

UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN EDUCATION – (TEACHING OF ENGLISH AS A
SECOND LANGUAGE) - 1ST SEMESTER EXAMINATION – 2015/2016

CU 515 - English Language and Applied Linguistics

Three Hours

Answer any four (04) questions.

1. (i) Define the following terms
 - (a) Duality
 - (b) arbitrariness
 - (c) Displacement (10 marks)
- (ii) Examine the following statement citing at least three reasons, to support your claim “while both humans and animals can communicate, human Language is unique”. (15 marks)

2. (i) Identify five pronunciation difficulties for Sinhala and Tamil ESL learners. (10 marks)
- (ii) Given below is an activity from the new Grade six pupils book. Critically analyze this activity and justify its suitability for grade six students giving three reasons. (15 marks)

3. (i) Briefly explain the term "second mental lexicon". (10 marks)
- (ii) Citing five examples explain how your knowledge of semantics can help you to facilitate students' vocabulary development. (15 marks)
4. (i) Briefly elaborate the role of "care taker speech" in first language development citing three examples. (10 marks)
- (ii) "Languages are learned mainly through imitation"
Critically evaluate this statement in the light of insights gained from learning theories. (15 marks)
5. (i) Identify three instances where Vygotsky's concept of "expert" and "novice" can be applied to the second language classroom. (10 marks)
- (ii) citing five examples elaborate how insights gained from second language learning theories can be applied to your classroom. (15 marks)
6. (i) Define the following concepts
- (a) Basic Interpersonal communication skills. (BICS)
 - (b) Cognitive Academic Language Proficiency.
 - (c) Common underlying Proficiency
 - (d) Translanguaging
 - (e) Threshold hypothesis (10 marks)

(ii) Given below are two second Language learner Profiles

- (a) Nazeer is 10 years old. He migrated to Australia and is about to commence his studies in the English medium. He had his education while in Sri Lanka in a monolingual setting.
- (b) Saman is 30 years old and works as a security guard in a private firm in Colombo he is from a remote village in the North.

Based on three learner characteristics analyse the opportunities these two learners have of becoming balanced bilinguals.

(15 marks)

7. (i) Differentiate between "code switching" and "Stylistic Switching"

(10 marks)

(ii) Using three socio cultural / affective factors explain how social distance between mono-lingual and bilingual learners can either increase or decrease.

(15 marks)

8. i. Citing examples differentiate between learning styles and Learning strategies.

(10 marks)

ii. Elaborate how you would use three specific strategies to encourage learners to take responsibility for their own learning of English.

(15 marks)

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