

SOUTH EASTERN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
FIRST YEAR EXAMINATIONS IN ARTS (EXTERNAL) – 2005 / 2006
HELD IN APRIL 2006

BENG 1.11 - Basic English I

Duration: 3 hours

Index No:.....

Answer all questions. Part I should be answered on the question paper itself.

Part I

1) Fill in the passage with suitable words.

I teacher, and husband engineer.
..... is tall and slim. have got two children, a boy and a girl.
..... son is ten and name is David. daughter is eight and
..... name is Sarah; is tall and strong.

(5 marks)

2) Put the words in the right order to make meaningful sentences.

1. bus my sister to often goes work by

.....

2. father music and like both my mother my classical

.....

3. always you o'clock lunch do at have 3?

.....

4. don't children school my go on to Saturdays

.....

5. car I to by never go work

.....

(5 marks)

3) Fill in each blank with an appropriate verb

1. Arul in a big flat near the bus station.

2. Does she to work by car?

3. Her mother and father both at Fatima college.

4. There some ice cream in the fridge yesterday.

5. I in Colombo yesterday.

(5 marks)

4) Translate the following sentences into English

1. அவன் நாளை வருவான் என்று நீ நினைக்கின்றாயா?
.....
2. சுனாமியின் பின் பலர் வசதியாக இருக்கின்றார்கள்.
.....
3. கடந்த இரவு நீ எத்தனை மணிக்கு தூங்க சென்றாய்?
.....
4. நான் அவளுடைய பதிலுக்காக காத்து கொண்டிருக்கிறேன்.
.....
5. நான் ஒரு மாதத்திற்கு ஒரு தடவை சினிமாவுக்கு போகிறேன்.
.....

(10 marks)

5) Fill in each blank with the correct preposition.

1. Who is the richest woman the world?
2. Sometimes it's too noisy night.
3. How long can you go eating?
4. How do they compare you?
5. Ask them to describe a member their family.

(5 marks)

6) Choose a word or expression from the box to fill in each blank below.

a few	a little	any	enough	many
much	no	some	too	

1. Would you like more meat?' "Yes, please, but only"
2. 'Have we got any fruit?' 'There aren't apples left, and there are only bananas, but we've got a lot of oranges and pears.'
3. How people are there in your family, and how do you spend on food each week?

Cont.....

4. I'm afraid we haven't gotchairs for everybody. Some of you will have to stand or sit on the floor.
5. Have you got a double room for two nights?' I'm sorry, madam, there are double room left. But we could give you two singles for the price of a double.'
6. I used to borrow my mother's clothes, but now they're small for me.
7. James is only sixteen. He's not oldto drive. (5 marks)

7) Read the passage and answer the questions that follow in the spaces provided.

Jane's great passion in life was animals. She had dozens of books about them. The walls of her bedroom were covered with pictures of animals, just as other girls of her age had posters of pop stars. 3

She used to keep animals in the garden and, if she could, she brought them into the house too. Usually, however, her mother caught her. "Get those animals out of here!" she used to shout. "If you must keep them, use the shed at the end of the garden!" 6

Most of Jane's animals were quite small: rabbits, mice, birds, that sort of thing. But one day something quite big came her way. 8

Jane's mother noticed that she was spending quite a lot of time in the shed. She also noticed that food was disappearing from the house, especially bread and fruit. One evening she decided to go down to the shed to see for herself. As she stood outside the door, she could hear Jane talking to someone inside. "She's got a friend in there with her," she thought. She opened the door and looked in. At first she could only see Jane sitting on the ground. Then she made out the shape of an animal sitting beside Jane. Two huge eyes stared up at her. She nearly screamed. It was a gorilla! 16

"Jane! Where on earth ... ?" she started to say. But then she remembered. A few days before, a young gorilla escaped from the zoo and, in spite of every effort to find it, the animal had simply vanished. 19

"I found it wandering through the park," Jane explained. "It seemed so lonely! I talked to it and we became friends at once. And then it followed me back here..." 21

"Well, you know you can't keep it," her mother said. "You'd better phone the police and explain." 23

Not long after, the police came and also a van from the zoo. Nobody was even angry with Jane when she told her story. The police knew all about Jane and her animals. Cont.....

And the zoo keeper said, "I can see that Gor likes you. We need him back at the zoo, but you can come and see him as often as you like. We'll send you a free pass!"

These days Jane has almost given up collecting small animals. But you can often find her talking to her friend Gor at the zoo! 29

A) Answer the questions using complete sentences.

1. What Jane was interested in?

.....

2. What did mother do when Jane tried to take animals into the house?

.....

3. Why did Jane's mother go to the shed?

.....

4. Who informed the police?

.....

5. Who did the gorilla belong to?

.....

B) Say which words or phrases are referred to by the underlined pronouns.

1 Jane had pictures of animals there. Ex.in the bedroom

2 Jane kept animals there.

3 Jane found the gorilla there.

4 The police went there.

5 Jane often goes there these days.

C) State whether the following sentences are True or False. Write 'T' or 'F' in the first blank and write the line number in the second blank to support your answer.

1. Jane always kept animals in her bedroom.

2. Jane took a lot of fruit from the house.

3. Jane wasn't afraid of the gorilla.

4. Jane is in jail now.

5. Jane first saw the gorilla in the zoo.

(20 marks)

8) Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

Educationally speaking

Although education is compulsory in the United States, it is not compulsory for all children to get their education at school. A number of parents believe that they can provide a better education at home. Children who are educated at home are known as 'home-schoolers'. There are about 300,000 home-schoolers in the United States today. Some parents prefer teaching their children at home because they do not believe that state schools teach the correct religious values; others believe they can provide a better educational experience themselves. Interestingly, results show that home-schooled children tend to do better than average on national tests in reading and maths.

David Guterson is an American writer. He and his wife teach their three children themselves. Guterson says that his children learn very differently from children in a regular school. Learning starts with the children's interests and questions. For example, when there is heavy snowfall on a winter's day, it may start a discussion or reading about climate, snow removal equipment, Alaska, polar bears and winter tourism. On a spring evening the stars are out, the family sets up a telescope and the children ask questions about satellites, comets, meteors and the U.S. space programme. At dinner, if the Brazilian rainforests have been on the news, it could be a perfect time to get out the atlas and encyclopedia. Then there might be two hours or more of eating, asking questions, looking up answers, discovering how rain forests influence the climate, what the 'greenhouse effect' is, how deserts are formed and how the polar ice caps affect ocean levels.

Although home schooling offers an experience that is often more interesting than regular schools, critics point out that home-schoolers miss out on many important things. The home-schooler is an outsider who, because he or she never attended school, might be uncomfortable mixing with other people in adult life. Critics also say that most parents are not well qualified to teach their own children. However, most parents don't have the time or desire to teach their children at home, so schools will continue to be the places where most children get their formal education.

A) Find words in the text that mean the same as the following.

- I. required by law (para. 1)
- II. are likely (para. 1)
- III. have an effect on (para. 2)
- V. embarrassing (para 3)

B) Answer these questions

1. How many children in the United States study at home?

.....
.....

2. Why do some parents prefer to teach their own children?

.....
.....
.....

3. How do the Gutersons choose what to teach their children?

.....
.....
.....

4. What are two criticisms of home schooling?

.....
.....
.....

(15 Marks)

Part II

(30 marks)

- 9) You have completed a degree and are searching for a job, but so far you have been unsuccessful. Write a letter to your friend in Australia explaining the difficulties you face in finding a good job here, and ask him or her for help.
- 10) You are a graduate in your final semester at university. You are leaving the campus next month and would like to sell some of the items you own (calculator, cassette recorder, rice cooker, etc.) Prepare a notice to be displayed on the campus wall.
- 11) What is one of the worst problems in your town or city? What should be done to overcome the problem? Write a paragraph of around 15 lines.