

**ENGLISH 102
FINAL EXAMINATION
FALL 2005-2006**

READING COMPREHENSION

ALLOCATED TIME: 1 hour and 30 minutes

**I. MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS (25 POINTS/5 PTS. EACH)
CIRCLE THE CORRECT ANSWER:**

1. In the essay, the author indicates that people
 - a. laugh to show off their anxiety in a given situation.
 - b. smile and laugh when they are made the butt of a joke.
 - c. start to understand humor very early in life.
 - d. laugh at jokes or situations that express their resentment.

2. According to paragraph 12, a good joke is one
 - a. that is not easy to understand
 - b. that is easy to understand
 - c. that is in good taste
 - d. that is in bad taste

3. According to paragraphs 13 and 14, women usually make poor joke tellers because
 - a. they forget the story.
 - b. they are emotionally involved.
 - c. they master their anxiety.
 - d. they are not humorous.

4. In paragraph 14, why did French essayist Henri Bergson call laughter a "momentary anesthesia of the heart"?
 - a. Laughter produces "pleasurable physical sensations."
 - b. Laughter releases energy.
 - c. Laughter prevents us from feeling emotions.
 - d.

5. The passage is primarily
 - a. a description of the different types of laughter.
 - b. a causal analysis of why we, as human beings, laugh.
 - c. an essay comparing and contrasting different contexts for laughter.
 - d. a narrative on the various studies done on laughter.

II. SHORT-ANSWER QUESTIONS (55 POINTS)

Answer the following questions clearly, concisely, and coherently in the blank spaces provided.

1. State the author's thesis or main point in your own words and in one sentence only. (7 pts.)

2. (a) What is the purpose of paragraph one? (4 pts.)

- (b) In which paragraph does the author explain the cartoon? Why did the author wait until this point to explain it? (4 pts.)

3. In paragraph 9, Spencer cites Sigmund Freud to show the relation between humor and laughter. Using your own words, explain this kind of relation. (8 pts.)

4. The four reasons why laughter is pleasurable mentioned in the selection are **(8 pts.)**

a. _____ Para.: _____

b. _____ Para.: _____

c. _____ Para.: _____

d. _____ Para.: _____

5.

relationship with ourselves as discussed in the article. **(9 pts.)**

6. Name **two different types** of concrete support used in the essay: **(6 pts.)**

a. Type: _____ para. : _____

b. Type: _____ para. : _____

7.

able to laugh (except a
14) **(10 pts.)**

III. VOCABULARY (20 POINTS)

Follow the directions for the following questions.

Circle the correct answer:

1. 6 means **(3 pts.)**

- a. important
- b. indirect
- c. scary
- d. humorous

2. a. 7 means **(2 pts.)**

- a. amused
- b. puzzled
- c. frightened
- d. reassured

b. What context clue (indicate quote/word/phrase) helped you understand the meaning?
(2 pts.)

3. Circle the **antonym** (word opposite in meaning) for the word euphoria (paragraph 10): **(3 pts.)**

- a. joy
- b. despair
- c. pleasure
- d. excitement

4. **(3pts.)**

- a. exposed
- b. enjoyed
- c. avoided
- d. provided

5. Find a **phrase** in paragraph **(4 pts.)**

6. **(3 pts.)**

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ESSAY TOPICS

ALLOCATED TIME: One hour

Choose ONE of the following topics and write a well-organized and concise essay of 5-6 paragraphs. Be sure to give a title, underline your thesis, and include at least 4 or 5 support paragraphs with topic sentences to explain your thesis. **DO NOT** choose a topic that you have already done in class.

1. **Describe/Illustrate** a time when you felt like a **ONE** of the following:
 - a. Summer camp
 - b. New country
 - c. New school
 - d. University

2. **Compare and contrast** two points of view on one of the following controversial (debatable) issues:
 - a. Cohabitation (living together without being married)
 - b. Civil marriage
 - c. Cloning
 - d. Smoking bans in public places (e.g. in restaurants/cinemas/AUB campus, etc.)

3. Discuss the negative **effects** that advertisements (e.g. on television/ billboards/ magazines, etc.) have had on your life or the lives of your friends.