

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA  
DIPLOMA IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE



FINAL EXAMINATION - October 2016  
INTRODUCTION TO FICTION - LSD1211  
DURATION - THREE HOURS (03 hours)

DATE: 23.10.2016 TIME: 9.30 am. - 12.30 pm

ANSWER QUESTION 01 IN PART A, AND ONE EACH FROM PARTS B AND C.

**Part A**

1. Comment on TWO of the following extracts.

- a) Place the passage in context.
- b) Comment on the important elements in the passage.
- c) Comment on the significance of the passage to the text as a whole.

i) 'I'll buy the land. I'll give you a portion. You for your part can plant the trees for us both. Cinnamon, or cadju or whatever.'

Siri's eyes brightened. There was a slight smile playing around his lips. The smooth boyish cheeks rippled. 'Why, Sir? Why do you want to do this for me?'

Ray could say nothing except that he wanted to.

'You are good Sir, very good.'

ii) 'I will not be another Mrs. Ochoba. If my son wants to kill himself, let him do it with his own hands. It's not for me to help him'.

iii) 'Now, comrades, what is the nature of this life of ours? Let us face it: our lives are miserable, laborious, and short. We are born, we are given just so much food as will keep the breath in our bodies, and those of us who are capable of it are forced to work to the last atom of our strength; and the

very instant that our usefulness has come to an end we are slaughtered with hideous cruelty. No animal in England knows the meaning of happiness or leisure after he is a year old. No animal in England is free. The life of an animal is misery and slavery: that is the plain truth.'

(40 marks)

**Part B**

2. Which character do you feel most sympathy for in *My Son the Fanatic*? How does Hanif Kureishi present your chosen character to make you respond as you do?
3. *The Lottery* by Shirley Jackson has been described as a 'dark' and 'disturbing' short story. Do you agree or disagree? Give reasons for your answer.
4. Of the short stories that you have studied for the course – which one did you like the best? Give reasons for your answer.

(30 marks)

**Part C**

5. 'Orwell's *Animal Farm* focuses on the expectation of the animals about an ideal society and their eventual disappointment.' Discuss this statement.
6. 'From the many characters in *Animal Farm*, Boxer comes across as very admirable and kind, while Squealer is seen as a manipulative liar.' Do you agree? Support your answer with a few examples from the novel.

(30 marks)