

**SLIATE**

SRI LANKA INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGICAL EDUCATION

(Established in the Ministry of Higher Education, vide in Act No. 29 of 1995)

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**Higher National Diploma in English**  
**Second year Second Semester Examination – 2015**  
**EN. 2211: Advanced Reading Skills & Vocabulary Development – IV**  
**(F/T and P/T)**

**Instructions for candidates:**

**Answer only five Questions**

**All Questions carry equal marks**

**No. of pages: 08...**

**No. of Questions: 06**

**Time: Three hours**

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**01) Read the following passage and answer the questions given below.**

It has been seen that language is much more than the external expression and communication of internal thoughts formulated independently of their verbalization. In demonstrating the inadequacy and inappropriateness of such a view of language, attention has already been drawn to the ways in which ones' mother tongue is intimately and in all sorts of details related to the rest of one's life in a community and to smaller groups within that community. This is true of all people and all languages; it is a universal fact about language.

Anthropologists speak of the relations between language and culture. It is, indeed, more in accordance with reality to consider language as apart of culture." Culture" is here being used, as it is throughout this article, in the anthropological sense, to refer to all aspects of human life in so far as they are determined or coordinated by membership in a society. The fact that a man eats or drinks is not in itself cultural; it is a biological necessity that he does so far the preservation of life. That he eats particular foods and refrains from eating other substances, though they may be perfectly edible and nourishing, and that he eats and drinks at particular times of day and in certain places are matters of culture, something "acquired by man as a member of society," according to the now-classic definition of culture by the English anthropologist sir Edward Bennett Tylor. As thus defined and envisaged, culture covers a very wide area of human life behavior; and language is manifestly a part, probably the most important part, of it.

Although the faculty of language acquisition and language use is innate and inherited, and there is legitimate debate over the extent of this innateness, every individual's language is "acquired by man as a member of society," along with and at the same time as other aspects of that society's culture in which he is bought up. Society and language are mutually indispensable. Language can have developed only in a social setting, however this may have

been structured, and human society in any form even remotely resembling, what is known today or is recorded in history could be maintained only among people speaking and understanding a language in common use.

1) What is the worldwide fact about one's language mentioned in the first paragraph?

(2 marks)

2) According to the passage what is the relationship between culture and language?

(2 marks)

3) According to the definition of Sir Edward Burnett, how he defines culture?

(2 marks)

4) What is the key idea of the second paragraph?

(2 marks)

5) What is the meaning of the phrase "mutually indispensable"?

(2 marks)

6) What is the essential factor for a society?

(3marks)

7) What is the key idea of the closing paragraph?

(2 marks)

(11) Identify the five linking words from the passage and make new five sentences.

(Marks 1x1 =5)

(Total – 20marks)

**02) Read the following passage and answer the questions set on it.**

The economic performance of 2013, as revealed by the Central bank Annual Report, was for the most part a positive one. However, somewhat concealed were serious concerns in public finances and debt that threaten **economic stability** and growth.

The economy revived from its dip in 2012 to register a growth of 7.3 percent, one percentage point higher than of the previous year. There was growth in **all sectors** of the economy, though the growth in agriculture was lower than in 2012. The growth in manufacturing coupled with increased industrial exports; a decreased trade deficit Of US\$ 7.6 billion and a balance of payments surplus of nearly US\$ one billion were the **bright spots** in the economic performance.

Last year's economic growth of 7.3 percent was significant as there was growth in all three sectors although agricultural growth declined to 4.7 percent compared to a 5.2 percent growth in 2012. Industrial growth of 9.9 percent in 2013 is indeed good as it has been achieved by a growth in output of textile and apparels by 8.9 percent, much higher than the 4.9 percent in 2012.

The **export recovery** in the last six months leads to expectations of a resuscitation of manufactured exports this year. Construction that is component of the industrial sector continued to be an important contributor to industrial growth last year.

Services that contributed 56.8 percent to GDP grew by 6.4 percent in 2012.

Increase in trade, contributed much to this growth with export trade growing at 6.7 percent and internal trade by 6.9 percent. Transport and communication grew by 9.4 percent with post and telecommunications that have been dynamic in recent years growing by 11.4 percent. The growth in tourism is mainly responsible for hotel and restaurants growing by 7.1 percent.

These **achievements** are, however, counter balanced by serious concerns in public finances and increasing foreign and domestic debt that threaten the stability of the economy and sustained economic growth.

Serious weaknesses in the fiscal balance, growing public debt, high debt servicing costs, the large foreign debt whose servicing costs are straining the external finances and policy stance with respect to exchange and interest rates are among the fundamental weaknesses of the economy.

These are not highlighted, though mentioned, in the Central Bank Annual Report. Inadequate public **expenditure** on education and health, is another basic weakness is prioritization of public expenditure that will bear heavily on long term growth.

These vital areas of economic concern threaten the long-term **viability** of the economy.

Weak public finances as revealed by the Annual Report, the fiscal deficit to GDP ratio has been brought down to 5.9 percent in 2013, only marginally higher than the target of 5.8 percent. This reduction has been achieved by government expenditure being passed on to state banks. If these expenditures of the government are taken in to account, the public debt to GDP ratio is likely to have increased.

In spite of this, the weaknesses in the public finances are **revealed** by the onerous debt servicing costs. The servicing of the public debt is the highest expenditure of the government that accounted for nearly one half (49.6) of government expenditure in 2013 and soaked up all of **government revenue**. The fact that the servicing of the public debt exceeds last year's revenue (102 percent) means that the government required borrowing to even service the debt. The large debt **servicing burdens** itself a cause for increasing public debt as other government expenditures have to be met by borrowing.

Meanwhile government revenue has declined from 13.9 percent of GDP in 2012 to just 13.1percent in 2013.

**(Adapted from an article in the Sunday Times)**

- (a) Does the writer depict only the growth of the Sri Lankan economy in 2013? Explain?  
**(2 marks)**
- (b) What sort of differences can be seen between the period 2012-2013, in the Sri Lankan economy?  
**(3 marks)**
- (c) What do the following words refer to, according to the passage?  
**i. economic stability**  
**ii. all sectors**  
**iii. bright spots**

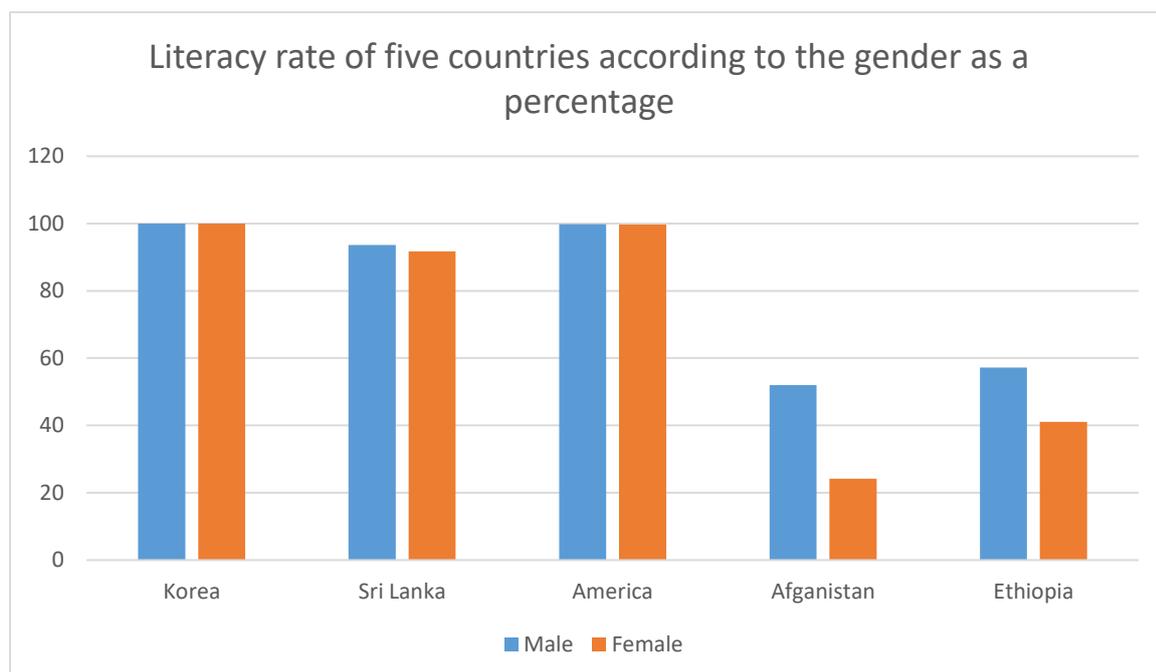
- iv. export recovery
- v. achievements
- vi. expenditure
- vii. viability
- viii. revealed
- ix. government revenue
- x. servicing burden

(10 marks)

- (d) According to the writer, what are the key factors to be considered for an economic growth? Explain? (2 marks)
- (e) Give a suitable title for the passage and explain, why do you think, as that it is suitable for this passage? (3 marks)

(Total 20 marks)

03) Read the following graph and answer the questions given below



1. Give a suitable title for the bar chart, in addition to the given topic? (2 marks)
2. Identify any two significant features of the bar chart and explain them? (Do not use more than 100 words) (8 marks)
3. Write a short paragraph (about 100 words) comparing any two countries?

(8 marks)

4. Write four sentences describing the overall trend shown in the literacy rate according to the gender variations of these countries?

(2 marks)

(Total 20 marks)

**4) Select the correct idiom from the list given below to complete the sentences and write the number in the blank.**

- A. I can't afford this purse! It .....
- B. His birthday was supposed to be a surprise! I can't believe you ..... Now he knows!
- C. Ha! Sagara has been promising to paint the house for five years. Maybe .....
- D. Yeah, it'll be ..... I need to sign some papers at Krishna's school anyway so I'll pick her up for you too.
- E. I don't really like going out to the theatre anymore. I only go .....
- F. I'm sorry I can't come into work today. I'm ..... I have a sore throat and runny nose.
- G. They tried .....when installing the pipes for the house and now we have leaks only one month after purchasing it!
- H. We missed our flight to Paris because the connecting flight was late and ..... they made us pay for a new ticket as if it was our fault!
- I. I can't wait to see you perform on stage tonight! .....
- J. Janitha is just never on time to work, it's really annoying. O' wow, ..... here she comes.
- K. So we're going to London, then Munich, then we will fly out of Athens, right? Great. I'm so glad to be traveling with someone I ..... with.
- L. Wow, she found her dream man and has now landed an amazing job. She really does have .....
- M. Okay, she might not be the most attractive but ..... I'm sure she is a sweetheart.

N. I have been trying to figure this out for ages. Thanks so much, you're right. You .....

O. I can't believe that was our test. I think it was easier than some of our homework! It was .....

P. She is ..... She won't stop talking.

Q. Sorry but I think I'll ..... on that. I don't want to strain my leg.

R. Have you heard? Old Uncle Jamis down the road has .....

S. .... I think he may cheat in the exam.

T. My mother will always ..... to help people.

**1. the best of both worlds**

**2. Speak of the devil**

**3. See eye to eye**

**4. once in a blue moon**

**5. when pigs fly**

**6. costs an arm and a leg**

**7. a piece of cake**

**8. let the cat out of the bag**

**9. feeling under the weather**

**10. killing two birds with one stone**

**11. to cut corners**

**12. to add insult to injury**

**13. You can't judge a book by its cover**

**14. Break a leg**

**15. hit the nail on the head**

16. go the extra mile

17. Keep an eye on him

18. take a rain check

19. driving me up the wall

20. kicked the bucket

**(Total - 20 marks)**

**5). Choose the best word for each of the sentence and underline it.**

- i) Most universities have a special **fund/finance** for students who have run out of money and need help.
- ii) The prediction that we will completely **tire /exhaust** our reserves of oil in the distant future seems now to be incorrect.
- iii) Because he lied to his colleagues and family about his **girlfriend/mistress**, the minister destroyed not only his career but also his marriage.
- iv) Because of the rise in the number of prisoners, the whole **penal/punishment** system will have to be changed.

- v) After six weeks trapped in the embassy, the hostages were finally **emancipated /liberated**.
- vi) Sometimes a piece of music can **evoke/provoke** very strong memories and emotions.
- vii) The biggest issue on which the two parties' policies **divide/diverge** is the amount of money to be spent on education.
- viii) In some countries, the police regularly use **torture/torment** to force prisoners to give them information.
- ix) The most successful students are probably those who have a strong **integral/intrinsic** interest in their subject, as opposed to those who simply want a degree.
- x) In the 1970s, Saudi Arabia and other oil-rich states **accumulated/collected** vast sums of money through the sale of oil.

( Total - 20 marks)

**6). I. Match the following two halves of each collocation.**

pay	up set
bio	bananas
brain	areas
head of	diversity
equal	disasters
keep in	drain
natural	attention
rural	touch
get	opportunities
comb of	cows

(10 marks)

**II. Choose the best answer to fill in the gap in each of the following.**

- a. The problem is difficult to ..... under control.
- b. It took us all day to clean up the office after the burglary, the thieves ..... a terrible mess.
- c. I don't think we should ..... a decision yet; we should wait.
- d. I think we should look for a new supplier, the one we have at the moment ..... us too many problems.
- e. Could you ..... me a favor and post these letters on your way home.
- f. I have told him many times that he's got the wrong telephone number, I'll ..... crazy, if they call again.
- g. Our personnel assistant is leaving next month, she is ..... a baby.
- h. .... management refers to the collection, transport, processing, recycling and disposal of waste materials.
- i. The teacher was late this morning, because she ..... stuck in the traffic jam.

- j. .... heels shoes are stylish and sexy, however, they are sometimes dangerous.

**(go, waste, expecting, do, keep, make, causes, made, got, high)**

**(10 marks)**

**( Total - 20 marks)**