



THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

B.A /DIPLOMA IN ENGLISH

AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING / - LEVEL 3

B.A. HONOURS IN ENGLISH AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING

FINAL EXAMINATION - JUNE 2025

THE NOVEL AND THE SHORT STORY - LEU3505/LSU1205/LSD1205

DURATION - THREE HOURS (03 Hours)

DATE: 14.06.2025

TIME: 01.30 p.m – 04.30 p.m

ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS.

1). Place the following passages in context and comment on their significance to the texts from which they are taken. (Word count: 500)

- a). "But I can assure you," she added, "that Lizzy does not lose much by not suiting his fancy; for he is a most disagreeable, horrid man, not at all worth pleasing. So high and so conceited that there was no enduring him! He walked here, and he walked there, fancying himself so very great! Not handsome enough to dance with!

- b). "That was some time ago. But it will not be used now," said Obi as he walked away. "What will the Government Education Officer think of this when he comes to inspect the school next week? The villagers might, for all I know, decide to use the schoolroom for a pagan ritual during the inspection."

- c). "I walked away at a good pace, thinking it was easier to go than I had supposed it would be, and reflecting that it would never have done to have had an old shoe thrown after the coach, in sight of all the High-street. I whistled and made nothing of going. But the village was very peaceful and quiet, and the light mists were solemnly rising, as if to show me the world, and I had been so innocent and little there, and all beyond was so unknown and great, that in a moment with a strong heave and sob I broke into tears."
- d). "It grew louder—louder—louder! And still the men chatted pleasantly, and smiled. Was it possible they heard not? Almighty God!—no, no! They heard!—they suspected!—they knew!—they were making a mockery of my horror!"

(40 Marks)

2.

- a). How does Jane Austen examine the traits of 'pride' and 'prejudice' in connection with the moral growth of her characters in *Pride and Prejudice*? Discuss with reference to two major characters in the novel. Support your answer with specific examples from the novel. Do not narrate the plot.

(30 Marks)

OR

- b). Do you think Susila, in the novel *The English Teacher* by R.K. Narayan, challenges traditional gender norms through her individuality and resilience? Explain and justify your answer with examples from the novel.

(30 Marks)

OR

- c). Charles Dickens's *Great Expectations* emphasizes the importance of human values over wealth. Discuss the above statement with reference to the novel.

(30 marks)

3. “Human behaviour is frequently influenced by unseen forces such as convention, authority/power, and fear”. Analyse how this idea is represented through the actions and decisions of characters in at least three short stories you have studied. Support your argument with close textual analysis of key events, character development, and central themes.

(30 Marks)