



THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
BACHELOR OF/ DIPLOMA IN TECHNOLOGY (ENGINEERING)
FINAL EXAMINATION - 2005
MPJ 4131 - HISTORY OF TECHNOLOGY

086

DURATION: THREE HOURS (ESSAY TYPE/OPEN BOOK EXAMINATION)

Date 01st April 2006

Time: 13.30hr.-16.30hr.

Answer any four questions

1. (a) Give three reasons as to why water is so necessary for human existence.
(b) Ancient Sri Lankans valued water, describe as to how they stored it for later use.
2. Describe in brief at least one device which the Islamic civilization developed to raise the level of water.

Why do you think such a development did not occur in Sri Lanka?

3. Which of the two mathematicians had a deeper understanding of the meaning of the number zero.
(a) Newton (17th century English mathematician)
(b) Leibnitz (17th century German mathematician)

And why do you say so?

4. What energy sources were used before the industrial revolution? Identify which of these energy sources are still in use today?

If Sri Lanka were to be independent of external energy sources (imported), which energy types do you recommended?

5. The Chinese are reputed to have been the first nation to have sailed the seas to the Americas. What particular technological device enabled them to do so?

It is now known that the Chinese had produced gun powder before any other nation in the world. What did they use it for?

What was the chief use the European races which has Colonial ambitions had of gun powder?