



THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA  
 DIPLOMA IN ENGLISH / B.A. IN ENGLISH  
 AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING - LEVEL 4  
 FINAL EXAMINATION - September 2017  
 THE HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT  
 OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE - LSD2201/LSU2201  
 DURATION - THREE HOURS (03 hours)

DATE: 15. 09. 2017 TIME: 01.30 pm.- 04.30pm.

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

**PART A**

1. The invasion of Germanic Tribes to the British Isles (5<sup>th</sup> Century), is considered as the beginning of the English Language. Discuss.
2. "There is a complexity that surrounds the formation of plurals of the English Language." Explain.
3. Discuss the influence of the Classical Languages, which resulted in linguistic changes in the English Language.
4. Explain the phenomena that took place in the Early Modern English period that caused dramatic changes to the Long Vowels in English (Support your answer with examples and the relevant diagram).

(50 marks)

**PART B**

5. Discuss how the Mother Tongue variety of English spread and established in certain countries of the world, tracing the historical events which led to it. Support your answer with examples.

6. Several models for World Englishes have been introduced by various scholars. Explain any such model, supporting your answer with examples and diagrams.
7. The rising dominance of American English over British English is a major concern of some scholars. Explore this view critically, providing your own views.
8. “..... the language I speak  
Becomes mine, mine alone. It is half English, half  
Indian, funny perhaps, but it is honest,  
It is as human as I am human, don't  
You see? It voices my joys, my longings, my  
Hopes, and it is useful to me.....”

(Kamala Das, 1997)

In relation to the extract above, critically discuss the role of the Sri Lankan variety of English, giving appropriate examples.

**(50 marks)**