PART A – GRAMMAR (40 marks)

I. Fill in each blank with a suitable preposition from the list given in the box. Use each preposition only once. There is one preposition extra. (05 marks)

by with of for in on

A child psychologist had twin boys; one an optimist, the other, a pessimist. Just to see what would happen, (1) Christmas Day, he loaded the pessimist’s room (2) toys and games. In the optimist’s room, he dumped a pile of horse droppings.

That night, the father found the pessimist surrounded (3) his girls, crying. “What’s wrong?” the father asked.

“I have a ton (4) game manuals to read. I need batteries and my toys will all eventually get broken!” sobbed the pessimist.

Passing the optimist’s room, the father found him dancing for joy around the pile of manure. “Why are you so happy?” he asked.

The optimist shouted, “There must be a pony, somewhere here. You know, I am very much interested (5) playing with ponies!”

II. Fill in each blank with the correct form of the pronoun given in brackets. (05 marks)

A curious child asked (1) (he) mother: “mommy, why are some of (2) (you) hairs turning grey?”

The mother tried to use this occasion to teach her child a lesson: “(3) (it) is because of you, dear. Every bad action of yours will turn one of (4) (I) hairs grey!”

The child replied innocently: “Now (5) (I) know why our grandmother has only grey hairs on her head.”
III. Fill in each blank with the correct form of the verb given in brackets.  (10 marks)

An old man who lived in Bandarawela (1) .................................. (want) to dig up his potato garden last year, but it was very hard work. His only son, who (2) .................................. (help) him, was in prison and he couldn’t afford an attorney to get him out. The old man wrote the following letter to his son and told about his situation:

Dear son,

I am feeling pretty bad because it (3) .................................. (look) like I won’t be able to plant my potato garden this year. I hate to miss (4) .................................. (cultivate) the garden because your mother always loves planting time. I’m just getting too old to be digging up a garden plot. I know you (5) .................................. (help) me, if you weren’t in prison.

Love,

Dad.

Shortly, the old man received this telegram:

‘For heaven’s sake, Dad, never (6) .................................. (dig) the garden!! That’s where I buried the GUNS!! Once I return home, I (7) .................................. (hide) them somewhere else.’

At about 4 a.m. the next morning, a dozen of police officers showed up and dug up the entire garden. However, no gun (8) .................................. (find).

Confused, the old man wrote another note telling his son what (9) .................................. just (happen) and asked him what to do next.

His son’s reply was: ‘Go ahead and plant your potatoes, Dad. It’s the best I could do for you, from here. At the moment, I (10) .................................. (have) a hard time here and everything will be fine soon.’

IV. Fill in each blank with a suitable word from the list given in the box. Use each word only once. There is one word extra.  (05 marks)

an several much a another this

A taxi driver was driving (1) .................................. passenger across town, and the passenger tapped him on his shoulder and said “Drop me at a pharmacy, please”. The taxi driver swerved and stopped the taxi almost hitting (2) .................................. taxi and (3) .................................. old woman. The passenger said “Oh I am so sorry, I startled you!” And the taxi driver apologized and said “This is my first day on (4) .................................. job and you are my first customer.” The passenger asked “What did you do before driving a taxi?” The taxi driver said “I’ve been driving a hearse for (5) .................................. years.”
V. Construct questions to get the words in bold print as answers. Use the question words given in the box. There is one question word extra. (05 marks)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How</th>
<th>When</th>
<th>Why</th>
<th>Where</th>
<th>Who</th>
<th>How many</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

(1) Shanika will borrow two cassettes from the video shop.

(2) Majid has gone to Colombo to meet his brother.

(3) Shanthan attends English classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

(4) The principal kept the cell phone in a cupboard.

(5) The first Distributor Convention was held to select the best sales supervisor.

VI. Complete the following sentences by putting the words/phrases in brackets in the correct order to make meaningful sentences. (05 marks)

(1) I .........................................................

(this opportunity / for today's function / for making / take / the organizing committee / to thank / arrangements)

(2) The Central Bank's statistics .........................................................

(indication / as / of the economy / can be used / of the country / a reliable)

(3) We .........................................................

(for excellence / continue / during / to search / the coming year / shall)

(4) Notices .........................................................

(everyone in the organization / to give / information / are / benefit / written / which will)

(5) A diplomat .........................................................

(will look forward / can tell you / is someone / to get to hell / who / you / to the trip / in such a way that)
VII. Combine the following pairs of sentences using a suitable conjunction from those given in brackets. (05 marks)

(1) The theatre was crowded. We managed to find a seat in the balcony. (if, although, since)

(2) I asked for some financial support. She gave me ten thousand rupees. (as soon as, unless, as long as)

(3) He stared at me for a few seconds. He had never seen me before. (until, after, as if)

(4) The teacher will not accept any excuse. You give a valid reason. (if, unless, while)

(5) We have to wait at home. We receive a letter from our university. (but, as if, until)

PART B - COMPREHENSION (20 marks)

I. Of the options given below each sentence in bold print, underline the one that best expresses its meaning. (05 marks)

(1) Sometimes people don’t appreciate what they have until they lose them.
   (i) Sometimes people appreciate things when it is too late.
   (ii) When people don’t appreciate what they have, they lose them.
   (iii) Sometimes people appreciate the things that they often lose.
   (iv) People don’t appreciate the things in their possession even if they lose them.

(2) The frock was fine as far as the colour was concerned but it wasn’t of very good quality.
   (i) Both the colour and the quality of the frock were good.
   (ii) Though the quality of the frock was good, its colour was not fine.
   (iii) The quality of the frock often depends on its colour.
   (iv) Though the colour of the frock was fine, it was of a poor quality.

(3) It is Nimal who first told me that the match had been cancelled.
   (i) I knew that the match had been cancelled before Nimal told me.
   (ii) I didn’t know that the match had been cancelled until Nimal told me.
   (iii) I told Nimal that the match had been cancelled when he asked me.
   (iv) Nimal knew that the match had been cancelled but he did not tell me.

(4) Had I known that Mr. Raghu was the Chairman, I would have talked to him.
   (i) Mr. Raghu was not the Chairman so I did not talk to him.
   (ii) I did not know that Mr. Raghu was the Chairman but I talked to him.
   (iii) I did not know that Mr. Raghu was the Chairman so I did not talk to him.
   (iv) I knew that Mr. Raghu was the Chairman but I did not talk to him.

(5) I hurried to get to the bus stop only to find that I didn’t have enough to pay the fare.
   (i) I hurried to get to the bus stop and then I found that I had enough money to pay for the bus.
   (ii) I hurried to get to the bus stop but I found that I was short of money to pay for the bus.
   (iii) I found that I didn’t have enough money to pay for the bus but I hurried to get to the bus stop.
   (iv) I found that I had enough money to pay for the bus and then I hurried to get to the bus stop.
II. Read the following text and do the activity that follows. (05 marks)

Ruhunu Plantations PLC
Sale of used Motor Vehicles

Offers are invited for the sale of following company owned and maintained vehicles.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vehicle Type</th>
<th>Vehicles</th>
<th>Location of Inspection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Motor Cycle</td>
<td>(i) Honda CD 185 (MV 32xx)</td>
<td>Ruhunu Plantations PLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(ii) Yamaha 125 (GA 45xx)</td>
<td>Imaduwa Branch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Main Street, Imaduwa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double Cab</td>
<td>(i) Toyota Hilux (59-42xx)</td>
<td>Ruhunu Estate PLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(ii) Toyota Hilux (59-56xx)</td>
<td>Alwis Rd, Deniyaya</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above vehicles could be inspected at the given addresses from 2nd September to 12th September, 2018 during weekdays from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm excluding Mondays. Sealed offers must be deposited in the Tender Boxes available at the inspection locations before 4.00 pm on 13th September, 2018.

Tender forms could be obtained from the address given below and locations of inspection at Rs. 100.00 (non-refundable) per form. A separate tender form should be submitted for each vehicle. A refundable deposit of Rs. 2500.00 each for a Motor Cycle and Rs. 5000.00 each for a Double Cab should be made with each offer. Further details can also be obtained from the company website.

General Manager
Ruhunu Plantations PLC
344, Main Street
Matara.
Web: www.ruhunueplc.lk

Write True or False beside each sentence in the space provided.

(1) The present owner of the vehicle, Yamaha 125 (GA 45xx) is Ruhunu Plantations PLC. (.............)

(2) An interested person can inspect the vehicles on Monday 10th September, 2018 at 10.00 am. (.............)

(3) Prospective bidders can submit tenders online using the company website. (.............)

(4) A person who wants to buy Toyota Hilux 59-42xx can obtain the tender form only at Ruhunu Estate PLC, Deniyaya. (.............)

(5) A total refundable amount of Rs. 15000.00 should be deposited by a person who intends to purchase all the four vehicles mentioned here. (.............)
III. Read the following part of the poem written by D.H. Lawrence and do the activities that follow. (05 marks)

The blinds are drawn because of the sun,
And the boys and the room in a colourless gloom
Of underwater float: bright ripples run
Across the walls as the blinds are blown
To let the sunlight in; and I,
As I sit on the shores of the class, alone,
Watch the boys in their summer blouses
As they write, their round heads busily bowed:
And one after another rouses
His face to look at me;
To ponder very quietly,
As seeing, he does not see.

And then he turns again, with a little, glad
Thrill of his work he turns again from me,
Having found what he wanted, having got what was to be had.
And very sweet it is, while the sunlight waves
In the ripening morning, to sit alone with the class
And feel the stream of awakening ripple and pass
From me to the boys, whose brightening souls it laves
For this little hour.

(1) **Underline** the most appropriate response.

   Where is the speaker at the time of describing this event?
   (i) On the sea shore                             (ii) In a summer hut
   (iii) In his classroom                           (iv) On a class trip

(2) Write True or False in the space provided.

   (a) All the boys here are blind. — (............)

   (b) The speaker is happy to see the boys at work. — (............)

(3) Who or what does the pronoun in bold print in the poem refer to?

   they — ........................................

(4) Write one word from the poem which means the same as the following.

   a feeling of excitement or pleasure — ........................................

IV Read the following passage and do the activities that follow. (05 marks)

The California Department of Health warned that people need to keep their cell phones several feet away from them to reduce radiation exposure and health risks. The Department has given guidelines for reducing exposure to cell phone radiation, amid evidence that the use of cell phones may be linked to cancer and mental health issues.

Cell phones transmit information using low frequency radio signals, which may expose us to unhealthy radiation, especially when downloading large files. Research has not been able to prove definitively that cell phone radiation is dangerous, but there have been enough studies suggesting the risks, especially for children, according to the Department.

The radio frequency (RF) energy cell phones are at the bottom of the ‘radiation risk list’ but research suggests that our frequent, close-range exposure to cell phones may be enough to endanger us. ‘Keeping a phone directly on the body has never been a good idea’, says Dr. Devra Davis of the Environmental Health Trust.
In fact, cell phone producers themselves seem to agree with the view that close-range exposure to cell phones is dangerous. For example, most of them have taken action to provide an ‘RF exposure’ notice in the phone’s settings. They also give us advice for reducing exposure by using speakerphones or hands-free accessories. “Unfortunately, most of the people are not aware that there is a clear warning to keep the phone away from the body” says Dr. Davis.

(1) Write True or False beside each sentence in the space provided.
   (a) According to the California Department of Health, only children are affected by radiation in cell phones.  
      (b) Low frequency radio signals could contain unhealthy radiation for human beings. 
      (c) Many cell phone producers completely ignore the harmful effects of radiation on their customers.

(2) Underline the most appropriate response.
    Which of the following is directly mentioned as the opinion of Dr. Devra Davis?
    (i) The RF energy cell phones may not be very harmful to users.
    (ii) Cell phones transmit information using low frequency radio signals.
    (iii) It is not wise to keep a cell phone directly on one’s body.
    (iv) ‘RF exposure’ notice in phone’s settings can be very effective.

(3) Who or what does the pronoun in bold print in the final paragraph refer to?
   them

☐ PART C - SUMMARISING (10 marks)

I. Write a summary of each of the following two texts. Do not use more than fifty (50) words for each summary. If you exceed the word limit marks will be deducted. Write only one word in each cage. (05 + 05 = 10 marks)

(1) Gardening offers a set of benefits. First, it helps to improve one’s health. Obviously, as a form of physical exercise, it reduces one’s body weight. According to recent research, gardening has been proven to reduce stress and high blood pressure too. Second, gardening increases the overall value of one’s home. In fact, a landscaping design can be considered an investment for the future. A tastefully designed yard can add beauty to the house. Therefore, it can help one sell his or her house faster than the average home owner. Third, by gardening, we can truly “go green” to benefit the earth. Plants act as highly effective air cleaners, absorbing carbon dioxide, plus many air pollutants, while releasing clean oxygen. Finally, research has shown that gardeners generally have greater self-satisfaction than non-gardeners. Gardening is truly becoming an art that gives self-satisfaction. Planning, planting and watching one’s own garden grow can fill a person with satisfaction and pride.
(2) Inequality between men and women affects their families in a number of ways. Most importantly, this discrimination results in poorer health for children. According to a recent study conducted by UNICEF, in places where women are excluded from family decisions, children are more likely to suffer from malnutrition. There would be 13 million fewer malnourished children in South Asia if women had an equal say in their families. Further, UNICEF surveyed family decision-making in 30 countries around the world. Their main finding is that equality between men and women is vital in reducing the poverty, especially in developing countries. In addition, where men control the household, less money is spent on educational purposes of their families, which results in poorer educational achievement of children. A recent study conducted in South Africa reveals that there would be at least 10 million more educated children if women had an equal say in their families.

PART D - WRITING (30 marks)

1. Imagine that a friend who studied with you previously has sent you a letter, asking you for some advice to improve his/her English knowledge. Write a letter to this friend, saying how you improved your English language skills and what steps he/she should follow to learn English. Use about 125-150 words. Do not exceed this word limit. (15 marks)
II. The garbage collectors have not been collecting the rubbish in your area for the past two weeks. Write a letter of complaint to the Environment Officer/PHI of the Pradeshiya Saba/Urban Council/Municipal Council in your area. Explain the situation and the effect it has on residents and request him/her to take prompt action. Use about 125 - 150 words. Do not exceed this word limit. (15 marks)