

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

B. A IN ENGLISH & ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING

FINAL EXAMINATION

April 2006



THE SECOND LANGUAGE CLASSROOM :

ISSUES & CONCERNS

LSU 3204

DURATION

THREE HOURS (03 hours)

DATE: 23. 04. 2006

TIME: 9.30 am.

12.30pm.

ANSWER QUESTION 1 AND ANY 3 OTHERS CHOOSING AT LEAST ONE EACH FROM PARTS B & C.

Part A

1. "Looking at the past is an important step towards understanding the future." (Graddol : 1997).

Using this statement as the starting point of your answer, identify three (3) major issues that will affect ELT in Sri Lanka *in the future*.

State why you feel these issues are important, and comment on how they developed, paying attention to the fact that these issues arose out of policies of the past.

Part B

2. Motivation of learners is a key factor in effective classroom management.
- a) List and briefly describe the factors that can motivate students to learn a second language
 - b) What techniques or strategies could a teacher use in order to motivate his / her students in the second language classroom?
3. a) Discuss the advantages and the disadvantages of the lock – step arrangement of the classroom.

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- b) Groups that are cohesive and work harmoniously, are elusive yet crucial factor in the second language classroom. How do you as a teacher work towards the successful management of group work so that there is a positive learning environment?
4. Errors can be seen as evidence of learner achievement and they have to be corrected without inhibiting learner development. Discuss six techniques we can use when dealing with
- a) written errors
 - b) oral errors
- [Limit your answer to 03 techniques for (a) and 03 techniques for (b)]

Part C

5. "The teacher's primary roles are instructional and managerial; but both these roles can be made more effective by taking on the third role of investigator." Comment on the above statement providing evidence from your own experience.
6. What measures could a teacher – researcher take to maintain quality in his / her classroom research? Explain these measures in detail giving examples where necessary.
7. a) What is action research?
b) Read the following extract from McPherson's action research report, and comment on it.
- 'This action research project played a major role in helping 'me' to understand the learning issues involved 'in my class' and in developing systematic ways to investigate and address them. As a research method, action research was flexible enough to allow 'me' to change the focus of 'my' investigation from developing and trialing language learning materials and activities to addressing issues of difference and diversity.' (1997, p.61)