

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 prepositions from the list given below. Use each preposition only once.

on, behind, about,
 with, round, of, from,
 to, in, outof, at,
 beside

I always settle down comfortably in the barber's shop and listen patiently to my barber. He explains the political situation, women's fushions or tells me jokes (1)..... politicians which I have already heard several times. In twenty minutes I get a remarkable amount (2)..... information, as well as a haircut. But last week our conversation was very short indeed. We heard loud cries of 'Fire' ! coming (3)..... upstairs. Customers and barbers rushed (4)..... the shop immediately. We were certainly a funny sight (5)..... passers - by. I had a white sheet (6)..... my neck and my hair was half cut. My barber was close (7)..... me (8) a comb and a pair of scissors in his hands. The man who had sat (9)..... me was not so lucky. There was soap (10)..... one side of his face and his barber ran after him holding a shaving - brush in one hand and a razor in the other . (10 marks)

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

Early one morning Jinna came running with the news that he (1).....(see) Upasakappu going out somewhere dressed in white cloth and coat and (2)..... (carry) an umbrella. "That means he (3)..... (go) for sometime- he usually (4)..... (wear) only a cloth and a baniama". "He (5)..... (not be) back before nightfall !. Let's (6)..... (start) on his cadju !" We (7) (go) at once. It took us nearly quarter of an hour (8)..... (clear) away the thorn -

bushes with which he had blocked up the gate. We (9)..... (be) all very angry.
"We (10) (not leave) a single fruit on the trees" said Jinna.

(10 marks)

03. Form the questions for the following situations. Begin the questions with the question word given.

- (1) You want to know how many brothers your friend has.
How many.....
- (2) You want to know where your friend's father works.
Where.....
- (3) You want to know when your uncle returned from abroad.
When
- (4) You want to know how much a kilo of sugar is.
How much.....
- (5) You want to know why your friend did not go on the trip.
Why

(10 marks)

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

plug, confirmation, message, the, made, rang, simply, plan, fax, shiver, bomb

The boss got a (1) from the Railway station that there was a
(2)..... in a shop near the petrol shed.

The boss didn't tell anyone, she (3)..... shut the door and
(4)..... a phone call. She tried to phone the police for (5)
....., but nobody picked up (6)..... phone. She
started to (7)....., but thought of another (8).....

She switched on her. (9) machine, and started to send a fax. At the
same time her cell phone. (10)..... She sprang from her chair to pick it
up, but it fell on the floor.

(10 marks)

Part B - Comprehension

(20 marks)

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

- (1) **Nimal isn't as old as he looks**

- (a) Nimal isn't very young
- (b) Nimal is old but he doesn't look old
- (c) Nimal looks older than he is
- (d) Nimal looks very young

(2) **We would have been late if we hadn't hurried**

- (a) We were late because we didn't hurry
- (b) We were not late because we hurried
- (c) We did not hurry because we were not late
- (d) We did not hurry because we were late.

(3) **In spite of the rain, they had a good time**

- (a) If it had not rained, they would have had a good time
- (b) It rained while they had a good time
- (c) They had a good time, because it rained
- (d) It rained, but they had a good time

(4) **Having completed the book he had a holiday**

- (a) He completed the book during his holiday
- (b) He had had a holiday before he completed the book
- (c) He had a holiday while he was completing the book
- (d) After he had completed the book he had a holiday

(5) **Ruwani no longer works here**

- (a) Ruwani didn't work here for a long time
- (b) Ruwani has been working here for a long time
- (c) Ruwani does not work here now.
- (d) Ruwani worked here a long time ago.

(05 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 the English Literary Association will be held on 01 st September, 2015 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 25.th of August 2015.....

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 nominations?

(05 marks)

(5) What does the word "Submit" in the notice mean?

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

My first love was the fen-ton truck
 They gave me when I started
 And though she played the witch with me
 I grieved when we were parted
 Since then I've had a dozen more,
 The wound was quick to heal,
 And now it's easier to say
 I'm married to my wheel
 I've trunked it north, I've trunked it south,
 on wagons good and bad,
 but In one was ever really like
 The first I ever had
 The life is hard, the hours are long,
 sometimes I cease to feel,
 But I go on, for it seems to me
 I'm married to my wheel
 Often I think of my home and kids,
 out on the road at night,
 and think of taking a local job
 provided the money's right
 Two nights a week I see my wife,
 and eat a decent meal,
 but otherwise, for all my life,

I'm married to my wheel.

- (1) Which of the following is the most suitable, title to this poem? Underline
 - (i) Song of the young lover
 - (ii) Song of the wound-healer
 - (iii) Song of the wagon-driver
 - (iv) Song of the Sweeper
- (2) Write whether the following sentence is true or false in the space provided.
 The speaker of the poem took a local job recently and it provided him with a lot of money

- (3) Answer the following questions.
 - (i) Write one word from the poem, which means the same as the following.
 felt deep sorrow
 - (ii) Who or what does the pronoun underlined in the first stanza refer to? (10 marks)
 She
 - (iii) Write one sentence describing how the speaker thinks / feels about his family

Part C - Summarizing

01. Write a summary of the following text. You may use any number of sentences but do not use more than thirty five (35) words. If you exceed the word limit, you will not get any marks for this summary. Write only one word in each cage.

A young man with little money in his pocket saw a restaurant sign, reading 'Eat now. Your grand son can pay the bill later.' Not believing his good luck he went inside and asked the manager if the sign was correct.

"Yes", the manager replied, "our patrons can eat and drink all they want and their grandsons will pay the bill later."

The young man, still unmarried, ordered a huge meal and a large bottle of coke. When he had finished, the waiter brought him a huge bill. "What? I spoke to the manager about your sign. Why are you presenting this bill to me?"

"Sir" said the waiter. "this is the bill for the dinner your grandfather ate here, many years ago."

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

(30 marks)

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.

- (1) You seemed con..... (fusion, fusing, fused) about the instructions I gave yesterday.
- (2) The time of depart (ure, ed, s) will be 10.00 a.m.
- (3) You must apolo (gy, gise, gising) to your friend for hurting him.
- (4) She walked home very slow..... (ness, er, ly)
- (5) Watch (ed, ing, es) too much television is bad for your eyes.

(5 marks)

02. Read the item given below, find the answer which gives the meaning of the underlined phrase or word, and circle it.

- (1) "We've been talking about the problem from different perspectives, throughout the workshop, and the bottomline is we have no answer."
(a) viewpoints (b) additions
(c) occupations (d) places
- (2) When she was in trouble, I'm the only one who stood up for her - but what did she do? Sneaked to the boss that I let him down."
(a) guided her (b) praised her
(c) scolded her (d) defended her
- (3) "If you put the matter in a nutshell, we can't make a bid."
Why? Because everybody knows we have vested interests?" "Precisely"
(a) To sum up (b) To discuss it further
(c) To continue to talk (d) To dismiss the issue
- (4) "That's the last straw".
" What do you mean"?
" We were warned not to abuse our privileges, now we'll have to pay for it".
(a) Misuse (b) use
(c) Activate (d) destroy

(5) "Face to face interaction is better than e-mail"

"Why?"

"Because you can see **the body language**".

(a) Anger

(b) Non-verbal cues

(c) Sign language

(d) Fashions

(5 marks)

03. Select any five 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.

informal

complexion

communication

internationally

interested

borrow

enormous

friendly

confidential

inspire

(10 marks)

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

04. Underline the most appropriate word from those given in brackets. (5 marks)

(1) The two companies have been working in (consideration, coincidence, collaboration) with each other for a number of years

(2) Please let me know what time will be (comfortable, considerable, convenient) for you to meet me.

(3) Under the new education (system, knowledge, symbol) English is a compulsory subject.

(4) According to (resourceful, reliable, sincere) information, the manager is going to resign soon.

(5) Many prisoners (rescued, caught, escaped) from the prison recently.

Part B - Dialogues

(25 marks)

01. Imagine that you need to meet a doctor specialist at a private hospital and you've not sure how to channel a doctor. Complete the dialogue you would have to get an appointment.

(10 marks)

A : (i)

B : Yes, this is the friendship Hospital.

A : (ii)

Part C - Comprehension

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

There was once a very old man, whose eyes had become dim. He was short of hearing and his knees were not steady. When he sat at table he could hardly hold the spoon; he spilt the soup upon the table-cloth or let **it** run out of his mouth. His son and his son's wife were disgusted at this. So the old man at last had to sit in the kitchen to take his meals, and they gave him his food in a plate made of clay, and not even enough of it. And he used to look towards the table with his full of tears. Once too, his trembling hands could not hold the plate, and it fell to the ground and broke. The young wife scolded him, but he said nothing and only sighed. Then **they** brought him a plastic plate for a few rupees, out of which he had to eat.

They were once sitting thus when the little grandson of four years old began to wash two old plastic plates that he had found in the kitchen. 'What are you doing there?'

asked the father. 'I am going to keep these two plastic plates', answered the child, 'for father and mother to eat when I am big'.

The man and his wife looked at each other for a while, and presently began to cry. Then they took the old man to the table, and henceforth always let him eat with them, and likewise said nothing even if he did spill a little of anything.

- (1) Write short answers to the following questions.

(a) How old was the boy?

.....

(b) How did the old man react when his son's wife scolded him when he broke the plate?

.....

(c) Which action caused the son and his wife to reconsider their treatment of the old man?

.....

- (2) Which health problem of the old man is not mentioned in this story? underline.

(a) poor vision

(b) Bad hearing

(c) Terrible headaches

(d) Weak limbs

- (3) Which of the following best expresses the way how the son and his wife treated the old man in the end?

(a) They were disgusted and continued to ignore him.

(b) They treated him with respect and as an equal.

(c) They asked their child to look after the old man.

(d) They took the old man to the table but did nothing to help him.

