

G.C.E. A/L EXAMINATION

General English - I

Grade 13

Time : 3 Hours

Part A - Grammar

(40 marks)

01. Fill in the blanks with the suitable preposition from the list given below. Use each preposition only once.

on, from, to, until, for, at, into, out, in, of, with

A car drew up outside the Swan Hotel and a young man got out. Pausing only

- (i) an instant to see that he had come to the right place, he went
(ii) the hotel and rang the bell (iii) the counter
(iv) the bar.

Mrs. Crump, the landlady, who was busy in the kitchen (v)..... the time, hurried
(vi)..... wiping her hands.

"Excuse me" said the young man, "I am looking for my uncle, Mr. White. I believe he is staying
(vii)..... this hotel"

"He was staying here," Mrs. Crump corrected him, "but I'm afraid that he went back
(viii)..... London yesterday."

"Oh dear," said the young man, looking disappointed. "I understood that he was going to stay here
(ix)..... the end of next month. "But yesterday he got a telegram
(x)..... his nephew to say that his brother was seriously ill. So he caught the train
back to London Immediately." (10 marks)

02. Underline the correct answer.

(i) Mathematics _____ a branch of study in every school.

- (a) is (b) are (c) were

(ii) The quality of mangoes _____ not good.

- (a) were (b) was (c) are

(iii) The whole family _____ by the bad news.

- (a) were affected (b) was affected (c) are affected

(iv) Fire and water _____ not agree.

- (a) do (b) does (c) is

- (v) The committee _____ agreed on the main question.
 (a) was (b) were (c) are
- (vi) Out of the two _____ person is Manel.
 (a) kind (b) kinder (c) kindest
- (vii) Lot of furniture _____ brought into the new house.
 (a) would (b) are (c) was
- (viii) Politics _____ with him throughout his life.
 (a) are (b) was (c) were
- (ix) The majority _____ against any compromise.
 (a) were (b) are (c) was
- (x) Providing new houses for Tsunami victims _____ a part of the plans of new Government.
 (a) is (b) are (c) were

(1 x 10 = 10 marks)

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

- (i) Ravi is going to Kandy
- next week
- .

.....

- (ii)
- Sriyani
- is the cleverest girl in our class.

.....

- (iii) Kumudu has been learning English
- for five years
- .

.....

- (iv) Vipula visits his grand parents
- once a week
- .

.....

- (v) I am going to buy
- some provisions
- at the supermarket.

.....

(5 marks)

04. Rewrite the following phrases in the correct order to construct meaningful sentences.

- (i) a lovely day / but / for a walk / I am too tired / it is

.....

- (ii) too late / the application / that it is / I told him / to send

.....

(iii) not theirs / is ours / this house

.....

(iv) Over there / on engineering / in that section / are / the books

.....

(v) the best / your parents / the most / to make / so / have given you / of your life

.....

(05 marks)

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

- | | | |
|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| system | communications | institutions |
| called | explosion | academics |
| collaboration | spread | looking for |
| | late | |

Electronic mail, (i) e-mail was started in the (ii) 1960's by the armed forces of the United states of America. The army or military officers were (iii)..... a way that (iv)..... could be carried out in the event of a large-scale nuclear war. They needed a (v)..... that would be very decentralized, reliable and fast in case central (vi)..... were destroyed. They came up with e-mail.

In the early 1970's, e-mail was limited to the United States military defence contractors and universities doing defence research. By the 1970's it had began to (vii)..... more broadly within university communities. By the 1980's (viii) in a number of university disciplines were using e-mail for professional (ix)..... . In the early 1990's saw an (x)..... of the use of e-mail and other computer networking tools.

(10 marks)

Part B - Comprehension

(20 marks)

01. Read the following poem and answer the questions by understanding the correct option.

I lay in sorrow, in deep distress:
 My grief a proud man heard;
 His looks were cold; he gave me gold,
 But not a kindly word

My sorrow passed - I paid him back
 The gold he gave to me
 Then stood erect and spoke my thanks
 And blessed his charity

I lay in want, and griet and pair;
 A poor man passed my way
 He bound my head, he gave me bread
 He watched me night and day
 How shall I pay him back again

How shall I pay him back again
 for all he did to me?
 Oh, gold is great, but greater far
 Is heavenly zympathy

Vishesh Bohre

- (i) **How did the proud man help the poet when he was in deep distress?**
- a) He gave him jewels. b) He took him home.
 c) He gave some money. d) He pitied the poet.
- (ii) **What do you think the poet expected from the proud man?**
- a) money b) gold
 c) food d) sympathy
- (iii) **How did the poor man take care of the poet?**
- a) The poor man gave him some money and food.
 b) The poor man gave him gold and kind words.
 c) The poor man gave him food and take care of him day and night.
 d) The poor man took him home and bound his head which was hurt.
- (iv) **Which of the following statements is not true?**
- a) The poet repaid his debt to the proud man by thanking him.
 b) The poor man blessed the charity of the poet.
 c) When the poet was in sorrow he was given money.
 d) The poet says he cannot repay the poor man for his sympathy.
- (v) **Which word in the poem means giving money to a person who is in need?**
- a) Charity b) sympathy c) kindness d) distress

(2 x 5 = 10 marks)

02. Read the following notice that appeared in your school notice board and give short answers to the questions that follow.

NOTICE

The next meeting of English Literary Association will be held on 1st September, 2007 from 2.00 p.m. onwards, at the school auditorium

The new office bearers for the posts of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer will be elected at the meeting.

Nominations are called for these posts, excluding the post of Treasurer. Please submit your nominations to our Secretary on or before the 25th of August, 2007.

Nirmala Perera
President

- (1) What is the main event of the next meeting?
.....
 - (2) For which posts are nominations called?
.....
 - (3) Who should you contact if you want to nominate someone for the post of Vice President?
.....
 - (4) What is the last date for the nominations?
.....
 - (5) What does the word, "submit" in the last line mean?
.....
- (2 x 5 = 10)

Part C - Summarizing (10 marks)

01. Write a summary of the following text. You may use any number of sentences but do not use more than twenty (20) words. If you exceed the limit, you will not get any marks for this summary. Write only one word in each cage.

A little girl came home from school and told her mother, "Mummy today, in school I was punished for something that I didn't do."

The mother exclaimed, "But that is terrible". I am going to have a talk with your teacher about this. By the way, "what was it that you didn't do?"

The little girl replied, 'My homework.'

G.C.E. A/L EXAMINATION

General English - II

Grade 13

Time : 2½ Hours

Answer All the Questions

Part A - Vocabulary

(25 marks)

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

- (i) Mrs. Rajah is liked by everyone for her kind..... (liness, ly, ness)
- (ii) Many specta (cular, cle, tor) feats were performed at the circus.
- (iii) Mr. Shaffi was able to identi (ty, fication, fy) the thief.
- (iv) Our Principal is a good discipli..... (nary, ne, narian)
- (v) The building was complet (ely, ion, ed) destroyed by the fire.

(5 marks)

02. Read the following text and give the meaning of the words in bold type (underlined) as they appeared in the text.

The "Aeneid" is a legendary (i) **narrative** about the imagined (ii) **origin** of the Roman nation. It is an epic poem. An epic is a long narrative poem, full of action, which tells about human life and makes us (iii) **wonder** about the relationship between man and gods. The main characters in epics are heroes. Very often, epic (iv) show **clashes** between heroes and gods.

The "Aeneid" tells of the Trojan prince who was said to have (v) **escaped** during the sack of Troy and sailed, with other Trojans, to the west coast of Italy where they (vi) **founded** early Rome. The epic describes the many (vii) **trials** they had to face before they finally arrived at their (viii) **destiny**.

This story is (ix) **significant** for the role the gods take in men's (x) **affairs**.

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| (i) narrative | (vi) founded |
| (ii) origin | (vii) trials |
| (iii) wonder | (viii) destiny |
| (iv) clashes | (ix) significant |
| (v) escaped | (x) affairs |

(10 marks)

03. Use five of the following words in sentences to bring out their meaning. You may use the verbs in any tense.

expensive, celebrate, rare, internationally, borrow, encourage,
friendly, complexion, interested, communication

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

(10 marks)

Part B - Dialogues

(20 marks)

01. I your house is located at 23, temple Road Maradana. When you got home from school, you discover that your house has been burgled. You telephone the nearest police station. Use the given guidelines and complete the dialogue.

Police Officer : Maradna Police station. Can I help you?

You : (i)
(Inform what has happened)

Police officer : (ii)
(inquires about the location of your house)

You : (iii)
(give relevant information)

Police Officer : (iv)
(Inquires about the time of the incident)

You : (v)
(give relevant information)

Police Officer : Was anything stolen?

You : Yes all our jewellery's gone, and my computer too

Police officer : Right. Our officers will be round in fifteen minutes. Please don't touch anything.

.....
(2 x 5 =10 marks)

I noticed that she, too seemed to be nervous about our date. She waited in the door with her coat on. She had curled her hair and was wearing the dress that she had worn to celebrate her last wedding anniversary. She smiled from a face that was as radiant as an angel's.

"I told my friends that I was going to go out with my son, and they were impressed, " she said, as she got into the car. "They can't wait to hear about our meeting." We went to a restaurant that, although not elegant was very nice and cosy. My mother took my arm as if she was the first Lady. After we sat down I had to read the menu. Half way through the entries, I lifted my eyes and saw my mother sitting there staring at me a nostalgic smile was on her lips. "It was I who used to have to read the menu when you were small", she said. " Then it's time that you relax and let me return the favour", I responded.

During the dinner, we had an agreeable conversation - nothing extraordinary, but catching up on recent events of each other's life. We talked so much that we missed the movie.

As we arrived at her house late, she said "I'll go out with you again, but only if you let me invite you". I agreed.

"How was your dinner date?" asked my wife when I got home. "Very nice. Much more so than I could have imagined." I answered.

A few days later, my mother died of a massive heart attack. It happened so suddenly that I could not do anything for her.

Sometime later, I received an envelope with a Copy of a restaurant receipt from the same place mother and I had dined. An attached note said. "I paid this bill in advance, I wasn't sure that I could be there; but nevertheless, I paid for two plates one for you and other for your wife. You will never know what that night meant for me. I love you son."

At that moment, I understood the importance of saying in time; " I love you" ! and to give your loved ones the time that they deserve. Nothing in life is more important than your family. Give them the time they deserve because these things cannot be put off till "some other time". A successful relationship requires falling in love many times - with the same person.

01. Fill in the blanks in the following passage. Using the information in the above text. Do not use more than three words in each blank.

(24 marks)

My (i) once requested me to accompany my mother to dinner and a
 (ii) My (iii)..... had died 19 years ago. But my
 work and the responsibility of my (iv)..... children prevented me to visit
 (v)..... frequently.

My mother was very happy to hear my invitation. She had told (vi)..... about our meeting. She was wearing the dress she had worn on the day of her (vii).....

My mother and I had dinner at a (viii)..... . We had good conversation there. We talked so much that we missed (ix)..... . At the end, she said that she would like to dine with me again if only I let her invite me. We agreed to meet again.

A few days later, I received a message of the (x)..... of my mother.

After, sometime, I received a message from the (xi)..... where we had dined together, saying that my mother had paid a bill in advance for two plates - for me and for (xii)..... . She had attached a note expressing her gratefulness for making her extremely happy that night.

02. Who or what the underlined words refer to?

(i) They

(ii) her (2 marks)

03. Answer the following questions. (2 marks)

(i) Why did mother ask "What's wrong?" as soon as she heard the invitation of her son to go out for dinner?

.....

(ii) According to your opinion, did the mother consider meeting her son very special? Why?.....

.....

04. Write one word for each blank selecting from the passage, which means the same as each of the given phrases. (2 marks)..

(i) reached somewhere

(ii) looking very bright and happy.....

Part D - Writing

(25 marks)

01. Write a paragraph beginning with the following sentence. 'Smoking is banned in public places because it affects one's health.' Use 75 - 100 words. (10 marks)

A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing.

