



UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA
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CENTRE FOR DISTANCE AND CONTINUING EDUCATION
දුරස්ථ හා අඛණ්ඩ අධ්‍යාපන කේන්ද්‍රය

FIRST EXAMINATION IN ARTS (EXTERNAL) - DECEMBER 2018
ප්‍රථම ශාස්ත්‍ර පරීක්ෂණය (බාහිර) - දෙසැම්බර් 2018

FNDE 101: BASIC ENGLISH

Time allowed: Three (03) Hours

01. This is a telephone conversation that took place between two friends Amandi and Samadhi. Read the passage and fill the blanks using the most appropriate form of the verb given in the brackets.

(1/2 x30=15marks)

It was a quiet Sunday afternoon. I had completed most of the housework and just as I
 (1)..... (was trying, trying was tried, try) to relax, the telephone
 (2)..... (ringing, ring, is ringing, rang). "Is that you Amandhi,"
 someone(3).....(ask, asking, said, asked, asks) on the phone. "Yes, this
 (4)..... (be, will be, is, was) Amandhi," I replied. "Samadhi here. I
 need to talk to you right now," she said in a desperate voice. Samadi is a quiet girl who usually
 (5)..... (not disturb, does not disturb, was not disturbing, disturb) her friends. So, I knew
 something serious was going on. "I (6)..... (have not hear, have not heard, was not heard, am
 not hearing) from you since we last met", I said. So, what (7)..... (are you
 doing, you do, you did, are) now?" I asked Samadhi. "To(8).....(telling, tell, told,
 tells) you the truth," she said "I (9)(have, have had, having, has) a lot
 of problems recently", she continued. (Do, Does, Are, Have) (10)
 you (11)..... (wanting, wants, wants, want) to talk
 about it?" I asked. I had not finished saying the phrase when she started
 (12)..... (cry, to crying, crying, cries). "You won't believe what happened to
 me last week," she said. "It was Thursday morning and my friend, Anushi

(13).....(tell, told , telling me , was telling) me she(14).....(pick, will pick, would pick, picking) me up at 6.00 a.m. to go to the office.

We (15)..... (plan, had planned, are planning) to go to the office earlier than usual because it (16).....(was being, was, is, is being) a very special day for the whole staff. It was the day that our company (17)(was signing, was signed, signed, sign) a new contract with a leading international company. My boss had given me the contract papers to be (18).....(keep, kept, was keeping keeping) in the safe on the previous day. As I was in a hurry to sign off from work, I (19).....(give, will give, am giving, gave) the task over to Diluni, one of the most responsible workers in the office. The next day we went to the office and made everything ready for the event. While I (20).....(was making, was made, am making, make) the arrangements, I noticed that Diluni was nowhere to (21).....(see, be see, be seen, be seeing). At about 7.30 a.m. our boss (22)..... (coming, come, came. will come) to the office and asked me to bring the contract papers. When I (23)..... (am opening, am open, opened, should open) the safe to get the document, to my surprise, it (24).....(was, be, is , will) not there. My boss was furious and shouted at me saying that he (25)..... (would dismiss, dismiss, dismissing, going to dismiss) me from service for being irresponsible. Everyone else in the office blamed me for (26).....(ruined, ruining, ruin, ruins) such an important event. As I (27).....(didn't, mustn't, couldn't, wouldn't) face my boss and the other colleagues, I picked up my bag and left the office. The next morning, I (28)..... (receive, am receiving, shall receive, received) an e-mail from my boss. He had said in the e-mail that they (29)..... (not need, did not need, not needed, not needing) my service anymore. You know Amandi, I still can't forgive myself for neglecting my duty and trusting someone I(30)..... (shouldn't have, wouldnt have, didn't have, will not) trusted".

02. Fill in the blanks with an appropriate preposition from the list given below.

(1/2 x 20=10marks)

without, at on, over, with, in, to, among, from, up, through, of, by, for, away, about, behind, between, around, near

A Puma at Large

Last Monday reports came from London Zoo (1)..... a wild puma that had been spotted running (2)-----a forest, forty-five miles south (3).....London. It had also been spotted (4)----- a farm . But these reports were not taken seriously. However , as the evidence began to accumulate, experts from the Zoo felt obliged to investigate, because the descriptions given (5)..... people who claimed to have seen the puma were extraordinarily similar.

The hunt (6)..... the puma began in a small village where a woman picking blackberries saw 'a large cat' only five yards (7)..... from her. Her little son had been(8).....her at the time. The child had been standing (9).....his mother and the Puma but fortunately the puma had just looked (10)-----the child's head and had run away. Experts confirmed that a puma will not attack a human being unless it is cornered. The search proved difficult because the Puma was often observed in one place in the morning and in another place in the evening. Wherever the puma went, it left (11)----- it a trail of dead deer and small animals like rabbits. Paw prints were seen (12).....a number of places and puma fur was found (13).....some bushes. Several people complained of 'cat-like noises' (14).....night and a businessman (15)..... a fishing trip saw the puma going (16)..... a tree. The experts were now fully convinced that the animal was a puma, but where had it come from? As no pumas had been reported missing (17)..... any zoo in the country, this one must have been in the possession of a private collector and somehow

managed (18)..... escape. The hunt went on for several weeks, but the puma was not caught. It is disturbing to think that a dangerous wild animal is still walking (19).....the quiet countryside (20)-----the possibility of being caught.

03. This is a letter written by Manori to her friend Shashika. Read the letter and fill the blanks using the following words.

she, he, us, we, them, their, your, it, me, her, his, you, who, where, which, that, whom, to whom, whose, and when

(1/2 x 20= 10 marks)

In your last letter, you had asked (1)to tell you about all the things I did during the New Year vacation. We went to Mirissa (2)..... we have some old friends (3) we haven't seen for about three years. My friend Geetani and (4)..... younger brother , (5).....is a medical student at the University of Peradeniya, joined (6).....on the trip and we had a great time. We went to Mirissa on Monday 24th, (7)..... was also my birthday.

First we went to the hotel where we had reserved four rooms for our family members. But the manager whom we had spoken to and booked the rooms had not come to work that day because (8).....wife was sick. So we had to wait a while to get the rooms (9).....had a good view. In the late afternoon, (10).....went to the Mirissa beach. Then, we went to the whale watching club and purchased tickets to watch whales. On Tuesday morning we went whale watching . (11)----- was wonderful to see the whales leaping out of the water. The following day was cloudy and rainy. So, we went to a seafood restaurant. In the restaurant we met Hemal and Saranga. The two actors of the Sinhala cinema were with (12)friends. The children were thrilled to see (13)..... there. By the way, I saw some photos posted on Face book. I am referring to the ones (14)..... had taken with (15).....family at Udawalawa . And who is the cute little girl standing next to you? (16)daughter is she? Is (17).....Nimali's daughter? She looks a lot like her. I remember, your sister Nimali and I played hockey together for the school team. Please give (18).....regards to her. Also please let me know

- (19).....you will drop in at our place . Chooti Malli is waiting to see you. I think
(20).....has something stuff to give you. Please come and collect it.

Your loving friend,

Manori

04. Use the following words and make sentences.

(2x5=10marks)

Example: funny: We heard a very funny story yesterday. It made all of us laugh for a long time.

1. envious -----

2. friendly-----

3. provide-----

4. unanimous-----

5. control-----

Part II

05. Read the following passage and answer the questions given below. (3x5=15 marks)

A Letter from Abraham Lincoln to his Son's Teacher

My son starts school today. It is all going to be strange and new to him for a while and I wish you would treat him gently. It is an adventure that might take him across continents. All adventures that probably include wars, tragedy and sorrow. To live this life will require faith, love and courage.

So dear teacher, will you please take him by hand and teach him things he will have, teaching him but gently---but gently, if you can. Teach him that for every enemy, there is a friend. He will have to know that all men are not just, that all men are not true. But teach him also that for every scoundrel there is a hero, that every crooked politician, there is a leader.

Teach him if you can that 10 cents earned is of far more value than a dollar found. In school, teach him it is far more honorable to fail than to cheat. Teach him to learn how to gracefully lose, and enjoy winning when he does win.

Teach him to be gentle with people, tough with tough people. Steer him away from envy if you can and reach the secret of quiet laughter. Teach him how to laugh when he is sad, teach him that there is no shame in tears. Teach him there can be glory in failure and despair in success. Teach him to scoff at cynics.

Teach him if you can the wonders of books, but also give him time to ponder the extreme mystery of birds in the sky, bees in the sun and flowers on a green hill. Teach him to have faith in his own ideas, even if everyone tells him he is they are wrong.

Try to give my son the strength not to follow the crowd when everyone else is doing it. Teach him to listen to every one but teach him also to filter all that he hears on a screen of truth and take the good that comes through.

Teach him to sell his talents and brains to the highest bidder but never to put a price tag on his heart and soul. Let him have the courage to be impatient, let him have the patience to be brave. Teach him to have sublime faith in himself, because then he will always have sublime faith in mankind, God.

This is the order teacher, but see what best you can do. He is such a nice little boy and he is my son.

Answer the following questions using your words as far as possible.

1. According to the passage who is going to school?

2. Why will this student find it strange to be in a school?

3. Briefly explain the following statement from the text: “never put a price on his heart and soul”.

4. List 3 things that Lincoln wants the teacher to teach his son?

5. Why do you think Lincoln wrote such a letter to the teacher?

06. Write a letter of complaint to the Grama Sevaka about the destruction caused by monkeys and other animals in your area. Ask him to take some action regarding the problem. (20 marks)

07. Picture description (20 marks)

Look at the picture and write a paragraph. Briefly describe the picture and then say what you feel about what you see in it. (150 words)



