

G.C.E. A/L EXAMINATION

General English - I

Grade 12

Time : 3 Hours

Part A - Grammar

(40 marks)

01. Fill in the blanks with a suitable preposition from the list given below.

Three youth aged (i)..... is to 19 (ii)..... Ukgalboda, Kalutara drowned yesterday when they were bathing (iii) the Kaluganga (iv)..... Galtotupola in Ukgalboda in Kalutara North.

The three youth reportedly drowned (v) 10 a.m. yesterday and their bodies were recovered (vi)..... 12.45 p.m. (vii)..... the support (viii)..... the Police, Navy and the people in the area.

The bodies were taken (ix) Nagoda Hospital (x) two days.

around, after, between, in, around, to, with, from, at, with

(10 marks)

02. Fill in each blank with the correct form of the verb given in brackets.

A small child was walking down a foot path and saw an old man (i)..... (try) to load paddy sacks onto a cart. "You (ii) (look) tired", Why (3)..... (do) You rest for a while and I (iv)..... (help) you." "No thank you" said the old man. "I don't like to (v) a problem to you". "It (vi) (do not) matter" said the child. The child (vii)..... (ask) the man (viii) (take) a rest for a while. Again the old man protested that he (ix) (do) not like to trouble you. But the child said, "I'd (x)..... (like) help you".

(10 marks)

03. Construct questions to get the words underlined as answers.

(i) My sister is fifteen years old.

.....

(ii) That is Ruvani's book.

.....

(iii) The boy is absent because he is ill.

.....

(iv) Monica goes to school by bus.

.....

(v) She works in a bank.

.....

(05 marks)

04. Re-write the following phrases in the correct order to construct meaningful sentences.

(i) invited / to / one / me / of my friends / join / ride / him / for a / bicycle.

.....

(ii) science / today / in / we / an area / are / of / and / living / technology

.....

(iii) produce / is / crops / rain / necessary / to

.....

(iv) most / spoken / English / in / world / the language / is / widely / the

.....

(v) widen / reading / knowledge / helps / to / our

.....

(05 marks)

05. Fill in each blank with a suitable word from the list given below.

A rare white faced deer rejected by mom, has (i)..... the love of a human surrogate (ii)..... can't imagine how one can reject such a (iii)..... cutie, whose story reminds one so much (iv)..... Bambi. This (v)..... looking fawn has the cutest colouration. a white face, pink nose, and a (vi)..... coat that's a (vii) of brown and pure white.

The white (viii) fawn has a sad story. Because of his piebald face, he was (ix) by his mother, (x) the owners of Deer Tracks Junction in U S A, to care for the animal.

Lovable, peculiar, beautiful, rejected, found, leaving, mother, mixture, faced, about

(10 marks)

Part B - Comprehension

(20 marks)

01. Of the options given below, each sentence, underline the one that expresses its meaning.

- (a) My brother knows a lot about it than my sister.
- My brother knows a lot about it than he knows about me.
 - My sister does not know anything about it, but my brother knows a lot.
 - My sister knows something about it, but my brother know a lot more.
 - My brother does not know about it.
- (b) Following the popularity of his first two films, it's no surprise that his latest production has been successful.
- His first two films were popular and as everybody expected, his latest production was successful.
 - His first two films were not successful.
 - His latest production was more successful than the first two films.
 - It's not strange that his latest one has been successful.
- (c) There is likely to be rain everywhere today except in Kandy.
- There will be rain in Colombo today.
 - It is likely that there will be rain in Colombo.
 - It rained everywhere today.
 - It may rain everywhere today.
- (d) If I study hard, I will pass the exam.
- I will study hard and I'll pass the exam.
 - I will pass the exam.
 - I am studying.
 - I will not pass the exam, if I study hard.
- (e) Despite falling mid-way through the race, she won.
- She won the race although she had fallen mid-way in the race.
 - She won the race as she fell down.
 - She won the race, but she fell down.
 - She had already won the race, when she fell down.

(5 marks)

02. Read the following text and do the activities that follow.

In North - West America, in July 1985, there was a volcanic eruption which caused a toxide gas leak that devastated the area. At least 1200 people were killed and many were left seriously ill with burns and respiratory infections. Nobody could escape because there was no warning, just a loud explosion followed by a terrific smell like that of rotten eggs, and within a short time, the entire area around Lake Nyos, which was the site of the eruption, was shrouded in fumes. It was as if a neutron bomb had exploted destroying nothing but killing all life.

- A. Write one word for each blank selecting from the passage, which means the same as each of the given phrases.

(i) put an end to existence of something.

(ii) something that covers and hides.

(2 marks)

B. Write **True** or **False** beside each sentence in the space provided.

(i) Nobody could escape from volcanic eruption.

(ii) Over 1200 people were killed.

(iii) The volcanic eruption took place around Lake Nyos.

(3 marks)

03. Read the following poem and do the activities that follow.

Richard Cory

Whenever Richard Cory went down town, (05 marks)

We people on the pavement looked at him,

He was a gentleman from sole to crown,

Clean favoured, and imperially slim.

And he was always quietly arrayed,

And he was always human when he talked,

But still he fluttered pulses when he said,

"Good morning" and he glittered when he walked.

And he was rich - yes, richer than a king.

And admirably schooled in every grace,

In fine, we thought he was everything

To make us wish that we were in his place.

So on we worked, and waited for the light,

And went without the meat, and cursed the bread,

And Richard Cory, one calm summer night,

Went home and put a bullet through his head

A. Not windy

(i) like a lot

(ii)

(2 marks)

B. Write **True** / **False**

(i) Richard was a real gentleman -

(ii) he was a poor person -

(iii) He was committed suicide-

(3 marks)

02. Write a summary of the following text. You can write any number of sentences, but do not use more than 20 words.

An old patient went to a doctor and said. "Can you remember me doctor? You treated me for chest cold sometime back and asked me to be careful from water specially."

"Oh. yes I can" said the doctor. " What can I do for you now?"

"Nothing much doctor" the patient said. " But I was wondering whether it's safe for me to now take a bath!"

(6 marks)

Part D - Writing

(15 marks)

- A. Imagine that you went on a trip with your family members during your school holidays. Write a letter to your best friend, describing your journey. Give the following details about the trip.
- Who went with you
 - the places you visited
 - What you saw in those places
 - Where you stayed at night
 - any interesting experience
 - any other relevant details
- B. Read the following advertisement which appeared in the Sunday Observer 23rd May 2015, and write a letter to the secretary of English Academy asking for further details. You may ask about the date of commencement of the course, duration of the course, course fee, whether it could be paid in two instalments and any other information you require. Use about 150 words.

(15 marks)

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The secretary, English Academy, No. 235, High Level Road, Nugegoda.

G.C.E. A/L EXAMINATION

General English - II

Grade 12

Time : 2½ Hours

Part A - Vocabulary

(25 marks)

01. Underline the correct word ending selecting from those given in brackets:-

- (1) Rajendra tried to hide his nervou (s, sly, sness)
- (2) She felt anx (iety, ious, iously) until she heard the result's of her mother's medical tests.
- (3) Mrs. Fernando was presented with the gift in grat..... (itude, ful, fully) for her long service.
- (4) Santosh was deeply appreher..... (ison, sively, sive) that something might go wrong.
- (5) Saman was really disgust (ing, ed, ingly) after the punishment given to his friend by the principal. (05 marks)

02. Select any 5 words from list below and construct sentences to bring out its meaning clearly.

friendly	confidential	Qualification
complexion	curriculum	interested
encourage	devoted	borrow
smart		

(10 marks)

03. Underline the most appropriate word from those given in brackets.

- (1) The teacher incharge of sports (did, made, told) an announcement about our sportsmeet.
- (2) We are extremely sorry for the inconvenience (made, done, caused) by us.
- (3) The Minister (gave, old, made) his approval for the new building.
- (4) He (did, made, gave) an apology to the teacher for his bad behaviour.
- (5) Namal (made, did, had) an argument with his friend. (5 marks)

04. Read the following passage and match the words in column "A" with their meanings in column "B" and write the correct letter in the box provided. (5 marks)

All educational systems may ultimately be judged in terms of equality of opportunity.

This is not the same as the debates over selective versus comprehensive schooling. It is rather a matter of whether everyone has the same opportunities for educational achievement or whether elitism of one sort or another is inherent in the system.

League tables for schools and colleges may actually help unintentionally to perpetuate inequalities, while claiming to promote the raising of standards.

A

1. Ultimately

2. debates

3. achievement

4. elitism

5. perpetuate

B

a. Success in efforts

b. the belief that a society should be run by a group regarded as the best.

c. cause to continue for a long time

d. finally

e. arguments on a topic

(5 marks)

Part B - Dialogues

01. Read the following situations. How would you respond in each situation? Write one sentence to each beginning with the words given.

(1) One of your friends is asking for a favour, but you are not in a position to help him.....

I wish

(2) You have been served tea in a cafeteria but you haven't been given any sugar and you ask for it from the waiter.....

Could I

(3) You are a manager of a firm. Your private secretary has decided to leave the job suddenly and you want to know the reason.....

Why

(4) Your best friend feels uneasy in the class and complains of a pain in the chest and you ask him to see a doctor soon.....

You'd better

(5) You have to go the department of Examinations to get a certificate. You don't know how to get there. You speak to a person on the road.....

Could you

02. Fill in the missing parts of the following dialogue . You should use at least one sentence for each response.

You visit a hotel with four of your friends to have lunch. Four of you prefer to have same kind of food. You enter into the hotel and get into a conversation with one of the waitors.

- Waiter : Good morning sir, May I help you?.....
- You : (i)
- Waiter : There is a nice table right there by the window.....
- You : (ii)
- Waiter : I'll get the menu immediately.....
- You : (iii)
- Waiter : Fried rice with devilled chicken will be right away within a few minutes.....
- You : (iv)
- Waiter : Sorry sir, we don't have pie for dessert today. But we have caramel pudding.
Would you like to have them?.....
- You : (v)
- Waiter : Here's the bill sir, It's Rs.5,800/-
- You : Thank you very much.
- Waiter : You're welcom ! (5 marks)

03. Fill in the missing parts of the following dialogue appropriately, using the phrases given below. One phrase should be used only once.

- Your life can't be much fun
 - You must be mad
 - I'm going to do.....
 - Enjoy it?
 - But nothing could happen

- Mrs. Smith : My name's Sandra Smith, and (i)..... a parachute jump.
- Reporter : Mrs. Smith, you're seventy -three, and you're going to jump out of an aeroplane (ii)..... you can't be serious.
- Mrs. Smith : It really must be wonderful t look down from the sky. I've always wanted to

Part C - Comprehension

I read the following text and answer the questions that follow. Answer questions 2, 3 and 4 in complete sentences using your own words.

Today there is a television set in almost every house. In **some** countries, you can choose between as many as forty different channels. Some show only a single type of programme - news, sports, music, theater or movies. Most show different kinds of programmes, giving the viewers a wide range of entertainment to choose from. In one country a recent survey showed that the average person spend three and a half hours a day watching television. Housewives were the biggest group of viewers. They spent an average of five hours a day watching TV while **their** husbands were out at work.

For families with children a major problem is getting the children away from the television to do their homework. What **impact** then does television have on people's lives?

To find out, an unusual experiment was carried out recently. A group of forty - four families were asked to disconnect their television sets for one month. The families were studied to see how their lives were affected by not being able to watch TV during **this period**.

Four of the families found that life simply could not continue without TV, and they **withdrew** from the experiment. They said they could not find any other ways to spend their free time. Among those who successfully kept away from television, several interesting **observations** were reported.

Some parents were glad to end the daily struggle among family members to decide what programmes to watch. In some families, the family went to bed earlier. family members found other things to do such as reading, or playing volley-ball. Many families found that they had more time to talk and play among themselves without television. Dinner times were more relaxing without the pressure of TV. Children's eyesight improved in several cases.

On the other hand, some families said they greatly missed their favourite programmes. A father in one family without TV started gambling, and another began to drink heavily. Some children found that they had nothing to talk about at school; they no longer could talk about their favourite cartoons, singers or actors. Several mothers found they had less to talk about with their young children.

(1) Write **True** or **false** beside each sentence in the space given.

- a) The passage shows that fewer people are watching television nowadays. (.....)
- b) The quality of family life has improved because of television. (.....)
- c) Televisions sometimes had a bad effect on children's eyesight. (.....)
- d) Watching television often gives people things to talk about. (.....)
- e) The experiment described in the passage was a failure. (.....)

