



THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

B.A. (HONS) IN ENGLISH

AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING

FINAL EXAMINATION

THE STRUCTURE OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

DURATION

- LEVEL 3

- March 2024

- LEU3504/LSU1204/LSD1204

- THREE HOURS (03 hours)

DATE: 16.03.2024

TIME: 09.30 am - 12.30 pm

ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS IN PART A AND 02 OTHERS, SELECTING ONE FROM PART B AND ONE FROM PART C.

Please do not use red ink in your answers.

Part A

- 1) Describe how the underlined sounds are produced in Standard British English (RP) and Sri Lankan English (LE), using the cardinal vowel diagram. Explain how LE and RP dialects differ, where applicable.

1. Stout
2. Care
3. Plain
4. Cold
5. Steer

- 2) How would the following words be pronounced in Sri Lankan English and Standard British English? Illustrate the articulation using the phonetic alphabet.

Word	Sri Lankan English (LE)	Standard British English (RP)
1. Paper		
2. Treasure		
3. Power		
4. Attitude		
5. Hope		
6. Sculpture		
7. Something		
8. Wednesday		
9. Together		
10. Stolen		

(40 marks)

PART B

- 3) (A) a) Break up the following sentences into subject and predicate.
 b) Underline and name the **simple subject** and the **simple predicate** in each sentence.
 c) Identify and name the adverbs / adverbials.
- i. *The clever student diligently answered all the questions with ease.*
 - ii. *Quite often, Sarah visits the library opposite her house.*
 - iii. *The bridegroom arrived late to the reception hall.*
- B) Draw Tree Diagrams to illustrate the underlying structure of the following Noun Phrases.
 (Marks will be deducted for tree diagrams that do not follow the accepted conventions)
- i. *The least liked fast food*
 - ii. *This massive light blue van*
 - iii. *A very exciting musical show*

(30 marks)

- 4) A) The use of the suffix – ‘er’ in English is illustrated in the following lists.
Examine the lists and answer the questions given below.

List A

- a) writer
- b) singer
- c) driver

List B

- d) brighter
- e) nicer
- f) clearer

- i) What part of speech does the suffix – ‘er’ attach to in
 - a) List A?
 - b) List B?
- ii) Is – ‘er’ an inflectional suffix or a derivational suffix? Give reasons for your answer.
- iii) Separate the words in the above lists into their constituent morphemes and underline the base morpheme.
- iv) Add 3 more words which are attached to the suffix –‘er’ to List A and to List B.

B)

- i) Identify 03 derivational morphemes and 03 inflectional morphemes in the content given below.
- ii) Give reasons for your selections.

“Most families believe having pets at home brings much happiness. However, you must make sure that they are treated properly if you take up the responsibility of rearing them at home.”

(30 marks)

Part C

- 5) Discuss 05 features which distinguish human language from other forms of communication.
(30 marks)
- 6) Discuss 05 types of word formation processes in human language with appropriate examples.
(30 marks)