THE OPENUNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

B. A IN ENGLISH & ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING - LEVEL 5

FINAL EXAMINATION - October 2015

THEORY & PRACTICE OF LANGUAGE TESTING - LSU 3205

DURATION - THREE HOURS (03 hours)

DATE: 15. 10. 2015 TIME: 9.30 am. - 12.30pm

ANSWER PART (A) AND THREE (03) OTHER QUESTIONS CHOOSING AT LEAST ONE EACH FROM PART (B) AND PART (C).

Part A

1. **Underline the most appropriate answer.**

1. The tendency of test scores to be consistent on two or more occasions of testing, if there is no real change in the test takers' knowledge, is known as
    a. Validity
    b. Reliability
    c. Practicality
    d. Authenticity

2. The process of quantification of characteristics or attributes, according to explicit procedures and rules, is known as
    a. Testing
    b. Evaluation
    c. Measurement
    d. Assessment

3. The systematic process of collecting and analyzing data in order to make decisions is known as
    a. Testing
    b. Evaluation
    c. Assessment
    d. Measurement

4. Which of the following is an example of a direct test?

   a. a listening test that expects the candidates to write long answers
   b. a reading test that expects the candidates to write a summary of a given text
   c. a writing test that expects the candidates to fill in the blanks
   d. a speaking test that expects the candidate to make an oral presentation

5. A proficiency test is designed to determine

   a. the amount of knowledge/skill acquired by a person, usually as a result of classroom instruction.
   b. a person's ability, regardless of any training s/he may have received.
   c. a person's strengths and weaknesses in a certain area of study.
   d. specific knowledge or proficiency in various subjects for the purpose of assignment to appropriate courses.

6. In a/an ..... test, no judgement is required on the part of the scorer.

   a. Objective
   b. Subjective
   c. Criterion-referenced
   d. Norm-referenced

7. ..... entails having the test taker combine many language elements in the completion of some task.

   a. Criterion-referenced testing
   b. Integrative Testing
   c. Discrete-point testing
   d. Objective testing

8. ..... relate one candidate's performance to that of other candidates.

   a. Criterion-referenced testing
   b. Integrative Testing
   c. Discrete-point testing
   d. Norm-referenced testing

9. Which of the following statement is true?

   a. A reliable test is always valid.
   b. A valid test is always reliable.
   c. A reliable test is always authentic.
   d. A valid test is always authentic

10. Which of the following is an advantage of using multiple choice questions?

   a. scoring can be done objectively
   b. setting is easy
   c. productive skills can be checked.
   d. students can score marks easily.

(25 marks)

Part B

2. List 03 types of testing techniques that can be used to test reading comprehension of secondary school students. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of those techniques, giving examples where necessary.

(25 marks)

3. What problems do examiners face when assessing essays? Suggest steps that can be taken to minimize those problems.

(25 marks)

Part C

4. Imagine that you need to administer a speech test to a class of thirty G. C. E.(Ordinary Level) students. Describe two tasks you would use to assess their speaking skills. What problems would you encounter in administering the test? Discuss your plans to overcome the anticipated problems.

(25 marks)

5. Write short notes on each of the following terms, comparing and contrasting where relevant.

   a) holistic marking and analytic marking

   b) formative assessment and summative assessment

   c) direct testing and indirect testing

(25 marks)

6. Use the following 'Weather Forecast', issued by the Department of Meteorology, and design a listening test to be administered to Grade Nine students in a government school.

- Duration of the test: 15 minutes
- Total marks : 25

Explain how you would conduct the test. Provide the answer key and show how the marks are allocated.

WEATHER FORECAST FOR 29th SEPTEMBER 2015

Showers or thunder showers will develop over most parts of the island during the afternoon and night.

Thunder showers will develop in most parts of the island after 2.00 p.m. Showers or thunder showers will occur in the Western, Southern and Sabaragamuwa provinces during the morning, too. Heavy rain falls (more than 100mm) are also expected in some places.

There may be temporary localized strong winds during thunder showers. The general public is kindly requested to take adequate precautions to minimize damage caused by lightning.

(25 marks)