

University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

Faculty of Arts

3rd Year Examination in Arts (Study Stream), Semester 2, 2016/17

English Studies: Theory and Practice

ENG 3269 – Introduction to Second Language Acquisition

TWO HOURS

Answer any THREE (03) questions

1. Explain the principal differences between the contexts of first and second language acquisition.
2. By the 1970s, many researchers were convinced that behaviorism was an inadequate explanation for language acquisition. Explain why.
3. If the ability to learn a language is innate, why is it that a learner of a second language almost never acquires native-speaker proficiency in the target language?
4. Describe what information interlanguage studies have revealed about developmental sequences in second language acquisition. You may focus on **either** the acquisition of grammatical morphemes **or** negation in English.
5. Describe **three or four** characteristics of a good second language learner.
6. Explain how **either** a learner's second language proficiency level **or** an individual style of learning can influence the type of learning strategies used in second language acquisition.
7. Write short notes on any **two** of the following:
 - a. Universal Grammar
 - b. Aptitude in language learning
 - c. Zone of Proximal Development (ZPD)
 - d. Cognitive language learning strategies
 - e. L1 interference in L2 acquisition
