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**UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO, SRI LANKA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING**  
**BACHELOR OF LAWS EXAMINATION – 2021**  
**YEAR 4**

**ENGLISH - LEVEL IV**

**Duration: 3 Hours**

**Answer all questions**

**(This paper is to be administered on-site and via Moodle)**

**Important Instructions to Candidates (On-Site)**

- This question paper has 5 questions on 10 pages
- Enter your Index Number on the cover page and on each subsequent page.
- If a page or part of this question paper is not printed, please inform your supervisor immediately.
- Write the answers to the questions in the space provided in the question paper.

Question Number	Marks
<b>1 (5 marks)</b>	
<b>2 (10 marks)</b>	
<b>3 (5 marks)</b>	
<b>4 (25 marks)</b>	
<b>5 (25 marks)</b>	
<b>Total (70)</b>	

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**PART A – GRAMMAR & VOCABULARY**

**Question 1**

**(5 marks)**

**Nimali is a student of the Faculty of Law, University of Colombo. She speaks of her experience at the university. Change the first person, singular subject (I) of the passage to the third person, singular subject (she) and rewrite the passage in the space provided.**

**Important: Verbs and pronouns should be changed to match the new subject. Do not change the tenses of the passage.**

I am a student of the Faculty of Law. Being a law student is tough, even for a hardworking student like me. At the beginning, the lectures were difficult to follow, and I could not complete the assignments on time. As time passed, I discovered the art of time management. I never gave up. Right now, I am in the final year. Stepping into the university, I was nervous and afraid, but I have gradually gained confidence and finally feel ready to put my training to good use.

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**Question 2**

**(10 marks)**

**Fill in the blanks using a suitable relative pronoun and a relative clause to make meaningful sentences.**

**E.g.: The cashier who was working at the main counter was the eyewitness of the **shoplifting**.**

- 1) He was a policeman \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Since it was raining, Kamal, \_\_\_\_\_  
offered to drive me home.
- 3) Where are the documents \_\_\_\_\_?
- 4) The lawyer has a meeting \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) I can't meet you tomorrow. It is the day \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) The reason \_\_\_\_\_ is to get an appointment  
to meet you.
- 7) Often, I talk to students \_\_\_\_\_
- 8) The message \_\_\_\_\_ should be kept a  
secret.
- 9) The client \_\_\_\_\_ is very unhappy now.
- 10) I don't like companies \_\_\_\_\_

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**Question 3**

**(5 marks)**

**Use suitable conjunctions and complete the sentences.**

**Marks will be deducted for consistent errors in spelling and capitalization.**

**E.g.: In spite of the unstable internet connection, I managed to join the Zoom lectures.**

- 1) My university is amazing. It is \_\_\_\_\_ my second home. I feel very comfortable with my friends and enjoy every moment of being a student there.
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ it is an urgent matter, do not step outside. You might catch the virus.
- 3) I will come with you \_\_\_\_\_ you give me transport. I do not want to travel by bus.
- 4) I saw Kumar Sangakkara \_\_\_\_\_ I was crossing the road. I think he lives close by.
- 5) I cannot go home \_\_\_\_\_ I finish all my exams. And I have 5 more papers to sit this semester!
- 6) \_\_\_\_\_ the police arrived, the thief had already escaped. They took so long to come.
- 7) The vacancy is advertised on the papers. You should apply \_\_\_\_\_ next Monday.
- 8) You behave \_\_\_\_\_ you had received some exciting news. Did you get the promotion you were expecting?
- 9) \_\_\_\_\_ the cafés are open, no one wants to have meals indoors. Everyone prefers to have meals delivered.
- 10) I always carry a card of paracetamol \_\_\_\_\_ I get a headache. Of late, I have been experiencing headaches quite often.

**PART B – READING COMPREHENSION**

**Question 4**

**(25 marks)**

**Read the following texts and answer the questions that follow.**

**Text 1**

**(10 marks)**

A. Some people confuse morality with the law, or identify the one with the other, but the two are distinct though they may often **coincide**. Laws are norms enacted or enforced by the state to protect or promote the public good. They specify which actions are *legally* right or wrong. But these same actions can also be judged *morally* right or wrong, and these two kinds of judgments will not necessarily agree. Lying to a friend about a personal matter or failing to save a drowning child (when you easily could have) may be immoral— but not ever illegal. Racial bias, discrimination based on gender or sexual orientation, slavery, spousal rape, and unequal treatment of minority groups are immoral— but, depending on the society, they may not be illegal.

i. What is the definition of ‘law’ given in the passage? (1 mark)

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ii. Mention 2 actions stated in the passage, which may be considered immoral, but are never illegal (2 marks)

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iii. Construct a meaningful sentence using the word “**coincide**” (2 marks)

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B. Much of the time, however, morality and the law overlap. Often what is immoral also turns out to be illegal. This is usually the case when immoral actions cause substantial harm to others, whether physical or economic. Thus, murder and embezzlement are both immoral and illegal, backed by social disapproval and severe **sanctions** imposed by law. Controversy often arises when an action is not obviously or seriously harmful but is considered immoral by some who want the practice prohibited by law. The contentious notion at work is that something may be made illegal solely on the grounds that it is immoral, regardless of any physical or economic harm involved. This view of the law is known as legal *moralism*, and it sometimes underlies debates about the legalization of abortion, euthanasia, reproductive technology, contraception, and other practices.

[Adapted from: Vaughn, L. (2010). *Bioethics: Principles, issues, and cases* (Vol. 58). New York: Oxford University Press.]

iv. Give an example for an act mentioned in the passage which is both immoral and illegal (1 mark)

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v. Construct a meaningful sentence using the word “**sanctions**” (2 marks)

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vi. In your own words, explain what is meant by ‘legal moralism’ (Use 2-3 sentences) (2 marks)

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**Text 2**

**(15 marks)**

A. Views on abortion— whether held by church, state, or citizenry— have varied dramatically through time and across cultures. Abortions in the ancient world were common, and there was no shortage of methods for effecting them. Some writers of the time **condemned** the practice, and some recommended it. “Let there

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be a law that no deformed child shall live,” says Aristotle, “and if couples have children in excess, let abortion be procured before life and sense have begun.”

The Hippocratic Oath proscribed the use of abortifacients (substances or devices for inducing abortions), a prohibition respected by many physicians but ignored by others.

- i. Name the 3 parties who have expressed views on the topic of abortion? (1.5 marks)  
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- ii. Which philosopher supported abortion? (0.5 marks)  
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- iii. Does the Hippocratic Oath recommend abortion? (1 mark)  
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- iv. Construct a meaningful sentence using the word “**condemned**” (2 marks)  
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B. In English common law, abortion was considered a crime only if performed after **quickening** (when the mother first detects fetal movement). From its beginnings through the nineteenth century, American law mostly reflected this tradition. Accordingly, in the early 1800s, several states passed statutes outlawing abortion after quickening except to save the life of the mother. But in the next 100 years, abortion laws gradually became stricter, dropping the quickening cutoff point and banning all abortions but those thought to **preserve** the life (or, rarely, the health) of the mother. The medical profession generally supported the tougher laws, and the views of physicians on abortion carried great weight.

- v. Explain ‘**quickening**’ in your own words (1 mark)  
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- vi. According to the American law of the early 1800s, what is the exception for abortion after quickening? (1 mark)  
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- vii. What happened to abortion laws after the 1800s? (1 mark)  
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viii. Construct a meaningful sentence using the word ‘**preserve**’ (2 marks)

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C. People generally take one of three positions on the moral permissibility of abortion. The conservative view is that abortion is never morally acceptable (except possibly to preserve the mother’s life), for the unborn is a human being in the full sense. The liberal view is that abortion is acceptable whenever the woman wants it, for the unborn is not a human being in the full sense. The moderate stance falls between these two stands, rejecting both the conservative’s **zero-tolerance** for abortion and the liberal’s idea of abortion on request. For the moderate, some— but not all— abortions may be morally justified. These labels are common but sometimes misleading; being a conservative or liberal on the abortion issue does not necessarily mean you are a conservative or liberal in the broader political sense.

[Adapted from: Vaughn, L. (2010). *Bioethics: Principles, issues, and cases* (Vol. 58). New York: Oxford University Press.]

ix. Name the three positions that people take on the moral debate of abortion (1.5 marks)

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x. Explain the phrase ‘**zero-tolerance**’ in your own words (0.5 marks)

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xi. What is your view on abortion? You may use facts from the passage to support your answer (use 3-5 sentences) (3 marks)

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**PART C – WRITING**

**Question 5**

**(25 marks)**

**Write an argumentative essay of 300-350 words on one of the following topics:**

**Marks will be given for content, organisation, grammar, vocabulary, and mechanics (i.e., spelling, punctuation, and capitalisation)**

**Important: This essay should be 100% original writing. You are not required to use any references or citations. If content is copied from any sources (websites, books, etc.), you will be heavily penalized.**

1. Privatization of higher education in Sri Lanka does more damage than good. Do you agree?
2. During a pandemic, non-compliance with health guidelines should be punishable by law. Do you agree?
3. Rehabilitation is better than punishment for drug related crimes. Do you agree?

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