

SOUTH EASTERN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
FIRST YEAR EXAMINATIONS IN ARTS (EXTERNAL) – 2005 / 2006
HELD IN APRIL 2006
BENG 1.21- Basic English II

Duration: 3 hours

Index No:.....

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

Part I

1) Use the correct form of the suitable verbs given in brackets to fill the blanks.

1. I you when I..... . (phone, arrive)
2. If you the last train tomorrow, you a problem.
Sometimes there aren't any taxis waiting at the station. (take, have)
3. I am afraid I can't work late tonight. My partner's sister to dinner
and I have to get home early. (come)
4. Shall I you carry those books ? (help)
5. I don't know where Judy is. She said she here at 7. (be)
6. If I a million rupees, I and live on an island in
the Pacific. (have, go)
7. Nobody me! Why am I so unpopular? (like)

(5 marks)

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

1. glad hear I job liked new that to was you your

.....

2. easy her is very work

.....

3. either German I Japanese learn or to want

.....

4. grandmother is my nice talk to to very

.....

5. 4.30 at meeting's on the Thursday

.....

(5 marks)

3) Complete the sentences with appropriate words.

1. Most paper is made wood.
2. The first working aeroplane was made Wilbur Wright.
3. Did you see that child the beautiful brown eyes?
4. What is your handbag made?
5. I think that Robin and Chris are in love with
6. Do you ever talk to when there's nobody else in the room?
7. Children do some of the housework themselves.
8. Judy and I play the guitar, but of us sings very well.
(5 marks)

4) Put 'a', 'an', or 'the' if necessary. Leave it blank if they are not necessary.

1. oil was discovered in Texas early in the twentieth century.
2. Washington home of President of the United States is called White House.
3. Most of meat eaten in Britain is British.
4. My sister is banker. She works for biggest bank in Colombo, and she has office in middle of city.
(5 marks)

5) Fill each gap with the correct passive form of the verb given in brackets.
The first one is done for you.

Ice cream is definitely the world's favourite dessert. In Europe alone, about €11 billion a year is spent (spend) on ice cream. More ice cream (eat) per person in Australia than in any other country: 16.6 litres per year.

A form of ice cream (eat) in China about 4,000 years ago. It (make) of milk, rice, fruit and a secret ingredient - snow!

Ice cream (bring) to Europe in the sixteenth century, but at that time only the super-rich could afford it. When the Italian princess Catherine de Medici married the future King Henry II of France in 1853, a different variety of ice-cream (serve) everyday for a month!

The first ice cream cone (made) in New York City on September 22nd, 1886. The maker, Italo Marchiony, (give) a patent on his cone in 1903.

The world's most popular flavour is vanilla, which (produce) from vanilla beans. Eighty per cent of the world's vanilla beans (grow) on the island of Madagascar off the coast of Africa. More ice cream (sell) on Sunday than on any other day of the week.

(5 marks)

6) Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Friday For once I have something important to put in my diary. Normally I have to *think* of something to write about – but today was different. Something special happened: I lost my job! Well, I'm going to bed now. I'll think about it in the morning.

Monday I woke up at 6.30. The sun was shining. The birds were singing, etc. For a while I felt really happy. Then I remembered: I didn't have a job. I could stay in bed all morning - but I didn't want to. I went into the kitchen and made myself some tea. I sat drinking it by the window. People were hurrying to work. Some of them didn't look very happy. Perhaps they didn't want to work. "Fools!" I wanted to shout at them. "You fools! At least you have jobs!"

Later I went along to the Job Centre. I filled in a form and had an interview with a clerk. She was quite pleasant, really, but she asked me a lot of silly questions! Anyway, she didn't have a job to offer me. I have to go back there on Wednesday.

Tuesday I called in at the bank today and checked my account. At least I'm not short of money - for the moment. Then I walked past the office where I used to work. Through the windows I could see people working inside. I felt envious! Afterwards, I sat in a cafe, thinking. If there's nothing at the Job Centre tomorrow, I'll ring my old friend Liz. She usually has some ideas.

Wednesday I saw a different clerk at the Job Centre today. He was not very encouraging. "You need to get some training," he said. "In computers, for example." In short, they still haven't got a job for me! I'm definitely going to ring Liz in the morning.

Friday I rang Liz twice yesterday but I couldn't get an answer. I felt very depressed. Then I went for a long walk and I felt much better. I came home and watched a TV programme - about unemployment! That depressed me again!

Saturday I finally managed to get through to Liz this morning. Actually, she was *pleased* when she heard I was looking for a job! "Good!" she said. "Just come and see me tomorrow, Rose, and I'll tell you all about my plans!" Then she rang off. So I'm going to see her tomorrow. But what are her plans, I wonder?

A) Choose the right answer.

1. On Monday morning Rose did not have to go to work. She felt ...
a) pleased b) sad c) tired
2. When she went to the Job Centre the first time, Rose ...
a) talked to a clerk b) nearly got a job c) wrote some letters
3. On her second visit to the Job Centre, the clerk told Rose ...
a) to prepare for a new job b) to get a computer c) to go back to her old office
4. Rose is probably going to get a job ...
a) at a Job Centre b) on TV c) with a friend

B) Say when (what day) Rose did these things.

- 1 ... walked past her office
- 2 ... went for a long walk
- 3 ... first went to the Job Centre
- 4 ... went to see Liz
- 5 ... spoke to Liz
- 6 ... visited her bank
- 7 ... went back to the Job Centre
- 8 ... tried unsuccessfully to speak to Liz
- 9 ... watched people going to work
- 10 ... watched a TV programme about unemployment

(15 marks)

7) Read the passage and answer the questions below.

Scientists are finally beginning to unlock the secret everyone has been dying to know: just how long can we live? They confidently predict that in the 21st Century people will be living to the incredible age of 130. And this is just the start.

Experts studying the process of aging believe it is possible that people will live long enough to have great-great-great-great-great-grandchildren. This prediction is based on research and on the fact that the centenarian population is mushrooming as our general health improves. There are around 4,000 people over the age of 100 in Britain - ten times more than 30 years ago. Dr Vijg, a Dutch biologist, is the co-ordinator of a project which is studying the growing senior citizen population. Dr Vijg and his colleagues are looking at our genes, which they believe hold the key to what kills us early or late in life.

A century ago, average life expectancy in Europe was 45. Today, providing we look after ourselves, drive our cars carefully, and cut down on things like butter, alcohol and cigarettes, we can add nearly 30 years to that figure. Dr Vijg reckons that by the year 2000 we will all have added a couple more years to our lives. But that is nothing compared to what will happen once scientists have cracked the secret of our genes. Some of the problem genes have already been tracked down,

like those that cause hemophilia and muscular dystrophy. Dr Vijg says, "Nobody dies from old age - just from diseases that affect people as they get older." And he forecasts that within 30 years, science will be preparing people for longer lives. "Already killer diseases are being eradicated," he says. "About 50% of cancers are curable, and I really believe that this will increase to 80%."

There are also encouraging developments in the fight against AIDS, and although a vaccine will not be available for some time, experts are cautiously hopeful that by early in the next century the disease will have been brought under control. Doctors believe that the death rate from the biggest killers - diseases of the circulatory system - will decline as man comes to his senses about giving up smoking and eating more healthily. Dr Vijg points to experiments with animals in laboratories. "Those given less food, but of a higher quality, lived to the human equivalent of 150 years."

Dr Vijg believes that as life span increases, so will other expectations. Women will be having babies at an older age. "More and more women are having their first child when they are over 30," he says. "In another ten years, people might think it normal for a woman of 50 to be having her first child."

What about living forever? Will eternal life ever become a reality? "So far, that is science fiction," says Dr Vijg. "Theoretically it is possible, but it will be another hundred, perhaps two hundred years before we know all the secrets of our genes."

A) Answer these questions in complete sentences.

1) Why does the writer think that people's general health has increased?

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

2) Why is hemophilia mentioned in the passage?

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

3) What do the animal experiments mentioned in the article show us?

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

4) What does Dr. Vijg say about eternal life?

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

- 5) What, according to the passage, are the greatest killer diseases and how can they be brought under control?

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

B) Text references

What do the words and phrases in bold in the text refer to?

They (para. 1)

This (para. 1)

he (para. 3)

those (para. 4)

it (para. 6)

c) Give short answers to the following questions.

- 1) What was the average number of people over the age of one hundred in Britain 30 years ago?
- 2) What is the average age of human beings in the 21st century?
- 3) What is the average life expectancy in Europe today?
- 4) How many years did the animals in the laboratory live?
- 5) In future what will be the average age of women when they have their first baby?

(20 marks)

Part II (Use separate sheets for your answers.)

(40 marks)

- 8) The faults and the problems mentioned in the paragraph below are mixed up. Rewrite the paragraph and reorder the words underlined. **Marks will be deducted for spelling mistakes in the rewritten version.**

My house is a crazy place. So many things have ran out that I don't know where to start. The television leaks, the motor in the washing machine has no sound and the guarantee on the vacuum cleaner stopped working just before it has broken down. In addition, the shower fixed and the bed is never gone wrong. The place looks a complete mess but I just don't have the time to get everything made.

- 9) You have to leave your office urgently, but your friend is coming to meet you. Therefore, you decide to leave a message for him or her. Write that message, including an appropriate reason for your absence and mentioning a possible time to meet him or her. **Do not use more than 50 words.**
- 10) You work for the Tourist Board. You have been asked to prepare a small brochure (information sheet) **one page** in length to persuade the people to visit the east coast, in particular Ulle in the Pottuvil region. Prepare the brochure using appropriate captions, wordings, etc.
- 11) You have heard there is a vacancy at GOAL International, an NGO based in Kalmunai, for the post of secretary. Write a formal letter of application including the following:
- Your qualifications
 - Your experience
 - How you would fit into the job, etc.

The address is 234, *Main Street, Kalmunai.*