THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
DIPLOMA IN ENGLISH - LEVEL 4
FINAL EXAMINATION - June 2007
FORMS OF FICTION - LSD 2204
DURATION - THREE HOURS (03 hours)

DATE: 02. 06. 2007 TIME: 9.30 am. - 12.30pm.

ANSWER QUESTION (1), AND ANY TWO OTHERS, SELECTING ONE EACH FROM PART B AND PART C.

Part A

1) **Identify two (02) of the following passages and comment on their significance to the text from which they are taken.**

i) *Noting the other's interest in his speech, Muni felt encouraged to ask, 'How many children have you?' with appropriate gestures with his hands. Realizing that a question was being asked, the red man replied, 'I said a hundred,' which encouraged Muni to go into details. 'How many of your children are boys and how many girls? Where are they? Is your daughter married? Is it difficult to find a son-in-law in your country also?'*

ii) *'I don't want to do anything that you don't want to do.'*
'Nor that isn't good for me,' she said. 'I know. Could we have another beer?'
'All right. But you've got to realize --- '
'I realize,' the girl said. 'Can't we maybe stop talking?'

iii) *'Forgive me as you are forgiven! I forgive you, Angel.'*
'You – yes, you do.'
'But you do not forgive me?'

'Forgiveness does not apply to the case. You were one person; now you are another. How can forgiveness meet such a grotesque prestidigitation as that?'

iv) *'I wouldn't ask too much of her,' I ventured. 'You can't repeat the past.'*
'Can't repeat the past!' he cried incredulously. 'Why of course you can!'
He looked around him wildly, as if the past were lurking here in the shadow of his house, just out of reach of his hand.

(40 marks)

Part B

2) Would you say that **The Great Gatsby** is a novel in which the themes, to a large extent are expressed through its characters? Give reasons for your answer.

3) 'Tess is a tragic heroine, but she does have flaws.' Discuss these flaws and the ways in which they lead to her destruction, in relation to Hardy's novel **Tess of the D'urbervilles**.

(30 marks)

Part C

4) A critic has once said the protagonist of Joyce's **The Dead** is 'a man of words without the ability to communicate.' Do you agree with this view?

5) Discuss the theme of failed relationships in relation to either **The Odour of Chrysanthemums** or **Hills Like White Elephants**.

(30 marks)