

**Mestrado Profissional em Ensino de Física
Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro
Processo seletivo – Turma 2016**

Exame de Proficiência em Língua Inglesa

Nome: _____

Assinatura: _____

Prezada candidata, prezado candidato:

Este exame é composto por um texto em inglês e 4 questões. O texto foi extraído do livro de R. P. Feynman, R. B. Leighton, M. Sands, *The Feynman Lectures on Physics*, vol. 1, p. 1-1. Leia-o com atenção e, com base no que consta no texto, responda em português às questões apresentadas em seguida.

É permitida a consulta a dicionários impressos. É vedada a utilização durante o exame de quaisquer equipamentos eletrônicos.

Todas as páginas deste exame devem ser assinadas pelo candidato.

You might ask why we cannot teach physics by just giving the basic laws on page one and then showing how they work in all possible circumstances, as we do in Euclidean geometry, where we state the axioms and then make all sorts of deductions. (So, not satisfied to learn physics in four years, you want to learn it in four minutes?) We cannot do it in this way for two reasons. First, we do not yet know all the basic laws: there is an expanding frontier of ignorance. Second, the correct statement of the laws of physics involves some very unfamiliar ideas which require advanced mathematics for their description. Therefore, one needs a considerable amount of preparatory training even to learn what the *words* mean. No, it is not possible to do it that way. We can only do it piece by piece.

Each piece, or part, of the whole of nature is always merely an *approximation* to the complete truth, or the complete truth so far as we know it. In fact, everything we know is only some kind of approximation, because *we know that we do not know all the laws* as yet. Therefore, things must be learned only to be unlearned again or, more likely, to be corrected.

The principle of science, the definition, almost, is the following: *The test of all knowledge is experiment.* Experiment is the sole judge of scientific “truth.” But what is the source of knowledge? Where do the laws that are to be tested come from? Experiment, itself, helps to produce these laws, in the sense that it gives us hints. But also needed is *imagination* to create from these hints the great generalizations—to guess at the wonderful, simple, but very strange patterns beneath them all, and then to experiment to check again whether we have made the right guess. This imagining process is so difficult that there is a division of labor in physics: there are *theoretical* physicists who imagine, deduce, and guess at new laws, but do not experiment; and then there are *experimental* physicists who experiment, imagine, deduce, and guess.

3) No terceiro parágrafo os autores apresentam o que chamam de “princípio da ciência, sua definição, quase”. Qual é esse princípio?

4) Ainda no terceiro parágrafo, os autores discutem as fontes do conhecimento científico. Segundo eles, quais seriam essas fontes?