***University of* *M'sila Department of English***

***Second Year LMD Students Written* *Expression Courses***

**PARAGRAPH WRITING: PRACTICE II**

**Exercise 01 :** Choose *the best* *topic sentence* for each group of the following supporting sentences. Write it on the space provided

1.).................................................................................................... North Americans send cards for many occasions. They send cards to family and friends on birthdays and holidays. They also send thank-you cards, get well cards, graduation cards, and congratulation cards. It is very common to buy cards in stores and send them through the mail, but turning on the computer and sending cards over the Internet is also

popular.

a) Sending cards is very popular in North America.

b) Birthday cards are the most popular kind of card.

c) It is important to send thank-you cards.

2)………………………………………………………………… First of all, we need money to repair old roads and build new roads. We also need more to pay teachers’ salaries and to pay for services such as trash collection. Finally, more tax money is needed to give financial help to the poor citizens of the city. It is clear that the city will have serious problems if taxes are not raised soon.

a) We should raise city taxes.

b) City taxes are too high.

c) City taxes pay for new roads.

3)………………………………………………………………….. For example, a person can have

breakfast in New York, board an airplane, and have dinner in Paris. A businesswoman in London can instantly place an order with a factory in Hong Kong by sending a fax. Furthermore, a schoolboy in Tokyo can turn on a TV and watch a baseball game being played in Los Angeles.

a) Airplanes have changed our lives.

b) Advances in technology have made the world seem smaller.

c) The fax machine was an important invention.

4.) …………………………………………………………………. One thing you must consider is the quality of the university’s educational program. You also need to think about the school’s size and location. Finally, you must be sure to consider the university’s tuition to make sure you can afford to go to school there.

a) It is expensive to attend a university in the United States.

b) There are several factors to consider when you choose a university to attend.

c) You should consider getting a good education.

**Exercise 02 :** Write *a topic sentence* for each paragraph.

**1-……………………………………………………………**. He has collected stamps and coins ever since he was a child. He is very proud of his valuable collections. Paul also enjoys painting and drawing. Recently he has become interested in gardening. Out of all his hobbies, Paul’s favourite one is

reading. He usually reads at least one book every week. Paul keeps busy with all of his hobbies.

2)**…………………………………………………………**. First and most importantly, the work is very interesting. I learn new things every day and I get to travel a lot. In addition, my boss is very nice. She is always willing to help me when I have a problem. I have also made many new friends at my job. Last, but not least, the salary is fantastic.

**Exercise 03 :** Read the following paragraphs and try to *identify the topic sen­tence* in each one.

1)-Gold, a precious metal, is prised for two important reasons: it is both beautiful and useful. First of all, gold has a lustrous beauty that is resistant to corrosion. For example, a Macedonian coin remains as untarnished today as the day it was minted twenty three centuries ago. Another important characteristic of gold is its utility in industry and science. The most recent application of gold is in astronauts’ suits.

2)-Albert Einstein, one of the world’s geniuses, failed his university entrance exami­nations on his first attempt. William Faulkner, one of America’s noted writers, never finished college because he could not pass his English courses. Sir Winston Churchill, who is considered one of the masters of the English language, had to have special tutoring in English during elementary school. These few examples show that failure in school does not always predict failure in life.

3) -Synonyms, words that have the same basic meaning, do not always have the same emotional meaning. For example, the words “stingy” and “frugal” both mean “careful with money.” However, to call a person stingy is an insult, while the word frugal has a much more positive connotation. Similarly, a person wants to be slender but not skinny, and aggressive, but not pushy. Therefore, you should be careful in choosing words because many so-called synonyms are not really synonymous at all

4)- In colonial days, huge flocks of snowy egrets inhabited the coastal wetlands and marshes of the southeastern United States. In the 1800s, when fashion dictated fancy hats adorned with feathers, egrets and other birds were hunted for their plumage. By the late 1800s, egrets were almost extinct. In 1886, the newly formed National Audubon Society began a press campaign to shame “feather wearers” and end the practice. The campaign caught on, and gradually, attitudes changed; new laws followed. Government policies that protect animals from overharvesting are essential to keep species from the brink of extinction. Even when cultural standards change due to the efforts of individual groups (such as

the National Audubon Society), laws and policy measures must follow to ensure that endangered populations remain protected. Since the 1800s, several importantlaws have been passed to protect a wide variety of species.

**Exercise 04** : Find *the irrelevant sentence* in the paragraphs that follow and cross it out

A)-There are several ways people can conserve natural resources. One way is to turn lights off and appliances when they are not in use. Another way is to drive cars less. My favorite kind of car is convertible. People can also insulate their houses better. Finally, by reusing things like bottles and plastic bags, people can reduce the amount of waste. By practicing these simple guidelines, we can save our natural resources.

B) The Japanese automobile industry uses robots in many stages of its production process. In fact, one large Japanese auto factory uses robots in all of its production stages. Some Japanese universities are developing medical robots to detect certain kinds of cancer. Another automobile factory in Japan uses them to paint cars as they come off the assembly line. Furthermore, most Japanese factories use robots to weld the parts of the finished car together

**Exercise 05 :** Write *a concluding sentence* for each paragraph.

A-There are many reasons why I am against wearing a school uniform. For one thing, I don’t like they style of the uniform. The navy blazer and plaid skirt are too conservative for me. Secondly, the uniform isn’t comfortable. I prefer to wear baggy pants and a sweater instead of a skirt and a jacket. Finally, I want the freedom to express my individuality through my style of dressing ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….…………

B- Credit cards have a lot of advantages. First of all, credit cards are convenient because you don’t have to carry a lot of cash around. You can buy the products and services you need even if you do not have cash in your pocket. In addition, credit cards are very helpful in emergencies. Finally, you can become a better money manager as you learn to use credit cards responsibly. ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Exercise 06**: Punctuate and capitalise the following passage

rainbows

my heart leaps up when i behold a rainbow in the sky wrote william words worth the famous poet ,and most of us share his feelings when we are lucky enough to see a rainbow there is an old saying that a pot of gold is buried at the end of the rainbow but have you ever tried to reach a rainbows end of course its impossible because a rainbow is really just the result of the raindrops refracting and reflecting light from our sun there are seven colors in the rainbow red orange yellow green blue indigo and violet.

**Exercise 07 : A-**Develop the following topics by using the appropriate method

1-In my collection,there are many greeting cards ( Long example,or several short examples)

2-I have known two distinct types of lecturers ( Classification)

3-Higher education has become more important than ever ( Cause / effect)

**B-** Use a suitable method or a combination of methods of paragraph writing and discuss :

1-I no longer believe in fortune tellers

2- You can solve most problems by taking a walk

3-Irony is harder to define than to illustrate

4-Like history, styles repeat themselves