THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

DIPLOMA IN ENGLISH - LEVEL 4

FINAL EXAMINATION - July 2011

POETRY - LSD 2206

DURATION - THREE HOURS (03 hours)

DATE: 24. 07. 2011 TIME: 1.30 pm. - 4.30pm.

ANSWER QUESTION 01 AND ANY TWO QUESTIONS FROM PART B.

Part A

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

i) *The river's tent is broken: the last fingers of leaf*
Clutch and sink into the wet bank. The wind
Crosses the brown land, unheard. The nymphs are
departed..

ii) *How to recall such music, when the street*
Darkens? Among the rain and stone places
I find only an ancient sadness falling,
Only hurrying and troubled faces

iii) *The gaps I mean,*
No one has seen them made or heard them made,
But at spring mending – time we find them there.
I let my neighbour know beyond the hill;
And on a day we meet to walk the line

And set the wall between us once again.
We keep the wall between us as we go.

(40 marks)

Part B

4. At the end of his epic poem 'The Wasteland' T.S. Eliot offers spiritual hope for the waste-landers through eastern religious thought. Take one character of the poem and explore how Eliot's suggested religious tenants could have changed his / her life.

5. "Larkin's poems encourage debates between opposite ideas whereby the end result is a practical suggestion". Do you agree? Discuss with close reference to the poetry you have studied.

6. "The readers of Robert Forest's poetry are surprised by the move from simple surface details to wise suggested meanings." Do you agree with this statement? Discuss with reference to **at least three poems** that you have studied.

(60 marks)