



University of Kelaniya – Sri Lanka
Centre for Distance and Continuing Education

Bachelor of Arts (General) Degree First Examination (External) – 2015

2020 February - April

Faculty of Humanities/Faculty of Social Sciences

English for Communications ELTU E - 1014

Index No :

No. of questions : 05

Time : 03 hours

Question No.	MARKS	
	First Examiner	Second Examiner
Question 1		
Question 2		
Question 3		
Question 4		
Question 5		
TOTAL (100%)		

Answer all the questions on this paper. Additional paper is provided for the writing tasks.

Question 1 Reading

[25 Marks]

- a) i) Read the following paragraphs, select the suitable heading for each of them from the headings given in the box below, and write them down in the given space. (2x5= 10 marks)
- ii) Write answers to the questions based on Paragraph 6. (1x3= 03 Marks)

Definition of Pidgins	Contributors to Pidgin Madam	Birth of a new Pidgini
Characteristics of Pidgins	Example of a Pidgin	

Paragraph 1 _____

Pidgins are simplified languages that develop between two or more groups trying to communicate while they have no common language, and relatively no time to engage in a long learning process. The acquisition of a new common language is often seen in this context as an urgent need, for economic reasons for instance.

Paragraph 2 _____

One of the differences between pidgins and creoles is that pidgins have no first generation of speakers and Pidgins develop essentially out of the contact between languages of quite distant linguistic families.

Paragraph 3 _____

There are examples of pidgins-creoles around the world, a famous such being the *bislama*, one of the official languages of Vanuatu. Here, different communities of fishermen created a common hybrid language in order to work together.

Paragraph 4 _____

Pidgin Madam is born, in the recent years, out of the contact between Sri Lankan maids and their Arabic employers in the Middle East. Its grammatical structures bear the trace of this context: a maid living in the house of her employers, with very limited access to external interaction.

Paragraph 5 _____

In the house of the employers, Madam is the main contact person, but the family's children also play an important role in the evolution of the pidgin. If they don't speak Lebanese to the domestic worker, it's because the pidgin is more handy. It's easier to make yourself understood by using the language you know.

Paragraph 6

Next to the characteristics it shares with other pidgins and simplified languages, what is typical of Pidgin Madam is that it uses imperative verbal forms as simple verbal bases. Instead of saying 'he sleeps in this house' (in Lebanese Arabic *huwe bynem b-hal beit*), one would say 'he you go sleep here house' (in Pidgin Madam *huwe nemi hone bet*). One explanation for this fact could be found in the type of Arabic the Sri Lankan maid is always exposed to, where imperative forms are proportionally higher than other verbal forms.

i) What is unique about Pidgin Madam?

ii) How does one say "he sleeps in this house in Pidgin Madam?"

- iii) What language feature can be found in the Arabic that Sri Lankan maids come in contact with?
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b) Read the following passage and state whether the given statements are TRUE (T) or FALSE (F). (1x 6 = 12 Marks)

After years of dire warnings about the limited value of their degree, liberal arts students are making a surprising discovery: Employers want them. It turns out their skills—including the ability to communicate, solve problems, think critically and collaborate—are in demand for many sectors, including finance and technology.

Arts graduates still struggle to translate what they gained during four years of study. Faculties once investigated at preparing students for the job market, but Canadian universities now promote work placements for arts students, coach them on careers, and offer interdisciplinary degrees to produce well-rounded graduates. Still, university officials and employers warn that heavy lifting remains to sustain this turnaround in thinking.

The University of Waterloo is among those reporting success on this front. The school is a pioneer in co-op education, or paid work placements embedded in academic studies. It reports that the number of co-op arts students hired by the finance sector more than quadrupled to 358 in 2017-2018, up from 81 in 2007-2008. Those hired on four-month terms by technology companies more than tripled to 531 from 162 over the same period.

1. Employers want Arts graduates due to the skills that they acquire during their studies.

2. In the past certain universities and departments did not like the prospect of training arts graduates for a job. _____
3. Finding internship is one of the ways of making an employable graduate.

4. All universities aim at making employable graduates by teaching them transferable skills.

5. The reasons that the graduates being employed in the finance sector is not due to the kind of programme the University of Waterloo offers. _____
6. The number of students hired by technology companies on short term increased in more than a quadruple. _____

Question 2 Grammar

[30 Marks]

a) Write down the appropriate 'WH' question to each one of the responses given below. The answer to the question should be the underlined words/phrases in each sentence. (2 x 5 = 10 Marks)

1.
Upul's parents got married in 1986.
2.
Emin will read for a Master's degree at the University of Tubingen.
3.
He has read two books so far.
4.
He usually goes to the cinema when he is free.
5.
My favourite dessert in the whole world is ice cream.

b) Fill in the blanks of the following sentences with the correct form of the verbs given within brackets.

(1 x 10 = 10 Marks)

- 6) Pandith Amaradeva _____ (record) his first song in 1972.
- 7) While I _____ (read) an article for the assignment, I heard someone knock on the door.
- 8) The University _____ (publish) its annual academic magazine *Kalyani* in April and November.
- 9) I am afraid that the drought _____ (continue) for the next few months. Drinking water will become a huge issue.

- 10) Dushy is _____ (talk) to someone on the phone. She will be with you in a minute.
- 11) I _____ already _____ (write) three letters to the company stating that the equipment that I bought from them is faulty.
- 12) By the time I got to the hostel, Thilina _____ already _____ (leave) without saying goodbye.
- 13) Mr. Amirthanathan _____ (work) in the company for 10 when he got the promotion.
- 14) We _____ (look) at the status of English in Sri Lanka in the next lesson.
- 15) I always _____ (forget) to lock the door when I leave the hostel. Someday, all my belongings will be stolen.

c) **Underline the most appropriate answer.**

(1 x 10 = 10 Marks)

- 16) I will see you _____ 2:30 pm to write the report on the project.
 a) at b) for c) to d) of
- 17) I am planning to participate _____ the University games this year.
 a) for b) c) into d) in
- 18) I have been waiting here _____ two and a half hours.
 a) into b) for c) since d) at
- 19) Smart classrooms consist _____ smart boards, projectors, and other equipment.
 a) of b) at c) in d) to
- 20) Mr. Raj lives _____ fourth floor of this apartment.
 a) with b) at c) on d) in
- 21) _____ Johann informed his land lady that he was getting late to come back home, by the time he arrived, the gate was closed.
 a) When b) Although c) Until d) After
- 22) _____ talking to the Dean, please talk to the Head of the Department and sort out your issues.
 a) Alternative to b) Before c) Subsequently, d) On final

- 23) _____ 13 years I have been waiting for this promotion. I do not think I can wait any longer.
- a) For b) Since c) When d) How
- 24) Rusiru _____ listens to his colleagues and makes decisions on his own.
- a) hard b) hardly c) had d) here
- 25) He needs to improve his _____ writing skills to be able to improve his grades.
- a) academy b) academia c) academic d) academician

Question 03 Vocabulary

[20 Marks]

a) **Underline the most appropriate word or phrase for the blank in each sentence.**

- 1) The _____ during the past few weeks was very dry.
- a) wether b) whether c) weather d) climate
- 2) Michael Jackson was an _____ musician who won many awards.
- a) accomplished b) animated c) abandoned d) easy
- 3) Some of my _____ mates are getting married this year.
- a) bach b) badge c) back d) batch
- 4) The _____ in Jan's bag is broken and the contents come slipping out.
- a) sip b) zip c) ship d) zep
- 5) He has been awarded a _____ to study in the West Indies University.
- a) scholarly b) scholar c) scholarship d) school

b) **Underline the correct meaning of the word in bold letters in each sentence.**

- 6) You must not **litter** the university premises, because it goes against the Green University Concept.
- a) throw clutter b) throw waste c) clean bins d) clean garbage
- 7) There is a **dearth** of English graduates in the country.
- a) danger b) huge c) lack d) excess
- 8) In order to **enhance** your reading skills you need to practice reading daily.
- a) invent b) improve c) illegal d) ignore
- 9) The Corona virus epidemic has an **impact** on the global economy.
- a) affluent b) costly c) unpack d) influence

- 10) Iceland scored high (second only to Norway) in the political democracy category.
 a) catering b) inspire c) group d) option
 e)
- 11) Archaeologists have excavated more than 200 terracotta warriors in China.
 a) darned b) drawn c) dug d) dashed
- 12) The strategy employed by Shezmin is praiseworthy.
 a) stance b) plan c) plain d) statistics
- 13) I believe that there are many ways that society pressurizes us to conform.
 a) obey b) option c) operation d) own
- 14) There is a distinct difference between anger and hatred.
 a) clarity b) clean c) clear d) clobbering
- 15) Contribution of the teachers is a crucial factor for the success of the degree programme.
 a) cruel b) incongruent c) optional d) vital

c) Select the most suitable word from the box given below and fill in the blanks of the following passage.

contemporary	fundamental	matter
prospective	accredited	

If you read the introduction to most university degree programme websites, they tell 16) _____ students they offer the most innovative, exciting, 17) _____, well-respected programme of its kind in that field anywhere!

The truth of the 18) _____ is that there isn't much difference between degrees of the same discipline name offered by universities. It's just a fact that there are some 19) _____ skills, knowledge and experiences that must be covered in order for a degree to be successfully 20) _____ by the profession and for graduates to be credible employees in the eyes of potential employers.

Question 4 Dialogue

[05 Marks]

Fill in the blanks of the following dialogue with the correct expressions and words.

Sarmatha : Hi Suresh, how it is the project work going?

Suresh : _____ . Thanks for asking.
 And _____ ?

Sarmatha : I am almost done. These days, I am compiling the bibliography.

Suresh : _____? But, didn't you do it while writing the document?

Sarmatha : _____. Unfortunately, I used a different style and now the department says that I need to use the APA style.

Suresh : We of course get the guidelines at the beginning of the semester. It is a policy of the department.

Sarmatha : Wow!. _____ to get the guidelines at the beginning of the semester.

Question 5 Writing Essay

a) Write a short paragraph in about 100 words to describe a person whom you like the most. You should answer the following questions. (5 Marks)

- a) Who is he/she?
- b) Why do you like that person?
- c) What is he/she like?
- d) What does he/she look like?

b) Write a short essay on ONE of the following topics. You can agree or disagree with the topic. Use 150-200 words. (15 Marks)

- English is not that important to an undergraduate to complete the degree.
- Technology assisted language learning has many benefits and should be implemented in Sri Lanka.
- Media has a strong impact on how society thinks and behaves.
