



THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
 DIPLOMA IN ENGLISH - LEVEL 4
 FINAL EXAMINATION - March 2006
 POETRY - LSD 2206
 DURATION - THREE HOURS (03 hours)

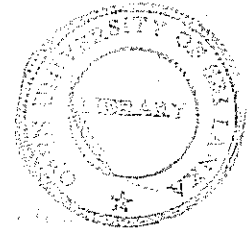
DATE: 26. 03. 2006 TIME: 1.30 pm. - 4.30pm.

ANSWER QUESTION 01 AND ANY TWO QUESTIONS FROM PART B.

Part A

- 1) Identify two (02) of the following passages and comment on their significance to the text from which they are taken.

i) *I see him there,
 Bringing a stone grasped firmly by the top
 In each hand, like an old – stone savage armed
 He moves in darkness as it seems to me,
 Not of words only and the shade of trees
 He will not go behind his father's saying,
 And he likes having thought of it so well
 He says again, "Good fences make good neighbours.*



ii) *Unreal City,
 Under the brown fog of a winter dawn,
 A crowd flowed over London Bridge, so many,
 I had not thought death had undone so many.
 Sighs, short and infrequent, were exhaled,
 And each man fixed his eyes before his feet.
 Flowed up the hill and down King William Street,
 To where Saint Mary Woolnoth kept the hours*

With a dead sound on the final stroke of nine.

There I saw one I knew, and stopped him, crying: "Stetson!

"You who were with me in the ships at Mylae!"

"That corpse that you planted last year in your garden,

"Has it begun to sprout? Will it bloom this year?

iii) *Larger than in life, they managed*

Gold as on a coin or waling

Somehow from the sun towards them,

One showing the eggs unbroken

iv) *O sages standing in God's holy fire*

As in the gold mosaic of a wall,

Come from the holy fire, perne in a gyre,

And be the singing masters of my soul.

Consume my heart away, sick with desire

And fastened to a dying animal

(40 marks)

Part B

2. "Yeats' main concerns in his poems seem to be purely personal ones -- falling in love, growing old, and the Irish nationalist movement -- but they are all handled as a moving expression of 'things falling apart' Discuss.
3. "Nature; in Frost's poetry, refers not just to the external environment but also to human nature." Would you agree with this statement? If so why?

4. What makes Eliot's "*The Waste Land*" a modernist poem in technique and theme?

5. "..... a negative and pessimistic view of life"

Would you agree that this is an appropriate description of the themes of Larkin's poetry?

Your answer should

- a) make reference to 04 poems. These should include, either "*The Whitsun Weddings*" or "*Churchgoing*" and 03 other short poems
- b) comment on the use of imagery and other poetic techniques in relation to the poet's themes.

(60 marks)