



THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
MASTER OF EDUCATION DEGREE PROGRAMME
FINAL EXAMINATION - 2007

ESP 2312 – PHILOSOPHICAL AND SOCIAL FOUNDATION OF EDUCATION
DURATION : THREE (03) HOURS

DATE : 8th July, 2007

TIME: 9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

ANSWER ANY THREE (03) QUESTIONS ONLY.

01. i. State briefly the functions that education is expected to perform today in relation to the individual and society.
- ii. 'The mismatch between the demands of the labour market and the output of the educational system is a problem in Sri Lanka' – Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer.
- iii. Taking into consideration the human capital theory, examine the role education could play in improving the quality of the workforce.
(11x3=33 marks)
02. i. Describe citing appropriate examples the relationship between culture and socialization.
- ii. 'Culture diversity among families, peer culture at school have a strong impact on children's socialization' - Elucidate this statement.
- iii. Analyze how school cultures and school sub cultures give rise to different outcomes for different children with special reference to Sri Lankan schools.
(11x3=33 marks)
03. i. Define 'social stratification and social mobility'.
(9 marks)
- ii. Explain citing examples the part played by education as an instrument of social mobility in Sri Lanka taking into consideration the following.
- Access to education
 - Participation in education
 - Achievement in examinations
 - Employability of educated youth.
- (24 marks)

04. i. Define the concept of values. (6 marks)
- ii. Elucidate why values cannot be separated from education. (12 marks)
- iii. Examine what measures could be adapted to inculcate values to the students in the school environment. (15 marks)
05. "Professional development of teachers has been considered a long-term process that includes regular opportunities and experiences planned systematically to promote growth and development in the profession"
- i. Identify and explain the types of experiences that could be given to the teachers for their professional development.
- ii. Does professional development of teachers have an impact on student learning? Give reasons for your answer.
- iii. Does professional development of teachers have an impact on the success of educational reforms implemented in a country? Justify your answer with special reference to Sri Lanka. (11x3=33 marks)
06. i. What would you consider to be the three most critical problems in secondary education in Sri Lankan schools today? Justify as to why you consider them as the most critical.
- ii. Analyse the factors that have contributed to the creation of these problems.
- iii. Discuss the measures that could be taken to solve the problems identified by you above. (11x3=33 marks)
07. Comment on any **two** of the following statements?
- i. 'Teacher education should provide opportunities to teachers to understand and analyse the challenges that originate from the contextual situations'
- ii. 'An investment in education is an investment in development'
- iii. 'Internationalization has brought mixed results to education of developing countries. By mixed results it means both advantages and disadvantages'
- iv. 'Information Technology' is looked upon as a necessary component for improving the quality of education in Sri Lankan schools.'
- v. 'Open learning could be used to overcome the constraints in achieving 'education for all'.'
- (16 x 2+1 = 33 marks)

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