



**THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA**

**DIPLOMA IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE**

**FINAL EXAMINATION**

- **SEPTEMBER 2025**

**ADVANCED READING SKILLS**

- **LED3507/LSD1207**

**DURATION**

- **THREE HOURS (03 hours)**

**DATE: 14.09.2025**

**TIME: 09.30 pm. - 12.30 pm**

Index No:

Question No:		Marks Obtained	Maximum
Part A	1	.....	05
	2	.....	10
Part B	3	.....	40
Part C	4	.....	15
	5	.....	30
<b>Total</b>			<b>100</b>
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Name of Examiner : .....

Signature of Examiner : .....

**ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS IN THIS PAPER ITSELF. DO NOT ATTACH ANY EXTRA PAPER.**

**Part A**

**1. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate form of the word given within brackets.**

**The first blank is filled for you.**

Electronic devices have (1) revolutionized (revolution) learning, communication, and information dissemination, but recent (2)\_\_\_\_\_ (search) indicates that screen media use may have serious adverse effects on children's health over the long term, making this a pressing public health concern. New technologies, such as mobile phones, are now ingrained in a young child's daily life.

In recent years, the concept of screen time has become more complex, with a wide range of electronic devices available worldwide. The (3)\_\_\_\_\_ (advance) of technology has led to increased screen-based technology (4)\_\_\_\_\_ (use) among young people, coinciding with a decrease in their engagement with nature and (5)\_\_\_\_\_ (impact) their mental health and overall well-being. Additionally, screen time has been linked to obesity, sleep problems, depression, and anxiety. However, studies in very young children indicate that screen usage is an (6)\_\_\_\_\_ (dependent) risk factor for reduced psychological well-being.

**(05 marks)**

**2. Fill in the blanks with the matching sentences or clauses given below. Write the corresponding letter on the space provided.**

The Netherlands returned six artefacts including a cannon, a ceremonial sword and (1)....., as part of efforts by the former colonial power to redress historical wrongs. Sri Lanka asked the Netherlands to return the artefacts after (2)..... The artefacts were taken in 1765 from Kandy, the last kingdom of ancient Sri Lanka, (3)....., a statement from the Netherlands embassy said. (4) .....during the colonial period. acquired under duress or by looting.

Sri Lanka is grateful to the government of the Netherlands for returning the artefacts, said the Religious and Cultural Affairs Minister. "There are more to come. Not only from the Netherlands but (5).....". The artefacts will now be housed at the National Museum in Colombo and more are expected to follow.

A: the Dutch government approved the restitution of historic objects in 2021.

B: also from other countries like Great Britain

C : two guns taken from Sri Lanka more than 250 years ago

D : when the Dutch besieged the palace

E : The objects were wrongfully brought to the Netherlands

(10 marks)

### **Part B**

3. **Read the following passage and answer the questions given below. The lines have been numbered for easy reference.**

1 The term fast fashion has become more prominent in conversations surrounding fashion,  
2 sustainability, and environmental consciousness. The term refers to “cheaply produced and  
3 priced garments that copy the latest catwalk styles and get pumped quickly through stores  
4 in order to maximize on current trends.” The fast fashion model is so-called because it  
5 involves the rapid design, production, distribution, and marketing of clothing. This means  
6 that retailers are able to pull large quantities of greater product variety and allow consumers  
7 to get more products at a low price.

8 The term was first used at the beginning of the 1990s, when Zara landed in New York. The  
9 term “fast fashion” was coined by the New York Times to describe **their** mission to allow  
10 garments to go from the design stage to being sold in stores in just 15 days. The biggest  
11 players in the fast fashion world include Zara, Shein, UNIQLO, Forever 21, and H&M.  
12 According to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, emissions from textile  
13 manufacturing alone are projected to skyrocket by 60% by 2030.

The time it takes for a product to go through the supply chain, from design to purchase, is called **lead time**. In 2012, Zara was able to design, produce and deliver a new garment in two weeks. Newer industry player Shein, a major Chinese fast fashion company, has garments ready to be sold in just 10 days. This results in the fashion industry producing **immense amounts of waste**.

Fast fashion does not only have a huge environmental impact. In fact, the industry also poses societal problems, especially in developing economies. A 2018 US Department of Labour report found evidence of both forced and child labour in the fashion industry in Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Philippines, Turkey, Vietnam and others. Rapid production means that sales and profits supersede human welfare. Research also suggests that the garment industry has always been a low-capital and labour intensive. It has been found that developing nations are viable for garment industries due to cheap labour, vast tax breaks, and **lenient** laws and regulations. According to The True Cost, one in six people work in some part of the global fashion industry, making it the most labour-dependent industry. **These** nations also rarely follow environmental regulations and cause immense environmental damage by way of land, air and water pollution.

Slow fashion is the widespread reaction to fast fashion and its environmental impact. It aims to hit the brakes on excessive production, overcomplicated supply chains, and mindless consumption by advocating for manufacturing that respects people, the environment and animals. Companies need to design, test and invest in business models that reuse clothes and maximize their useful life. The United Nations has launched the 'Alliance for Sustainable Fashion' to address the damages caused by fast fashion. It is seeking to halt the environmentally and socially **destructive** practices of fashion. One way that shoppers are reducing **their** consumption of fast fashion is by buying from secondhand sellers; shoppers send their unwanted clothes to these websites and people buy those clothes at a lower price than the original. Another solution is renting clothes, which can be kept, swapped or returned.

Governments need to be more actively involved in the fashion industry's damaging effects. UK ministers rejected a report by members of parliament to address the environmental

43 effects of fast fashion. On the other hand, French president, Emmanuel Macron has made  
44 a pact with 150 brands to make the fashion industry more sustainable. The best advice on  
45 reducing the environmental impact of fast fashion comes from Patsy Perry, senior lecturer  
46 in fashion marketing at the University of Manchester, who says, “Less is always more.”

<https://earth.org/fast-fashions-detrimental-effect-on-the-environment/>

### Questions

1. What does the term fast fashion refer to?

(02 marks)

2. (i) Who coined the term?

(ii) When was it first used?

(02 marks)

3. Who are the biggest players in the fast fashion industry?

i.

ii.

iii.

iv.

v.

(05 marks)

4. Name 2 important social problems caused by the fast fashion industry.

(i)

(ii)

(02 marks)

5) Why are developing nations viable for the garment industry?

(02 marks)

6) (i) What is slow fashion?

(ii) What does it hope to achieve?

(04 marks)

7. Name 2 ways in which shoppers are reducing their consumption of fast fashion.

(i)

(ii)

(02 marks)

7) What do the following words refer to?

i. **their** in paragraph 2 line 9

ii. **these** in paragraph 4 line 28

iii. **it** in paragraph 5 line 35

iv. **their** in paragraph 5 line 37

(04 marks)

8) Write the meaning of the following words underlined in the passage as applicable to the text.

i. **rapid** in paragraph 1 line 5

ii. **lead-time** in paragraph 3 line 15

iii. **immense** in paragraph 3 line 18

- iv. **lenient** in paragraph 4 line 26
- v. **destructive** in paragraph 5 line 36

**(10 marks)**

9) State whether the following are true or false based on the information given in the passage.

- i. The fast fashion model involves the rapid design, production, distribution, and marketing of clothing
- ii. The fashion industry doesn't produce immense amounts of waste
- iv. Rapid production means that human welfare supersedes sales and profits
- v. The fashion industry is the most labour-dependent industry
- vi. UK ministers accepted a report by members of parliament to address the environmental effects of fast fashion

**(05 marks)**

10) Give the passage a suitable title

**(02 marks)**

**Part C**

**4. Read the passage above (Part B) and convert the information presented within it into a linear/ outline note. The note should be well structured and conform to the format of the linear/ outline note.**

**(15 marks)**



**5. Write a summary of the passage above using no more than 200 words. Use the given space below and write only one word in each box. Marks will be deducted for language errors.**

**(30 marks)**

[illegible]
