



THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

DIPLOMA IN ENGLISH

- LEVEL 3

FINAL EXAMINATION

- April 2006

THE NOVEL AND THE SHORT STORY

- LSD 1205

DURATION

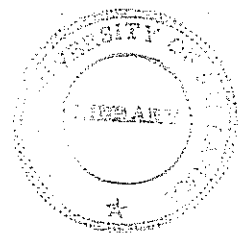
- THREE HOURS (03 hours)

DATE: 08. 04. 2006

TIME: 1.30 pm.

- 4.30pm.

ANSWER QUESTION 01 AND TWO OTHERS, SELECTING ONE FROM PART B AND ONE FROM PART C.



Part A

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

- a) *'He struggled up to the surface and tried to cry out, but the wash from the speeding yacht slapped him in the face and the salt water in his open mouth made him gag and strangle. Desperately he struck out with strong strokes after the receding lights of the yacht but he stopped before he had swum fifty feet. A certain cool – headedness had come to him: it was not the first time he had been in a tight place.*
- b) *"The magistrates shivered under a single bite of his finger. Thieves and thieftakers hung in dread rapture on his words, and shrank when a hair of his eyebrows turned in their direction. Which side he was on, I couldn't make out, for he seemed to be grinding the whole place in a mill"*
- c) *"I want you to know" she told the girls in a low authoritative voice so different from the shrill tone she normally used.. " that love is a very special, magical sort of thing. I wish each and every one of you may experience it one day." Having made this enigmatic statement, she beamed on them like one who had been favoured by a particularly bountiful goddess and was magnanimously invoking the same good fortune on them.*

- d) "...and what do you think of my husband? Is not he a charming man? I am sure my sisters must all envy me. I only hope that they may have half my good luck. They must all go to Brighton. That is the place to get husbands. What a pity it is, mama, we did not all go!"

(40 marks)

Part B

2. What were the reasons for Elizabeth marrying Mr. Darcy in Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice?"
3. "What makes a gentleman?" Answer with reference to Charles Dickens' "Great Expectations."

(30 marks)

Part C

4. "The Most Dangerous Game" contains a brilliantly constructed plot but the story hardly leads to the expression of anything of significance.' Discuss.
5. "In 'The Moment Before the Gun went off' the author skilfully criticizes the apartheid regime in South Africa while appearing to defend it." Discuss.

(30 marks)