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**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

1<sup>st</sup> Year, First Semester Examination-2017

EN 1111- Reading & Vocabulary Development (FT/PT)

**Instructions for Candidates:**

Answer any Five (05) questions only  
(Select at least 02 from each section).

No. of questions : 06

No. of pages : 07

Time : 03 hours

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### Part A

#### Question No.01

#### A Tribute to Beauty

When Mumtaz Mahal was still alive, she extracted four promises from the emperor: first, that he builds the Taj; second, that he should marry again; third, that he be kind to their children; and fourth, that he visits the tomb on her death anniversary. He kept the first and second promises. Construction began in 1631 and was completed in 22 years. Twenty thousand people were deployed to work on it. The material was brought in from all over India and central Asia and it took a fleet of 1000 elephants to transport it to the site. It was designed by the Iranian architect Ustad Isa and it is best appreciated when the architecture and its adornments are linked to the passion that inspired it. It is a "symbol of eternal love".

The Taj rises on a high red sandstone base topped by a huge white marble terrace on which rests the famous dome flanked by four tapering minarets. Within the dome lies the jewel-inlaid cenotaph of the queen. So exquisite is the workmanship that the Taj has been described as "having been designed by giants and finished by jewellers". The only asymmetrical object in the Taj is the casket of the emperor which was built beside the queen's as an afterthought. The emperor was deposed by his son and imprisoned in the Great Red Fort for eight years but was buried in the Taj. During his imprisonment, he had a view of the Taj.

As a tribute to a beautiful woman and as a monument for enduring love, the Taj reveals its subtleties when one visits it without being in a hurry. The rectangular base of Taj is in itself symbolic of the different sides from which to view a beautiful woman. The main gate is like a veil to a woman's face which should be lifted delicately, gently and without haste on the wedding night. In Indian tradition the veil is lifted gently to reveal the beauty of the bride. (source: www.angelfire.com)

**I) Choose the best answer from the Multiple Choice:**

**(1X5=5)**

1. The construction of Taj was over in\_\_\_\_\_
  - a. 1631
  - b. 1953
  - c. 1650
  - d. 1653
  
2. The passion that inspired the Taj was
  - a. The emperors undying love for his wife
  - b. The beauty of Mumtaz
  - c. The Mughal art and architecture
  - d. The grief of the emperor on the death of his wife.
  
3. The only part of Taj which was not part of the original design and hence is not symmetrical is.....
  - a. The main gate
  - b. The fountain in the southern part of the courtyard
  - c. The emperor's tomb
  - d. A waiting area for the visitor
  
4. The work of Taj is said to be finished by jewellers because of:
  - a. its enduring beauty
  - b. its exquisite workmanship
  - c. The many precious jewels used in building the Taj
  - d. The calligraphy work on its walls.
  
5. The main gate hides the beauty of the Taj like a.....
  - a. veil to a woman's face
  - b. veil that protects the bride from evil eyes
  - c. veil that must be lifted very slowly to reveal the beauty of a bride
  - d. a curtain over something extremely precious.

**II) Write answer to the following questions:**

**(2X6=12)**

- 1) What are the four promises that the Emperor made to Mumtaz Mahal?
- 2) Taj Mahal stands for \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Who was behind the design of Taj?
- 4) What was the medium of transport used during the time of construction?
- 5) Why does the author say that one shouldn't be in a hurry when he/she visits Taj?
- 6) What is being kept within the dome?

7) Give the meaning for the following words:

**(1X3=3)**

- i) Veil \_\_\_\_\_
- ii) Dome \_\_\_\_\_
- iii) Tribute \_\_\_\_\_

**(Total 20 Marks)**

## Question No .02

### **Find out the Appropriate Words and Complete the Following:**

It is not good for man that his life should be all joy and (1) ..... The lands which only know sunshine and never rain become (2) .....The most beautiful countries are those which are (3) ..... visited by both sunshine and rain. It is in these lands that (4) ..... and fruits grow and sweet birds sing. There is nothing more beautiful than a (5) ..... If life is to be rounded and many-coloured (6) ..... the rainbow, both joy and sorrow must come to it. Those who have never known (7) ..... but prosperity and pleasure become hard and (8) ..... but those whose prosperity has been mixed with (9) ..... become kind and (10) .....

India is (11) ..... the move and the old order passes. Too long have we been (12) ..... spectators of events and the (13) ..... of others. The (14) ..... comes to our people now and we shall make the history of our (15) ..... Let us all join in this mighty (16) ..... and make India, the (17) .....of our heart, great among nations, foremost in the arts of peace and progress. The door is open and destiny (18) .... to all. There is no question of who wins and who (19) ....., for we have to go forward and together as comrades and either all of us win or we all (20) ..... together.

- |     |     |            |                  |                  |                  |
|-----|-----|------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1.  | (a) | adversity  | (b) pain         | (c) prosperity   | (d) sorrow       |
| 2.  | (a) | deserts    | (b) garbage      | (c) marshy       | (d) fallow       |
| 3.  | (a) | regularly  | (b) interminably | (c) occasionally | (d) fairly       |
| 4.  | (a) | flowers    | (b) hedges       | (c) vegetables   | (d) bowers       |
| 5.  | (a) | sky        | (b) flower       | (c) rainbow      | (d) rain         |
| 6.  | (a) | like       | (b) so           | (c) as           | (d) by           |
| 7.  | (a) | nothing    | (b) something    | (c) anything     | (d) no word      |
| 8.  | (a) | cruel      | (b) harsh        | (c) shallow      | (d) stern        |
| 9.  | (a) | adversity  | (b) hardship     | (c) poverty      | (d) tragedy      |
| 10. | (a) | gracious   | (b) meek         | (c) gentle       | (d) generous     |
| 11. | (a) | for        | (b) on           | (c) in           | (d) at           |
| 12. | (a) | passive    | (b) silent       | (c) detached     | (d) impartial    |
| 13. | (a) | toys       | (b) hireling     | (c) playthings   | (d) subordinates |
| 14. | (a) | initiative | (b) charge       | (c) call         | (d) offer        |
| 15. | (a) | desire     | (b) need         | (c) dream        | (d) choice       |
| 16. | (a) | work       | (b) venture      | (c) task         | (d) project      |
| 17. | (a) | heaven     | (b) pride        | (c) cynosure     | (d) seat         |
| 18. | (a) | asks       | (b) beckons      | (c) summons      | (d) reiterates   |
| 19. | (a) | loses      | (b) falls        | (c) fails        | (d) stumbles     |
| 20. | (a) | fall back  | (b) lie down     | (c) perish       | (d) go down      |

**(1X20=20 Marks)**

### **Question No. 03**

**Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:**

The valley was already glistening in brilliant sunshine when the Bushman emerged from his cave. He had not slept until it was morning, for he had never known a lion to show such persistent aggressiveness as had his persecutor, and so he remained on guard. His first act now was to drag several heavy logs to his cave with which to fortify its entrance against further possible onslaughts. This done, he overhauled his bow and arrows, and was particularly careful to apply fresh poison to the arrow-heads. He knew that the lion, however hungry, would remain quiescent the greater part of the day.

He was about to go out to collect food when his attention was attracted by the sudden appearance of a troop of baboons on some large rocks at the bottom of the gorge, only about thirty yards away. The troop, who had certainly never seen a human being before, had appeared on the rocks above his cave the very first day of his arrival. It seemed as if their curiosity about him would never be satisfied but what further attracted them was the remains of this food, which he left lying about outside. They had now become so accustomed to him that even the babies toddled and gambolled without the protection of their mothers within ten yards of him, while the patriarchs sat round in solemn conclave, as if they could never discuss his freak of nature enough. The Bushman was always glad to see them, not only for their company, but because he knew that while they were around he was surrounded by the keenest scouts in the world, and that not so much as the ear or tail of a marauder would show within a mole without their knowing of it and giving the alarm.

Neither the Bushman nor any of his ancestors had ever killed or eaten a baboon, since they believed that these apes were human beings like themselves, though of lower type. As he sat there watching the idle throng there was nothing in their gestures, antics, or appearance that could alter this relief. A youngster would annoy an adult and he heartily cuffed. If the chastiser happened to be his mother, he would flee to a friend for solace and protection. Then some old male would doze off where he sat, with hands on knees and head lolling on one side, like an old Bushman who had passed a bad night; and a group of females, would chat animatedly about what would appear to be the latest scandal or domestic problem.

It was about mid-day when the baboons suddenly decided to go and even their leave-taking was thoroughly in accordance with Bushman's custom and tradition, which on such occasions demands that there should be no external demonstration of any kind.

1. "A troop of baboons": what are the different collective nouns for the followings? (3 Marks)  
i) cows\_\_\_\_\_                      ii) sheep\_\_\_\_\_                      iii) lions\_\_\_\_\_
2. The Bushman liked to see the baboons because\_\_\_\_\_ (2 Marks)
3. The baboons were extremely interested in the Bushman because\_\_\_\_\_ (2 Marks)

4. Find out words from the passage which mean..... (7 Marks)

- i) Violent attacks\_\_\_\_\_
- ii) Not active\_\_\_\_\_
- iii) A deep narrow valley with steep sides\_\_\_\_\_
- iv) Serious looking\_\_\_\_\_
- v) Attacker\_\_\_\_\_
- vi) Crowd \_\_\_\_\_
- vii) Emotional Comfort\_\_\_\_\_

5. From the passage find out the word which means the opposite of: (2 Marks)

- i) Weaken\_\_\_\_\_
- ii) Internal\_\_\_\_\_

6. Make meaningful sentences of your own by using the following words: (4 Marks)

- i) Glistening    ii) persistent    iii) drag    iv) accustomed

**(Total 20 Marks)**

### **Part B**

#### **Question No. 04**

**I) Put the words in brackets in the appropriate form (use a prefix or a suffix):**  
(1X10=10)

- i) He was acting in a very \_\_\_\_\_way. (child)
- ii) He passed his exam. He was \_\_\_\_\_ for the second time. (succeed)
- iii) The team that he supported was able to win the\_\_\_\_\_. (champion)
- iv) There were only a \_\_\_\_\_ of people at the match. (hand)
- v) The road was too narrow, so they had to \_\_\_\_\_ it. (wide)
- vi) She had no \_\_\_\_\_ of going to see him. (intend)
- vii) I couldn't find any \_\_\_\_\_ in his theory. (weak)
- viii) There is a small \_\_\_\_\_ explaining the new traffic code. (book)
- ix) You need a \_\_\_\_\_ of motivation, organization and hard work to realize your dreams. (combine)
- x) With the real plan, the rate of \_\_\_\_\_ in Brazil has fallen. (inflate)

**I) Use prefixes to find the opposite of these verbs:** (1X10=10)

- 1- wrap \_\_\_\_\_
- 2- comfort \_\_\_\_\_
- 3- agree \_\_\_\_\_
- 4- engage \_\_\_\_\_
- 5- satisfy \_\_\_\_\_
- 6- understand \_\_\_\_\_
- 7- fold \_\_\_\_\_
- 8- spell \_\_\_\_\_
- 9- connect \_\_\_\_\_
- 10- close \_\_\_\_\_

(Total 20 Marks)

**Question No. 05**

- I) Choose the Correct Word from the bracket:** (1X6=6)
- i) My grandmother has given me a lot of \_\_\_\_\_ over the years. I think she wants me to use it to write her. (stationery/ stationary)
  - ii) The oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico has \_\_\_\_\_ the economy and the environment in negative ways. (affected / effected)
  - iii) I wish I had seen the show last night, I heard it was \_\_\_\_\_ a performance. (quiet / quit / quite)
  - iv) Whatever happens, do not \_\_\_\_\_ down your weapon! (lie / lay)
  - v) I like everything about my roommate Matt \_\_\_\_\_ his snoring. (accept / except)
  - vi) This pattern works best with \_\_\_\_\_, heavy fabric. (course/ coarse)

**II) Use the following words as inflectional and derivational suffixes and make meaningful sentences.**

- i) Walk (inflectional suffix)
  - ii) Old (inflectional suffix)
  - iii) Drive ( inflectional suffix)
  - iv) Sing (derivational suffix)
  - v) Exact (derivational suffix)
  - vi) Free (derivational suffix)
  - vii) Read (derivational suffix)
- (2X7=14)

(Total 20 Marks)

**Question No. 6**

I) Identify the word classes of the following words and complete the table below: (1/2X20=10)

Carefully	Government	Kingdom	Speechless
Clockwise	Idealism	Manly	Station
Cruelty	Identify	Onward	Symbolize
Drinkable	Industrialize	Ripen	Useless
Easily	Japanese	Sadly	Vary

<u>Noun</u>	<u>Verb</u>	<u>Adjective</u>	<u>Adverb</u>

II) Fill in the blanks with correct form of the words: (1X10=10)

(Total 20 Marks)

<b>Noun</b>	<b>Verb</b>	<b>Adjective</b>	<b>Adverb</b>
1.	2.	Beautiful	beautifully
3.	Admire	4.	Admiringly
Attractiveness	Attract	5.	6.
Ability	7.	Able	8.
9.	Repeat	Repeated	10.