THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
DIPLOMA IN ENGLISH - LEVEL 4
FINAL EXAMINATION - July 2011
FORMS OF FICTION - LSD 2204
DURATION - THREE HOURS (03 hours)

DATE: 23. 07. 2011 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 extracts and comment on their significance to the text from which they are taken.**

i) The night was very dark. In the great bay of railway lines, bulked with trucks, there was no trace of light, only away back she could see a few yellow lamps at the pit-top, and the red smear of the burning pit-bank on the night. She hurried along the edge of the track, then, crossing the converging lines, came to the stile by the white gates, whence she emerged on the road. Then the fear which had led her shrank. People were walking up to New Brinsley; she saw the lights in the houses; twenty yards further on were the broad windows of the 'Prince of Wales', very warm and bright, and the loud voices of men could be heard distinctly.

ii) Then he took from his waistcoat pocket a little paper and glanced at the headings he had made for his speech. He was undecided about the lines from Robert Browning for he feared they would be above the heads of his hearers. Some quotation that they could recognise from Shakespeare or from the Melodies would be better. The indelicate clacking of the men's heels and the shuffling of their soles reminded him that their grade of culture differed from his. He would only make himself ridiculous by quoting poetry to them which they could not understand.

iii) 'I told him the truth,' he said. 'He came to the door while we were getting ready to leave, and when I sent down word that we weren't in he tried to force his way upstairs. He was crazy enough to kill me if I hadn't told him who owned the car. His hand was on a revolver in his pocket every minute he was in the house -'He broke off defiantly. 'What if I did tell him? That fellow had it coming to him. He threw dust into your eyes just like he did in Daisy's, but he was a tough one. He ran over Myrtle like you'd run over a dog and never even stopped his car.

iv) 'And we could have all this', she said. 'And we could have everything and everyday we make it more impossible'.
'What did you say?'
'I said we could have everything'
'No, we can't'

(40 marks)

Part B

2) Discuss the role played by money and social status in "The Great Gatsby" in relation to the following.

(i) The revival of Gatsby's relationship with Daisy.
(ii) The final breakdown of the relationship between Daisy and Gatsby.

3) In their treatment of Tess Durbeyfield, Angel Clare and Alec d'Urberville embody the good and evil man, respectively. To what extent would you agree with this statement? Discuss, citing three (03) examples from the text to substantiate your answer. Please note that these examples are to be used to support your argument. Plot narration is not required.

(30 marks)

Part C

4) To what extent would you agree with the statement that James Joyce's *The Dead* "is a short story about a self-absorbed man named Gabriel Conroy, whose life is altered, the moment his wife, Gretta confesses her unrelenting feelings towards her deceased, childhood love" ? Comment.

5) 'With subtle humour, Narayan brings to light the conflict between the rich and the poor and the Indian and Western culture' discuss this with examples from the story *A Horse and two Goats.*

(30 marks)