TMC BUSINESS SCHOOL
DIPLOMA IN MASS COMMUNICATION
(Validated by RSA / UCLES)

DM10201 – CREATIVE WRITING

ASSIGNMENT

TOPICS

Part 1: Hard News
Part 2: Feature News
Part 3: TV News
Part 4: Radio News

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Class Code: RDM3-03F
Student No: 13250P
Date: 24 May 2003

Date Due: Tuesday, 30 May 2003
HARD NEWS
Contractor fined $60,000 for death of construction worker

Singapore - A contractor has been fined for causing the death of a worker due to its failure in complying with safety measures.

The contractor, Caravelle Construction and Development Pte Ltd, pleaded guilty on March 18, 2003 to causing the death of the worker under the Factories Act. The Court has fined the contractor a maximum penalty of $50,000 for failing to provide adequate piling and bracing against the side of an excavation and another $10,000 for failing to place excavated material at least 610mm away from the edge of the excavation.

The worker who died in the accident was an employee of IRE Corporation Ltd, a sub contractor hired by Caravelle Construction and Development Pte Ltd to carry out the construction of a multi-storey car park at the Jalan Bukit Merah worksite. The construction was part of a project awarded to the contractor by the Housing Development Board for a major upgrading work at the worksite.

At the time of the accident that occurred on December 4, 2002, the deceased was working with a co-worker to trim the side of the excavation with shovels. The soil from the side of the excavation suddenly slid down...
and buried him up to his waist. The deceased was immediately rescued and sent to the hospital where he passed away on the same day due to multiple injuries consistent with being crushed by heavy force. Investigations revealed that at the time of the accident, the excavation that the deceased and his co-worker were working in was about 2.9m deep. No protection to prevent the soil from collapsing and hitting the workers working inside was available at the sides of the excavation. Investigations also revealed that excavated soil was also placed at about 200mm from the edge of the excavation. In such conditions, the soil could have fallen off the edge of the excavation and hit the workers who was still be inside the excavation. When that happened, the soil would have exerted its weight onto the sides of the excavation, thereby increasing the possibility of the face to collapse.

Under the Factories (Building Operations and Work of Engineering Construction) Regulations, the sides of an excavation must be provided with suitable protection, to prevent the sides from collapsing. In addition, no load is allowed to be placed within 200mm from the edge of the excavation.

The Ministry of Manpower takes a serious view of contractors’ failure to adhere to safety measures and would like to remind all factory occupiers and contractors that measures must be taken to ensure the safety of workers working inside excavation. The Ministry says that it will not hesitate to take legal action against any factory occupier or contractor found flouting safety rules.

(461 words)
FEATURE NEWS
What makes a good educationist?

by Edmond Ng

What does it take to be a good educationist? Is it the possession of a good degree combined with good training skills, or does one need to be better than that?

A good university degree or higher is certainly a plus point to start off a career in education and with good skills and techniques in teaching, it is likely that we will qualify for a position as a lecturer in a school or an educational centre. However, these days, with the need for more specialised courses in specific fields to train students, workers, entrepreneurs and others in the specific area of skills, expertise in the relevant fields will be necessary. What this really means is – it is not enough to have a degree and training abilities to qualify a person to teach specialise subjects for specific skills requirements.

The question next is whether a good degree in a specific subject field and training skills qualify one to be a good educationist in that field of studies?

7 points of a good educationist

- Good qualification (at least a degree)
- Good training skills
- Relevant work experience on subject field he/she is teaching
- Interest in subject that he/she is teaching
- Never stops learning
- Positive attitudes at all time
- Enjoys helping people
To answer that question, let us take the example of an educationist in the field of mass communication. We interviewed Iqbal Akthar, Award Leader for mass communication studies at TMC Educational Group, on his experience as an educationist, and he feels that while a good qualification to teach in a subject field is sufficient academically, it would not be enough to qualify a person as a good educationist.

Iqbal, a Master degree holder in Media and Communications with the University of London, is currently considering pursuing a PhD in the near future on the same subject. He is currently providing full-time training for courses leading to diploma and higher diploma in Mass Communication, which examinations are validated by the Royal Society of Arts as part of the University of Cambridge Local Examination Syndicate programme. Iqbal is also teaching part-time distance education students doing the Bachelor of Arts (Communication) with Monash University.

On the topic of what is the expectation of students for a good trainer, Iqbal says that a good educationist should possess a positive attitude with interest in the subject field that he or she is teaching, coupled with relevant work experiences that will help provide real examples on the subject, along with the standard requirements of qualifications and good training skills.

While I concur with Iqbal on the ideal qualities that make a good educationist, I wonder if these qualities are the measure to go by in setting the criterion of a good teacher. If these qualities become expectable, it is unlikely that many educationists today will meet the profile.

(488 words)
TV NEWS
Date: 18 Apr 2003  
Time: 9.00pm  
Duration: 25 minutes  
Channel: Channel News Asia  
Newscast: Sharon Tong

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<td>![Video Icon]</td>
<td>(---------) <em>(Beginning of video)</em></td>
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<td>![SARS Icon]</td>
<td><em>(VOICE OVER – NEWSCAST SHARON TONG)</em></td>
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<td>![Hospital Icon]</td>
<td>Update on Sars situation in Singapore</td>
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<td>Alexandra Hospital makes three layers of checks to guard against SARS outbreak</td>
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<td>![North Korea Icon]</td>
<td>Strong earthquake rocks eastern Turkey</td>
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Good evening, I am Sharon Tong, welcome to Prime Time News.

Alexandra Hospital, one of the few public hospitals without a SARS outbreak, is seeing eighty per cent more A&E patients. Alfarahizah Awangnit with the story.

(SOUND ON TAPE – ALFARAHIZAH AWANGNIT)

Alexandra hospital has put in place about a month ago three layers of checks to prevent a SARS outbreak.

The first layer of checks requires every patient to fill up a health declaration form and have their temperature taken. Anyone with a fever or cough is isolated in a tent set up outside the emergency room.

The second layer which is the filtration system, places patients who do not show signs of SARS, but who has come from Tan Tock Seng or one of the other hospitals that has SARS cases or other infected areas, in wards prepared for them.

In the third layer, patients who have fever and show signs that may be SARS but have no history of going to Tan Tock Seng or other hospital, are placed in wards set up by the hospital.

(PIECE TO CAMERA – ALFARAHIZAH AWANGNIT)

These three layers of checks helped Alexandra Hospital identify potential SARS cases.

Alfarahizah Awangnit, Channel News Asia.

(----------------) (End of video)
In world news, an earthquake in eastern Turkey kills eighty-four people and injures three hundred and ninety.

*(Beginning of video)*

**Lifestyle**

The earthquake measuring six point four on the Richter scale causes a boarding school to collapse in the tremor, which have at least one hundred and eighteen children trapped under the rubble.

At least fifty of those children have since been rescued from the wreckage of the dormitory in Bingol, six hundred and ninety kilometers east of the capital Ankara. Crews are still working to rescue the other students. Soldiers are also taking part in the rescue efforts.

*(End of video)*

**BREAK – ADVERTISEMENT**

**NEWS REPORT: NORTH KOREA NUCLEAR CRISIS**

**WEATHER FORECAST**

That wraps up the news for tonight. Have a good evening.

**THE END**
RADIO NEWS
The Turkish Industry and Trade Minister Ali Coskun says that at least eighty-four people were confirmed dead and three hundred and ninety injured following an earthquake that hit the eastern province of Bingol.

(Cut 1 / Cart 2; Ali Coskun in Bingol; :07) “One hundred and eighteen children were trapped under the rubble of a boarding school which collapsed in the tremor that measured six point four on the Richter scale”.

Earlier on Thursday, the death toll was estimated at one hundred and fifty. Housing Minister Zeki Ergezen gave this information on the situation.

(Cut 2 / Cart 1; Zeki Ergezen in Bingol; :15) “The earthquake caused some buildings to collapse, among which is a boarding school. At least fifty of those children have since been rescued from the wreckage of the dormitory in Bingol. Crews were working to rescue the other students. Soldiers were also taking part in the rescue efforts”.

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A&E PATIENTS REDIRECTED TO ALEXANDRA HOSPITAL

05/17/03

9p.m. News

martin, m.

Alexandra Hospital, one of the few public hospitals without a SARS outbreak, is seeing more A&E patients. The Head of Department of Emergency Medicine, Dr Francis Lee Chun Yue says,

(Cut 1 / Cart 3; Francis Lee Chun Yue at Alexandra Hospital; :08)
“Currently, we have been quite busy. We saw an eighty per cent increase in the number of patients. We used to see about one hundred and twenty a day, now we are seeing about two hundred a day.”

The increase in A&E patients at the hospital is mainly due to the redirection of non-Sars patients from the Tan Tock Seng Hospital. C-E-O of Alexandra Hospital, Liak Teng Lit on the measures to prevent a SARS infiltration to the hospital says,

(Cut 2 / Cart 4; Liak Teng Lit at Alexandra Hospital; :03) “The hospital has put in place three layers of checks to prevent a SARS outbreak. These layers of checks will help the hospital identify potential SARS cases.”
APPENDICES
APPENDIX 1

REFERENCES

