

University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

Faculty of Arts

Second Year Examination in Arts (Study Stream), Semester 1, 2018/19

English Studies: Theory and Practice

ENG 2116 – History of the English Language

Two Hours

Answer **THREE (03)** questions.

1. Baugh and Cable (2002) hypothesise that “the languages of a large part of Europe and [a] part of Asia were at one time identical”. Support this hypothesis with examples.
2. Briefly discuss the influence of the Norman Conquest on the English language.
3. “The importance of a language is largely determined by the importance of the people who speak it” (Baugh and Cable, 2002). Do you agree? Justify your position with examples.
4. Discuss the impact of print capitalism on the standardisation of the English language.
5. Dick Leith (2007) identifies three types of English colonisation: Displacement, Subjection, and Replacement. Comment on **one (01)** type of colonisation and its consequences on language with reference to at least **one (01)** country or region.
6. Write short notes on any **TWO (02)** of the following:
 - a. Grimm’s Law
 - b. The Great Vowel Shift
 - c. World Englishes
