

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES
BA DEGREE PROGRAMME IN SOCIAL SCIENCES – 2018/2019
FINAL EXAMINATION – LEVEL 4
SSU3205-AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS



DURATION: THREE HOURS (03 HOURS) ONLY

Date: 24.02.2019

Time: 09.30am. to 12.30 pm.

Instructions:

➤ Answer any five (05) questions. Each answer carries 20 marks.

1. “Agriculture’s share in overall economic development declined relatively over the past three decades in Sri Lanka”. Discuss.
2. Critically examine the self-sufficiency in rice and its economic benefits in Sri Lanka.
3. (a) Explain Fei-Ranis (FR) Model.
(b) Evaluate the major assumptions of the FR model.
4. Discuss the constraints faced by developing countries such as Sri Lanka in formulating agricultural policies?
5. (a) Define “farm unit”.
(b) “The output change in response to different levels of inputs are invariably explained in terms of the laws of production”. Explain.
6. Critically examine the concepts of “belief”, “values” and “attitudes” and their relationship to agricultural development in developing countries.
7. (a) Explain the importance of a pricing policy?
(b) Examine the criteria for deciding price levels in a system of price interventions.
8. (a) Define Rural Development.
(b) Which approach would provide the best solution to the problems faced by rural communities in Sri Lanka?
9. Write brief notes on any **two** (02) of the following
 - (a) The Marginal Rate of Technical Substitution (MRTS) and Marginal Rate of Product Transformation (MRPT)
 - (b) Consumer surplus and producer surplus
 - (c) Farm gate prices and consumer prices of agricultural products
 - (d) Intensive land use and extensive land use

