

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA  
DIPLOMA IN ENGLISH  
FINAL EXAMINATION  
THE NOVEL AND THE SHORT STORY  
DURATION

- LEVEL 3  
- June 2009  
- LSD 1205  
- THREE HOURS (03 hours)



055

DATE: 14. 06. 2009

TIME: 1.30 pm. - 4.30pm.

ANSWER QUESTION 01 AND TWO OTHERS, SELECTING ONE FROM PART B AND ONE FROM PART C.

Part A

1) Identify any two (02) of the following passages and comment on their significance to the text from which they are taken.

- a) *"Aye, no doubt; but that is what a governess will prevent, and if I had known your mother, I should have advised her most strenuously to engage one. I always say that nothing is to be done in education without steady and regular instruction, and nobody but a governess can give it. It is wonderful how many families I have been the means of supplying in that way. I am always glad to get a young person well placed out"*
- b) *"'He was my friend, I always took him hunting with me.' Those city people don't know it's true: farmers usually have one particular black boy they like to take along with them in the lands; you could call it a kind of friend, yes, friends are not only your own white people, like yourself, you take into your house, pray with in church and work with on the Party committee. But how can those others know that? They do not want to know it."*
- c) *"'You said there couldn't possibly be a frog in my bread-and-milk; there was a frog in my bread-and-milk,' he repeated, with the insistence of a skilled tactician who does not intend to shift from favourable ground."*

- d) "No, ma'am, I am very sorry for you, and very sorry I can't play just now. If you complain of me I shall get into trouble with my sister, so I would do it if I could; but it's so new here, and so strange, and so fine – and melancholy –"

(40 marks)

**Part B**

2. In many of his writings Charles Dickens aims criticism specifically at the Victorian society. How far is this evident in '*Great Expectations*'?
3. "Compare and contrast male and female attitudes towards marriage in Jane Austen's '*Pride and Prejudice*' with reference to Mr. Collins, Wickham, Charlotte Lucas and Elizabeth Bennet.

(30 marks)

**Part C**

4. "A short story is like a picture – caught in the flick of a camera's trigger". Discuss the validity of this statement with reference to any one story from the prescribed selection..
5. What is your favourite short story in the collection of short stories prescribed for study? Justify your preference.

(30 marks)