Diploma in Technology (Civil) - Level 3

CEX3230 — Construction Materials

## Final Examination -2010

Date: 02-03-2010 (Tuesday)



Time Allowed: Three(03) hours

Answer Five (05) questions out of Eight (08) questions.

Answers should be illustrated with sketches and diagrams with assumptions stated, clearly and neatly

- (Q1) Timber has replaced by many other materials for most of the applications in the recent past. Still Timber is used in many industrial applications in many parts of the world.
  - (i) Classify and explain with examples the trees that supply Timber to the Construction Industry .(05 marks)
  - (ii) Name and explain three(03) properties in Timber that determine the strength.

(05 marks)

- (iii) Name and explain three(03) Preservation methods of Timber from moisture. (05 marks)
- (iv) What is Plywood and explain the advantages of using Plywood. (05 marks)
- (Q2) Blocks from early days have used in construction Industry and in present, it has replaced traditional burnt clay bricks in many applications.
  - (i) Name Four(04) types of construction blocks that are presently used in Sri Lankan Construction Industry and briefly explain the procedure of making them. (05 marks)
  - (ii) Classify and explain the types of cement blocks used in Sri Lanka according their physical characteristics. (05 marks)
  - (iii) Name and explain two (02) quality control measures used in manufacture of cement blocks. (05 marks)
  - (iv) Name four(04) advantages of using cement blocks for construction. (05 marks)
  - (Q3) Asbestos from recent past is used in many construction applications.
    - (i) Name three (03) properties of asbestos and corresponding applications industry. (05 marks)
    - (ii) Identify three (03) asbestos cement products manufactured in Sri Lanka for construction Industry. (05 marks)
    - (iii) State three (03) important functional requirements that should satisfy by a particular roofing sheet. (05 marks)
    - (iv) What steps would you take in laying asbestos-cement sheets on a roof to ensure that these requirements are met. (05 marks)
  - (Q4) (a) Cast Iron in general is not particularly strong or tough material, but is widely used in engineering industries.
    - (i) What is 'Grey Cast Iron' (05 marks)
    - (ii) Name Five (05) significant properties of 'Grey Cast Iron'. (05 marks)

- (b) Aluminum is a metal which is widely used second to steel from recent in the construction industry.
  - (i) State and briefly explain four (04) metal treatment methods done to improve the performance of aluminum and its alloys. (05 marks)
  - (ii) Name Four (04) significant physical properties of pure aluminum. (05 marks)
- (Q5) Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) is the oldest and most common plastic being used in the construction Industry...
  - (i) State Four (04) important properties of PVC. (05 marks)
  - (ii) State and explain Four (04) advantages of using UPVC pipes. (08 marks)
  - (iii) Briefly explain two(02) manufacturing processes of PVC products used in the construction industry. (07 marks)
- (Q6) Ranging from Roof, Wall to Floor there is a wide range of tiles available in Sri Lankan Construction Industry.
  - (i) State Three(03) different manufacturing defects that can be found in local roof tiles.
  - (ii) Write and explain two(02) common defects that can be found in Ceramic wall tiles.

    (05 marks)
  - (iii) State Four (04) performance standards that should be met by any roofing material. (05 marks)
  - (iv) State and explain Three(03) important physical properties that should be satisfied by any wall or floor tile. (05 marks)
- (Q7) Plaster is of great importance as a finishing material as it contributes much to the final appearance.
  - (i) Propose a mix proportion for a plaster plastering an external wall. (05 marks)
  - (ii) Briefly explain the process of mixing of a lime mortar. (05 marks)
  - (iii) Explain what is meant by 'Waterproofed Mortars'. (05 marks)
  - (iv) Differentiate between color washing and white washing . (05 marks)
- (Q7) Paints as a finishing material is having a great variety and flexibility in application in present day constructions.
  - (i) Describe the essential components of paints. (05 marks)
  - (ii) Briefly discuss about the types of wood varnishes and the varnishing process. (05 marks)
  - (iii) Briefly explain the steps that should be followed when painting on a new wood work (05 marks)
  - (iv) Discuss how the different types of paints are chosen for iron works based on the application and the environment. (05 marks)
- (Q8) Due to the increasing demand in raw materials, environmental restrictions and indirect costs have caused to increase the prices and reduce the quality of Clay Bricks in Sri Lanka.
  - (i) State Five(05) defects that you can be identified in Bricks visually at the site.
    (05 marks)
  - (ii) Name and explain Four (04) types of Burnt Clay Bricks used in Sri Lanka. (05 marks,
  - (iii) Explain what is meant by 'Efflorescence' in bricks. (05 marks)
  - (iv) Explain how you would test for 'Efflorescence' (05 marks)