THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

DIPLOMA IN ENGLISH

LEVEL 4

FINAL EXAMINATION

May 2008

POETRY

LSD 2206

DURATION

THREE HOURS (03 hours)

DATE:

25. 05. 2008

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) "HURRY UP PLEASE ITS 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 yourself 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."
- ii) "And residents from raw estates, brought down
 The dead-straight miles by stealing flat-faced trolleys,
 Push through plate-glass swing doors to their desires —
 Cheap suits, red kitchen-ware, sharp shoes, iced lollies,....
- iii) I see him there

 Bringing a stone grasped firmly by the top

 In each hand, like an old stone savage armed.

 He moves in darkness as it seems to me,

Not of woods only and the shade of trees

He will not go behind his father's saying,

And he likes having thought of it so well

He says again, "good fences make good neighbors."

iv) The man and the woman bringHither, to our disgraceA noisy and filthy thing.'

(40 marks)

Part B

- 2. As he developed as a poet, Yeats' poetry moved from simplicity to complexity. Discuss this with reference to his poems. In your opening what factors lead to these changes.
- 3. Robert Frost's poems are universal in their contemplation of death. Discuss this statement with reference to at least 03 of his poems.
- 4. "The Wasteland" attempts to capture the feeling of disillusionment after World War I using inventive poetic devices. Discuss two such devices and how they contribute to the ultimate purpose of the poem.
- 5. Is Larkin a pessimistic poet? Use two poems from any collection and discuss.

(60 marks)