BERJAYA
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL STUDIES

FINAL EXAMINATION

Student ID (in Figures)   :

Student ID (in Words)   :

Course Code & Name	: **MPU3232 Academic Writing Skills**
Semester & Year	: September – December 2020
Lecturer/Examiner	: Shazan Khan Omar
Duration	: 2 hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. **This question paper consists of 2 parts:**
    PART A (55 marks)   :   READING COMPREHENSION & SUMMARY
    There are **TWO (2)** questions. Answer both questions in the space provided.
    PART B (45 marks)   :   ESSAY WRITING
    There is **ONE (1)** question. Write your essay in the space provided.
2. **Candidates are not allowed to bring any unauthorized materials except writing equipment into the Examination Hall. Electronic dictionaries are strictly prohibited.**
3. **This question paper must be submitted along with all used and/or unused rough papers and/or graph paper (if any). Candidates are NOT allowed to take any examination materials out of the examination hall.**
4. **Only ballpoint pens are allowed to be used in answering the questions, with the exception of multiple choice questions, where 2B pencils are to be used.**

WARNING: The University Examination Board (UEB) of BERJAYA University College regards cheating as a most serious offence and will not hesitate to mete out the appropriate punitive actions according to the severity of the offence committed, and in accordance with the clauses stipulated in the Students' Handbook, up to and including expulsion from BERJAYA University College.

Total Number of pages = 7 (Including the cover page)

PART A   : READING COMPREHENSION & SUMMARY (55 MARKS)

INSTRUCTION(S)   : There are **TWO (2)** questions. Answer both questions in the space provided.

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READING PASSAGE

Before answering the two questions, read the article below.

Will Artificial Intelligence Surpass Human Intelligence?

Adapted from: Jiachao, F Hanning, S and Yuchong, X 2018, *Will Artificial Intelligence Surpass Human Intelligence?* viewed 9 April 2019, https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3173876

Recently, Artificial Intelligence (AI) has been one of the most popular topics in the technological field. While the industries are discussing the future of AI and human society, people are also starting to panic at whether they will be replaced by AI someday. People may fear that their private information can be extracted by AI inadvertently or their job positions will be replaced by AI in the future. As Humans are always afraid of unknown events, therefore to be replaced by AI is considered terrifying.

What is Artificial Intelligence (AI)? Oke (2008) presents a holistic review of AI development and applications. He integrates existing knowledge across research on AI and explores studies in certain novel disciplines such as environmental pollutions and medicine. Oke (2008) tries to introduce the wide-ranging topics that AI encompasses but fails to draw a conclusion. McCarthy (1998) claims that AI is the processes of Human intelligence simulated by computers. The aim of AI is to achieve human-level intelligence and finally to make computers solve problems by itself (McCarthy, 1998).

We perceive that there are not enough existing studies defining explicitly on how people can measure if a machine can "surpass" Human Intelligence. Many experts have predicted that, in time, AI will exceed Human Intelligence (HI); however, there is no solid consensus among them. This evidence substantiates the conundrum that AI is unable to transcend HI. AI can already fulfil tasks more efficiently than human in certain fields, such as chess and poker games. AI performances on some aspects of advanced Human Intelligence, such as creativity, curiosity, and value judgment, are still not satisfactory enough for practical applications. A few scholars think that AI is deficient in many aspects and it is still at the stage of simulating human features (Cai and Xue, 2016). It is also argued that the cost of AI development is inhibited in countries with high poverty rates. Moreover, the controversial issue of how to adequately define AI and HI has made it difficult to answer this question.

On the other hand, some argue that AI can beat Human Intelligence. AI has been applied to many disciplines, and we knowingly and unknowingly interact with it in our daily lives through different levels of AI's capability to solve problems in various industries. Some scholars have demonstrated that AI produced outstanding predictions by using its powerful learning ability. For example, AI can predict the medicine effect trend by analysing previous practical data, and it has now been applied to almost every aspect of medical research (Ramesh et al., 2004).

For various industries, Artificial Intelligence has been applied to Natural Language Processing (NLP), behaviours, face, handwriting, robotics and speech recognition. Also, some specific applications have been developed to help make decisions to promote business development and offer health assistance. In e-commerce, companies such as Amazon, Apple, and Google have built their own AI assistants to provide customers with audio services through natural language. Researchers have been improving recommendation systems with complicated machine learning algorithms so that they can analyse and model customers' behaviours and further assist in boosting business growth. In the healthcare industry, AI has been utilized to provide medical solutions and visual presentation, such as using deep learning to diagnose heart disease and lung cancer using pattern recognition software.

AI and HI are both broad-based topics, which involve various research areas, such as psychology, biology and computer science. Therefore, by exploring the relationship between AI and HI, we will understand the impact of AI on us as human beings and learn more about humanity. We can safely conclude that AI has surpassed humans in certain specialised fields which have been mentioned before. Unfortunately, machines have not yet surpassed humans because their cognitive abilities to solve problems by understanding emotions and demonstrating creativity are still far behind that of human beings. The ability of AI to anticipate and respond to complex human behaviours (social interaction, speech and writing patterns, decision-making etc.) is still questionable. Similarly, Artificial intelligence that is used in NLP, face and speech recognition can be accessed by unauthorised people for their personal interest. AI is also still not adequate for life applications because their usage (e.g. medical field) may be impractical and sometimes may pose a threat to a human life.

QUESTIONS

1. Reading comprehension (30 marks): Reconstruct the argument presented in the article above by identifying the following elements:

I. the main claim   (3 marks)

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II. the reasons in support of the main claim (8 marks)

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III. the opposing claim (3 marks)

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IV. the reasons in support of the opposing claim (8 marks)

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V. the refutations of the reasons in support of the opposing claim (8 marks)

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2. Summary (25 marks): Summarise the article given above in 60 words, using (i) vocabulary and sentence structures different from those in the original and (ii) one short in-text citation (using Harvard referencing style).

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END OF PART A

PART B : ESSAY WRITING (45 MARKS)

INSTRUCTION(S) : There is **ONE (1)** question. Answer the question in the space provided.

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The emergence of social media has witnessed the birth of an inordinate number of social media influencers. A social media influencer is someone who spreads their influence through social media because they have the ability to reach out to a big audience on their platform. The form of influence can vary and no two influencers are the same. **This issue is of relevance to today's society since social media influencers can affect our lives. Discuss the way social media influencers can affect us.**

Write an argumentative essay based on the issue above. Your essay should contain **approximately 350 words**.

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END OF EXAMINATION PAPER