

ALLAMA IQBAL OPEN UNIVERSITY

SOLVED ASSIGNMENT 2

Course Code	1424
Course Title	Compulsory English II
Assignment Number	02
Semester	Autumn
Academic Year	2026

IMPORTANT NOTE

Assignments Last Date: 20-02-2027

Please submit your assignments to your tutors before this last date.

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Q.1 Compare the following pairs of concepts. Make one sentence each of contrast. Follow the example. Unit 5 teaches you how to compare different items. (10)

Example: Korea, Pakistan -> Korea is a developed country, while Pakistan is developing.

i. Urdu / English

ii. Girls / Boys

iii. Public schools / Private schools

iv. Salt / Sugar

v. Summer / Winter

Answer

- i. Urdu is written from right to left, whereas English is written from left to right.
- ii. Girls generally tend to excel in verbal communication, while boys often show interest in physical sports.
- iii. Public schools offer low-cost education funded by the government, whereas private schools charge higher fees for specialized facilities.
- iv. Salt adds a savory flavor to food, while sugar provides a sweet taste.
- v. Summer brings high temperatures and long sunny days, whereas winter brings cold weather and shorter daylight hours.

Q.2 Look at the pictures of two cars below. Construct fifteen sentences to compare and contrast them. (15)

Answer

1. Car A is a compact sedan, while Car B is a spacious SUV.
2. Car A offers higher fuel efficiency, whereas Car B consumes more fuel due to its larger engine.
3. Car A is designed primarily for city driving, while Car B is built for off-road travel.
4. Car A features a lower ground clearance, whereas Car B has a high ground clearance for rough terrains.
5. Car A seats up to five passengers, while Car B can comfortably accommodate up to seven people.
6. Car A is lightweight and easy to park, whereas Car B requires a larger parking space.
7. Car A has a smaller trunk, while Car B provides extensive cargo capacity.
8. Both vehicles are equipped with modern anti-lock braking safety systems.
9. Car A features a sleek aerodynamic body, whereas Car B exhibits a bold and rugged exterior.
10. Both cars come with integrated touch-screen entertainment units.
11. Car A is more affordable to maintain, whereas Car B has higher routine service costs.
12. Car A runs on standard front-wheel drive, while Car B utilizes a four-wheel drive system.

13. Both cars include safety airbags for driver and passenger protection.
14. Car A is ideal for daily office commuting, whereas Car B is suitable for long family road trips.
15. Car A operates quieter on highways, whereas Car B produces a more powerful engine sound.

Q.3 You have learnt how to guess the meanings of unfamiliar words from the context in Unit 6 (page 183). Read the following sentences and guess the meanings of the words underlined. (10)

1. Because there was so little precipitation this year, the crops dried up and died.
2. Although I was unable to understand all of the details of the presentation, I did get the gist of it.
3. At a special ceremony, the police chief gave the officer a commendation for bravery.
4. One brother is an erudite professor; the other brother, however, has never shown any interest in books or learning.
5. Night is the time when many animals forage, or search, for food.

Answer

1. Precipitation: Rain or rainfall (water falling from the sky).
2. Gist: The main idea or general summary of something.
3. Commendation: An official award or praise for outstanding work.
4. Erudite: Highly educated, scholarly, or knowledgeable.
5. Forage: To search or hunt for wild food or supplies.

Q.4 Look at the cover page of the book given below. What does the cover page tell you about the book? Write ten sentences guessing the contents of the book may have. Read unit 1, section B, for guidance. (15)

Answer

1. The cover page clearly displays the title and subject of the textbook.
2. It indicates that the book is designed specifically for university-level language learners.
3. The visual illustrations on the cover suggest a focus on functional English skills.
4. The book likely contains comprehensive reading comprehension passages and vocabulary exercises.
5. It probably includes structured lessons on English grammar and sentence construction.
6. The cover indicates that students will practice formal letter and essay writing skills.
7. It suggests that there are dedicated sections for improving spoken communication.
8. The publication details on the cover confirm it follows the official AIOU curriculum.
9. It likely features practical exercises on sentence classification and paragraph structuring.
10. Overall, the cover page signifies a complete self-study guide for academic English.

Q.5 You have learnt how to make inferences in Unit 7 (page 217). Read the passage given below and then respond to the questions. Each question will ask you to make a logical inference based on textual details. Explain your answer by referencing the text. (10)

"Ryan was looking forward to sleeping over at his friend Rahat's house. Though they had been classmates for a while, the two had only recently become good friends. Ryan packed up his sleeping bag, a pillow, and a few of his favorite toys and games, and then his mom dropped him off at Rahat's. Rahat met Ryan on the porch, and the two did their secret handshake and started playing right away. First, they played pirates in Rahat's tree fort. Next, they played ninjas in the driveway. Then it started getting dark, and they went inside Rahat's house. As soon as they walked in the house, Ryan's eyes started getting red and itchy. He saw a big orange cat sitting on the couch. Then he started sneezing uncontrollably. 'I'm sorry, Robert. It's been a lot of fun, but I have to call my mom.'"

1. Why do Ryan's eyes get red and itchy when he walks into Robert's house?
2. Why does Ryan want to call his mother?

Answer

1. Why Ryan's eyes get red and itchy: Ryan's eyes get red and itchy because he is allergic to cats. The text states that as soon as he stepped inside, he saw a big orange cat sitting on the couch and immediately began sneezing uncontrollably with itchy eyes.
2. Why Ryan wants to call his mother: Ryan wants to call his mother to pick him up and take him home. Because of his severe allergic reaction to the cat inside the house, he cannot comfortably stay for the sleepover.

Q.6 You have read about connotative and denotative meanings in Unit 8 (page 249). Write the possible connotative meanings of the following words: (10)

1. Clever
2. Home
3. Flower
4. Politicians
5. Thin
6. Smart
7. Animal
8. Brainy
9. Clown
10. Young

Answer

1. Clever: Sly, cunning, or tricky.
2. Home: Warmth, security, love, and comfort.
3. Flower: Beauty, freshness, purity, and fragility.
4. Politicians: Untrustworthy, corrupt, or manipulative.
5. Thin: Skinny, fragile, or underweight.
6. Smart: Intelligent, sharp, well-dressed, and competent.
7. Animal: Wild, untamed, aggressive, or cruel.
8. Brainy: Nerd, over-intellectual, or academically focused.
9. Clown: Foolish, silly, comical, or unserious.
10. Young: Inexperienced, energetic, fresh, or naive.

Q.7 Read the following newspaper article and rewrite it in your own words. (15)

"Cancer doesn't doom youngsters to a miserable childhood, new research suggests, finding that after treatment, many are just as happy and well-adjusted as those who never had the illness — sometimes even more. The findings, based on interviews with 8- to 12-year-olds, show how resilient youngsters can be even when facing something as frightening as cancer. The results also indicate that children's perceptions often differ from those of their parents, whose own negative feelings about the experience may shade how they think their children are coping, the researchers said. 'What we are finding is very reassuring,' said Dr. Smita Bhatia, lead author and a pediatric cancer specialist at City of Hope National Medical Center in Duarte, Calif. Parents should be encouraged to know that young survivors 'can indeed put their cancer behind them,' she said. The study appears in February's edition of the journal Pediatrics, published Monday."

Answer

Rewritten Article:

Recent medical research indicates that surviving cancer during childhood does not permanently destroy a child's happiness or quality of life. After receiving treatment, many young cancer survivors lead happy, balanced lives, often displaying greater emotional resilience than peers who were never sick. A study surveying children aged 8 to 12 highlights their strong capacity to overcome severe health struggles. Interestingly, researchers found a contrast between how children cope and how their parents view the situation, as parents' anxiety often leads them to overestimate their child's distress. Lead researcher Dr. Smita Bhatia emphasized that these findings bring great relief to families, reassuring parents that young survivors are fully capable of leaving their illness behind and living fulfilling lives.

Q.8 Take some old English newspapers and make a collection (at least five each) of the following categories of news items: (15)

- Job Advertisements
- News about a famous political figure
- Weather forecast
- News about a star
- News about sports

Answer

Collection Guidelines & Sample Categories:

1. Job Advertisements:

- Notice 1: "Lecturers required for English Department in a private college."
- Notice 2: "Web Developer wanted with 2 years experience in WordPress."
- Notice 3: "Accountant needed for a trading firm in Islamabad."
- Notice 4: "Data Entry Operator required for government project."
- Notice 5: "Graphic Designer wanted for an advertising agency."

2. News About a Famous Political Figure:

- Article 1: Prime Minister addresses the UN General Assembly on climate change.
- Article 2: Foreign Minister meets delegates to boost bilateral trade.
- Article 3: Finance Minister presents the annual economic relief budget.
- Article 4: Opposition leader announces nationwide peaceful rally.
- Article 5: Health Minister inaugurates new regional hospital block.

3. Weather Forecast:

- Clipping 1: Heavy rainfall expected in northern regions over the weekend.
- Clipping 2: Heatwave warning issued for urban areas during June.
- Clipping 3: Mild sunny weather forecasted across central plains.
- Clipping 4: Foggy conditions likely to impact morning flight schedules.
- Clipping 5: Snowfall alert issued for hill stations this winter.

4. News About a Star:

- Feature 1: Award-winning actor launches new charitable foundation.
- Feature 2: Famous singer announces upcoming international music tour.
- Feature 3: Film star attends red carpet premiere in Dubai.
- Feature 4: Renowned director begins shooting historical drama film.
- Feature 5: Popular television celebrity wins national art award.

5. News About Sports:

- Report 1: National cricket team secures thrilling ODI series victory.

- Report 2: Olympic sprinter breaks national record in 100m final.
- Report 3: Local football club advances to championship finals.
- Report 4: Tennis champion triumphs in grand slam semi-final match.
- Report 5: Youth hockey tournament kicks off in Lahore stadium.