

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
 DIPLOMA IN ENGLISH
 FINAL EXAMINATION
 THE STRUCTURE OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE
 DURATION



- LEVEL 3
 - April 2006
 - LSD 1204

- THREE HOURS (03 hours)

DATE: 08. 04. 2006

TIME: 9.30 am. - 12.30pm.

ANSWER QUESTION 1 AND 2 OTHERS, SELECTING ONE FROM PART B
 AND ONE FROM PART C.

Part A

1. a] Transcribe the following stanza in phonetic notation to represent
- i. Received Pronunciation (RP)
 - ii. Standard Sri Lankan English pronunciation (LE)

"The quality of mercy is not strained.

It disappears as the gentle rain from heaven above

Upon the place beneathth

- b] Using the cardinal vowel figure and other diagrammatic illustrations where necessary, describe the differences between the RP and LE pronunciations in the articulation of the sounds represented by the underlined letters in the above stanza.

(40 marks)

Part B

2. a] Study the words given below and answer the questions that follow.

dissimilar

dishonest

dislike

disable

disappear

b] i) What is the meaning of the prefix 'dis' ?

ii) What is the word – class of the word formed by prefixing 'dis'?

iii) a) Break up the above words into their constituent morphemes

b) Form one other word using each of the bases with a prefix or a suffix.

(example: un + like = unlike)

3. a) Break up the following sentences into Subject and Predicate.

b) Underline the simple subject and the simple predicate.

c) Identify the adjectives and the adverbs in the given sentences.

i) *Some of the prisoners have complained about poor living conditions.*

ii) *He slowly put on his glasses.*

iii) *The newspaper reporters described how the people in that area suffer from severe malnutrition and illness.*

iv) *Although, some children are slow at reading and writing, they are quite clever with their hands.*

v) *The commentator said that Gavaskar reached his century with a glorious drive.*

4. a] Draw tree diagrams to illustrate the structure of the following noun phrases.
- i) This new project proposal.
 - ii) The modern well – equipped language centre.
 - iii) Some decorated Chinese lanterns.
- b] i) Distinguish between free morphemes and bound morphemes.
- ii) Identify 03 derivational morphemes and 03 inflectional morphemes in the text given below.
- The main principles of pragmatic philosophy is that man creates his own values during the course of activity. There are no fixed values for all times. Even truths are manmade products. There is nothing like absolute truth. According to pragmatism, whatever fulfills man's purpose and desires and develops his life, is true.*
- Give reasons for your selections.

(30 marks)

Part C

5. Discuss briefly any five of the following design features.
- i) Duality
 - ii) Creativity
 - iii) Cultural transmission
 - iv) Displacement
 - v) Arbitrary symbols
 - vi) Ambiguity
 - vii) Spontaneous usage
6. "Explain what is meant by 'code switching' and comment on how you a Sri Lankan speaker of English switch codes. (You should discuss at least three instances of code switching).

(30 marks)