UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA
PROGRAM BACHELOR
(PENDIDIKAN SEKOLAH RENDAH)
SESII 1, 2013/2014

BBI 2421 GENERAL WRITING SKILLS
Opinion Portfolio

Name & Matric No.:
1. ________________________________
2. ________________________________
3. __________________________________
4. ________________________________
5. ________________________________

Instructor:
__________________________________
TOPIC 1

Welcome to BBI 2421!

It is now time to embark on an interesting and exciting journey of writing. For your first task, write a short paragraph, about 150 words, to introduce yourself to your instructor and classmates. You may include details such as:

a) Your name, age, programme of study, hometown, family, hobbies, ambition, favourite food and drink, etc.
b) Your interest and experience in writing.
c) Your goal (s) as a BBI2421 student e.g: As a student of BBI2421, I hope I can.....

End your paragraph by writing your favourite quote and how it relates to your life.

e.g: My favourite quote is “failure is success if we learn from it” by Malcolm Forbes. There are always lessons to be learnt when we fail to achieve something in life. I believe that we can turn failure into success if we do not give up and keep on trying.

Happy writing everyone!😊

TOPIC 2

Indonesian Maid Held for Suspected Child Abuse

KOTA BARU: An Indonesian maid has been arrested by police on suspicion that she had abused a 15-month-old girl at a house in Jalan Bayam here.

Kota Baharu police chief ACP Azham Othman said the 41-year-old maid, who was picked up on Saturday, had been placed on remand for four days from Sunday to assist investigations.

He said the parents of the girl became suspicious after they found bruise marks on the child and, when asked about it, the maid had replied they were due to the child knocking into things around the house.

Following in the footsteps of a child abuse case in Kuantan, the couple installed a hidden camera in the house and found their suspicions to be true and lodged a police report, he told reporters at his office here Sunday.
He said the camera's recording showed the maid pinching and hitting the girl while doing some sewing work. However, the couple's other child, a two-year-old boy, was not abused by the maid.

Azham said the maid had been working for the family since 2009 and that her employment contract was due to end this October.

In the Kuantan case, an Indonesian maid had hit and flung around a baby under her care and was sentenced to 20 years in jail. – Bernama

**Taken from:**

In recent years, there have been several cases of foreign maids physically or mentally abusing the child/children under their care.

In not less than 150 words, write your opinion on this issue. You may choose ONE of the following:

a. Why do you think foreign maids abuse the child/children under their care?
b. If you were a working parent, how would you protect your children who are looked after by a maid at home?

Try writing your paragraph with a good topic sentence and relevant supporting points.

**TOPIC 3**

Globally, hundreds of millions have joined at least one or more social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter. These sites are online sites that focus on facilitating the building of social networks or social relations among people. People who connect through social networking sites usually share interests, activities or backgrounds.

**Task**

In 120-150 words, write a paragraph expressing your opinion in response to ONE of the questions below.

a. What are the popular social networking sites in Malaysia and why are these sites widely used?
b. Do you think using social networking sites affect the youth of today positively or negatively?
**TOPIC 4**

**Task**
In 120 – 150 words, share your greatest holiday experience with everyone. You may include the following details in your writing.

- place
- culture
- interesting sites
- new experience(s)

**TOPIC 5**

**Using Humour and Play in Life 😊**

The ability to laugh, play, and have fun with others not only makes life more enjoyable but also helps you solve problems, connect with others, and be more creative. People who incorporate humour and play into their daily lives find that it renews them and all of their relationships.

Life brings challenges that can either get the best of you or become playthings for your imagination. When you “become the problem” and take yourself too seriously, it can be hard to think outside the box and find new solutions. But when you play with the problem, you can often transform it into an opportunity for creative learning.

Playing with problems seems to come naturally to children. When they are confused or afraid, they make their problems into a game, giving them a sense of control and an opportunity to experiment with new solutions. Interacting with others in playful ways helps you retain this creative ability.

Here is an example of someone who took an everyday problem and turned it around through laughter and play:
Jane worked at home designing greeting cards, a job she used to love but now felt had become routine. Two little girls who loved to draw and paint lived next door. Eventually, Jane invited the girls in to play with all the art supplies she had. At first, she just watched, but in time she joined in. Laughing, colouring, and playing pretend with the little girls transformed Jane’s life. Not only did playing with them end her loneliness and mild boredom, it sparked her imagination and helped her artwork flourish. Best of all, it rekindled the playfulness and spark in Jane’s relationship with her husband.
As laughter, humour, and play become an integrated part of your life, your creativity will flourish and new discoveries for playing with friends, co-workers, acquaintances, and loved ones will occur to you daily. Humour takes you to a higher place where you can view the world from a more relaxed, positive, creative, joyful, and balanced perspective.

*Taken from:*

**Task**
In your opinion, do you think using humour and play will help you overcome challenges and enhance your life as a student? Express your opinion in a paragraph of not less than 120 words.