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THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

DIPLOMA IN ENGLISH

- LEVEL 3

FINAL EXAMINATION

- December 2013

THE STRUCTURE OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

- LSD 1204

DURATION

- THREE HOURS (03 hours)

DATE: 07. 12. 2013

TIME: 9.30 am.

- 12.30pm.

ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS IN PART A AND 2 OTHERS, SELECTING ONE
FROM PART B AND ONE FROM PART C.

Part A

- 1) Choose the best answer for each question and write the letter which corresponds with it on your answer sheet.

i) /i:/

- a. idiot
- b. mean
- c. lip
- d. breakfast

ii) /ə/

- a. easy
- b. enter
- c. locked
- d. adding

iii) /ʃ/

- a. church
- b. think
- c. wish
- d. vision

iv) /æ/

- a. aardvark
- b. weight
- c. apple
- d. hare

v) /ɔ/

- a. this
- b. through
- c. udder
- d. dense

vi) /eɪ/

- a. wait
- b. either
- c. ample
- d. sampling

vii) /ʌ/

- a. shoe
- b. should
- c. moon
- d. puppy

viii) /ʒ/

- a. shout
- b. wish
- c. change
- d. leisure

ix) /əʊ/

- a. row (argument)
- b. sow (pig)
- c. now
- d. row (a boat)

x) /ɔɪ/

- a. ought
- b. should
- c. house
- d. annoy

xi) /j/

- a. jet
- b. German
- c. bay
- d. yet

xii) /ʊ/

- a. wood
- b. mood
- c. mop
- d. using

(06 marks)

2) Transcribe the words in the table below (in RP) and describe the underlined speech sound.

Normal Script	Transcription	Description of the underlined speech sound
be <u>ach</u>		
<u>ca</u> lm		
<u>l</u> og		
wea <u>th</u> er		
hou <u>s</u> es		
mag <u>i</u> cian		
<u>w</u> here		

(14 marks)

3) i) What are the 12 pure vowels in English (RP)?

(06 marks)

ii) Select 2 short and 2 long vowels from the list in 3 (i) above and explain them briefly, using the cardinal vowel diagram and appropriate examples.

(08 marks)

4) Transcribe the following words in Sri Lankan English and briefly explain how they differ from RP (British English).

- a) think
- b) phone
- c) weeping

(06 Marks)

Part B

5) a) The use of the suffix 'en' in English is illustrated in List A and List B. Examine the lists and answer the given questions.

List A

- a. dampen
- b. gladden
- c. quieten

List B

- a. forbidden
- b. frozen
- c. ridden

i) What part of speech does the suffix 'en' attached to in

- a) List A
- b) List B

ii) Is 'en' an inflectional suffix or a derivational suffix? Give reasons for your answer.

- iii) In what way does the suffix 'en' change the meaning or the function of the word it is attached to?
- iv) Add two (02) more words with the suffix 'en' to List A and another two (02) to List B.

(30 Marks)

- 6) a) Identify the noun phrases in the paragraph given below.

The whopping 120 meters high Victoria dam, designed as a double curvature arch concrete dam with eight spillway gates and two bottom outlets, forms the third largest reservoir in Sri Lanka.

(04 Marks)

- b) Draw tree diagrams to illustrate the underlying structure of the underlined noun phrase AND the noun phrases you identified in section 6(a). (Follow the standard tree diagram format when drawing your diagrams)

(26 marks)

Part C

- 7) "The phonetic alphabet is a useful tool that can be used to describe the sounds of human language". Discuss the above statement and illustrate your answer with examples.
- 8) 05 aspects that distinguish human language from animal communication. Discuss in detail.
- 9) Describe 03 different types of word formation in languages. Illustrate your answer with examples.

(30 marks)