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முழுப் பதிப்பரிமையடையது/  
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Department of Examinations, Sri Lanka

English Language Test for the Sri Lanka Principals' Service - 2017

(01) General English

| Question No.      | Marks Awarded |
|-------------------|---------------|
| 1                 |               |
| 2                 |               |
| 3                 |               |
| 4                 |               |
| 5                 |               |
| 6                 |               |
| 7                 |               |
| Total             |               |
| Marking Examiner: |               |
| Checked By:       |               |

Three hours

Answer all the questions on this paper itself.

Index No : .....

1. In the following text, fill in the each blank with an appropriate preposition from those given in the box.

by, of, over, across, of, ago, in, of, for, towards

Computers have been shrinking (i) ..... size ever since the introduction (ii)..... the concept almost two centuries (iii) ..... The latest developments in microchip manufacturing is likely to make them even smaller.

The earliest prototype of a computer was invented (iv) ..... Charles Babbage. The machine was called the Difference Engine. It has 26,000 parts and weighted (v)..... 15 tons.

The first electronic computer was introduced (vi) ..... the end of the World War II. It had 1,500 vacuum tubes and was even heavier than Babbage's computer. The introduction (vii) ..... the silicon based microchip in the early 1950s changed the destiny of computers (viii) ..... ever. The first microchip computers were still very complex. They had more than 100,000 transistors and measured several meters (ix) .....

Today's microchips are incredibly small and scientists are working (x) ..... making them even smaller.

(01×10=10 marks)

2. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

A newly appointed principal at a western Sydney high school has faced threats amid community anger over the Education Department's decision (i) ..... (remove) former principal Chris Griffiths.

Education Department secretary Mark Scott confirmed a threat (ii) ..... (make) against the recently instated principal of Punchbowl Boys High School, Robert Patruno.

Mr. Patruno, who most recently headed the education unit inside Reiby Juvenile Justice Centre, (iii) ..... (encourage) by the department to report the threat to police, Mr. Scott told Ray Hadley on 2GB.

"It's appalling and it's disturbing, and that's why we (iv) ..... (encourage) the principal to brief the police on it," he said.

NSW Police (v) ..... (release) a statement about the incident last evening. "About 4:30 pm on Tuesday, March 7, 32 year old man (vi) ..... (attend) Bankstown Police station

[see page two.

to report a threat (vii) ..... (made) against him the previous day," a NSW police spokesperson (viii) ..... (told) the ABC. "At the time of (ix) ..... (make) the report, the 32 year old wished no further police action be taken."

However, Mr. Scott said Mr. Patruno was focused on (x) ..... (calm) down the school community, meeting with parents and students and "getting on with his leadership".

(01×10=10 marks)

3. Combine and Re-write these pairs of sentences using an appropriate word from those given in the box. Do not change the order of the two sentences in the new sentence.

though, when, for, as soon as, before, if, so that, nor, but, unless

- (i) I went to see the manager personally. I had a very serious complaint to make.

- (ii) The bull rushed straight at the little boy. He quickly moved to one side.

- (iii) I locked my bedroom. I would not be disturbed by the children.

- (iv) The girl did not buy that expensive pair of shoes. She liked them very much.

- (v) She will win the race. She practices a lot.

- (vi) I did not steal the pears from your orchard. My brother did not either.

- (vii) We were walking to the other side of the island. We found a small stream.

- (viii) You work hard, you will fail the test.

- (ix) She cannot go to work. She fully recovers from her illness.

- (x) We can begin the programme. The minister arrives.

(01×10=10 marks)

[see page three.]

4. Fill in each blank with an appropriate word from those given in the box. Use only one word in a blank. Use each word only once.

aspects, aim, is, considered, that, be, nation, his, instruction, through, environment, of, introducing, provision, and, physical, development, system, help, caters

Education, to Gandhi, was a means to achieve perfection of individuality on the one hand and an instrument of service to the (i)..... on the other. This in other words meant (ii)..... of whole child, the whole personality (iii)..... the child. Harmonious development of all the aspects of human personality such as (iv)..... intellectual and spiritual was emphasized by him as an individual (v) ..... of education. In fact, Gandhi attached much importance to character education (vi) ..... moral development of the child (vii) ..... education.

Gandhi (viii) ..... elementary education the most important phase of the educational (ix) ..... He, therefore, expressed (x) ..... views only about the curriculum of the primary stage. The curriculum should (xi) ..... so designed that it (xii) ..... to the development of all the (xiii) ..... of child personality. Hence, there should be (xiv) ..... in the curriculum for activities, experiences and subjects of knowledge that can (xv) ..... achieve these developments.

He, then, suggested making the curriculum activity center by (xvi) ..... teaching of some craft like spinning, weaving, handicraft, book craft, art, agriculture, and pottery etc., whichever (xvii) ..... close to the child's life in his (xviii) ..... Besides, he recommended (ix) ..... mother tongue should be the medium of (xx) ..... at this stage.

(01×20=20 marks)

5. Write a **summary** of this passage using about **45 words**. Use your own words. Write only one word in each cage.

There are several important points that a newly appointed principal should pay attention to. First, it is important to establish relationships. Relationships come before everything. Like anyone else, teachers do not want to listen to someone who doesn't genuinely care about them. Get to know everyone on a personal level. Ask them how their day is going, pry into their personal lives a bit, and make sure to attend staff outings. Second, just as teachers should never forget what it's like to be a student, administrators should never forget what it's like to be a teacher. Spend a great deal of time in classrooms, being as non-evaluative as you can. Third, it is necessary to approach your job with the notion that everyone has something to contribute, because a valuable idea can come from absolutely anyone. Don't take it personally if anyone challenges you on some level. In other words, make sure to separate ideas and opinions from the individuals who are delivering them. These points will help you to become a good administrator at school.

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[see page four.]

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(15 marks)

6. Read the following text and do the activities that follow.

Brain drain, which is the action of having highly skilled and educated people leaving their country to work abroad has become one of the developing countries concern. Brain drain is also referred to as human capital flight. More and more third world science and technology educated people are heading for more prosperous countries seeking higher wages and better working conditions. This has of course serious consequences on the sending countries.

While many people believe that immigration is a personal choice that must be understood and respected, others look at the phenomenon from a different perspective. What makes those educated people leave their countries should be seriously considered and a distinction between push and pull factors must be made. The push factors include low wages and lack of satisfactory working and living conditions. Social unrest, political conflicts and war may also be determining causes. The pull factors, however, include intellectual freedom and substantial funds for research.

Brain drain has negative impact on the sending countries economic prospects and competitiveness. It reduces the number of dynamic and creative people who can contribute to the development of their country. Likewise, with more entrepreneurs taking their investments abroad, developing countries are missing an opportunity of wealth creation. This has also negative consequences on tax revenue and employment.

Most of the measures taken so far have not had any success in alleviating the effects of brain drain. A more global view must take into consideration the provision of adequate working and living conditions in the sending countries. Another option should involve encouraging the expatriates to contribute their skill to the development of their countries without necessarily physically relocating.

- A. Underline the most appropriate response in the following questions.

- (i) Which of the following is **directly given** in the text?

- (1) Brain drain is the most serious problem developing countries encounter at present.
- (2) Everybody agrees that immigration is a personal choice and it has nothing to do with brain drain.
- (3) Developing countries have never identified why educated people leave their countries.
- (4) From the perspective of developing countries brain drain has negative effects on tax revenue.

- (ii) Which of the following is **not** a cause of brain drain?

- (1) Less wages
- (2) Tax revenue
- (3) Poor working conditions
- (4) Political conflicts

- (iii) The pronoun in bold print in the third paragraph '**It**' refers to

- (1) competitiveness
- (2) country
- (3) brain drain
- (4) impact

[see page five.]

- (iv) Which of the following is given by the writer in this text?
- (1) Suggestions as to how the problem should be tackled
  - (2) Benefits the developed countries receive due to brain drain
  - (3) Detail of future trends of brain drain
  - (4) Details as to why the developing countries cannot control the issue
- (v) Which of the following is **not** regarded as a 'push' factor?
- (1) intellectual freedom
  - (2) low wages
  - (3) poor working conditions
  - (4) poor living conditions

B. State whether the following statements are TRUE or FALSE. Put a cross (x) in the correct space.

| STATEMENT                                                                                                                | TRUE | FALSE |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------|
| (a) According to the writer, because of brain drain, the unemployment of sending countries can be solved to some extent  |      |       |
| (b) Some of the developing countries have successfully addressed the issue of brain drain                                |      |       |
| (b) Providing research grants has a connection to brain drain                                                            |      |       |
| (d) The writer criticizes the developed countries for attracting capable individuals of developing countries             |      |       |
| (e) The writer criticizes the educated people in the third world countries who are heading for more prosperous countries |      |       |

C. Find a word from the text which meaning closest to each of the following.

- (i) affluent .....
- (ii) results .....
- (iii) a regular amount of money a person earns .....
- (iv) making something less severe .....
- (v) persons living in a country that is not their own .....

(15 marks)

7. Write an essay one of the following topics. Use about **250 words**.

- (i) Grade V scholarship examination; should it be changed?
- (ii) Should private tuition classes be banned?
- (iii) Main problems in the present education system in Sri Lanka

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(20 marks)

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