

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA**DIPLOMA IN ENGLISH****- LEVEL 4****FINAL EXAMINATION****- December 2012****THE HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT****OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE****- LSD 2201****DURATION****- THREE HOURS (03 hours)****DATE: 02. 12. 2012****TIME: 1.30 pm. - 4.30pm.**

ANSWER ANY 04 QUESTIONS, SELECTING TWO FROM PART (A) AND TWO FROM PART (B).

PART A

1. 'The Scandinavians have contributed widely to the growth of English Language.'
Discuss this statement giving suitable examples.
2. Discuss how English vocabulary has been enriched qualitatively by the French influence.
3. In what ways did Latin and Greek exert their influence on the English Language?
4. "The majority of linguistic forms are generally common to British and American English. However these two varieties diverge on several points."
Using this statement as the starting point of the answer, discuss the differences between Standard British and American English.

(50 marks)

PART B

5. Write an essay on how social changes tend to affect a language.
6. "English spelling is notoriously difficult". Account for the following complexities:
 - i. Variations in representations of the initial phoneme of the words: *King; cat; castle; chaos*
 - ii. Word inflections: *Difference; tolerance.*
7. Comment on changes in Diphthongs and Short Vowels in Middle English.
8. Discuss how the Norman Conquest contributed to changes in the system of writing in the English Language.

(50 marks)