NATIONAL EVALUATION & TESTING SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF EXAMINATIONS - SRI LANKA
G.C.E. (A/L) EXAMINATION - 2011

MARKING SCHEME

13 - General English

This has been prepared for the use of marking examiners. Some changes would be made according to the views presented at the chief examiner's meeting. We are of the view that this could be used as a teaching aid in the classroom.
PART A - GRAMMAR (40 marks)

I. Fill in each blank with a suitable preposition from the list given below. Use each preposition only once.

in for to down out after at out of around of

A husband and wife were driving down a village road when they came (1) ... to ........ a muddy patch and the car got bogged. (2) ... After ........ a few minutes (3) of .......... trying to get the car (4) out .........., they saw a young farmer coming (5) ... down ... the lane driving some oxen before him. The farmer stopped when he saw the couple (6) ... in .......... trouble and offered to pull the car out of the mud (7) ... for ......... Rs. 250. The husband accepted and minutes later the car was free. The farmer turned to the husband and said, "You know, you’re the tenth car I’ve helped (8) ... out of ...... the mud today." The husband looked (9) ... around ... the field incredulously and asked, "When do you have time to plough your land?" (10) at .......... night?" "No," the young farmer replied seriously. "Night is the time when I put water in the hole."

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

(10 marks)

A priest was walking down a village road and saw a young farmer struggling (1) ... to load .... (load) hay back onto a cart after it (2) had fallen .... (fall) off. "You (3) are looking/look tired, my son" said the priest. "Why (4) ............... you ... rest .......... (rest) a moment and I am going to give ... shall/will give ... (give) you a hand." will not / won’t / may not "No thanks," said the young man. "My father (6) ... would not like ...... (not like) it." "Don’t be silly," the priest said. "Everyone (7) is/must be / should be ... (entitle) to a break. (8) ... Come ............ (come) and have a drink of water." Losing, Again the young man protested that his father would be upset. (9) / Having lost (lose) his patience, the priest said, "Your father (10) must be ... (be) a real slave-driver. Tell me where I can find him and I’ll give him a piece of my mind. should be / is "Well," replied the young farmer, "he’s under the hay!"
III. Construct questions to get the words in bold print as answers. (05 marks)

1. My brother is **ten years old**.
   **How old is your brother**?

2. That is Ravi’s book.
   **Whose book is that? Whose book is it?**

3. The baby is crying because it is **hungry**.
   **Why is the baby crying**?

4. Manel goes to school by bus.
   **How does Manel go to school**?

5. He works in a hospital.
   **Where does he work**?

IV. Rewrite the following phrases in the correct order to construct meaningful sentences. (05 marks)

1. a lovely day / but / for a walk / I am too tired / it is
   **It is a lovely day for a walk but I am too tired. It is a lovely day but I am too tired for a walk.**

2. too late / the application / that it is / I told him / to send
   **I told him that it is too late to send the application.**

3. not theirs / is ours / this house
   **This house is ours not theirs.**

4. over there / on engineering / in that section / are / the books
   **The books on engineering are over there in that section. The books on engineering are over there in that section.**

5. the best / your parents / the most / make / so / have given / you / of your life
   **Your parents have given you the best so make the most of your life.**

V. Fill in each blank with a suitable word from the list given below. (10 marks)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>fallen</th>
<th>when</th>
<th>participate</th>
<th>silence</th>
<th>other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If was a sports stadium. Eight children were standing on the track to (1) **participate** in a running event.

Ready! Steady!! Bang !!! With the sound of a toy pistol, all eight girls started (2) **running**. Hardly had they covered ten to fifteen steps, (3) **when** one of the smaller girls slipped and fell down. Due to bruises and (4) **pain** she started crying. When the (5) **other** seven girls heard the little girl cry they stopped running, stood for a while and (6) **turned** back. Seeing the girl on the track they all ran to (7) **help** her. One among them bent down, and kissed her gently and enquired as to how she was. They then lifted the (8) **fallen** girl pacifying her. Two of them held her firmly while all seven joined hands and walked (9) **together** towards the winning post.

There was pin drop (10) **silence** at the spectator’s stand. Officials were shocked. Slow claps multiplied to thousands as the spectators stood up in appreciation. Many eyes were filled with tears.

YES. This happened in Hyderabad [India], recently! The sport was conducted by the National Institute of Mental Health. All these special girls had come to participate in this event. They were spastic children. Yes, they were Mentally Challenged.

What did they teach the WORLD? Team work!
PART B - COMPREHENSION (20 marks)

I. Of the options given below each sentence (in bold print), underline the one that best expresses its meaning.

(a) I know a lot more about computers than my sister does.
   (i) I know a lot more about computers than I know about my sister.
   (ii) My sister does not know anything about computers, but I know a lot.
   (iii) My sister knows something about computers, but I know a lot more.
   (iv) I know that my sister does not know anything about computers.

(b) Following the popularity of his first two films, it's no surprise that his latest production has been successful.
   (i) His first two films were not popular but his latest one was successful.
   (ii) His first two films were popular and as everybody expected, his latest one has been successful.
   (iii) His latest production was more successful than the first two films.
   (iv) It's not strange that his latest production has been successful, but it is unbelievable that his first two films were popular.

(c) There is likely to be rain everywhere today except in Colombo.
   (i) It rained everywhere today except in Colombo.
   (ii) There will be no rain anywhere today except in Colombo.
   (iii) It may rain everywhere today except in Colombo.
   (iv) It is likely that there will be rain in Colombo today.

(d) I rarely need to go into the city centre except to do some shopping.
   (i) I always go into the city centre but I do not do any shopping there.
   (ii) I rarely go into the city centre and I do not do any shopping there.
   (iii) It is mainly to do some shopping that I go into the city centre.
   (iv) I do not need to go into the city centre to do any shopping.

(e) Despite falling midway through the race, she won.
   (i) She could have won the race if she had not fallen midway through the race.
   (ii) She had already won the race when she fell down.
   (iii) She won the race although she had fallen midway through the race.
   (iv) She won the race as she fell down.

II. Read the following text and do the activities that follow. (05 marks)

In North-West Cameroon in August 1986, there was a volcanic eruption which caused a toxic 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 terrible smell like that of rotten eggs, and within a short time, the entire area around Lake Nios, which was the site of the eruption, was shrouded in fumes. It was as if a neutron bomb had exploded destroying nothing but killing all life. The occurrence was the worst incident of its kind and the second time such a disaster had struck this Western African nation.

A. Write TRUE or FALSE beside each sentence in the space provided. (03 marks)

   (a) The volcanic eruption took place around Lake Nios.
       TRUE
   (b) According to the passage, a neutron bomb exploded in North-West Cameroon immediately after the volcanic eruption.
       FALSE
   (c) The government had given an alarming signal before this incident.
       FALSE

B. Write one word for each blank selecting from the passage, which means the same as each of the given phrases. (02 marks)

   (a) sudden great misfortune
       disaster
   (b) giving information about the future danger
       warning
III. Read the following news item and do the activity that follows: (05 marks)

Parachutist wins place of honour at jump

Even experts were a little surprised when a man of 62 turned up at a parachute training school and said he was interested in learning to become a parachutist.

They agreed to put him through the course, but only after giving him a series of tests to prove that he was fit enough.

Mr. Archie Macfarlane completed the course successfully, surprising everyone with his agility and toughness.

A few weeks later, when he was ready for his first jump, he confessed to the chief instructor: “I told you a bit of a lie. I am really 75.”

That was six years ago and yesterday Archie Macfarlane made his 18th jump. He was given the place of honour at a weekend meeting for parachutists over 40 years old.

Archie’s interest in parachuting is just one of the hobbies that his wife has to worry about. He also enjoys mountaineering.

Last year he fell while climbing on Snowdon, and had to be rescued by a helicopter.

His daughter said: “Sometimes I think he ought to give it all up. But as my mother says, so long as he’s happy, it’s better than being miserable.”

Now Archie is thinking of taking up water-skiing.

Fill in the blanks in the following passage, based on the information in the above news item. Do not use more than two words in each blank.

Archie Macfarlane is an unusual person. When he first learnt parachute jumping, he pretended that he was only (i) ... sixty two /62 ... In fact, he was much (ii) ... more/older ......... than that. Although he is an old man, he is interested in very tough sporting activities like parachuting, (iii) mountaineering .... and water-skiing. Recently he was given the place of honour at a parachutists’ meeting, after he made his 18th jump at the age of (iv) .... eighty one/81 ....

His wife and (v) ... daughter ......... are worried, but think it’s best for him to do things that make him happy.
IV. Read the following poem and do the activities that follow.

Richard Cory
Whenever Richard Cory went down town,
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.

(Edwin A. Robinson)

A. Write TRUE or FALSE beside each sentence in the space provided: (03 marks)

(a) According to the poet, Richard Cory insulted the others very often when he talked. **FALSE**

(b) Richard Cory was a very rich person. **TRUE**

(c) Richard Cory was shot dead by an unknown person. **FALSE**

B. Write one word from the poem, which means the same as each of the following: (02 marks)

- Not windy / Not excited or agitated: **calm**

- Dressed: **arrayed**

PART C - SUMMARISING (10 marks)

I. Write a summary of the following text. You may use any number of sentences but do not use more than thirty (30) words. Write only one word in each cage. (06 marks)

A woman was walking down the street one day when she happened to see a man holding a monkey.

The woman asked the man, “Where did you find that monkey?”

The man answered, “In the street. Why?”

The woman said, “You should take him to the zoo.”

The man said, “That’s a good idea.”

The next day the woman saw the man with the monkey again. She said, “I thought you were going to take him to the zoo.”

The man answered, “Oh, I did, and he really enjoyed it. So, today I’m going to take him to the movies.”

Given below are two sample summaries. Examiners may accept any summary that makes sense, is grammatically correct and within the stipulated word limit. If the answer exceeds the word limit, do not give any marks.
II. Write a summary of the following text. You may use any number of sentences but do not use more than twenty (20) words. Write only one word in each cage. 

An old patient called on the doctor and said, "Remember me, doctor? You cured me of my rheumatism last year and you told me to be careful about getting myself wet?"

"Oh, yes, I do," said the doctor, face lighting up with recognition. "What can I do for you now?"

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

PART D - WRITING (30 marks)

I. Imagine that you visited a friend of yours living in a distant place and stayed there for a week during the last vacation. Write the letter you would send him/her after you return home. You should include the following in your letter:

- Remind him/her of some pleasant memories during your stay.
- Thank him/her for all arrangements to make you happy.
- Invite him/her to visit you during the next vacation.
- Explain what you plan to do when he/she comes.

Use about 125-150 words. Do not exceed this word limit. (15 marks)
The examiner should use his or her discretion when allocating marks for each category.

- If all sentences are grammatically incorrect but the content is relevant and good, give zero (0) for language use and not more than two marks for content.
- If only few (one/two) sentences are grammatically correct and the content is relevant and good, give one (01) or two (02) marks for language use and not more than two (02) marks for content.
- If all sentences are grammatically correct, but the content is not very relevant to the given question, give zero for content and not more than two (02) marks for language use.
- Make sure that the candidate deserves the overall mark you give him/her.

**Question I: Informal Letter**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Has used all the points given in the question. Content of the letter very interesting and relevant to the given topic. Has used specific length.</th>
<th>0 - 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Use</td>
<td>Grammar, Vocabulary, Spelling &amp; Punctuation. See the Band Description given below.</td>
<td>0 - 10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Band Description for Language Use**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Has used both simple &amp; complex sentences free of grammatical errors. A sophisticated range of vocabulary used. Choice of words very effective for an informal letter. Punctuation and spelling perfect.</td>
<td>8-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has constructed both simple and complex sentences with one or two grammatical errors. One/two spelling &amp; punctuation errors. A wide range of vocabulary used. Choice of words effective for an informal letter.</td>
<td>5-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has used only simple sentences with frequent grammatical errors. Limited range of vocabulary. Frequent errors of word choice, usage, spelling and punctuation.</td>
<td>2-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fragmentary sentences. Almost all sentences are grammatically incorrect.</td>
<td>0-1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Deduct two marks from the overall mark if the answer is NOT written in the form of a letter.*

II. Imagine that your father has given you Rs. 5000/= to buy a couple of books. You want to buy several books which are not locally available and you'd also like a new pocket "Oxford English Dictionary" if the money he has given you is enough.

Write to the bookshop advertised below (page 8). Find out from them whether Rs. 5000/= will be enough also to pay for the dictionary. Make sure they send you full details of prices including postage. Check on what methods of payment they will accept and get them to confirm the latest delivery date. (You want the books by the beginning of October). Write the address/es on the letter as appropriate. (15 marks)
## Question II: Formal Letter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Mark Bands</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Format</strong></td>
<td>0-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has used format of a formal letter, including sender's address, receiver's address, date, appropriate salutation, and close. (Do not give any mark if even one of the above is missing.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Sir, *Lanka should be there</em> *you had to come first*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Content</strong></td>
<td>0-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has used all the points given in the question. Content of the letter very relevant to the given topic.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Organization</strong></td>
<td>0-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has used appropriate beginning and ending. Has arranged facts in a logical sequence. Has used appropriate linking devices, if/when required. Has paid attention to paragraphing.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Language Use</strong></td>
<td>0-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has used grammatically correct sentences and appropriate vocabulary. Has used formal language and formal style. No spelling or punctuation errors. See the Band Description given below.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Deduct two or three marks** from the overall mark if the candidate has used SMS language.

### Band Description for Language Use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Has used both simple &amp; complex sentences free of grammatical errors. Use of formal expressions excellent. A sophisticated range of vocabulary used. Choice of words very effective for a formal letter. Punctuation and spelling perfect.</td>
<td>7-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has constructed both simple and complex sentences with one or two grammatical errors. Has used formal expressions appropriately. One/two spelling &amp; punctuation errors. A wide range of vocabulary used. Choice of words effective for a formal letter.</td>
<td>4-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has used only simple sentences with frequent grammatical errors. Very few appropriate formal expressions. Limited range of vocabulary. Frequent errors of word choice, usage, spelling and punctuation.</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fragmentary sentences. Almost all sentences are grammatically incorrect.</td>
<td>0-1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PAPER II

General Instructions for MCQs & Binary Choice Items

- For All Binary Choice items:
  If the candidate has appropriately written T/F, or Yes/No, or Right/Wrong or put a tick(✓) or a cross (✗), accept it.

- For All MCQs:
  If the candidate has circled or marked the correct response, accept it.

One mark will be given for each correct answer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PART A - VOCABULARY (25 marks)</th>
<th>For examiner’s use only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. Underline the correct word ending selecting from those given in brackets. (05 marks)</td>
<td>Q. I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. It is not fash......... (ion, ionic, ionably) to wear short skirts now.</td>
<td>05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Everyone should be concerned about glob......... (ally, alize, al) warming.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. I have already sent an appli........... (cation, cant, cable) for that job.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. He taught his children to be respect......... (able, ful, fully) of other cultures.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. He died of nat........... (ural, urally, ure) causes.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. Read the following passage and match the words marked in bold print with their meanings by writing the correct number in the box provided. (10 marks)</td>
<td>Q. II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When you are looking for meaning, you often get it (1) despite an unfamiliar word. Sometimes, however, a (2) strange word makes you slow down or even stop because you have lost the author’s meaning. Such a word deserves attention. How much attention it deserves depends mostly on your reading (3) purpose.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The first step is to note the word (4) mentally, or make a pencil mark in the margin, and read on. Going on prevents further (5) interruption of the author’s thought. It also gives you a chance to find out whether the rest of the passage makes the meaning clear enough for your purposes. When reading for pleasure, you can usually learn enough about a word from its (6) context. It is more important to go on enjoying the book than to find out how the dictionary (7) defines every new word.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The second step is to return to (8) troublesome words, after completing a passage, and try to work out what each one means; the need for this step increases with the amount of (9) comprehension required. Saying the word aloud may help you to recognize it as one you have heard and then to recall how it was used. If this fails, you can make an intelligent guess based on what you have learned from reading the whole passage; another look at the context may (10) confirm or improve upon the guess.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
II. Select any five (05) words from the list given below and use each of them in a sentence to bring out its meaning clearly. You may use the verbs in any tense. Do not change the form of the other words.

conflict situation distance approach suspect
remember survive smart slowly fresh

(1) .................................................................................................................................

* Give one mark for each correct sentence. (Maximum five marks)

* Do not give any mark if each sentence is not grammatically correct.

* Do not give any mark if each sentence is not meaningful. (E.g. He remembered.)

* Deduct one mark from the overall mark if there are more than three spelling errors.

(5) .................................................................................................................................

IV. Underline the correct word from those given in brackets. (05 marks)

(1) They searched for the number in the telephone (catalogue, register, directory).

(2) In the hotel lobby the detective caught (glance, sight, view) of the man he had been hired to follow.

(3) In four years at the company he rose to the (level, standard, quality) of director.

(4) That hotel is so expensive - they (cost, charge, take) you Rs. 10,000 for bed and breakfast.

(5) She emptied the (contents, valuables, money) of her purse onto the table.

PART B: - DIALOGUES (25 marks)

I. The following is a dialogue between a policeman and an eyewitness of an accident (Mr. Perera). In this dialogue, some parts of the sentences numbered (a) to (e) have been deleted. Select the most appropriate part of sentence/clause to complete each one from the list of options given below. Write the number of the selected option in the appropriate blank. (05 marks)

Policeman: Now, Mr. Perera, did you get a good view of the accident?
Perera: (a) 6 and I saw it all quite clearly.
Policeman: Do you know what time it was?
Perera: (b) 3 It's a quartz watch, you know. It was 2.45 exactly.
Policeman: Good. Now, how fast was the delivery lorry moving?
Perera: (c) 1 - about 5 miles per hour. It was coming up Kandy Road and I suppose the driver realized the lights were going to change. But they were still red when he went over them.
Policeman: I see. What about the car?
Perera: It was a green Yaris. It was coming along Church Avenue at about 30 miles per hour. (d) 2 when he saw the lorry crossing the Avenue.
Policeman: Did you see what colour his traffic light was?
Perera: (e) 4 just before he crossed it.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Option</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Well, quite slowly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>The driver braked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Yes, I checked my watch.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Yes, it changed to amber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>I'm afraid, my watch had stopped</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Oh, yes. I was standing outside Gunasiri Bookshop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>No, I didn’t get a good view of the accident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Well, I have no idea about the time but it was evening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>It was coming very fast</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II. In the following dialogue, the sentences numbered (1) to (5) have been left incomplete. **Complete** them appropriately. **(05 marks)**

**Situation:** Mr. Senarathne wants a job in an export company. Managing Director (MD) interviews him.

**MD:** Good morning Mr. Senarathne. Please come in and sit down. Now let me see.

(1) Which school ……………………………………….?

**Mr. Senarathne:** Sri Devananda Vidyalaya, Veyangoda.

(2) And when ……………………………………….?

**Mr. Senarathne:** In 2001.

**MD:** And since then what did you do?

**Mr. Senarathne:** I worked in a bank for two years. Then I took my present job, selling cars. But I would like a change now.

(3) Well, what sort of a job ……………………………………….?

**Mr. Senarathne:** I'd really like to work in your Export Department.

**MD:** That might be a little difficult. What are your qualifications? (4) I mean what languages ………………………………………. besides Sinhala and English?

**Mr. Senarathne:** Well, only a little French.

**MD:** That would be a big disadvantage, Mr. Senarathne. (5) Could you tell me why ……………………………………….?

**Mr. Senarathne:** Because I'd like to travel and to meet people from other countries.

**MD:** I don't think I can help you at present, Mr. Senarathne. Perhaps you ought to try a travel agency.

III. Write a suitable dialogue based on the guidelines given below. Do **not** write more than two sentences in each response. **(05 marks)**

**Situation:** You meet a foreigner in the town. He seems to be in trouble.

**Guidelines for writing the dialogue:**

**You:** Greet him and offer him help.

1. ……………………………………….

**Foreigner:** Greets you and says that he lost his travelling bag.

2. ……………………………………….

**You:** Ask him about the bag and what there was.

3. ……………………………………….

**Foreigner:** Replies. The colour of the bag: red. Inside it: his visa and air ticket.

4. ……………………………………….

[See page four]
IV. You were a bit surprised when you came to know that you had won a lottery. The prize is over Rs. 2 million. Nobody knows this except your parents. You meet your best friend and you want to tell him/her this news. Write out the conversation you had with your friend. Each one must speak at least five times.

PART C - COMPREHENSION (30 marks)

I. Read the following text and do the activities that follow. The first sentence in the fifth paragraph has been left out.

(10 marks)

It is with profound grief that I write these few words in appreciation of the life led by Mr. A.S. Silva, Handala, Wattala, who passed away at the age of 79. He was in the service of the Civil Aviation Department until his retirement about 20 years ago.

He was a gentleman par excellence. In office and elsewhere he was very popular and loved by everyone who had come into contact with him for his helpfulness and comradeship. He had the rare quality of maintaining balance of mind. Even on the demise of his beloved wife, who had dearly looked after him, he was unshaken. As far as I am aware, he was never irritable.

My acquaintance with him commenced about 25 years ago at which time, a proposal of marriage between his son and my daughter was being considered. He was a devout Catholic and I hailed from a Buddhist family. But he was not orthodox. He was of the view that marriage should not be forced upon the children but as long as they can practice their religions without hindrance and live together in harmony there was no reason to oppose such partnerships.
He had great affection and regard for me. After our children’s marriage was agreed upon, he used to often contact me over the phone saying “We could celebrate our national and religious events such as Vesak and Christmas together.”

After prolonged and extensive treatment, he gradually recovered, but certain weaknesses such as the loss of memory and sight got aggravated later. Fortunately for him, his sons and daughter looked after him. It was mainly his daughter, Srimani, who took most of the trouble by keeping him at her residence and so affectionately taking care of him until his demise.

Mr. Silva was a person with gentlemanly and humane qualities who could forever be remembered with affection and I wish him happiness until he reaches his final emancipation.

1. In the space provided beside each sentence given below, write T (True) if the sentence is correct and F (False) if it is wrong and U (Unknown) if the information given in the text is not sufficient to decide. (05 marks)

(i) Mr. Silva was a Buddhist. ............................... T
(ii) Mr. Silva’s wife had died before his death. ........................................ T
(iii) Mr. Silva worked in the Civil Aviation Department for twenty years. ................. T
(iv) Mr. Silva was living with his daughter at the time of his death. ................. T
(v) Mr. Silva was known to the writer before the retirement of Mr. Silva. ................. T

2. Which of the following is most suitable to complete the first sentence deleted in the fifth paragraph? Underline the best answer. (01 mark)

(i) A few years after his retirement he had a stroke.
(ii) He used to visit me on Vesak days every year.
(iii) He spent a healthy life until his demise.
(iv) He died at the age of 79.

3. Who or what does the pronoun in bold print in the fifth paragraph refer to? (01 mark)

Her .Srimani/ Mr. Silva’s daughter/ Daughter of Mr. Silva

4. Write one word for each blank selecting from the passage, which means the same as each of the given phrases. (03 marks)

(i) deep sorrow.devout.
(ii) earnestly religious.recovered.
(iii) returned to health.

(Do not give marks if the tense of the verb is changed)

II. Read the following text and do the activities that follow: (20 marks)

The total number of cars in Sri Lanka now exceeds 1200000. Traffic goes on increasing all the time and the roads of the Colombo city are almost permanently blocked by a slow moving procession of metal cages. Complicated systems of one-way streets and the universal use of traffic lights have not provided a real solution to the problem. As far as the motorist is concerned, driving in crowded towns like Colombo is far from being a pleasure.

Some time ago, a friend of mine, who works in a part of the Colombo city I do not know very well, invited me to call on him. It took me hours to get there and I drove round and round looking for a convenient spot to park my car. At last I found a small space in a by-road. As I was already three quarters of an hour late, I parked my car quickly and hurried off on foot. Making my way rapidly along the street, I could not help reflecting that, nowadays, it is much easier to walk than to drive.

At noon, just as I was leaving my friend’s office, it suddenly struck me that I had no idea where I had parked my car. I could hardly go up to a policeman and tell him that I had lost a small green car somewhere! I would simply have to look for it myself. Walking down street after street, I examined each car closely and was greatly relieved to see a small green car just behind an old cart. But how disappointed I was to discover that though the car was exactly like my own, it belonged
to someone else! Feeling quite tired now, I gave up the search and went off for lunch. Some time later, I left the restaurant and walked idly down the street. Turning the corner, I nearly jumped for joy: my car was right in front of me - and there was no mistaking it this time. I could not help smiling as I drew near. Pasted on the wind-screen was a little ticket which informed me that the car had been visited by a policeman in my absence. To add to it all, I was now guilty of a traffic offence!

A. Write TRUE or FALSE beside each sentence in the space provided. (06 marks)

(a) After the writer had arrived near his friend's office, he tried to find a place to park his car. **TRUE**

(b) The writer parked his car in a hurry because he was late for his appointment. **TRUE**

(c) The writer went to his friend's office after he had his lunch. **FALSE**

(d) The writer requested a policeman to help him to find his car. **FALSE**

(e) According to the text, the writer could eventually find his car being parked behind old cart. **FALSE**

(f) The policeman who visited the car in the absence of the writer helped him to find the car. **FALSE**

B. Fill in the blanks in the following passage, based on the information in the above text. Do not use more than two words in each blank. (04 marks)

Unable to remember where he had parked, the writer went down street after street looking carefully at each car. At last he saw a small green one which looked like his own but belonged to (ii). He now gave up the search and went for (iii) (his/taking) lunch. On leaving the restaurant some time later, he walked down the street and suddenly found (iv) the car/his car just round the corner. As he drew near, he noticed a police ticket on the wind-screen. car alone is not accepted...

C. Who or what do the underlined pronouns in the passage refer to? (03 marks)

(a) him (paragraph 2) **(Writer’s/the friend of the writer)**

(b) him (paragraph 3) **police officer**

(c) it (paragraph 3) **writer’s car/the car/his own car**

D. Write one word for each blank selecting from the passage, which means the same as each of the given words/phrases. (07 marks)

(a) is greater than/is more than **exceeds**

(b) complex **complicated**

(c) gave information to **informed**

(d) illegal act **offence**

(e) getting bigger and bigger **increasing**

(f) having done wrong **guilty**

(g) identifying wrongly **mistaking**

PART D Writing Question 1

- If almost all sentences are grammatically incorrect but the content is relevant and good, give zero (0) for language use and not more than one mark for content.
- If all sentences are grammatically correct, but the content is not very relevant to the given question, give zero for content and not more than one mark for language use.
- Make sure that the candidate deserves the overall mark you give him/her.
PART D - WRITING (20 marks)

I. You need to see your friend, Sarath, urgently before tomorrow evening. Write a note to Sarath.

Say:
Why you want to see him.
Where and when to meet you.
Use about 30-35 words. Do not exceed the word limit. (05 marks)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Has included all the points given in the question. Content of the note interesting and relevant. Has used specified length.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Use</td>
<td>Has used grammatically correct sentences and appropriate vocabulary. No spelling or punctuation errors. Students may use sentence fragments, but they must be grammatical.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Score</td>
<td>0 - 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0 - 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Question II

II. Write an essay of about 200 words in response to the following advertisement. Do not exceed the word limit. (15 marks)

Essay competition - Enter and win a fabulous prize!

We're looking for

The Best Teachers of English in the World!

The International English Language Teachers' Association is running a competition to find the best ten English teachers in the world. Write and tell us about your favourite English teacher, and why you think he or she should win. Send your essay before 15 September 2011 to Chairman, The International English Teachers' Association, Colombo 3.

- The band description given below is for maximum marks. The examiner should use his or her discretion when allocating marks for each category.
- If all sentences are grammatically incorrect but the content is relevant and good, give zero (0) for language use and not more than two marks for content.
- If only few (one/two) sentences are grammatically correct and the content is relevant and good, give one (01) or two (02) marks for language use and not more than two (02) marks for content.
- If all sentences are grammatically correct, but the content is not very relevant to the given question, give zero for content and not more than two (02) marks for language use.
- Deduct two or three marks if SMS language is used.
- Make sure that the candidate deserves the overall mark you give him/her.
## Content

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Content very relevant to the given topic. Has presented facts in a very</td>
<td>4-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>interesting and effective manner.</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Content relevant to the given topic. Composition quite interesting.</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Content relevant to the given topic but the information given is inadequate</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facts not presented in an interesting manner.</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Content totally irrelevant to the given topic / Has copied the question.</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Language Use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Has used both simple and complex sentences appropriately. Sentences are free</td>
<td>6-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of grammatical errors. A sophisticated range of vocabulary used. Choice of</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>words very effective for descriptive style. Punctuation and spelling perfect.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has used both simple and complex sentences with one or two grammatical</td>
<td>3-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>errors. One/two spelling and punctuation errors. A wide range of vocabulary</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>used. Choice of words effective for descriptive style.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has constructed only simple sentences. Sentences contain frequent errors of</td>
<td>1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>grammar. Many spelling and punctuation errors. Limited range of vocabulary</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>used. Frequent errors of word choice.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sentences very fragmentary. Almost all sentences are ungrammatical.</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Organization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very fluent expression. Ideas very clearly stated. Able to select, organize and</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>present relevant information in a logical manner. Ideas are connected very</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>effectively. Perfect unity and coherence. Paragraph development excellent.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluent expression. Ideas clearly stated. Able to select, organize and present</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>information quite logically. Ideas connected effectively. Unity and coherence</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>good. Paragraph development good.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairly fluent expression. Presentation of ideas clear to a certain extent.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Able to select, organize and present information fairly logically. Unity and</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>coherence fairly good.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very poor organization. Sentences fragmentary and disjointed. Not intelligible.</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>