

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA  
 DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES  
 BA DEGREE PROGRAMME IN SOCIAL SCIENCES - LEVEL V  
 FINAL EXAMINATION 2023/2024 (SEMESTER II)  
 DSU5336 – URBAN ECONOMICS



**DURATION: THREE HOURS (3 HOURS)**

**Date: 17.08.2024**

**Time: 01.30 p.m. - 04.30 p.m.**

**Instructions:**

- There are nine (09) questions in this paper.
- Answer any five (05) questions.
- Each question carries 20 marks.

1. As a student of urban economics, how do you view the nature of the cities in a globalized economy? Elaborate this. (20 marks)
2. Illustrate the benefits of cities by referencing examples from advanced countries. (20 marks)
3. (a) Compare the urban productivity status between developed and developing nations. (10 marks)  
 (b) How can Sri Lanka reach the status of higher urban productivity? (10 marks)
4. Examine the relationship between assets and competitiveness of cities. (20 marks)
5. (a) Explain how cities can respond to decarbonization imperatives. (10 marks)  
 (b) Discuss potential trends that could be encouraged in urban environmental planning and management for developing nations. (10 marks)

6. (a) Examine the multiple facets of decentralization. (10 marks)
- (b) Distinguish between the three types of power that can be seen in local governance. (10 marks)
7. How can countries achieve economic growth through proper urban planning? Discuss. (20 marks)
8. Explore the integration of women empowerment in urban development within Southeast Asian countries. (20 marks)
9. Write short notes on **any four (04)** of the following:
- (a) Mercantile Cities
  - (b) Challenges of the transport sector in Sri Lanka
  - (c) Metropolitan Government
  - (d) Managing urbanization in Sri Lanka
  - (e) Improving municipal finance in Sri Lanka (5 x 4 = 20 marks)

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