



Second Language Test for Officers in Sri Lanka Administrative Service, Sri Lanka Scientific Service, Sri Lanka Engineering Service and Sri Lanka Architects Services - 2013 (1)

(15) English (Second Language)

Answer all the questions.

Two hours

There are eight (8) questions in this paper. Answer ALL the questions on this paper itself.

Question 01 Use the correct form of the verbs in brackets to complete the sentences. Study the example first. **10 marks for 10 items**

Example

Driving under the influence of liquor(consider, considered, is considered, considering) an offence.

Completed sentence: Driving under the influence of liquor ...*is considered*(consider, considered, is considered, considering) an offence.

Many students(prevent, preventing, are being prevented, prevents) from completing their education due to many reasons.

1.2 Many offices (offering, offers, offer, offered) one day services now.

1.3 The Government owned transport(providing, provides, provided, provide) an improved service now.

1.4 Visitors from several countries(have been caught, catch, catches, catching,) trying to take away protected plants.

1.5 At present, the number of visitors to the country (is increasing, increases, increased, was increasing).

1.6 Some lives(are lost, was lost, were lost, is lost) in the heavy floods of 2013.

1.7 Several Trade Delegations(travelling, travelled, will travel, travel) abroad in 2012.

1.8 A number of landslides(occur, occurred, occurring, had occurred) during the rains last year.

1.9 Over the years, the Ministry of Health(encouraged, encourage, has been encouraging, encourages) the population to eat food that is good for us.

1.10 The world (seen, sees, seeing, saw) many natural disasters last year.

**Question 02 Use the words in the box to complete the sentences. Study the example first.
One word should be used only once.**

10 marks for 10 items

across, on, in, at, between,
near, under, after, from, over,
before.

Example

Childrenfive years have to attend school.

Completed sentence: Children*over*five years have to attend school.

- 2.1 Children must wash their hands well they eat.
- 2.2 Most Government offices open 08:00 .
- 2.3 At age 17, a person is childhood and adulthood.
- 2.4 Those who walk a road must be careful. .
- 2.5 Only essential service offices open Public Holidays.
- 2.6 Certain businesses are not allowed schools.
- 2.7 Several food items are imported India.
- 2.8. No one the age of 18 can obtain a driving license.
- 2.9 Bills in Parliament become law they are passed by a vote.
- 2.10 Some schools have large numbers of students the classes.

Question 03 Join the word groups to produce meaningful sentences. 10 marks for 5 items

Example

Word groups: fast/is reducing/the population of elephants.

Sentence: The population of elephants is reducing fast.

- 3.1 than other employees/ more holidays/ enjoy/bankers.
.....
.....
- 3.2 have become/in Sri Lanka/tuition classes/ a part of education
.....
.....
- 3.3 to raise fares/like/private bus owners/ as often as possible.
.....
.....
- 3.4 have gone up/ foreign examinations/for/examination fees
.....
.....
- 3.5 by floods/paddy crops/ have been affected/in some areas
.....
.....

Question 04 Use the words in the box to join the pairs of sentences to produce meaningful sentences with each pair. One word should be used only ONCE.

Study the example first.

10 marks for 5 items.

though, yet, still, therefore, because, but.

Example:

Pair of sentences, There is a shortage of teachers in some schools.
Some schools are over staffed.

Joined sentence: There is a shortage of teachers in some schools but some schools are overstaffed.

4.1 The price of fuel has increased.
The cost of living has gone up.

.....
.....

4.2 Cultivators face many difficulties.
They continue their way of life to earn their living.

.....
.....

4.3 The tsunami hit Sri Lanka several years ago.
Some of the victims live in temporary shelters.

.....
.....

4.4 Many animals are protected by law.
Some are hunted.

.....
.....

4.5 Tamed elephants are difficult to maintain.
Their food is hard to get now.

.....
.....

Question 05 Expand the meanings of the sentences by adding suitable words from the box. One word should be used only ONCE. Study the example first.

10 marks for 5 items

periodically, obviously, meaningfully, clearly, tactfully,
similarly.

Example:

Sentence: Some parts of Sri Lanka suffer from drought and flood.

Sentence with added meaning: Some parts of Sri Lanka suffer similarly from drought and flood.

5.1 Pedestrian crossings are marked.
.....

5.2 Negotiations were conducted to reach an agreement.
.....

5.3 Performance is reviewed.
.....

5.4 The students get low marks at exams when answers are wrong.
.....

5.5 Circulars have to be read to understand the situations described.
.....

Question 06 Complete the following sentences with words that describe the underlined words. Study the example given. One word should be used only ONCE.

10 marks for 5 items

Example.

.....children enter the best schools through the Grade Five scholarship exam.
Clever children enter the best schools through the Grade Five scholarship exam.

Sweet, adventure, road, weak, heavy

6.1students fail to enter University.

6.2accidents are caused because of bad driving.

6.3 Some property was damaged because ofrain.

6.4 Most TV viewers likestories.

6.5 Very often food is bad for small children's teeth.

(Adapted from an article by Jean Perrot on the Internet)

Between ten and three thousand years B.C., South-West Asia was the scene of events that contributed to major changes in human destiny. These events signalled a radical change in man's relationship to the natural surroundings. Taking advantage of an overall improvement in climatic conditions, people who were living from hunting, fishing and gathering in the most fertile regions of the Near and Middle East made permanent settlements there. *They* increased in terms of numbers of individuals; they structured themselves; they made contacts and developed bartering. In a more or less beneficial manner, the peoples of this part of the world overcame their environmental limitations; they became aware of new abilities to change the course of events. During the period we are talking about, they were able to challenge nature; later they would reach the state of techno-economic and socio-cultural development known as civilization.

Archaeology attempts to reconstruct this evolution. However, in the absence of texts, resources are restricted: *these* are limited to the search, the observation, and the description of the rare pieces of evidence of human activity, and to the analysis of the relationships which link them, to

establishing the facts and events that would help historians to say, "what happened". Archaeology is not a science; at best it can hope for a status similar to the social sciences. *It* is a set of methods and well-defined procedures aimed at uncovering phenomena with human origins, what archaeology calls "artefacts". The excavation of a site is an irreversible operation, a unique experience. Even when *its* methods draw on those of the natural sciences, archaeology cannot give rise to laws. Archaeological documentation, "archaeological reality" remains open to permanent query.

For the region and the period we are interested in here, the documentation today is relatively abundant, as are the gaps. For the entire Near and Middle East, and for a period of time covering six to seven thousand years, we have only about fifty significant sites. Many excavations and probes have little scientific value because of insufficiencies in recording or in publishing. Another problem is one that pervades all interdisciplinary research. Different disciplines work alongside one another to a greater extent than *they* communicate; each field has its concepts, methods and vocabulary, but also its limitations.

7.1 You may write short answers. Do not copy complete sentences or phrases from the text.

10 marks for 5 items.

7.1.1 How long ago from today is the period referred to? (2mark)

.....

7.1.2 Why were human beings able to live in one place? (2 marks)

.....

7.1.3 What is the role of archaeology? (2 marks)

.....

7.1.4 "Many excavations and probes have little scientific value." What is the reason? (2 marks)

.....
.....

7.1.5 What do you think is most important about this period? (2 marks)

.....
.....

7.2 Explain the meanings of the following words in short sentences or a phrases.

5 marks for 5 items

7.2.1 structure in line 13.....

7.2.2 restricted in line 26

7.2.3 link in line 30

7.2.4 excavation in line 38.....

7.2.5 abundant in line 48

7.3 What do the following words (in bold/italics) refer to in the text?

5 marks for 5 items

7.3.1 They in line 11

7.3.2 these in line 25

7.3.3. It in line 35

7.3.4 . its in line 40.....

7.3.5 . they in line 62

Question 08 Write a speech of not less than 250 words (in the body) to the citizens concerning the present problem of solid waste disposal. As the Divisional Secretary of your area, you must refer to/deal with, the following points.

20 marks

- a) How severe the problem is: give two reasons,
- b) Householders' duty in separating waste into i) biodegradable ii) glass iii) plastic,
- c) The service provided by the local authorities: i) weekly collection ii) special service for heavy loads to deal with festivals and household events.

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This is the end of the question paper. Check your answers and get ready to hand in the paper.