

THE OPENUNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

DIPLOMA IN ENGLISH

FINAL EXAMINATION

THE NOVEL AND THE SHORT STORY

DURATION

- **LEVEL 3**
 - **November 2014**
 - **LSD 1205**
 - **THREE HOURS (03 hours)**



DATE: 23. 11. 2014

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) "I will not be interrupted. Hear me in silence. My daughter and my nephew are formed for each other. They are descended on the maternal side, from the same noble line; and, on the father's, from respectable, honourable, and ancient, though untitled families. Their fortune on both sides is splendid. They are destined for each other by the voice of every member of their respective houses; and what is to divide them?"
- b) "I had not been mistaken in my fancy that there was a simple dignity in him. The fashion of his dress could no more come in its way when he spoke these words, than it could come in its way in Heaven. He touched me gently on the forehead, and went out. As soon as I could recover myself sufficiently, I hurried out after him and looked for him in the neighbouring streets; but he was gone."
- c) '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.

- d) “You may be the Evil One tempting me to be disobedient, Aunt often tells me that the Evil One tempts me and that I always yield. This time I’m not going to yield.”

(40 marks)

Part B

2. The thematic core of the novel *Great Expectations* is about being a “gentleman of the heart” rather than being “gentleman of manners.” Critically examine this statement with close reference to the novel.
3. Critics suggest that *Pride and Prejudice* is a novel that explores the connection between independence of mind and women’s individual happiness. Do you agree? Discuss with close reference to two characters in the novel.

(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)