

UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO – SRI LANKA

FACULTY OF ARTS

SECOND YEAR EXAMINATION IN ARTS – SEMESTER II – 2018

ESL 2216 – Language and Human Brain

Time: Two (02) Hours

This paper consists of two (02) sections. Section A is compulsory.

Choose three questions from section B.

SECTION A (15 Marks)

Write short notes on any **three** of the following.

1. Semanticity
2. Displacement
3. Mental lexicon
4. Tip of the Tongue (TOT) phenomenon
5. Language Acquisition Device
6. Boot strapping

SECTION B (45 Marks)

1. Why is it that Isabelle and Helen were able to acquire a language but Victor and Genie could not. Explain with reference to the Critical Period Hypothesis.
2. According to Behaviourists, children acquire language through imitation and practice. Do you agree or disagree? Explain with examples.

3.
 - a) Explain briefly the significance of bilingualism in relation to language acquisition.
 - b) Describe how bilingual infants acquire languages without apparent difficulty.
4.
 - a) Explain the three important memory processes.
 - b) Describe in detail the three stages of memory.
5.
 - a) Explain the process of Lexical retrieval.
 - b) Comment on the process of Lexical retrieval in the context of
 - i) a listener
 - ii) a writer
 - iii) a speaker
 - c) Discuss the 'Theory of Activation' in relation to lexical retrieval.
6.
 - a) Discuss the main features associated with the reading process.
 - b) Differentiate a skilled reader and an unskilled reader in relation to their reading skills.