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**THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA**
**B. A IN ENGLISH & ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING - LEVEL 5**
**FINAL EXAMINATION - October 2013**
**THEORY & PRACTICE OF LANGUAGE TESTING - LSU 3205**
**DURATION - THREE HOURS (03 hours)**

**DATE: 23. 10. 2013** **TIME: 9.30 am. - 12.30pm**

ANSWER FOUR (04) QUESTIONS CHOOSING AT LEAST ONE EACH FROM EACH PART.

**Part A**

1. Some people believe that tests undermine the value of education. Do you agree or disagree with this view? Support your answer giving examples where necessary.

**(25 marks)**

2. Validity and reliability are two key principles which are to be followed when designing tests. Define these two principles and explain how these can be maintained in a language test.

**(25 marks)**

3. Discuss the difference between the following:

   a) Criterion referenced testing - Norm referenced testing

   b) Direct testing- Indirect testing

   c) Objective testing –Subjective testing

**(25 marks)**

**Part B**

4. Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs) are commonly used to assess students' reading comprehension. Discuss points to be considered when constructing MCQs. Give appropriate examples to elaborate your answer.

**(25 marks)**

5. a) Scoring of a writing test is considered somewhat subjective. Explain possible causes of scorer subjectivity and suggest measures to minimize this.

   b) Design scoring criteria for assessing an argumentative essay for which the allocated mark is 25.

**(25 marks)**

**Part C**

6. Construct a test of speaking to be administered to thirty Grade 10 students in a government school. Explain how you are going to administer the test. Design scoring criteria for 25 marks.

**(25 marks)**

7. Imagine a test of listening comprehension in which students listen to a tape-recorded conversation between two people and then either

   a) respond to Multiple Choice Questions about the conversation or

   b) write short answers to open-ended questions about the conversation.

Compare the task demands of each test method (a & b) and consider when each would be appropriate.

**(25 marks)**