



THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

DIPLOMA IN ENGLISH	-	LEVEL 4
FINAL EXAMINATION	-	June 2007
POETRY	-	LSD 2206
DURATION	-	THREE HOURS (03 hours)

DATE: 03. 06. 2007 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 shall be telling this with a sigh*

Somewhere ages and ages hence:

Two roads diverged in a wood, and I -

I took the one less traveled by,

And that has made all the difference.

ii) *A shape less recognizable each week,*

A purpose more obscure. I wonder who

Will be the last, the very last, to seek

This place for what it was; one of the crew

That tap and jot and know what road-lofts were?

Some ruin-bibber, randy for antique,

Or Christmas-addict, counting on a whiff,

Of gown-and-bands and organ-pipes and myrrh?

Or will he be my representative?

iii) *HURRY UP PLEASE IT'S TIME*

Now Albert's coming back, make yourself a bit smart.

He'll want to know what you done with that money he gave you

To get herself some teeth. He did, I was there.

You have them all out, Lil, and get a nice set,

He said, I swear, I can't bear to look at you.

And no more can't I, I said, and think of poor Albert,

He's been in the army for four years, he wants a good time,

And if you don't give it him, there's others will, I said.

Oh is there, she said. Something o' that, I said.

Then I'll know who to thank, she said, and give me a straight look.

HURRY UP PLEASE IT'S TIME

iv) *The best lack all conviction, while the worst*

Are full of passionate intensity.

(40 marks)

Part B

2. 'Yeats had a passionate relationship with Irish nationalism'. Comment. Illustrate your answer with examples from his poetry.
3. Frost's philosophical attitude to life is depicted in the way he deals with human nature in his poetry. Discuss this statement with reference to at least 03 of his poems.
4. There is spiritual degeneration all around T.S. Eliot's Waste Land. Discuss in relation to the poem.

5. The narrative structure, simplicity and symbols in Larkin's poem "The Explosion" (from "High Windows") combine to present a powerful, poignant depiction of rebirth and life. Discuss.

(60 marks)

