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 THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF
 SRI LANKA
 26 SEP 2017
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 EXAMINATION DIVISION

00078



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

FINAL EXAMINATION - September 2017
 ADVANCED READING SKILLS - LSD1207
 DURATION - THREE HOURS (03 hours)

DATE: 26.09.2017 TIME: 09.30 am. - 12.30 pm

Index No:

Question No:		Marks Obtained	Maximum
Part A	1	15
Part B	2	40
Part C	3	15
	4	30
Total			100
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Name of Examiner :

Signature of Examiner :

ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS IN THIS PAPER ITSELF. DO NOT ATTACH ANY EXTRA PAPER.

Part A

1. **Fill in the blanks in the following passage with suitable words. Use only ONE word in each blank.**

Although English currently appears to be in an unassailable position in the modern world, its future as a global language is not necessarily assured. In the Middle Ages, Latin seemed forever set (1) the language of education and culture, as did French in (2) 18th century. But circumstances change, and there are (3) several factors which might precipitate such a change once (4)

There are two competing drives to take into (5) : the pressure for international intelligibility, (6) the pressure to preserve national identity. It is possible (7) a natural balance may be achieved between the two, but (8) should also (9) recognized that the historical loyalties of British ex-colonies (10) been largely replaced by pragmatic utilitarian reasoning.

The very dominance of (11) outside language or culture (12) lead to a backlash or reaction (13)..... it. People do not take kindly to having a language imposed (14) them, whatever advantage and value that language (15) bring to them.

(15 marks)

Part B

2. Read the following passage and answer the questions given below. The lines have been numbered for easy reference.

1 Globalisation refers to a variety of events that are rapidly changing the world. The
2 machine that powers globalisation, however, is the global economy. At the heart of the
3 global economy are the twin policies of privatisation and deregulation, which national
4 governments have adopted worldwide since the 1980's. Terms like free market economy,
5 level playing field, monetarism, market economy, and neo-liberalism embrace processes
6 such as privatisation and deregulation.

7 Privatisation is about putting governments out of business. The economic theory
8 behind privatisation is that, Business knows best. In this age of globalisation, our
9 governments cheerfully tell us that **they** are too **incompetent** to manage our economy, so
10 as a service to the public they will instead let the free market run it. Then our
11 governments sell off publicly owned businesses and assets, which usually end up
12 controlled by multinationals and financed by public shareholders. Competition within the
13 marketplace rather than government management, we are told, will allegedly produce
14 lower prices and better services for consumers. This is called a better standard of living,
15 which implies that the public are better off for having a privatised economy so they
16 should be happy about **it**.

17 The strange part is that governments streamline their businesses, making them
18 efficient and profitable, before they offer them for sale. If governments can do that before
19 they privatise, why were they not doing it all along? Also, if governments are competent
20 to get their businesses profitable and efficient, why not keep running **them** that way in
21 the future rather than sell them? If governments **genuinely** are that incompetent, how can
22 the public trust their competence to manage anything?

23 Why also do governments sell businesses that were always running profitably and
24 were never losing money? All these actions contradict the stated reason why privatisation

25 is allegedly necessary. They also imply a lazy, if not negligent attitude from government
26 towards citizens, whose assets they are selling off, often at undervalued prices.

27 Deregulation takes several forms. Within a country, the lifting of trade restrictions
28 and easing of government regulation in business is meant to allow business to run more
29 efficiently. The best businesses will survive the competition to give consumers a better
30 standard of living, that is, more material goods for lower prices.

31 Deregulation also applies to national currencies. Currency is no longer pegged at
32 a certain value by government decree or gold reserves, but its value is floated in the
33 global market place, where it will find its own natural level in the ocean of other global
34 currencies.

35 Deregulation does not just apply within a country though. Deregulation also
36 involves opening a country up to foreign competition. Foreign businesses can operate in
37 our country, on the basis that our country's businesses can trade in other foreign
38 countries.

39 What is the benefit from all this? A better standard of living through a wider
40 range of cheap goods is what globalisation is all about. This is what the media, politicians
41 and multinationals keep telling the public.

(By *Michael Bond*)

Questions

1) What is globalization?

(01 mark)

2) What supports globalization?

(01 mark)

- 3) a) What are the two basic policies related to the global economy?

(02 marks)

- b) When have countries around the world adopted these policies?

(01 mark)

- c) Provide two examples of implementation of these two policies in a country.

(04 marks)

- 4) How does the passage define privatization?

(02 marks)

- 5) Are the following statements "TRUE" or "FALSE"? Tick (✓) the correct answer.

- i) With globalization governments are reluctant to privatize their business and assets.

True	False
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- ii) Once governments privatize their businesses and assets ,
multinationals manage the economy.

True	False
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- iii) There is a better competition in the open market rather than when
governments manage the economy.

True	False
------	-------

- iv) Government can provide the public a better standard of living
without privatisation.

True	False
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(04 marks)

- 6) What is the strategy followed by governments prior to opening up their business
to the free market?

(02 marks)

- 7) What is expected by lifting of trade restrictions and easing of government
regulation in business?

(02 marks)

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8) According to the passage how can the best businesses survive in the competitive market?

(02 marks)

9) How does deregulation extend its application beyond a country?

(02 marks)

10) What do media, politicians and multinationals say about globalisation?

(02 marks)

11) Determine the meaning of the prefix/s and suffix/s in each of the words given.

i) incompetent in line 09

ii) genuinely in line 21

iii) multinationals in line 41

(10 marks)

12) What do the following words refer to?

i) they in line 09

ii) it in line 16

iii) them in line 20

iv) whose in line 26

v) its in line 32

(05 marks)

Part C

3. Use your note taking skills and transfer the information given in the passage (Part B) into a linear note.

(15 marks)

4. Write a summary of the passage in approximately 165 words using the grid given below.

(30 marks)

