand you, Ma,’ said Miriam.

‘I’m asking you what he mean to you, that’s what.’

‘Don’t mean nothing special, like so, Ma.’ She added, bitterly, and with sufficient cause.
25 ‘We’re not even friends.’

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Bess shook an admonishing finger in her face.

‘You better watch your step. You just a young gal, I want you to know. You make me catch any young man playing any hanky-panky with you.’

30 Miriam’s gaze faltered before her now, her lower lip jerked a little, and she held it between her teeth to keep it still.

‘All right, you get on with what I gave you to do now,’ said Bess, feeling as though she had discharged her obligations as a parent, clearing up a little issue that was in doubt, as Miriam turned away.

*Roger Mais, Black Lightning,
Heinemann, London, 1983, pp. 54–55.*

In an essay of no more than 300 words, write an analysis of the above extract taking into consideration

- (i) dialectal variation
- (ii) communicative behaviours
- (iii) use of register.

Total 20 marks

SECTION C

MODULE 3 – SPEAKING AND WRITING

3. Read the extract below carefully and answer the question that follows.

Unlike other diet books that make big promises, *Eat More, Weigh Less*, by Dean Ornish, MD, soft-pedals the health claims for a diet for the masses, adapted from his regimen to reverse heart disease. Ornish is well known in the medical community because of his success in reversing blockages to the heart, once thought impossible without surgery or drugs. Ornish also runs his
5 own health and diet site here at WebMD, which can give you additional details about his plan.

Unlike other books that are full of scientific-sounding theories and explanations without clinical studies to back them up, Ornish's explanations are simple and well supported. His main point is that eating a high-fibre, low-fat vegetarian diet will not only help you stay healthy, or get you there, but also will help you lose weight.

- 10 This is accomplished, according to Ornish, by a combination of diet and exercise that allows the body's fat-burning mechanism to work most effectively.

That's it. If you stick to this plan, you will meet Ornish's recommendation of less than 10% of your calories from fat, without the need to count fat grams or calories. Ornish suggests eating a lot of little meals because this diet makes you feel hungry more often. You will feel full
15 faster, and you'll eat more food without increasing the number of calories.

Ornish's regimen is more than mere diet, he claims. He is a stickler about incorporating at least 30 minutes of moderate exercise a day, or an hour three times a week, and using some kind of stress-management technique, which might include meditation, massage, psychotherapy, or yoga.

*Eating Healthy. Retrieved 6 December 2011,
from <http://www.webmd.com/diet/ornish-diet-what-it-is>.*

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In an essay of no more than 250 words, discuss

- (i) the intended audience
- (ii) strategies that the writer uses to convince the audience
- (iii) what the writer hopes to achieve
- (iv) TWO suitable channels for this piece, other than the worldwide web.

Total 20 marks

END OF TEST

IF YOU FINISH BEFORE TIME IS CALLED, CHECK YOUR WORK ON THIS TEST.

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