

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRILANKA
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES
BA DEGREE PROGRAMME IN SOCIAL SCIENCES – LEVEL 4
FINAL EXAMINATION - 2024/2025 (SEMESTER 1)
DSU4333 - DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS



DURATION: THREE HOURS (03 HOURS) ONLY

Date: 06.04.2025

Time: 09.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

Instructions:

- **Answer FIVE (05) questions only.**
- **Each question carries 20 marks.**

1. Discuss the core values of development. How are these values interrelated, and how do they inform development strategies? (20 marks)
2. Is economic growth equivalent to economic development? Discuss this distinction, highlighting the limitations of GDP as a measure of development. (20 marks)
3. How can economic development be described as context-specific? Provide examples illustrating how historical, cultural, and institutional factors shape development in different contexts. (20 marks)
4. Compare and contrast various measures of poverty, such as absolute poverty, relative poverty, and multidimensional poverty. What are the strengths and weaknesses of each measure? (20 marks)
5. Analyze the relationship between education and economic development. How does investment in education contribute to economic growth and the reduction of poverty? (20 marks)
6. Discuss the role of agriculture in the economic development of developing countries. (20 marks)

7. Analyze the potential benefits and risks of international trade for developing countries.
(20 marks)
8. What are the causes and consequences of financial crises in developing countries?
(20 marks)
9. Write short notes on any **FOUR (04)** of the following:
- a. The impact of population age structure on economic growth.
 - b. Development as a measure of well-being.
 - c. The concept of the Triple Bottom Line of sustainability.
 - d. Amartya Sen's capabilities approach.
 - e. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

(5 marks each)

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