

COMMUNICATIVE DOMAIN

I. Assessment of Communicative Language Competences. Reading Comprehension - 30 points.

Read the text and complete the tasks that follow.

The Open University

If you want to improve your knowledge and skills but do not have the formal academic qualifications to apply to a traditional university, you can take an online degree at an open university.

One of the largest British universities is the Open University (OU), which had about 151,840 students in 2022. The Open University was established in 1967 and was the first university in the world dedicated to distance learning. Students do not have to go to classes on a daily basis. Instead, they study from home using books, videos, CDs and the Internet. In fact, the idea for the Open University came from the increasing popularity of television in the 1960s and 1970s, as people could learn from educational TV programmes. Additionally, students did self-study and some coursework. These days, they can usually communicate with their professors by phone or the Internet, or occasionally meet them face-to-face.

You can study at the Open University if you are older than 16 and there is no maximum age limit. Kathryn O'Donnell and David Cunningham have little in common, yet both have recently graduated from the Open University as the youngest and oldest graduates. Kathryn, who is from Cumbernauld, is 19 years old and David, who is from Leven in Fife, is 89. Kathryn chose the Open University because it allowed her to keep studying while managing her health condition. She is proud of her achievement and intends to continue her studies. Kathryn mentions that many of her friends are still at university, but she is now a graduate with a job. Meanwhile, David has already received his Bachelor of Law degree and is now working towards his next Open University qualification. Despite David's age, studying has become his way of life.

Moreover, the university helps around 10,000 disabled students by giving them the special tools they need, such as computer software for students who cannot see well. Disabled students receive extra attention to make sure they can perform well in their studies. They are officially a priority group at the university.

The Open University is also ideal for people who are working. Approximately 70% of students work full-time. Distance learning gives these students the flexibility to study where and when they like, at their own speed. Most Open University courses can be taken in Europe and some are available in many parts of the world. Indeed, more than 25,000 Open University students live outside the UK.

The goal of the Open University is to give everyone equal opportunities to learn new skills, get a better education and change careers. It offers a high-quality university education to anyone who wants to reach their educational goals.

No	Items	Score	
I.	Circle the letter corresponding to the correct variant to complete the statements.	4 points	
	<p>1. According to the text, if you study at the Open University, ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. you must be physically present in a classroom. b. you don't have to attend classes every day. c. you must be a UK citizen. <p>2. According to the text, the Open University is the world leader in providing ... to disabled students.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. TV sets and paper b. Internet services c. specialised support and tools <p>3. According to the text, getting a degree has become David's</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. lifestyle. b. limit. c. age. <p>4. According to the text, about 70% of the students at the Open University ... while studying.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. live on campus b. work in a team c. are employed full-time 	<p>A 0 1</p> <p>A 0 1</p> <p>A 0 1</p> <p>A 0 1</p>	<p>A 0 1</p> <p>A 0 1</p> <p>A 0 1</p> <p>A 0 1</p>
II.	In the text, identify the meaning of the words. Circle the letter corresponding to the correct variant.	2 points	
	<p>1. The word '<i>intend</i>' is closest in meaning to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. plan b. propose c. suggest <p>2. The word '<i>self-study</i>' in the text means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. group study b. independent study c. part-time study 	<p>A 0 1</p> <p>A 0 1</p>	<p>A 0 1</p> <p>A 0 1</p>
III.	Briefly answer the questions below, choosing the information from the text.	4 points	
	<p>1. How many students studied at the Open University in 2022? _____</p> <p>2. When was the Open University founded? _____</p> <p>3. Who is the youngest graduate of the Open University? _____</p> <p>4. What degree has David Cunningham already received? _____</p>	<p>A 0 1 2 3 4</p>	<p>A 0 1 2 3 4</p>

II. Assessment of Communicative Language Competences. Written Production - 40 points.

Write a 180-200-word text according to the given task.

No	Item	Score	
I.	<p>Nowadays people often say that the art of speaking is important in various aspects of life. What are the benefits and/or challenges of developing strong speaking skills?</p> <p>When writing your essay, consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write about the importance of the art of speaking in today’s world. • Discuss some benefits and/or difficulties of developing good speaking skills. • Provide two examples to support the ideas presented in your essay. • Express your opinion about the art of speaking. • Justify your point of view. <p>Follow the structure of an essay: <i>introduction, body, conclusion.</i></p>	40 points	
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CULTURAL DOMAIN

III. Assessment of Pluri/Intercultural and Communicative Language Competences. Written Production - 30 points.

Write a 90-100-word text according to the given task.

No	Item	Score	
I.	<p>A school website has asked its readers to write an article about a free-time activity that is popular in an English-speaking country.</p> <p>Consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name a free-time activity and the English-speaking country where it is popular. • Give a detailed description of the free-time activity you have chosen. • Explain the impact of this activity on the country and/or the world. • Express your opinion about this free-time activity. Ground your opinion. <p>Follow the structure of an article: <i>title, introduction, body, conclusion.</i></p>	30 points	
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