HCMC UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING

FACULTY OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES

ANSWER KEY AND MARKING GUIDE

Subject code: PRAG 430336
Time allowed: 60 minutes
Number of questions: 5
Reference materials: Not allowed

QUESTION 1. (2.0 marks)

Item	Suggested answer / marking notes	Marks
1A	I = Linh (speaker); you = Nam (addressee); there = Da Nang / Nam's location; tomorrow = Tuesday, the day after the Monday message; these = the reports physically near Linh or currently indicated by her. Award 0.25 for each correctly identified and contextually resolved expression.	1.25
1B	The intended referent is the customer/person at table four who has the green backpack. The backpack cannot literally ask; the hearer uses the physical context, table location, ownership/association and the server's goal to infer the person.	0.75

QUESTION 2. (2.0 marks)

Item	Suggested answer / marking notes	Marks
2A1	Presupposition: Hoa revealed the password. Trigger: the factive verb "regrets."	0.50
2A2	Presupposition: Bao used to take the late bus. Trigger: the change-of-state verb "stopped."	0.50
2A3	Presupposition: the speaker is not the department head. Trigger: the counterfactual conditional/past-form "If I were…".	0.50
2B1	One-way entailment: poodle is a hyponym of dog. If Mira bought a poodle, she bought a dog; buying a dog does not guarantee that it was a poodle.	0.25
2B2	Two-way entailment: the active and passive sentences describe the same event with the same participants and roles.	0.25

QUESTION 3. (2.0 marks)

Item	Suggested answer / marking notes	Marks
3.1	Maxim of Quantity. B mentions only the spreadsheet although both files are relevant. Implicature: the other file was not submitted / the team did not submit both.	0.50
3.2	Maxim of Quality. "Crystal clear" conflicts ironically with needing help from five people. Implicature: the instructions were unclear.	0.50

Item	Suggested answer / marking notes	Marks
3.3	Maxim of Relation/Relevance. The early flight is not a literal yes/no answer but supplies a reason. Implicature: B will probably not join dinner (or must leave early). Accept the latter only if justified.	0.50
3.4	Maxim of Manner. B uses unnecessarily obscure and indirect wording. Implicature: people argued / there was conflict or a serious disagreement at the meeting.	0.50

QUESTION 4. (2.0 marks)

Item	Suggested answer / marking notes	Marks
4A	Locution: the chair produces a meaningful interrogative asking whether the assistant is able/willing to close the window before the next speaker begins.	0.50
4B	Illocution: a polite request/directive to close the window.	0.50
4C	Any two plausible effects, e.g. the assistant closes the window; agrees to do it; refuses; feels obliged; the room becomes quieter. Award 0.50 each.	1.00

QUESTION 5. (2.0 marks)

Item	Suggested answer / marking notes	Marks
5A1	Expressive; direct. The performative verb “apologize” explicitly names the act.	0.30
5A2	Declaration; direct. With the chair’s authority and a completed vote, the utterance performs the appointment.	0.30
5A3	Commissive; direct. The speaker commits to a future action.	0.30
5A4	Directive; indirect. A declarative observation is used to tell/request students to switch off their screens/phones.	0.30
5B1	Performative. By uttering “I promise…” in the present tense, the speaker performs the act of promising; the performative verb explicitly names the act.	0.20
5B2	Constative. The utterance reports a promise made by Lan; it does not itself perform the promise.	0.20
5B3	Performative. “I hereby warn…” explicitly performs the act of warning as it is uttered.	0.20
5B4	Constative. The utterance states/describes a condition that can be evaluated as true or false. In another context it might indirectly function as a warning, but it is not an explicit performative.	0.20