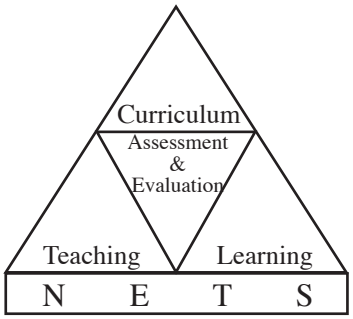
G.C.E.(O.L.) Examination - 2016

Marking Scheme

31 - English Language



Research and Development Branch
National Evaluation and Testing Service
Department of Examinations, Sri Lanka

Part II

2.0 Information regarding questions and answers

2.1 Question paper I

2.1.1 Structure of the question paper I

* Time allocated for paper I is **one** hour.
* Paper I includes **eight** tests and **all** tests are **compulsory**.
* Total mark for paper I is **40**.

Question (Test) No.	Area of testing	Marks Distribution	Total
1	Vocabulary	1 × 5	05
2	Grammar	1 × 5	05
3	Vocabulary	½ × 10	05
4	Reading	1 × 5	05
5	Reading	1 × 5	05
6	Writing	C - 2, L - 3	05
7	Reading	1 × 5	05
8	Writing	C - 2, L - 3	05

2.1.2 Tests and expected answers, marking scheme, observations and comments

* Observations and comments for the given answers for all the questions in Paper I are based on Graphs 1 and 3 given in page 8 and 11 respectively.

- Test 1 – Vocabulary

Objective : *Assess the ability to use words appropriately and accurately to convey precise meaning.*

Technique : *Fill in the blanks*

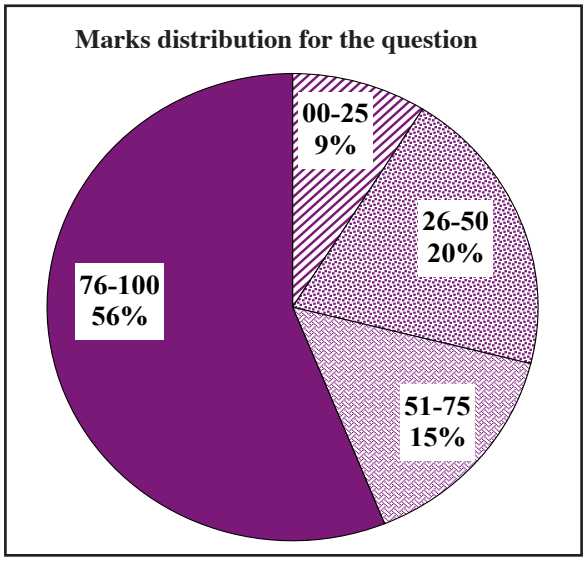
❍ **Test 1**

Complete the dialogue between Kamal and Rajan. Use the words given in the box. Write the correct letter in the blank. *The first one is done for you.*

(a) drive (b) travel (c) row (d) walk (e) fly (f) ride

Kamal: Hey Rajan, you are late. Why do you always (1) .....(b)..... by train?
Rajan: No, I'm not late. I always come to school by train.
Kamal: I see. Do you ever (2) ...(f).. your bicycle?
Rajan: Yes, sometimes. How do you come to school?
Kamal: Well, I just (3) ....(d)... . I live close by.
Rajan: Hey lucky you! You know, I'm learning to (4) .....(a)..... my father's tractor.
Kamal: I would love to (5) .....(e)..... a plane one day.
Rajan: Me too. I know how to (6) ..(c)... a boat.
Kamal: Oh, really!

Overall observations, conclusions and suggestions regarding the answer to Question 1 :



Test 01 is based on vocabulary to assess the ability to use words appropriately and accurately to convey precise meaning. The mark allocated for the question is 05.The candidates have scored as follows.

00 - 25 range - 9%
26 - 50 range - 20%
51 - 75 range - 15%
76 - 100 range - 56%

56% of the candidates have obtained more than 76 marks and 9% of the candidates have obtained less than 25 marks. 29% of the candidates have scored below 50 marks while 71% of the candidates have scored above 50.

- Test 2 – Grammar

Objective – Assess the ability to use prepositions correctly in a dialogue.
Technique – Fill in the blanks.

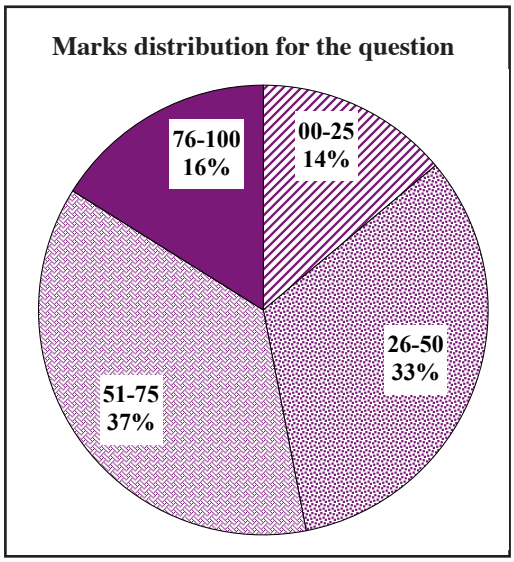
❍ **Test 2 with expected answers :**

Fill in the blanks in the following dialogue. Use the words given in the box. There is one extra word. *The first one is done for you.*

over	~~for~~	to	about	in	of	near

Amith: Your bag looks very heavy.
Sumudu: Yes, it is very heavy.
Amith: Let me carry it (1) ...for.....you.
Sumudu: Thank you Amith.
Amith: You're welcome. What do you have (2) .....(in)..... this bag?
Sumudu: Lots (3) .....(of)..... books.
Amith: Why so many books? We don't need any today.
Sumudu: Oh, dear I forgot (4) .....(about)..... it.
Today is the 'cleaning day', isn't it?
Amith: Yes, our friends are (5) .....(over)..... there waiting for us.
Sumudu: So let's run (6) .....(to)..... them.

Overall observations, conclusions and suggestions regarding the answer to Question 2 :



Test 2 is based on grammar to assess the ability to use prepositions correctly in a dialogue. The marks allocated for the question is 05. The performance of the candidate is as follows.

00 - 25 range - 14%
26 - 50 range - 33%
51 - 75 range - 37%
76 - 100 range - 16%

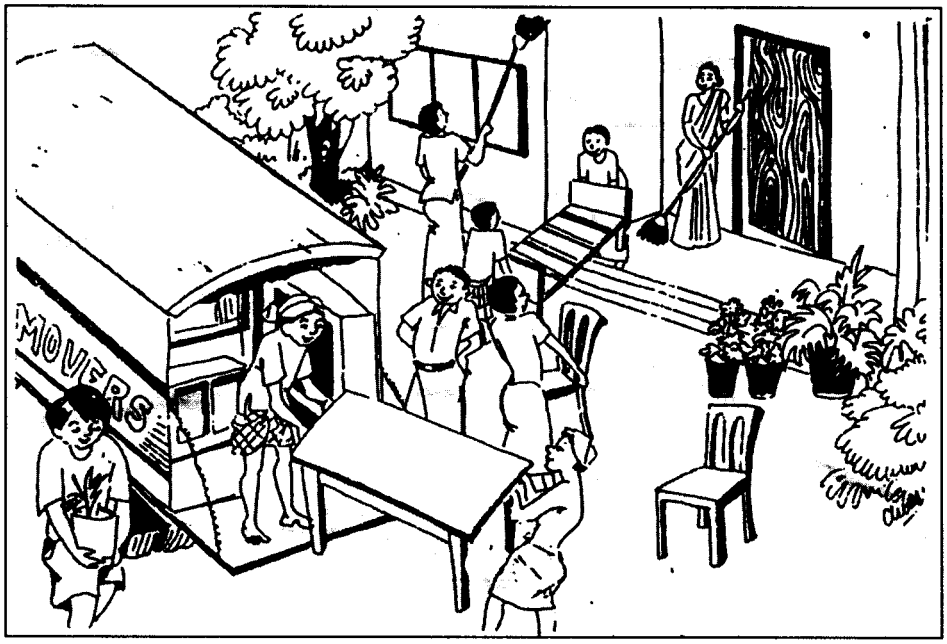
Only 16% of the candidates have scored above 75 marks while 14% of the candidates have scored below 25 marks. 47% of the candidates have scored below 50 marks.

- Test 3 – Vocabulary

Objective – Assess the ability to use appropriate words to describe a picture.
Technique – Fill in the blanks.

❍ **Test 3 with expected answers :**

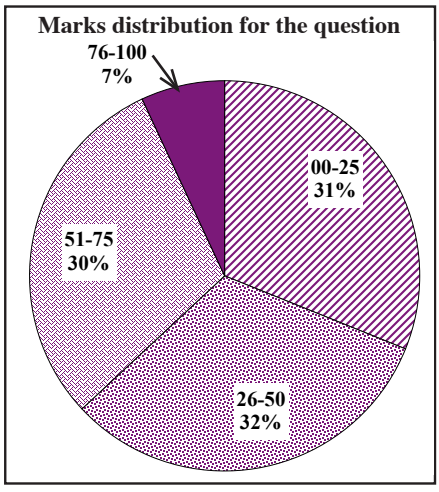
Study the picture and fill in the blanks in the text given below. Use only one word in each blank.



Ravi and his family are moving to a new house. The (1) lorry/vehicle has just arrived with their furniture. This (2) .....picture..... shows what everyone is doing. Ravi is carrying a flower (3) .....pot..... and his mother is (4) .....sweeping..... the floor.

There are (5) five/ some/several/5 men helping with the furniture. They are carrying a table, a chair and a (6) .....bed..... into the house. Ravi's father is (7) ....watching..... the men unloading the furniture. There is another man with a (8) .....broom..... in his hands. He is cleaning the (9) .....wall..... with it. There is a large tree in the (10) .....garden/compound/ picture/ premises/ yard.

Overall observations, conclusions and suggestions regarding the answer to Question 3 :



Test 3 was based on vocabulary which was to assess the ability to use appropriate words to describe a picture and the marks allocated for the question was 05.The candidates have scored as follows.

00 - 25 range - 31%
26 - 50 range - 32%
51 - 75 range - 30%
76 - 100 range - 7%

Only 7% of the candidates have obtained more than 75 marks and 31% of the candidates have obtained less than 25 marks. The percentage of candidates who have been able to score more than 50 was only 37 while 63% of candidates have scored below 50 marks.

- Test 4 – Reading

Objective – Assess the ability to read and understand specific information.
Technique – Matching

❍ **Test 4 with expected answers :**

Match the extracts with the headings. Write the correct letter in the blank provided. *The first one is done for you.*

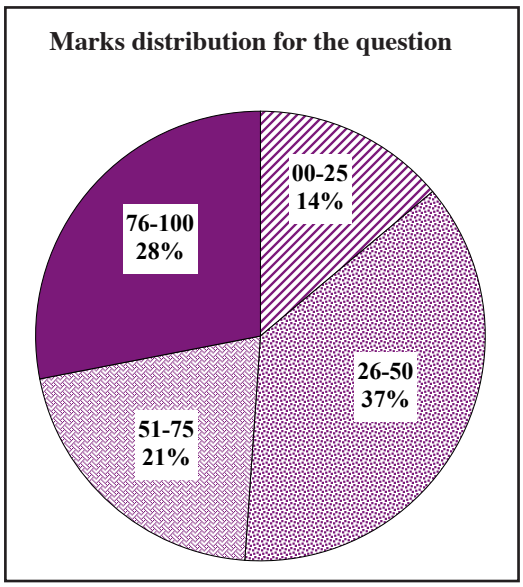
Extracts

1. Pollution and traffic make people leave the cities to live in the countryside. (..e..)
2. A group of art students will hold an exhibition of their paintings at the National Gallery on Saturday. (..a..)
3. Those who go on camping trips must not harm mother nature. (..b..)
4. An old vase from the 16th century has been discovered from the garden of the old temple. (..f..)
5. "A visit to the countryside can do wonders for us. It can help get rid of anger, depression and stress.", says a well known doctor. (..d..)
6. J.K. Rowling wrote her books with children in mind, but many adults read them. (..c..)

Headings

(a) Young Talent Show
(b) Leave It as You Find It
(c) Loved by Young and Old
(d) How to Improve Health
(e) ~~A Great Escape~~
(f) An Interesting Finding

Overall observations, conclusions and suggestions regarding the answer to Question 4 :



Test 4 is a reading item. It assesses the ability to read and understand specific information. The marks allocated for this test is 05.
The candidates have scored as follows.

00 - 25 range - 14%
26 - 50 range - 37%
51 - 75 range - 21%
76 - 100 range - 28%

Only 49% of the candidates have obtained more than 50 marks and 51% of candidates have obtained below 50 marks. The percentage of candidates who scored below 25 marks is 14%.

- Test 5 – Reading

Objective – Assess the ability to extract information from a dialogue to complete a message.

Technique – Transferring information.

❍ **Test 5 with expected answers :**

Read the following dialogue and complete the message. Use only one word in each blank. *The first one is done for you.*

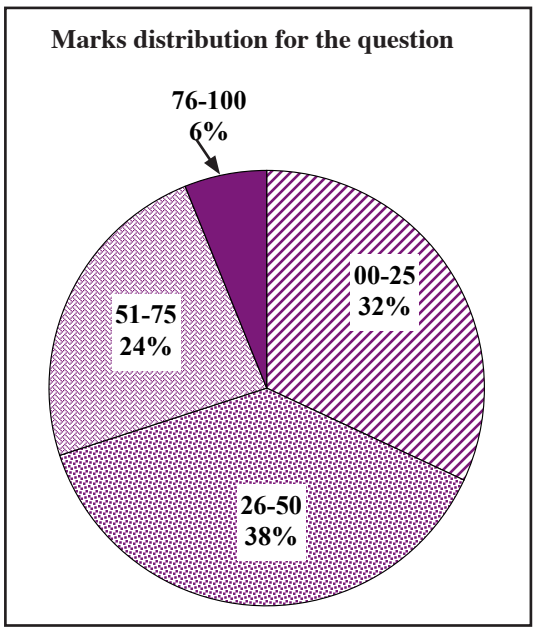
Ayesha : Hello! is that Surani?
Surani : Yes. Good morning Ayesha.
Ayesha : Good morning. You know there's a good movie, 'The Sounds of the Sea'. It's showing at Regal. How about going to see it tomorrow?
Surani : That's a good idea.
Ayesha : Then let's go in the evening. Where should we meet?
Surani : How about Tara's shop, at 5.30?
Ayesha : Fine. You know Naveena is coming along too. Why don't you ask Romesh to join us?
Surani : I'll do that, but he is not at home at the moment. I'll leave a message and ask him to ring you.

Message 16.12.2016

Romesh

I know you are not at home. So I'm (1) ..leaving.. this with your sister. Ayesha called me this (2) ..morning.. . She told me (3) ..Regal.. is showing a good film, 'The Sounds of the Sea' . We have decided to see it (4) tomorrow evening. Naveena is coming along too. (5) ..Ayesha.. wants you to join us. We plan to (6) ..meet.. at Tara's shop at 5.30. Please ring her for more information. Surani.

Overall observations, conclusions and suggestions regarding the answers to Question 5 :



Test 5 is based on reading to assess the ability to extract information from a dialogue to complete a message. The marks allocated for the question is 05. The candidates have scored as follows.

00 - 25 range - 32%
26 - 50 range - 38%
51 - 75 range - 24%
76 - 100 range - 6%

As shown, in the pie chart only 6% of the candidates have scored above 75 marks while 32% has scored below 25 marks. 38% of the candidates are within the marks range of 26 - 50 while 30% of the candidates have scored over 50 marks.

• Test 6 – Writing

Objective – Assess the ability to write a reply to a note asking / giving information.

Technique – Guided writing

❍ **Test 6 :**

You are the secretary of the young photographers' club in your school and the members have organized an exhibition at the term end. Your teacher wants you to write a notice to be put up on the school noticeboard inviting the teachers and the students to see the exhibition. Use about 40-50 words.

Include -date, time, venue

-who the chief guest is

-exhibits: photos on wild life, birds, waterfalls etc.

Expected Answer :

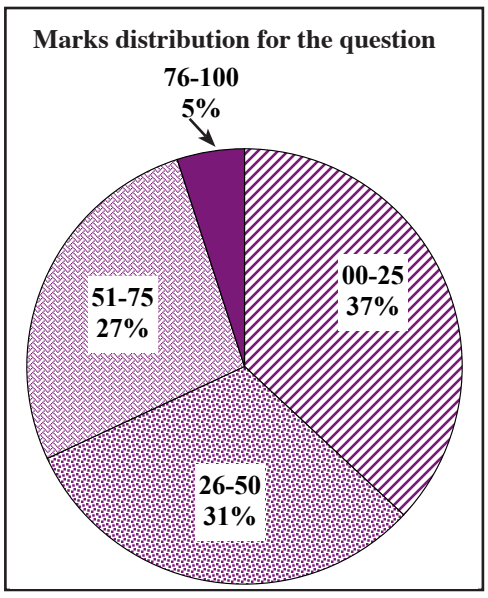
Notice

The members of the young photographers' club of Mahaulpotha Maha Vidyalaya have organised an exhibition at the term end. It will be held on 4th April 2017 from 8.00 a.m to 5.00 pm in the school main hall. The chief guest will be Mrs. Sinali Jayalath, the Directress of Education. The exhibits will consist of photos on wild life, birds waterfalls etc. All teachers and students are invited to see the exhibition.

Secretary,

Young photographers' Club.

Overall observations, conclusions and suggestions regarding the answer to Question 6 :



Test 6 was a guided writing task, which assessed the ability to write a notice. The marks allocated for the test was 5 [C - 02, L - 03]. The candidates have scored as follows.

00 - 25 range - 37%
26 - 50 range - 31%
51 - 75 range - 27%
76 - 100 range - 5%

The highest percentage of the candidates has scored below 25 marks which was 37%. 68% of the candidates have scored below 50 marks. Only 5% of the candidates were able to score above 76 marks.

- Test 7 – Reading

Objective – Assess the ability to read and understand directly stated information in a text.

Technique – Answering Questions.

❍ **Test 7 with expected answers :**

Observations and Comments on Test 7 :

Read the passage and answer the questions.

Headache

One day a man went to see a doctor in a hurry. He rushed into the doctor's clinic, but was disappointed to find that the doctor was away. His assistant was seated on a chair fast asleep. There were no patients waiting to consult the doctor.

When the man approached the assistant he woke up, looked at the man and asked, "What do you want?"

"I want something for a very bad headache," said the man who seemed to be very anxious.

The assistant, an elderly man said, "Please sit on this chair." Then he took a bottle from a shelf, held it under the man's nose and opened it. The smell was so strong that tears came into the man's eyes and ran down his cheeks. "Why did you do that?", the man said angrily, as soon as he could get back his breath.

"The medicine has cured your headache, hasn't it?", said the assistant.

"You fool," said the man. "It's my wife who has the headache, not me!"

(1) Who did the man see at the doctor's place?

(The) doctor's assistant/ his assistant/ assistant of the doctor

(2) What did the assistant ask the man to do?

to sit (on a / the chair) / sit

(3) Why did tears come to the man's eyes?

Since/ As/ Because the smell was so strong / because of the strong smell

(4) Write the sentence which says that the man did not have a headache.

It's my wife who has the headache, not me.

(5) Underline the correct answer.

The assistant was ..... when the man entered the clinic.

(a) attentive (b) alone (c) talking

- Test 8 – Writing

Objective – Assess the ability to write a paragraph on a given topic.
Technique – Free writing

❍ **Test 8 :**

Write a paragraph on **one** of the following topics. Use about **50** words.

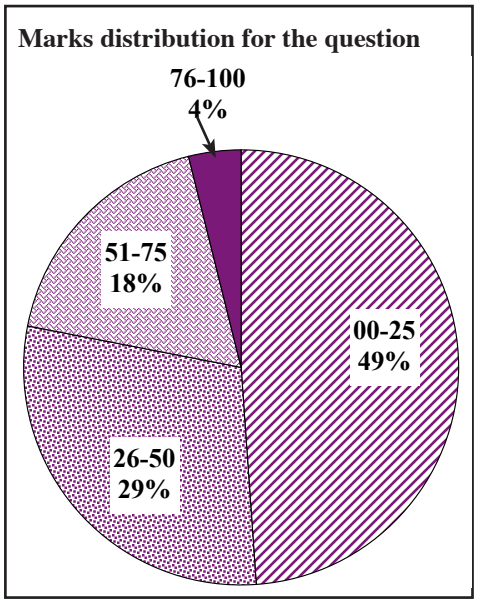
(a) The job I like most

(b) The value of friends

Expected Answer :

My ambition in life is to be a teacher. I like teaching for several reasons. Firstly, I will be able to teach children, and guide them to be useful citizens. I love to be with children, so being a teacher, I will get this opportunity throughout my career. I consider teaching as a very noble profession, as it helps in building up the nation.

Overall observations, conclusions and suggestions regarding the answer to Question 8 :



Test 8 is a free writing task which intends to assess the ability to write a paragraph on a given topic. The marks allocated for the question are 05 [C- 02, L - 03]. The candidates have scored as follows.

00 - 25 range - 49%
26 - 50 range - 29%
51 - 75 range - 18%
76 - 100 range - 4%

As shown only 04% of candidates have scored above 75% while 78% of candidates have scored below 50. The percentage of candidates who have obtained marks within the range of 51 - 75 is 18%.

2.2 Question paper II

2.2.1 Structure of the question paper II

* Time allocated for paper II is **two** hours.
* Paper II includes **eight** tests and **all** tests are **compulsory**. Test 14 has two choices whereas test 16 has four.
* The total mark for paper II is **60**.

Question (Test) No.	Area of testing	Marks Distribution	Total
9	Grammar	½ × 10	05
10	Vocabulary	1 × 5	05
11	Language Proficiency	½ × 14	07
12	Grammar	1 × 5	05
13	Reading	½ × 10	05
14	Writing	C - 3, L - 3, O - 2, M - 2	10
15	Reading	1 - ½ × 4 2 - 1 × 1 3 - 1 × 1 4 - ½ × 1 5 - 1 × 1 6 - ½ × 2 7 - ½ × 2	02 01 01 01 01 01 01 08
16	Writing	C - 5, L - 5, O - 2, M - 3	15

2.2.2 Tests and expected answers, marking scheme, observations and comments

* Observations and comments on answering all the questions in Paper II are based on Graphs 2(a), 2(b) and 3.

- Test 9 – Grammar

Objective – ***Assess the ability to use conjunctions appropriately to complete a text.***

Technique – ***Fill in the blanks.***

❍ **Test 9 with expected answers :**

Fill in the blanks with the following words.

before, as soon as, since, until, during,
so, unless, after, whenever, while

Mahesh will finish his secondary education next year when he is fifteen. He wants to enter the university (1) .....after..... that.

He's a clever boy. He was able to write computer programmes (2) .....berore..... he was thirteen. He goes for music classes (3) .....during..... weekends. He practises music at night when everybody is trying to sleep and (4) .....whenever..... he finds time.

He hasn't got much money. (5) .....so..... he wants to do a part time job, (6) .....while..... he's in the university.

(7) .....As soon as..... he has passed his exams he plans to find a job. (8) .....Since..... childhood he has been planning to travel around the world, but his dream will not come true (9) .....unless..... he collects sufficient money. He doesn't want to get married (10) .....until..... he's thirty.

- Test 10 – Vocabulary

Objective – ***Assess the ability use words appropriately to complete a factual text.***
Technique – ***Fill in the blanks.***

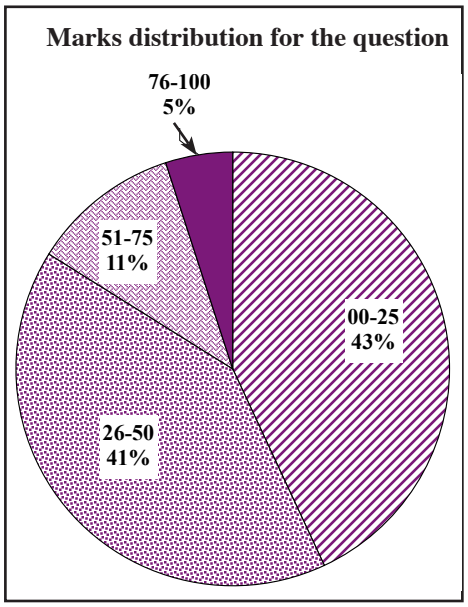
❍ **Test 10 with expected answers :**

Select a word from the box which has a similar meaning to the phrases given within brackets and write it in the space given. There are **three** extra words.

chokes, considerable, clears, accumulate, perishable, recycle, mistaken, reachable

Look at any roadside garbage dump. In addition to vegetable scraps, paper and broken glass you will notice a (1) considerable..... **(notably large in size)** amount of plastic material such as polythene bags, shampoo bottles and old slippers. Vegetable scraps and paper are (2) ..perishable..... **(capable of being decomposed)**, but glass and plastic continue to (3) ..accumulate..... **(gather little by little)** and harm the environment. Plastic is often (4) ..mistaken..... **(judged wrongly)** for food by birds and animals which often leads to their death. It also (5) ..chokes..... **(blocks and makes movement difficult through)** sewer pipes and becomes a trap for living beings in ponds, rivers and oceans.

Overall observations, conclusions and suggestions regarding the answer to Question 10 :



Test 10 is based on vocabulary which is to assess the ability to use words appropriately to complete a factual text. 5 marks have been allocated for this test. The candidates have scored as follows.

00 - 25 range - 43%
26 - 50 range - 41%
51 - 75 range - 11%
76 - 100 range - 5%

84% of the candidates have scored below 50 marks while only 16% of the candidates have scored above 50 marks. The percentage of candidates who have scored above 75 is only 5% whereas 43% of the candidates are below the range, 00 - 25.

- Test 11 – Language Proficiency

Objective – Assess the ability to identify the specific information.
Technique – Answering questions.

❍ **Test 11 with expected answers :**

Fill in the blanks with the words given below.

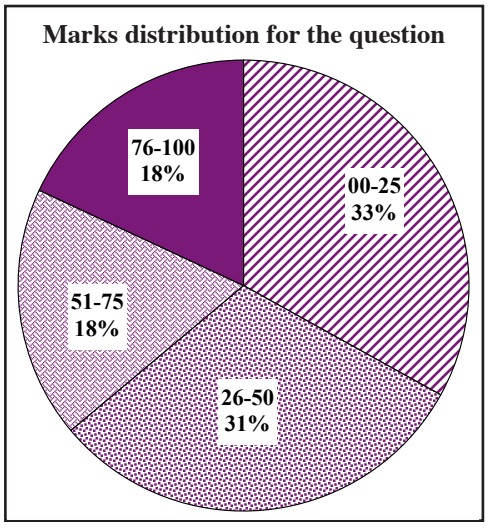
egg	and	persuaded	science	because
housekeeper	bulb	his	loved	the
never	expel	story	he	

Thomas Alwa Edison was one of the greatest inventors of all times. But as a child, he didn't enjoy going to school. When Edison was only seven the headmaster decided to (1) .....expel..... him from his school (2) ...because..... he refused to do (3) .....his..... school work, but he (4) .....never..... stopped learning. His mother (5) ..persuaded.... him to read about (6) ...science..... .

He enjoyed reading. He (7) ....loved.... to do experiments. When (8) .....he..... was older he invented (9) .....the..... phonograph and the light (10) .....bulb..... . Do you know the (11) .....story..... of Edison and the (12) .....egg.....?

One day he asked his (13) ....housekeeper..... to bring an egg (14) .....and..... a pan of hot water to the laboratory. When she returned half an hour later he was boiling his watch and timing it with the egg.

Overall observations, conclusions and suggestions regarding the answer to Question 11 :



Test 11 is based on language proficiency through a modified cloze. 7 marks have been allocated for 14 blanks. The candidates have scored as follows.

00 - 25 range - 33%
26 - 50 range - 31%
51 - 75 range - 18%
76 - 100 range - 18%

As shown in the pie chart the highest percentage of candidates have scored below 50. It is 64%. Only 36% of candidates have scored above 50.

- Test 12 – Grammar

Objective – Assess the ability to report information correctly.
Technique – Completion.

❍ **Test 12 with expected answers :**

Kumar has just returned from a school trip. His family members wanted to know everything about the trip. Given below are the questions they asked. Read the questions and complete the description. *The first one is done for you.*

Father: At what time did you come home?

Mother: Son, will you tell us all about the trip?

Brother: What places did you visit? Have you saved all the photos?

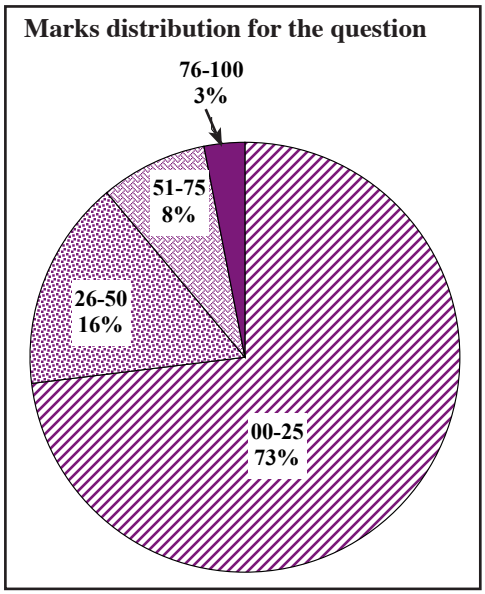
Elder Sister: Can I join you next year?

Baby Sister: What have you brought for me?

Kumar's description.

My father (1) ..wanted to know at what time..... I had come home. Mother asked me whether I (2) .....would tell..... them all about the trip. My brother asked me what (3) ...places I/we had visited... and whether I (4) .....had saved..... all the photos. My elder sister asked (5) .....whether she could..... join me the following year. My baby sister wanted to know (6) .....what I had..... brought for her.

Overall observations, conclusions and suggestions regarding the answer to Question 12 :



Test 12 is based on grammar in order to assess the ability to report information correctly (Reported Speech). 05 marks have been allocated for this test. The candidates have scored as follows.

00 - 25 range - 73%
26 - 50 range - 16%
51 - 75 range - 8%
76 - 100 range - 3%

Only 3% of candidates have obtained more than 75 marks and 73% of candidates have scored below 25 marks. 8% of candidates have obtained marks within the range of 51 - 75 and 16% of candidates have obtained marks within the range of 26 - 50. Altogether only 11% of candidates have been able to obtain above 50 marks whereas 89% of candidates have got below 50.

- Test 13 – Reading

Objective – Assess the ability to read and understand a set of instructions.
Technique – Categorizing.

❍ **Test 13 with expected answers :**

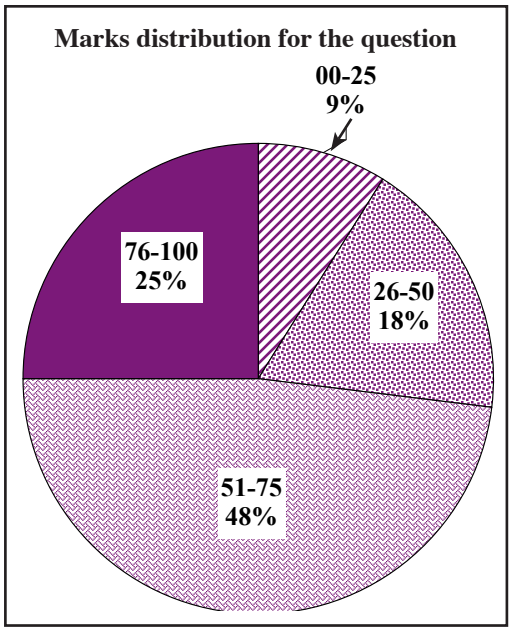
Read the following rules to be observed by the visitors to a factory and members of a library. Put them in the correct column, 'FACTORY' or 'LIBRARY'. Write the letter of each rule in the correct column. *The first one is done for you.*

Rules

a. Do not tear or damage books, magazines or newspapers.
b. All visitors must wear an identification badge.
c. Keep complete silence all the time. Do not disturb.
d. Small children are not allowed on the manufacturing floor.
e. Reference materials are not allowed to be removed.
f. Produce your membership card whenever it is asked for.
g. Follow all safety warning signs. Watch for hot or sharp surfaces.
h. Do not leave any of your belongings on the study tables.
i. Audio visual materials can be kept only for two days.
j. Wear the safety glasses provided near production lines.
k. In the case of an emergency ask your guide for help.

LIBRARY	FACTORY
a	
	b
c	
	d
e	
f	
	g
h	
i	
	j
	k

Overall observations, conclusions and suggestions regarding the answer to Question 13 :



Test 13 is based on Reading in order to assess the ability to read and understand a set of instructions.
5 marks have been allocated for this test.
The candidates have scored as follows.

00 - 25 range - 9%
26 - 50 range - 18%
51 - 75 range - 48%
76 - 100 range - 25%

73% of candidates have scored above 50 marks while 27% of candidates have scored below 50 marks.

- Test 14 – Writing

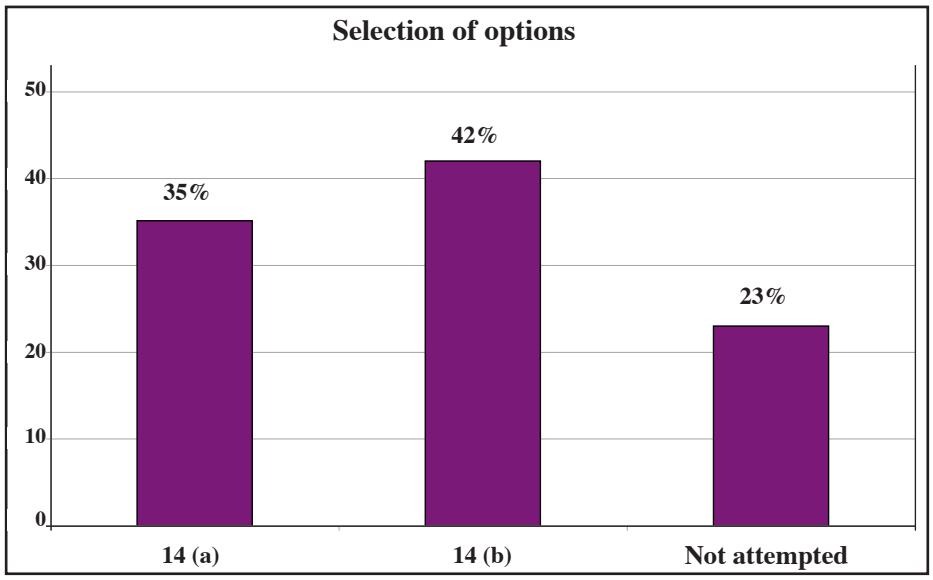
Objectives – (1) *Assess the ability to write a formal letter.*
(2) *Assess the ability to interpret a bar graph and write a description.*
Technique – *Guided writing*

❍ **Test 14 :**

You are the secretary of the English Literary Association of your school. The members have decided to make a visit to the National Museum, Colombo. Write a letter to the Director, National Museum. Use about 100 words.

Include: ▲ date and time of the visit.
▲ number of participants.
▲ request: -to see the special collection
e.g. old coins
-to get the service of a tour guide
▲ ask permission: -to take photographs
-to have lunch in the premises

Test 14 : Selection of options



Test 14 was based on guided writing in order to assess the ability to
(a) write a formal letter
(b) interpret a bar graph and write a description.

10 marks have been allocated for the question [C - 3, L - 3, O - 2, M - 2]. As shown in the graph 35% of candidates have chosen 14 (a) while 42% of candidates have selected 14 (b). 23% of candidates have not attempted the question 14. Therefore, much attention should be paid by the students for similar tasks.

Expected Answer :

The Director
National Museum
Colombo

Dear Sir,
Permission to visit the Museum

I am the secretary of the English Literary Association of my school. The members of this association have decided to visit the museum unanimously. There are about 50 members in our association, accompanied by 05 teachers planning to visit the museum on 28 th of December 2016 at 10 a.m.

We request you to allow us a tour guide so that all the items which are on display can be explained to our members and also we like to see the special collection of coins. We believe that it will expand our knowledge and understanding of our history.

Furthermore, we seek your permission to photograph our national treasures. After our tour of the premises, we kindly request you to allow us to have our lunch in the Museum grounds. We promise that we will not litter the grounds.

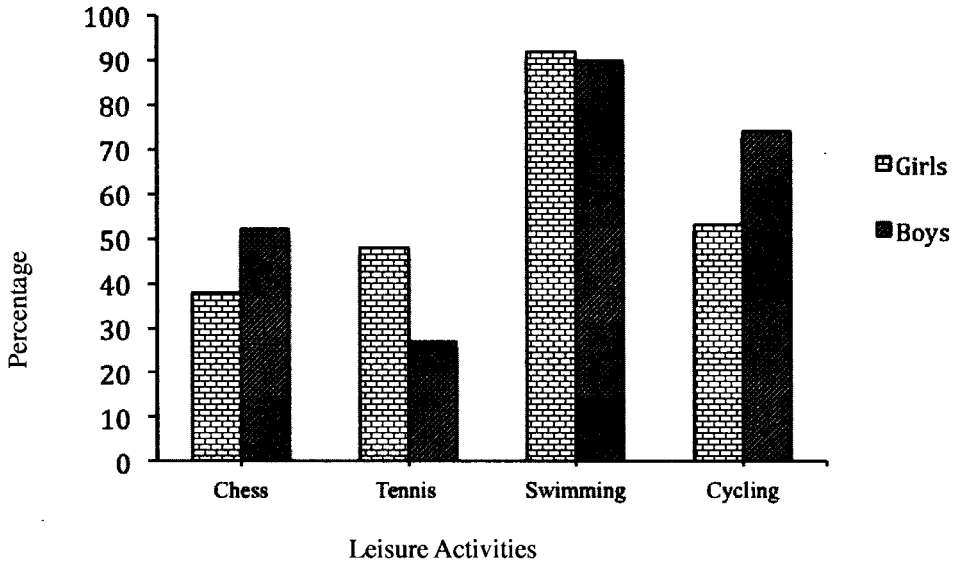
I anticipate your favourable response as soon as possible.

Thank you
Yours truly,
.....
Secretary

OR

The following bar graph shows the leisure activities of some students of the Southern Province. Study the bar graph and write a description about it. Use the following words. Use about 100 words.

highest, almost equal, least, lower than, higher than, most popular, less popular



Expected Answers :

The above bar graph shows the leisure activities of some students of the Southern Province. The leisure activities are chess, tennis, swimming and cycling. They are shown on the bar graph horizontally. The percentages of students are shown on the vertical axis.

The highest number of students like swimming which is 92% for girls and 90% for boys. The two percentages are almost equal. The least number of boys like to play tennis while the least number of girls like to play chess. The number of boys who like to play tennis is lower than the number of girls. The number of boys who like to cycle is higher than the number of girls. The most popular leisure activity is swimming and the least popular activity is tennis for boys and chess for girls.

Expected Answer :

The above bar graph shows the leisure activities of some students of the Southern Province. Chess, Tennis, Swimming and Cycling are the activities that are taken into consideration.

It is obvious that swimming is the most popular among both boys and girls with a percentage of around 90. The percentages of both girls and boys for swimming are almost equal, which is a notable feature in the graph apart from other bars. Tennis remains at the lowest position having 50% for girls and 30% for boys. Cycling is less popular than swimming but it is more popular than Chess and Tennis. Girls' preference for both Chess and Cycling is lower than the boys; while girls' preference for both Tennis and Swimming is higher than boys'.

In conclusion, it is apparent that, irrespective of gender, both girls and boys are involved in indoor as well as outdoor activities.

- Test 15 – Reading

Objective – *Assess the ability to read and understand / interpret directly / indirectly stated information in a descriptive text.*

Technique – *Answering questions.*

❍ **Test 15 with expected answers :**

Read the passage and answer the questions.

Olympic Dreams

This happened in the U.S.A.

Charles Paddock was four feet tall and in primary school still. One day he asked his coach, "What can I do to become the world's fastest sprinter? What is the secret of speed?" The coach answered that he should practise hard, everyday.

Young Paddock got down to work to achieve his aim, keeping in mind the advice of his coach. In 1920, he became the fastest runner in the Antwerp Olympic Games when he won the 100 metres with a timing of 10.8 seconds.

Later, Paddock visited many schools and spent a lot of time talking to school children about his recipe for success. Once when visiting a school in Ohio, he said "If you think you can, you can. If you believe in a thing strongly enough, it can come to pass in your life". Looking at the crowd of faces he said, "Who knows, may be there is an Olympic champion in the making, right here in the auditorium this afternoon."

The hush was broken by a skinny boy. He was so nervous that he could hardly speak. He came up to Paddock and said, "Mr. Paddock, I too would like to be an Olympic Champion like you." Touched by the boy's sincerity, Paddock spoke to him. That's what I wanted to be when I was a little bit younger than **you**. If you work for it, and train hard you can become an Olympic Champion." With shining eyes, the boy promised to do exactly what Paddock told him to do.

Though training hard wasn't easy for Jesse Owens (that was the name of the little boy who had spoken to Charles Paddock), he did just **that**. Jesse's family was very poor and everyone in the family was expected to work. At the age of seven, Jesse had to pick 100 pounds of cotton every day. When he was nine, he worked in a gas station. Working to support his family, because his father was out of work most of the time, and training when he wasn't working, Jesse Owens readied himself for the Olympics. In 1936, he achieved his dream by winning four gold medals at the Berlin Olympic Games.

Paddock's advice that afternoon in Ohio, had produced a new world champion.

. Say whether the following statements are True or False by writing '**T**' or '**F**' against each one of them.

(i) Both Charles Paddock and Jesse Owens practised hard to become Olympic champions. T

(ii) Charles Paddock was Owens' coach. F

(iii) Jesse Owens practised for Olympics while working to support the family. T

(iv) Paddock visited many schools to coach the students. F

2. What did Paddock want to be when he grew up?
the world's fastest sprinter / runner (01 *mark*)

3. What made Paddock speak to Owens very kindly?
He was touched by the boy's / his sincerity (01 *mark*)

4. Complete the blanks using words from the passage.

Jesse Owens was very nervous when he spoke to Paddock.

He became a world Champion because of Paddocks' advice .
(01 *mark*)

5. Underline the correct answer.

According to Paddock, If you believe in a thing strongly,

a. it will happen one day.

b. it will never happen.

c. it will make you happy. (01 *mark*)

6. Find a word from the passage which has the same meaning as the following.

very thin skinny

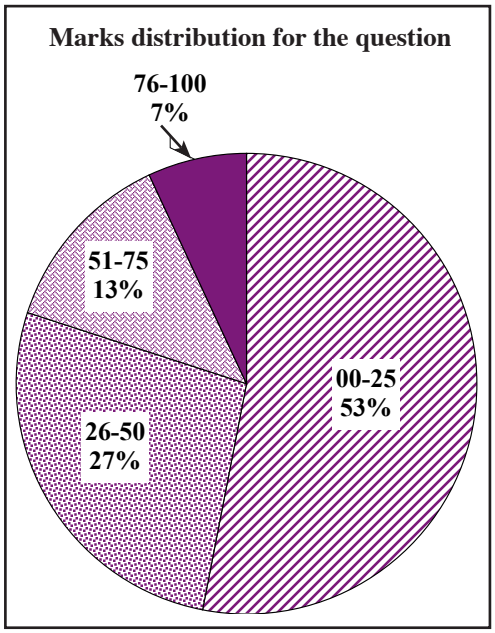
silence hush (01 *mark*)

7. What do the following words in the passage refer to?

(a) 'you' in line 16 Jesse Owens / skinning boy

(b) 'that' in line 20 hard training (01 *mark*)

Overall observations, conclusions and suggestions regarding the answer to Question 15 :



Test 15 is based on Reading in order to assess the ability to read and understand and to interpret directly and indirectly stated information in a descriptive text. 8 marks have been allocated for the test. The candidates have scored as follows.

00 - 25 range - 53%
26 - 50 range - 27%
51 - 75 range - 13%
76 - 100 range - 7%

The highest percentage of students have obtained marks within the range of 00 - 25, which is 53% while the lowest percentage of students have scored 76 marks or above, which is 7%.

- Test 16 – Writing

Objective – *Assess the ability to write*
1. *an article to a magazine*
2. *an essay on a given topic*
3. *a speech*
4. *a dialogue*

Technique – *Guided writing.*

❍ **Test 16 :**

Write on **one** of the following. Use about 200 words.

(a) An article to your school magazine on the following topic. "My ideas about different types of entertainment".
Include the following:

- ▲ different types of entertainment.
  e.g. music, theatre.
- ▲ how they differ from each other.
- ▲ advantages of entertainment.
  e.g. relaxing, good past time, knowledgeable etc.
- ▲ the type/ types I like best and the reasons.

(b) A speech you would make at the school Literary Association on "Internet : the advantages and disadvantages".

You may include the following:

advantages-
- ▲ immense source of knowledge through search sites
  e.g. yahoo, google.
- ▲ easy access through computers, IT centres, mobile phones etc.
- ▲ can get information quickly at a click.

disadvantages-
- ▲ very often no one is responsible for quality of information.
- ▲ can get addicted, moves away from the reading habit.

(c) An essay on "Let's protect our forests".
You may include the following:

- ▲ why forests are valuable to us.
  e.g. reduce the risk of land slides, habitat for wild life, regulate climate.
- ▲ how forests are destroyed.
  e.g. forest fires, encroachment (clearing more land), agricultural expansion.
- ▲ what happens when forests are destroyed?
  e.g. climate changes, increases temperature, changing rainfall.
  affect people, plants and animals.
- ▲ what we should do to protect our forests.
  e.g. planting trees.

(d) Complete the dialogue between Ruwini and Migara. They discuss their ideas on places of interest in Sri Lanka.

Ruwini: I like visiting wild life sanctuaries.
Rajan: I know that you are interested in seeing animals in their natural habitat, but I like the ruined cities.
Ruwini: .....

Expected Answer :

(c)

'Let's protect our forests'

It's wonderful to imagine a place filled with huge green trees, plants, birds, animals, butterflies and even small streams. A forest is a place where a cool environment like this can be experienced. If you want to be free and relaxed this is the place you can think of visiting. Forests beautify the world and make it more pleasant. Forests reduce the risks of landslides and provide shelter to wild life, and regulate the climate. So it's clear that forests exist for the betterment of the world.

Even though these valuable forests should be protected, it seems like no one cares. At present forests are destroyed due to several reasons. Forests face fires due to the dry climate. Encroachment and agricultural expansion have also caused deforestration. Humans keep destroying forests to fulfil their needs. If this is continued there will not be forests in the future.

Forests play a main role in protecting the environment. When forests are destroyed there can be many harmful effects such as climatic changes, increasing temperature and global warming. Due to deforestration the water resources can also be affected. Animals will lose their habitats and sources of food. Even humans will face many problems.

The World becoming a desert may be one such problem

As humans we have the responsibility of protecting the forests. We need to carry on with more and more reforestration projects. We have to stop cutting down trees and plants if we truly care for the mother nature. We have to be more concerned about the earth. We can make the people aware of the value of forests and save them for the future.

I would like to conclude with this saying.

'Leave only your footprints where ever you go'

(1) **Expected Answer**

Test 16 - (a)

(a) An article to your school magazine on the following topic. "My ideas about different types of entertainment".
Include the following:

- ▲ different types of entertainment.
  e.g. music, theatre.
- ▲ how they differ from each other.
- ▲ advantages of entertainment.
  e.g. relaxing, good past time, knowledgeable etc.
- ▲ the type/ types I like best and the reasons.

'Entertainment' is a pleasant experience in one's life because any type of entertainment makes you relaxed and stress free. In today's busy fast moving world having an entertainment has become an essential part in one's life.

People do so many things as entertainment. Listening to music, watching films, doing sports, playing instruments, gardening, travelling, singing dancing, etc. are some forms of entertainment. What you need is to do it in a pleasant manner in order to get relaxation and satisfaction. Even cooking meals in the kitchen can be an activity of entertainment if you enjoy doing it.

Having any form of entertainment in one's life is very important because it keeps you away from your daily monotonous life and provides you enjoyment. Entertainment refreshes your mind and gives you a pleasant soothing effect, while you are exhausted after a hard day's workload. For example playing a musical instrument differs from watching a film. The one who plays the musical instrument not only entertains himself but also the other listeners as well. Watching a film is something personal and individual.

Playing the guitar is my choice of entertainment. I have been doing this since my childhood. It gives me immense pleasure because, when I play my guitar I not only entertain myself but entertain the others as well. So it makes me happy. And also so far I have studied the field of music to a greater extent. Therefore I feel that my choice of entertainment has made me knowledgeable as well. Not only that, if there is dedication you can divert your choice of entertainment into a source of income as well.

(2) Expected Answer

Test 16 - (b)

(b) A speech you would make at the school Literary Association on "Internet : the advantages and disadvantages".

You may include the following:

advantages- ▲ immense source of knowledge through search sites e.g. yahoo, google.
▲ easy access through computers, IT centres, mobile phones etc.
▲ can get information quickly at a click.

disadvantages- ▲ very often no one is responsible for quality of information.
▲ can get addicted, moves away from the reading habit.

Honourable Sir/ Madam

Honourable president, secretary and my dear colleagues, its a great pleasure for me to speak a few words on the advantages and disadvantages of the internet which is of vital importance at present.

My dear friends, we have stepped on to a well-advanced technological era where people have ample access to a wide variety of modern communication. One such foremost source is the internet which links the whole world together.

In our day to day life internet is the most popular, beneficial and the fastest mode of communication as its scope is wider. It can bring the whole world to your doorstep at a mere click. In today's world almost everything is done via the internet for example, trade and business, banking, education, entertainment etc. People need not to waste their time on travelling up and down and waiting in queues. The internet has made the life of the people easy and comfortable in every way giving access not only through the computers but also through the mobile phones you use and the smart watch you wear. Actually, internet is an immense source of knowledge. Students can make use of such sites like Yahoo and Google in order to enhance their learning. Today e-books are very popular among students.

Whatever the benefits that the internet provides, in a way it is an evil friend. It has a lot of disadvantages as well. It is a common fact that no one is responsible for the quality of information it provides. The information can be either true or fake which makes you deceived. Today some social web sites have become so destructive as they directly ruin the personal life of people. Such activities may lead a person even towards the death. When considering the disadvantages of the internet another clear fact is that people get addicted to the internet and make their lives miserable. It is apparent that most of the students have got addicted to the internet neglecting their studies. They search sites that are not suitable for them at all.

Finally, I would like to say that, it should be the responsibility of each and everyone to avoid harmful effects of the internet and make the maximum use of it in a constructive manner, I wish you best of luck

Thank you.

(3) Expected Answer

Test 16 - (c)

(c) An essay on "Let's protect our forests".
You may include the following:

- ▲ why forests are valuable to us.
  e.g. reduce the risk of land slides, habitat for wild life, regulate climate.
- ▲ how forests are destroyed.
  e.g. forest fires, encroachment (clearing more land), agricultural expansion.
- ▲ what happens when forests are destroyed?
  e.g. climate changes, increases temperature, changing rainfall.
  affect people, plants and animals.
- ▲ what we should do to protect our forests.
  e.g. planting trees.

As Sri Lankans we are very fortunate because we have been gifted with many forests throughout the island. Before civilization the man was only a part of nature. Gradually with human civilization and modernization the man has become the controller of nature. Ultimately he became the victim of this vicious cycle. Then the concept of protecting nature and forests is a topic that needs much discussion.

Forests are valuable in every aspect. We can realize the importance of forests by the action taken by the UN. They have included valuable forests in the world as natural world heritage sites. Sinharaja rain forest in Sri Lanka is one of the sites. Forests reduce the risk of landslides as they hold a large amount of water. Further forests are habitats for wild life. Some endemic animals, birds as well as some rare vegetation can be found in these valuable forests. For the proper functioning of climate throughout the world the existance of forests are absolutely needed. Apart from all these we could immediately feel the comfort they give to a weary traveller; the shade, cool breeze, fresh air and for eyes, what a magnificent:

The more valuable the forests are, the more destruction the forests face. One of the ways that the forests are destroyed is by cutting down trees for valuable timber. As population increases, the demand for agriculture also rises. Consequently man clears land for agricultural purposes. As a result man encroaches the forests for the survival. Natural disasters like forest fires are common in some countries specially in hot climate.

What the modern man experiences today is the results of the negative impact of the destruction of forests. Climate changes drastically as the man's reaction to the nature has no bounds. Increase of temperature is be unbearable and the rainfall is also irregular unlike the past. All these negative points affect the people, plants and animals directly and indirectly.

In order to have a better world for all mankind what can we do to protect our forests? Awareness programmes along with reforestation must be put into practice. Attitude of the importance of simple living should be highly stressed. If the heart is big enough to think that the man is also a part of nature, the existence of forests is undoubtedly safe.

(4) Expected Answer

Test 16 - (d)

(d) Complete the dialogue between Ruwini and Migara. They discuss their ideas on places of interest in Sri Lanka.

Ruwini: I like visiting wild life sanctuaries.
Rajan: I know that you are interested in seeing animals in their natural habitat, but I like the ruined cities.

Ruwini: Ah! Yes. I can remember that once you had a collection of pictures of ruins and some ancient temples.
Rajan : Still I have that with me and now I use my computer to save pictures.
Ruwini: Is that so? Then I can send you some pictures that I had taken when we visited Anuradhapura last year.
Rajan : It's nice of you and thank you very much! By the way, didn't you go on a safari recently? I know that it's one of your favorites.
Ruwini: Why not? During the last school vacation we went on a safari to Minneriya. We saw a huge herd of elephants.
Rajan : Were there tuskers as well?
Ruwini: Yes. There were few. The baby elephants were so much playful. I love to watch them and I never get tired of it.
Rajan : Haven't you visited Udawalawe, where we could see elephants in their natural habitat?
Ruwini: Yes. I have. I also got the chance to feed a baby elephant at "Eth Athura Sevana," with a feeding bottle. It's so exciting.
Rajan : Why don't we plan to visit another sanctuary or a forest where we could see other animals and birds?
Ruwini: That's a good idea. Let's try Yala this time?
Rajan : Ok. Let's keep that in mind.
Ruwini: Great!
Rajan : Anyway my uncle invited me to join him to visit the Eastern Coast? He says that anywhere in the dry zone we could see some sort of ruins.
Ruwini: Yes. I know Rajan that most of the ruins are well conserved by the Arcaelogical Department and the excavations are still being carried out.
Rajan : That's right Ruwini. I too love to do some sort of findings, and when I travel with my uncle. I will be able to see some of the eye-catching views of Sri Lanka as he is very much interested in seeing the beautiful sights.
Ruwini: Really! Then you could relax well and he'll never miss Nilaweli beach and Trinco.
Rajan : Can you join me if my uncle allows?
Ruwini: Sure! Then let's keep in touch.
Rajan : Ok. See you Ruwini.
Ruwini: See you. Bye!

Part III

3.0 Factors to be considered when answering questions and suggestions for improvement

3.1 Factors to be considered by the candidates when answering questions

General Instructions for the candidates :

* The index number of the candidate should be written clearly and accurately in the spaces provided for it.
* Candidates should always use a blue or black pen to answer questions. They should never answer using a red pen or a pencil.
* Correction fluid should not be used in the answer sheet.
* Handwriting should be legible and clear.
* Each question should be read carefully and the candidates should adhere to the instructions given in the question paper.
* The candidates have to answer all the tests in the question paper itself.
* The candidates are expected to utilize the full time allocated for the paper at the examination.
* The space allocated for the writing tests provides guidance to the candidates about the required length of the answer.

Specific Instructions :

* The candidates must pay their attention to the examples given when answering questions.
* Attention should be paid to spelling when transferring information from a text and copying it as the answer. Candidates will lose marks for spelling errors.
* In reading tasks, the candidates must understand the main idea of the text before answering questions.
* The candidates must apply the reading techniques like scanning, skimming and inferring when attempting to answer questions related to reading.
* The candidates must not copy chunks from the passages as answers when one specific answer (a sentence, a phrase or a word) is expected. Marks will not be awarded for such answers.
* The candidates should be able to guess the meaning of a new word according to the context.
* In writing tasks the candidates must pay their attention to the grammatical accuracy, appropriateness (relevance), mechanics of writing and organization.
* When the options are available for the writing tests, the candidates are advised to follow the instructions thoroughly.

3.2 Comments and suggestions regarding the teaching - learning process

* The teachers should be familiar with the syllabus, the textbooks and the Teachers' Instructional Manual (TIM).

* The teachers should plan their lessons well to make teaching more interesting and productive.

* The teachers should use resources available to them to facilitate the teaching learning process.

* The candidates should be given more opportunities to read, write, listen and speak English in the classroom.

* The teachers should encourage maximum pupil interaction in English in the classroom through group work and pair work.

* The teacher's questioning techniques in classroom teaching help the performance of the candidates in the examination.

* The teachers who prepare students for the G.C.E.(O/L) examination should read the 'Examination and Assessment Guidelines' issued by the Department of Examinations and follow the instructions.

* If there are candidates with weak performance, the teachers should help them to reach at least the basic level performance standards mentioned in the 'Examination and Assessment Guidelines'.

* In teaching vocabulary, the teachers should go beyond the level of memorizing the spelling and practising pronunciation making students aware of word classes and their use.

* The teachers should use new strategies to make teaching more interesting.

* In teaching reading, the teachers should expose pupils to a variety of authentic text types to develop their reading skills.

* In answering reading tests, pupils should be informed that short and grammatically correct answers can earn full marks.

* In answering 'Wh' questions (especially in Test 15), the students should be advised not to copy the full sentences unnecessarily from the reading passage. Copying chunks from passages will be a waste of time.

* Teachers should encourage students to attempt all the writing activities of the question paper. Most of the students do not even attempt the basic writing tests in paper I.

* The teachers should use the same criteria used in the marking scheme in their classroom tests and term tests too.

* The teachers should pay individual attention to the students, especially in teaching writing and they should make sure that all writing activities of every child are marked and comments given. It is always better to ask students to rewrite the tasks after the teacher's comments.

* Grammar should be taught and tested not in isolation but in context.

* Attention should be paid to 'Language Focus' and 'Language Expressions' given at the beginning of each unit.

* The candidates should be made aware that marks are awarded for spelling, grammatical accuracy, mechanics of writing, format and organization, and that a simple mistake would result in losing marks.

* Every teacher who prepares the students for G.C.E.(O/L) examination should be thorough with the question paper and the marking criteria every year so that he/she would be able to improve the performance level of the students.

* The teachers must get their knowledge updated to be competent in teaching the subject using correct methodology to facilitate and motivate the learners.