

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

B.A. (HONOURS)/B.A. IN ENGLISH

AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING - LEVEL 06

FINAL EXAMINATION - January 2025

PSYCHOLINGUISTICS AND - LEU6601/LSU4201

SOCIOLINGUISTICS

DURATION - THREE HOURS (03 hours)



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DATE: 18. 01. 2025

TIME: 09.30am. - 12.30pm.

ANSWER TWO (02) QUESTIONS FROM PART A, AND TWO (02) QUESTIONS FROM PART B.

Part A

1. Write a comprehensive essay on the language policy and planning history of Sri Lanka, with reference to academic article/s you have read. (25 marks)
2. What are the chief criticisms against the Deficiency Theory of Language and Gender? Discuss this theory and its limitations and then critically discuss any other theory of language and gender with reference to scholarly articles. (25 marks)
3. What is a language attitude? How are language attitudes measured? Give a summary of any scholarly research you have read regarding attitudes to a new variety of English (e.g. Sri Lankan English, Indian English etc.). (25 marks)
4. Answer BOTH questions.
  - a. Discuss the definitions and characteristics of *Pidgins* and *Creoles*, highlighting at least FOUR (04) key differences between them. You must explain the influence of

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superstrate and substrate languages on the development of *pidgins*, and explain the process of creolization with appropriate examples. (15 marks)

b. Would you categorise Sri Lankan English as a *creole*? Write a brief explanation to justify your answer. (10 marks)

### **Part B**

5. Human memory has been an active area of research among cognitive scientists for many decades. Discuss different types of memory and their functions in relation to language. Elaborate your answer with examples. (25 marks)

6. What are the main characteristics of Child Directed Speech (CDS)? Explain the importance of CDS in child language acquisition. Elaborate your answer with examples. (25 marks)

7. "Language is considered a function that is both lateralized and localized in the brain." Explain the above statement using your knowledge about acquired language disorders. Support your answer with examples. (25 marks)

8. Explain the following terms in brief. Use examples where necessary.

a) Priming effect

b) Spoonerisms

c) Dysgraphia

d) Critical Period Hypothesis

(25 marks)