

04339



OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
ENGLISH FOR GENERAL ACADEMIC PURPOSES
(LSE3201,LSE3202,LSE3204,LSE3207,LSE3210)

FINAL EXAMINATION 2017

Date: 02nd July 2017

Time: 03 hours

Instructions: Answer all questions.

Reading and Comprehension

Time: 60 minutes

Index No:
Registration No:
National Identity Card No.:
Centre:

Question No:	Marks Obtained	Maximum
1	15
2	<u>25</u>
Total		40
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Communication Skills - Writing

Time: 120 minutes

Question No:	Marks Obtained	Maximum
3	20
4	15
5	<u>25</u>
Total		60
	=====	==

Name of Examiner :

Signature of Examiner :

use only

Part A - Reading and Comprehension

1. **Fill in the blanks in the following passage with appropriate words.**

Antibiotics are powerful medicines that fight bacterial infections. They act on bacteria by either killing them or keeping them from reproducing. They are also known (1)..... anti microbials. One of the first antibiotics, Penicillin, was discovered (2)..... Sir Alexander Fleming in 1927 and it was introduced (3)..... World War II. Antibiotics have been helpful (4)..... saving thousands of lives. Incidence of (5)..... infectious diseases such as meningitis, tuberculosis and pneumonia declined (6)..... the introduction of antibiotics. However bacteria have acquired resistance to antibiotics in the present day, (7)..... it difficult to combat them as easily as before.

Bacteria find (8)..... to survive in adverse conditions through various means. Today antibiotic resistance has become (9)..... major threat to human beings. The prevalence of multi drug resistant micro – organisms both (10)..... hospitals (11)..... the community is increasing world – wide. The problem is greater in developing countries (12)..... as Sri Lanka due to controlled use of antibiotics. One particularly lethal type of drug resistant bacteria (13)..... as CRE (Corpabenem Resistant Entero bacteria) has become resistant to nearly (14)..... antimicrobials on the market. Over use and misuse of (15)..... medicines will soon drive us back to the pre - antibiotic era, when thousands of patients died due to lack of antibiotics.

(15 marks)

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2. **Read the following passage and write answers to the questions given below.**

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1 In a globalised world, international news plays a crucial role in
 2 ensuring that citizens and businesses are kept aware of developments
 3 affecting their lives and decision making. For many years, international
 4 news has been dominated by English language news providers such as
 5 Associated Press, Reuters, the BBC or CNN. These channels have sought
 6 to position themselves as the channels to tune to during a major breaking
 7 story. However, recent trends have indicated that now there are diverse
 8 view points and that there are other languages in which global news is
 9 available.

10 When Al Jazeera started broadcasting from its base in Qatar at the
 11 end of 1996, it triggered a transformation of the international news media.
 12 It provided an independent source of news about events in the Middle East.
 13 and Arabic suddenly became an important language in which to present
 14 world news. A rival news channel, Al Arabiya, began transmitting in 2003
 15 from Dubai, with Saudi backing. In early 2004, Al Hurra, a new Arabic
 16 news channel funded by the US government began transmitting to 22 Arab
 17 countries from its Washington studios. The BBC, in a major restructuring
 18 of its overseas operations in 2005, announced that **it** would also be starting
 19 a new Arabic TV channel in 2007. Latin America launched its own
 20 Spanish language rival to CNN when, on 31 October 2005, Telesur began
 21 full broadcasting from Caracas. The network's Uruguayan director, Aram
 22 Aharonian, promised Telesur would 'see Latin America with Latin
 23 American eyes, not foreign eyes'.

24 English, however, remains the preferred language for global reach.
 25 Al Jazeera plans to go global in English, establishing regional headquarters
 26 in London, Washington and Kuala Lumpur. By the end of 2005, its English

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27 website had become a major source of news for American internet users
28 and its new English language TV channel started broadcasting in spring
29 2006. Russia's new government-funded, English-language 24-hour TV
30 channel 'Russia Today' began broadcasting in December 2005, to North
31 America, Europe and Asia.

32 Independent bloggers and journalists are also significant in
33 relation to global news because blogs provide news sites in which an
34 author can present their own view of the world, however local or global
35 that might be. By the end of 2005, there were an estimated 20 million
36 active blogs worldwide. Some bloggers now act as independent
37 journalists, breaking stories which are taken up by the mainstream
38 media. Others have acquired a large readership for their blogs and
39 become **influential** opinion leaders. Blogs also provide a public record
40 of grassroots experience – for example, the progress of hurricanes across
41 the USA. Trend analysis shows what people are discussing from day to
42 day. Sites such as 'Global Voices', based at Harvard University,
43 **aggregate** data from blogs to supply journalists with an alternative news
44 feed. Now independent citizen-journalists do not just break stories, they
45 also act as an army of fact-checkers who will call to account any news
46 source who gets their facts wrong. Technology also allows mainstream
47 media, such as the BBC, to tap in to citizen news - not only can people
48 around the world file **their** own accounts of breaking news stories via the
49 internet, but also upload photos which they have taken with their camera
50 phones.

Questions

- 1) According to Paragraph 01 who is affected by international news?

(01 mark)

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- 2) i) Is the following statement true?
"In the past, there was often one dominating view point on a breaking news story provided by English language news providers"

(02 marks)

- ii) Why does the author mention CNN, BBC and Reuters?

(02 marks)

- 3) Give two reasons why "Arabic suddenly became an important language in which to present world news"

(02 marks)

- 4) a) Do you 'agree' or 'disagree' with this statement?
"English is no longer the most important language in relation to international news".

- b) Cite a sentence from the passage which supports your view.

(02 marks)

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- 5) In what way do bloggers contribute to mainstream media? State two ways.

(02 marks)

- 6) Name two (2) functions of an independent citizen – journalist.

(02 marks)

- 7) Are these statements 'True', 'False', or 'Not Given' based on the information in the passage.

- i. 'Telesur' is a Spanish Language Channel

True	False	Not Given
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- ii. 'Russia today' is the most popular English medium channel in Europe

True	False	Not Given
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- iii. Arabic has now replaced English as the most popular language for International news

True	False	Not Given
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(03 marks)

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- 8) The reading passage has four paragraphs. Choose the most suitable heading for each paragraph from the list of headings. There are more headings than paragraphs, so you will not use all of them.

Heading	Paragraph No.
The role of English in International News	
The significance of blogging in International news	
The continued dominance of English in International News	
The role of the print media in international news	
The role of Arabic in International News	

(05 marks)

- 9) Give a word/s similar in meaning to the following.

- i) **influential** in Paragraph 04 line 39
- ii) **aggregate** in Paragraph 04 line 43

(02 marks)

- 10) What do the following terms refer to?

- i) **it** in Paragraph 02 line 18
- ii) **their** in Paragraph 04 line 48

(02 marks)

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Part B - Writing

3. The process of Wastewater treatment is given below. Write the process in the **Present passive voice** using appropriate **sequence markers**. The first one is done for you.

- i) Remove large objects like plastics and rags that may block or damage equipment

First, large objects like plastics and rags that may block or damage equipment, are removed.

- ii) Use special equipment to remove sand and stones .

- iii) Put the waste water into large settlement tanks.

- iv) Move the rest of the water for secondary treatment.

- v) Put the water into large rectangular tanks at this stage.

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vi) Pump air into the water to encourage bacteria to break down.

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vii) Pass the "almost treated" waste water through a settlement tank.

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viii) Scrape the dirt before treatment.

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ix) Allow the water to flow over a wall.

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x) Filter the "almost treated" water through a bed of sand.

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xi) Release the filtered water into the river.

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4. Here is a conversation between a Student counsellor Dr. Nivanthi Perera, (A) and Krishantha, a student of the Natural Sciences Faculty, OUSL who wishes to seek advice from Dr.Perera about changing his centre of study. Complete the conversation given below using appropriate expressions.

A : Hello Krishantha. Nice to see you again. How are things going with your studies?

B :
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A : That's good. How about the EGAP programme?
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.....?

B : Yes. Dr Perera. I sat the EGAP Final Exam last week.
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A : Ah. I am glad to hear that. So what brings you here?

B : It's like this Dr. Perera,

(Says he wishes to do a centre-change from Anuradhapura to Kurunegala.)

A : I see.

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(Asks for reasons)

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B : I am a school teacher. I was working in a school at
Anuradhapura.
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A : Right. So due to your transfer you wish to change your centre to
Kurunegala?

B : Yes. Dr. Perera.

A : Please write a letter of request addressed to the Students' Affairs
Division. Then get it approved by the Head of your Department
or your academic coordinator.

B :
.....?

A : Oh, You can either post it or hand it over personally to Student
Affairs.

B :, Dr. Perera.

A : You are welcome! Let me know if you have further issues. All
the best with your studies!

(15 marks)

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5. Write an essay on one of the following topics, using the given guidelines.

A: Minimizing Railroad accidents in Sri Lanka.

Your essay should discuss the causes of railway accidents as well as the responsibilities of commuters to avoid such incidents.

B: The impact of social media in times of emergency.

Your essay should discuss how social media is used in times of emergencies such as natural disasters and civil riots, wars etc.

Use the following guidelines when writing your essay.

Your essay should contain

- i) at least 05 paragraphs and each paragraph must contain at least 4 sentences.
 - an introduction
 - 03 body paragraphs
 - a conclusion
- ii) the points given as guidelines

(25 marks)

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