## THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA DIPLOMA IN ENGLISH / B.A. IN ENGLISH

LEVEL 4

AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING

FINAL EXAMINATION

November 2016

THE HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT

OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

LSD2201/LSU2201

**DURATION** 

**THREE HOURS (03 hours)** 

DATE:

20. 11. 2016

TIME:

9.30 pm.

12.30pm.

ANSWER ANY 04 QUESTIONS, SELECTING <u>TWO</u> FROM PART (A) AND <u>TWO</u> FROM PART (B).

## PART A

- "It is considered that during the Middle English Period, the Norman scribes created many apparent changes to English spelling based on the French system of writing." Explain this with examples.
- 2. Comment on the impact of the Anglo-Saxon invasion of Britain in the 5<sup>th</sup> Century on the English Language.
- 3. What is referred to as "The Great Vowel shift" that took place in the Early Modern English period? (A diagram with a few examples is essential)
- 4. Discuss the contribution made by the Vikings to the English Language.

(50 marks)

## PART B

5. 'The awakened nationalism of the Britons resulted in the rise of English in the latter part of Middle English period and the Early Modern English period.' Discuss this statement with evidence drawn from the history and development of the English language.

- 6. Critically discuss the need for a World Standard Spoken English which can be used as a means of international communication.
- 7. Discuss how factors such as technology transfer, internet communication and scientific publications have contributed to the spread and consolidation of English as a global language. Provide examples.
- 8. "Standard English is basically an ideal..... as an ideal, it cannot be perfectly realized and we must expect that members of different 'wider communities' (Britain, America Nigeria, for examples) may produce different realizations." Quirk (1968:100). Taking this comment into consideration, critically examine the efforts to establish a Sri Lankan variety of English.

(50 marks)