



THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA  
 FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
 DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL STUDIES  
 LL.M IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADMINISTRATION  
 FIRST YEAR – CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT TEST I – 2014/2015  
 LWP2106 – CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION I  
 DURATION: 1 ½ HOURS

DATE: 13<sup>th</sup> June 2015

TIME: 10.00 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.

Answer One (01) question only.

Candidates will be penalized for illegible handwriting.

01. (i) What is Toxicology?  
 Name three branches of Toxicology and explain what you mean by Forensic Toxicology.
- (ii) Giving examples briefly explain the important physical and chemical characteristics that are useful for the forensic toxicologist in the identification of an unknown poison.  
 Give a case example to illustrate one character.
- (iii) Give four plants found in nature that are poisonous and the name of active poisonous ingredient in each.  
 Briefly describe the symptoms appear when "Attana" is taken orally.
- (iv) What are the possible routes of administration of poisons? Give the order according to the severity of poisoning.  
 Give one case example to illustrate injection of poison and explain how you could suspect that the death is due to injection of a poison,  
 (a) by examining the body at the post mortem examination  
 (b) from the evidence found at the crime scene investigation
- (v) Fatal dose of a poison is highly important in forensic toxicology.  
 Explain the factors affecting fatal dose.
- (vi) An unmarried mother delivered a baby. The baby was fed with extracted breast milk of the mother via a nasal-gastric tube since the baby was in an incubator. The breast milk was collected in to a sterile cup and the baby was fed with the milk given by the mother through the nasal tube. The baby started vomiting and the vomit was wiped with a piece of cloth. The stomach contents of the baby were aspirated immediately, but he

died after about two hours. In the Inquiry on the incident they found a small bottle containing a viscous liquid with strong smell with the mother.

If the police and the doctor seek your advice regarding the collection & forwarding of samples for toxicological analysis in this particular case.

- (a) How do you instruct them to collect and forward specimens to you?
- (b) What specimens do you request police to collect?
- (c) What specimens do you request from the doctor for toxicological analysis?

02. (i) What is the definition of a poison?
- (ii) Giving examples briefly explain the important of symptoms that would appear before death in a suspected case of poisoning.  
Give a case example to illustrate the importance of specific symptoms in the identification of poison in forensic toxicological analysis.
- (iii) The severity of poisoning depends on the physical form of a poison i.e. solid etc.  
Give the order of positing according to the physical form.  
  
If phosphine gas and a liquid pesticide are available as poisoning agents, which will be the most powerful poison? Why?
- (iv) What you mean by 'Synergism'?  
Give one combination of poisons which cause this effect.
- (v) A man injected a solution of cyanide to kill his wife. What characteristics make this poison a suitable homicidal agent?  
  
If you are the Judicial Medical officer, how do you suspect cyanide at the post-mortem examination? What are the suitable specimense for toxicological analysis in this case?
- (vi) A child was given a chocolate bar and a bottle of soft drink by a relative. The child developed vomiting and head-ache and admitted to the hospital. The vomit was found on the floor the child's room and the remaining piece of chocolate and the soft drink was found on the table. The child died a few hours after the admission to the hospital.  
  
If the police and the doctor seek your advice regarding the collection & forwarding of samples for toxicological analysis in this particular case.
- (a) How do you instruct them to collect and forward specimens to you?
  - (b) What specimens do you request police to collect?
  - (c) What specimens do you request from the doctor for toxicological analysis?