



Riara School of Business
Nurturing business innovators

SEPTEMBER – DECEMBER TRIMESTER, 2015
EXAMINATIONS FOR DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

DAY PROGRAMME

RFC 012: ETHICS & BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

DATE: DECEMBER 2015

TIME: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS

- i) Answer question one and any other two**
 - ii) Marks allocated to each question are shown at the end of the question**
 - iii) Arrange your work neatly and indicate the questions answered in the Examination booklet**
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QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY - 30 MARKS)

- a) Briefly discuss four Ethical Theories (16 Marks)**

Study the case below and answer the questions that follow:

The Lonely Savannah Road Promise

Two travellers, a young man and an elderly lady, were sitting next to each other in a bus, which was headed for a small village somewhere in an inaccessible savannah region. During their trip, the elderly lady revealed to the young man that she lived alone in a big house, with a large garden, and that as a hobby she cultivates flowers in her garden. The plants, which she admits, are not particularly rare or otherwise valuable, may survive for some weeks on their own but will eventually need care.

Suddenly, and without warning, the worst occurs. An accident! The car overturns, and kills the driver and one other passenger who was sitting alongside the driver. Only the two survive; the lady and the young man. Unfortunately the elderly lady is hurt, and it is clear that she cannot move at all due to a major injury. Luckily they have plenty of food and water. So they hope that by staying in one place, help will eventually come.

Several days go by. The elderly lady falls ill and is near death. She tells the young man that she is extremely worried about who will take care of her flowers in the future if she dies. She has no relatives, friends or employees. She also reveals to the young man that buried in a secret location in her back garden is a priceless treasure. "If I die and you survive", she asks the young man, "will you make me a solemn promise? Please locate the treasure, sell it and use it to endow perpetual care for my flowers. It is deeply, deeply important to me that these flowers do not perish. Looking into the pained eyes of the elderly lady, the young man solemnly agrees. With a look of relief and gratitude on her face, the elderly lady dies.

The young man remains there for a few more days, and is eventually rescued. Returning to civilization, he visits the elderly lady's house and locates the flower garden. Debating in his mind whether he should donate the sum to a local charity or merely use it for himself, he leaves the garden. But not before ripping up the flowers and throwing them on the compost heap.

b) Evaluate the circumstances under which the young man's actions in the case would be considered 'unethical'. Use the relevant ethical theories in explaining your case

(7 Marks)

c) Under what circumstances would the young man's actions be considered ethical? Use the relevant ethical theories in explaining your case

(7 Marks)

QUESTION TWO

Mary Guy in her book outlines ten critical values to apply in everyday work situations.

Discuss these values

(20 Marks)

QUESTION THREE

a) Define whistle blowing and distinguish between the following:

- i) Personal and Impersonal whistle blowing
- ii) Internal and External whistle blowing
- iii) Current and Alumni whistle blowing
- iv) Open and anonymous whistle blowing

(10 Marks)

- b) Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) has become a key issue of consideration by today's businesses. What is CSR and what are the various dimensions of CSR
(10 Marks)

QUESTION FOUR

- a) You are the guest speaker in an Ethics conference and have been given the topic 'The Ethical implications of emerging technology'. Write a brief on your presentation
(6 Marks)

Read the case below and answer the questions that follow:

The Innocent Fat Man

Consider the situation faced by a fat man stuck in the mouth of a cave on a deserted coast. He was leading a group of people out of the cave when he got stuck in the mouth of the cave and in a very short time high tide will be upon them, and unless he is promptly unstuck, they all will be drowned except the fat man, whose head is out of the cave. Unfortunately or fortunately, someone has with him a stick of dynamite. The short of the matter is either they use the dynamite and blast the poor innocent fat man out of the mouth of the cave in which case he will die or everyone else drowns.

- b) Briefly discuss Ethical Principles **(10 Marks)**
- c) In reference to the ethical principles, thoroughly discuss the ethical thing to do in this case **(4 Marks)**