



*Department of Examinations – Sri Lanka*  
**G.C.E. (A/L) Examination – 2024**  
**13 - General English**

## Marking Scheme



**This has been prepared for the use of marking examiners. Some changes would be made according to the views presented at the Chief Examiners' meeting.**

### Amendments to be included

**G. C. E (Advanced Level) Examination – 2024****13 – General English****Marking Scheme****Distribution of Marks****Paper I**

Part A	-	35
Part B	-	<u>25</u>
Total	-	<u>60</u>

**Paper II**

Part A	-	50
Part B	-	25
Part C	-	<u>65</u>
Total	-	<u>140</u>

Final Marks – Paper I + Paper II = 60 + 140

2

2

= **100**

### Common Techniques of Marking Answer Scripts.

It is compulsory to adhere to the following standard method in marking answer scripts and entering marks into the mark sheets.

1. Use a red color ball point pen for marking. (Only Chief/Additional Chief Examiner may use a mauve color pen.)
2. Note down Examiner's Code Number and initials on the front page of each answer script.
3. Write off any numerals written wrong with a clear single line and authenticate the alterations with Examiner's initials.
4. Write down marks of each subsection in a  $\triangle$  and write the final marks of each question as a rational number in a  $\square$  with the question number. Use the column assigned for Examiners to write down marks.

**Example:**

**Question No. 03**

(i)	.....	✓	$\triangle \frac{4}{5}$
	.....		
	.....		
(ii)	.....	✓	$\triangle \frac{3}{5}$
	.....		
	.....		
(iii)	.....	✓	$\triangle \frac{3}{5}$
	.....		
	.....		

$$\textcircled{03} \quad (i) \quad \frac{4}{5} \quad (ii) + \frac{3}{5} \quad + \quad (iii) \quad \frac{3}{5} \quad = \quad \square \frac{10}{15}$$

### MCQ answer scripts: (Template)

1. Marking templates for G.C.E.(A/L) and GIT examination will be provided by the Department of Examinations itself. Marking examiners bear the responsibility of using correctly prepared and certified templates.
2. Then, check the answer scripts carefully. If there are more than one or no answers Marked to a certain question write off the options with a line. Sometimes candidates may have erased an option marked previously and selected another option. In such occasions, if the erasure is not clear write off those options too.
3. Place the template on the answer script correctly. Mark the right answers with a 'v' and the wrong answers with a '0' against the options column. Write down the number of correct answers inside the cage given under each column. Then, add those numbers and write the number of correct answers in the relevant cage.

**Structured essay type and assay type answer scripts:**

1. Cross off any pages left blank by candidates. Underline wrong or unsuitable answers. Show areas where marks can be offered with check marks.
2. Use the right margin of the overland paper to write down the marks.
3. Write down the marks given for each question against the question number in the relevant cage on the front page in two digits. Selection of questions should be in accordance with the instructions given in the question paper. Mark all answers and transfer the marks to the front page, and write off answers with lower marks if extra questions have been answered against instructions.
4. Add the total carefully and write in the relevant cage on the front page. Turn pages of answer script and add all the marks given for all answers again. Check whether that total tallies with the total marks written on the front page.

**Preparation of Mark Sheets.**

Except for the subjects with a single question paper, final marks of two papers will not be calculated within the evaluation board this time. Therefore, add separate mark sheets for each of the question paper. Write paper 01 marks in the paper 01 column of the mark sheet and write them in words too. Write paper II Marks in the paper II Column and write the relevant details. 02 and 03 should be entered numerically in the mark sheets.

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**Department of Examinations, Sri Lanka**  
**General Certificate of Education (Adv. Level), 2024**  
**General English (13)**  
**Solutions**

**Paper I**

**○ PART A – GRAMMAR and VOCABULARY [35 marks]**

**Question 1**

Fill in the blanks in the following text, using the **prepositions** given in the box. Use each preposition **only once**. There is one preposition extra. **(05 marks)**

of	for	in front of	in	through	at
----	-----	-------------	----	---------	----

One day, two lawyers met early (1).....**in**.....the morning and decided to go (2).....**for**..... a walk. While walking through the woods, they spotted a vicious-looking bear standing (3).....**in front of**..... them. The first lawyer immediately opened his briefcase, pulled out a pair (4).....**of**..... running shoes and started putting them on.

The second lawyer looked (5).....**at**..... him and said, "You're crazy! You'll never be able to outrun that bear!"

"I don't have to," the first lawyer calmly replied. "I only have to outrun you."

in	for	in front of	of	at
----	-----	-------------	----	----

**Question 2**

Fill in each blank with the **correct form** of the **verb** given within brackets. **(10 marks)**

Jack Ma is the richest man in China and founder of Alibaba, the massive ecommerce company. Despite failing college entrance exams twice and being rejected from many jobs, Ma (1) **was inspired** (inspire) by the internet during a trip to the US in 1995 and founded Alibaba in 1999. The company had a huge success in 2014, (2) **making** (make) Ma enormously wealthy.

Jack Ma (3) **is** (be) now a well-known figure all over the world. In China, he officially holds the title of the richest individual. He (4) **possesses** (possess) a 7.8% share in Alibaba.

During his teenage years, he interacted with foreign tourists (5) **to improve** (improve) his English. Later, he earned a degree in English. After (6) **completing** (complete) his degree in English, Jack Ma (7) **started** (start) his career as an educator.

Growing up in communist China, he faced numerous job rejections before (8) **achieving** (achieve) success with Alibaba. Jack Ma's life story (9) **teaches** (teach) us the importance of perseverance, self-confidence, and the ability to turn setbacks into opportunities. His remarkable journey reminds us that even an ordinary individual (10) **can achieve** (achieve) extraordinary success.

**Question 3**

**Underline** the most appropriate word from those given within brackets to fill in the blanks in the following text. **(10 marks)**

Two salesmen working for a shoe company were sent to (1) **a** (a, an, the) foreign country to assess the market for their product.

(2) **As soon as** (Although, If, As soon as) the first salesman arrived, he immediately sent a message back to (3) **the** (a, an, the) company saying, "There is no market here (4) **because** (after, because, until) nobody wears shoes."

The second salesman arrived and sent a message back saying, "(5) **I** (I, me, myself) see a fantastic opportunity here – nobody wears shoes!"

(6) **This** (These, Those, This) story demonstrates how two people can view the same situation and interpret (7) **it** (it, its, it's) completely differently based on (8) **their** (them, their, themselves) mindset and attitude. It also highlights the power (9) **of** (with, by, of) maintaining a positive attitude in order to succeed in (10) **any** (many, any, all) situation.

a	As soon as	the	because	I
This	it	their	of	any

## Question 4

Underline the most appropriate word from those given within brackets. (05 marks)

- (1) The advertisement in *The Sunday Times* for a driver ..... drew .....  
(acquired/ kidnapped/ drew/ pulled) my attention.
- (2) At present, people use devices that are ..... connected ..... (combined/ connected/ aligned/ tied) to each other through internet.
- (3) We need English to ..... obtain ..... (capture/ gather/ collect/ obtain) a good job.
- (4) Minister of Energy has ..... increased ..... (enhanced/ enlarged/ increased/ expanded) the price of petrol with effect from midnight.
- (5) We should ..... maintain ..... (maintain/ survive/ produce/ cultivate) harmonious relationships with our life partners.

drew      connected      obtain      increased      maintain

## Question 5

Underline the correct word-ending, selecting from those given within brackets.

(05 marks)

Dr. Philip Revatha Wijewardene is better known as Ray Wijewardene. He was an engineer, inven (1) ..... tor ..... (tion/ tor/ t) and an Olympic athlete. Ray was also popular as an expert on tropical agriculture and natural resource manage (2) ..... ment ..... (ment/ r/ rial). This multi-talented man was a brilliant, innova (3) ..... tive ..... (tor/ tive/ tion) thinker. His passion in life was to find practi (4) ..... cal ..... (cal/ ce/ cally) solutions to the problems faced by Sri Lankans. The Landmaster, one of his best known inventions drasti (5) ..... cally ..... (c/ cal/ cally) improved the lives of farmers in Sri Lanka.

tor      ment      tive      cal      cally

**D PART B – READING and WRITING [25 marks]****Question 6**

**Underline the option that best expresses the meaning of each of the sentences given below in bold print.** (05 marks)

- (1) **Even if the team scored a hundred now, they would lose the match.**  
(a) The team will not lose the match.  
(b) The team has already lost the match.  
(c) The team still has a chance to win the match.  
(d) The team has no chance to win the match now.
- (2) **Since French was too difficult, Arjun studied only English Literature.**  
(a) Arjun studied French.  
(b) Arjun studied English literature.  
(c) Arjun studied both French and English.  
(d) Arjun did not study French or English literature.
- (3) **The experiment failed to yield the expected results, yet the researchers were determined to continue it.**  
(a) Researchers got the expected results, but they stopped the research.  
(b) Researchers got the expected results, so they continued the research.  
(c) Researchers did not get the expected results, so they stopped the research.  
(d) Researchers did not get the expected results, but they continued the research.
- (4) **Sanka whose brother studies in a University works as a sales manager.**  
(a) Sanka studies in a university.  
(b) Sanka works as a sales manager.  
(c) Sanka's brother works as a sales manager.  
(d) Both Sanka and his brother study in a university.
- (5) **Shehan would have attended the meeting had his principal informed him quite early.**  
(a) Shehan attended the meeting.  
(b) Shehan did not attend the meeting.  
(c) Shehan had informed the principal about the meeting early.  
(d) The principal had informed Shehan about the meeting early.

**(1) d****(2) b****(3) d****(4) b****(5) b**

**Question 7**Read the following **four** news items and answer the questions (I) and (II). (10 marks)

①

**Changes in uni admission applications**

The Chairman of the University Grants Commission (UGC), Prof. Sampath Amaratunge said at a press conference on Monday, 8th July that candidates could make changes to their chosen university and subjects on their completed application form for university entrance 2024 from Saturday, 6th July. The deadline for applying online for university admission was on Friday, 5th July 2024. Changes can be made online until Friday, 19th July. He added that over 85,000 applications have been submitted online.

②

**Two Lankans among Indian poachers**

Among the 22 Indian fishermen who were arrested recently for engaging in illegal fishing in northern waters, there were two Sri Lankan origin individuals, and they are facing legal charges. The two Sri Lankans left the country during the war in 1997 and have been sheltered at a refugee camp in Tamil Nadu ever since. They were working as daily labourers when their vessel was taken into custody by the Navy. All the arrested fishermen except the two Lankans are to be released by Thursday, 18th July.

③

**School athletes left for Dhaka**

A team consisting of 10 schoolboys and 10 schoolgirls left for Dhaka last Tuesday, 9th July to participate in the South Asian School Combat Games 2024, which was held in Dhaka from July 11 to 18. The Taekwondo School Association, known for offering annual opportunities to school children, had chosen the champions of the Sri Lanka School Sports Taekwondo Tournament 2023 for the above event. Additionally, two officials from the Ministry of Education and three members of the Ceylon Taekwondo Association left for Dhaka.

④

**Young heroine honoured for bravery**

In a heartwarming event, the extraordinary bravery of Charithma Jinendri, a student from the Arts section at Padukka Piyaarachana Vidyalaya, was recognized for her heroic act during the recent floods caused by the overflow of the Wak Oya. Jinendri displayed immense courage and quick thinking, rescuing an old couple trapped inside a house during the flood. The secretary to the Ministry of Education honouring the bravery of Jinendri at a function held on Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June pointed out that her story serves as a powerful reminder of the potential for heroism within each individual, regardless of age.

(I) **Underline** the most appropriate response in each of the questions from (1) – (5).

(1). How many school athletes left for Dhaka?

- (a) Two      (b) Three      (c) Ten      (d) Twenty

(2). Which of the following incidents happened on Sunday?

- (a) School athletes left for Dhaka  
(b) Press release by the UGC Chairman  
(c) Young heroine honoured for bravery  
(d) Two Lankans arrested with Indian poachers

(3). Who or what does the pronoun 'they' refer to in the news item ②?

- (a) Navy officers      (b) Two Sri Lankans  
(c) Indian fishermen      (d) All the arrested fishermen

- (4). Which of the following was **not** given in the news item about the school athletes?
- the selection method of athletes
  - the number of officials left for Dhaka
  - the date of returning of athletes to Sri Lanka
  - the duration of the South Asian School Combat Games
- (5). The underlined phrase 'the potential for heroism' in the news item ④ most nearly means
- desire to be brave.
  - capacity to be brave.
  - inability to be brave.
  - willingness to be brave.

- (II) Do the following statements agree with the information given in the above news items?  
In boxes (6) – (10), write **True**, **False** or **Not Given**.

<b>True</b>	If the statement is correct
<b>False</b>	If the statement is wrong
<b>Not Given</b>	If there is no sufficient information

Statements	
(6) The last date to apply for university admission was 6th July 2024.	<b>False</b>
(7) Information regarding the minimum Z-score can be accessed via UGC website.	<b>Not given</b>
(8) The two Sri Lankan nationals who were arrested by the Navy have been living in Tamil Nadu since 1997.	<b>True</b>
(9) All the arrested fishermen will be released by Thursday, July 18th.	<b>False</b>
(10) Jinendri was honoured for saving two people during the flood.	<b>True</b>

**Question 8**

Write a paragraph beginning with the given sentence. Use about **75 – 100** words.

**Do not exceed the word limit. Do not write more than one paragraph. (10 marks)**

People can take several actions to prevent crimes in a society. ....

	Description	Marks
<b>Content</b>	See the band description given below.	<b>4</b>
<b>Language Use</b>	See the band description given below.	<b>6</b>

**Band Description for Content**

Level	Description	Marks
<b>Very Good/ Good</b>	Content appropriate and interesting. Has included several actions to prevent crimes. Selects & organizes facts in a logical manner. Has used specific length.	<b>4</b>
<b>Moderate</b>	Content fairly appropriate and mentions some actions to prevent crimes. Selects & organizes facts in a fairly logical manner.	<b>3</b>
<b>Satisfactory</b>	Content not sufficiently developed with support details to highlight actions to prevent crimes. Frequent gaps in presenting facts.	<b>2</b>
<b>Limited</b>	Content extremely limited. Facts not arranged properly to support the key sentence.	<b>0 - 1</b>

**Band Description for Language Use**

Level	Description	Marks
<b>Very Good</b>	Excellent use of language. Free of grammatical errors. Excellent word choice.	<b>6</b>
<b>Good</b>	Only few grammatical errors. Choice of words effective.	<b>5</b>
<b>Moderate</b>	Occasional errors of grammar. Choice of words fairly appropriate.	<b>3-4</b>
<b>Satisfactory</b>	Frequent errors of grammar and word choice.	<b>2</b>
<b>Limited</b>	Only very few grammatically correct sentences. Mostly sentence fragments. Vocabulary very limited.	<b>0 - 1</b>

**If the candidates have written more than one paragraph, consider only the first paragraph.**

## Paper II

### PART A

#### READING SKILLS [50 marks]

##### Question 01

Read the following text in which some words are given in bold type. Then, **underline** the meaning that is **most appropriate** to the context for the words given in bold type from (1) - (10). (10 marks)

Wilma Rudolph was an American sprinter who (1) **overcame** childhood polio and went on to become a world-record-holding Olympic champion and international sports (2) **icon**. From a very young age, Wilma faced significant health challenges. She was born prematurely, weighing only 4.5 pounds, and at the age of four, she (3) **contracted** polio, which caused her to lose the use of her left leg. Doctors told her that she would never walk again without braces.

Despite the (4) **uncertain** future, Wilma was determined to overcome her disability. Her family played a (5) **crucial** role in her recovery. They massaged her leg daily and (6) **made sure** that she received the best possible care. Wilma's mother encouraged her to never (7) **give up** and instilled in her the belief that she could achieve anything she set her mind to.

By the time Wilma was nine years old, through sheer determination and (8) **relentless** exercise, she was able to walk without braces. Her journey, however, was far from over. She (9) **aspired** to be an athlete despite her physical limitations. She joined the basketball team in high school and, later, the track team where she quickly (10) **discovered** her talent for sprinting.

- |                        |                |                   |                   |                |
|------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| (1) <b>overcame</b>    | feared         | suffered          | <u>beat</u>       | faced          |
| (2) <b>icon</b>        | coach          | <u>star</u>       | match             | news           |
| (3) <b>contracted</b>  | <u>got</u>     | cured             | spread            | controlled     |
| (4) <b>uncertain</b>   | definite       | bright            | unbelievable      | <u>unsure</u>  |
| (5) <b>crucial</b>     | minor          | <u>important</u>  | passive           | dual           |
| (6) <b>made sure</b>   | built          | measured          | <u>assured</u>    | shared         |
| (7) <b>give up</b>     | donate         | borrow            | keep              | <u>abandon</u> |
| (8) <b>relentless</b>  | physical       | <u>continuous</u> | basic             | pointless      |
| (9) <b>aspired</b>     | <u>desired</u> | hated             | refused           | selected       |
| (10) <b>discovered</b> | encountered    | picked            | <u>recognised</u> | pointed out    |

(1)	beat	(6)	assured
(2)	star	(7)	abandon
(3)	got	(8)	continuous
(4)	unsure	(9)	desired
(5)	important	(10)	recognised

**Question 02**

Read the following text and answer questions (I) and (II).

(10 marks)

- ① Professor Nandasena Rathnapala, born in the remote village of Kurukude in Bandarawela, made remarkable contributions to Sinhala literature, sociology, folklore, anthropology, and criminology. He began his education at Kurukude Primary School and continued at St. John College, Panadura, following his success in the Year Five Scholarship examination. Later, he attended Royal College, Colombo, where he studied alongside notable contemporaries such as Norman Weerasooriya, Singaruwele, and Lalith Athulathmudali. Rathnapala's academic journey led him to Peradeniya University in 1955.
- ② In 1959, Rathnapala graduated with a Special Degree, Second-Class Upper Division, and was immediately recruited as a Sinhala Lecturer to the University of Peradeniya. The following year, he joined Vidyodaya University as a permanent lecturer, where he showcased his diverse talents as a poet, short-story writer, novelist, literary critic, sociologist, and criminologist. He authored two poetry collections namely "Maranin Eha Anthrawai" and "Kalawane Sita Liyoo Kawi" though the latter remains unpublished. Rathnapala also authored a few short story collections. His first novel, "Nodanimi Kage Dosa," was followed by other notable works such as "Uda Hiru" and "Ahasa Kada Wettei."
- ③ In 1972, Rathnapala transitioned to the Sociology and Anthropology department at the university, gaining fame as a distinguished sociologist. His **groundbreaking** research on beggars in Sri Lanka culminated in the internationally acclaimed book "Beggars in Sri Lanka." Rathnapala's work laid the foundation for local sociology, introducing Buddhist Sociology to the country. His literary criticisms, known for their revolutionary ideas and opinions, were widely appreciated by scholars and readers alike during the 1960s.
- ④ Throughout his illustrious career, Professor Rathnapala authored nearly 120 books and earned four doctorates. His death marked a significant loss to the nation as his innovative ideas and scholarly work extended far beyond his lifetime. They continue to influence and inspire future generations, underscoring his enduring legacy in Sri Lankan academia and literature.

(I) Do the following statements agree with the information given in the above text?

Write True or False in the boxes (1) - (8).

True	If the statement is correct
False	If the statement is wrong

Statements		
(1)	Immediately after passing the Year Five Scholarship examination, Rathnapala attended Royal College, Colombo.	False
(2)	Both Nandasena Rathnapala and Lalith Athulathmudali studied at the same time at Royal College.	True
(3)	Nandasena Rathnapala obtained his degree from Vidyodaya university in 1959.	False
(4)	In 1959, Rathnapala graduated with a First-Class Degree.	False
(5)	Nandasena Rathnapala first worked as a Sinhala lecturer.	True
(6)	Rathnapala was able to publish only one poetry collection.	True
(7)	Rathnapala's first novel was titled "Uda Hiru."	False
(8)	Rathnapala joined the Vidyodaya university in 1960.	True

II) Underline the most appropriate answer.

- (9) The word '**groundbreaking**' in paragraph ③ most nearly means
- |            |                       |
|------------|-----------------------|
| (a) secret | (b) <u>pioneering</u> |
| (c) social | (d) destructive       |
- (10) Who or what does the pronoun (they) in bold print in the last paragraph refer to?
- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| (a) Four doctorates    | (b) Hundred and twenty books                   |
| (c) Future generations | (d) <u>Innovative ideas and scholarly work</u> |

### Question 03

Read the following poem and do the activities that follow.

(05 marks)

#### Memory Album

Memories are life's special moments  
Borrowed from the passing of time,  
Ghosts and shadows from bygone days,  
Etched and stored inside our mind.

Our minds are a memory album  
Where the past and present meet,  
Memories we lovingly cling to  
That make the heart skip a beat.

Some we would like to forget.  
Some we love to treasure.  
Some memories become **precious** gifts  
That live on forever and ever.

Yes, memories are precious moments,  
And I have quite a few,  
The memories I treasure the most  
Are those I made with you.

A. Underline the most appropriate response.

- (1) According to the poet, memories are taken from
- |                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| (a) <u>the past.</u> | (b) the heart.          |
| (c) the mind.        | (d) ghosts and shadows. |
- (2) The poet compares our minds to
- |                            |                         |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| (a) bygone days.           | (b) special gifts.      |
| (c) <u>a memory album.</u> | (d) ghosts and shadows. |
- (3) According to the poet, people like to preserve
- |                         |                           |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| (a) all the memories.   | (b) no memory.            |
| (c) memories we forget. | (d) <u>some memories.</u> |
- (4) What does the word '**precious**' in bold print most nearly mean?
- |                |                     |
|----------------|---------------------|
| (a) Unwanted   | (b) <u>Valuable</u> |
| (c) Unpleasant | (d) Useless         |

B. Write down a word, selecting from the poem, which means the same as 'value and protect carefully.'

#### Treasure

**Question 04**

**Complete the blanks of the summary meaningfully and appropriately, using one word only from the passage titled 'Apprenticeship'.**

**(05 marks)**

*Apprenticeship*

An apprenticeship is a structured form of training that combines on-the-job learning with classroom instruction, allowing individuals to gain practical training in a specific trade or profession. It is a time-honored pathway to skill development, where apprentices work under the guidance of experienced mentors while also receiving formal education related to their field. Apprenticeships are particularly valuable in industries such as construction, manufacturing, healthcare, and the arts, where hands-on experience is essential to mastering the craft. They offer a special opportunity to "earn while you learn," providing a wage during the training period and often leading to full-time employment upon completion. Beyond technical skills, apprenticeships also help build soft skills like teamwork, communication, and problem-solving, making them a comprehensive approach to career preparation.

*Summary*

Apprenticeship provides practical training along with (1) classroom / formal learning under the guidance of an expert. Apprenticeships are important in industries where practical experience plays an (2) essential role. Apprenticeship helps you to (3) earn some money while continuing education. Hence, the (4) opportunity created by apprenticeship to learn, get training and earn is unique. Also, full-time employment is often guaranteed after the (5) completion of the apprenticeship.

**Question 05**

Read the following text and answer the questions from (1) – (5).

**(20 marks)**

- ① Artificial intelligence (AI) has made significant advances, leading to the development of innovative technologies such as ChatGPT. The development of ChatGPT as a sophisticated artificial intelligence (AI) technology has impacted numerous sectors, including education and research. The ChatGPT is a powerful tool that can perform a wide range of language tasks from answering questions to generating creative content. While ChatGPT offers numerous benefits, it also presents certain challenges and limitations.
- ② .....It allows students and educators to take advantage of many opportunities such as assignment writing and lesson planning. ChatGPT can create scenarios and problems that require problem solving and creative thinking skills. Also, it can engage students in discussions on different topics, helping them to express their viewpoints. ChatGPT can simulate conversations in different languages, helping students practise speaking and comprehension. Therefore, Kevin Roose, a technology columnist for The New York Times pointed out that schools need to prepare students for a future filled with all kinds of AI tools including ChatGPT. He argued that schools should thoughtfully embrace ChatGPT as a teaching aid-one that could unlock student creativity, and better prepare students for lifelong independent learning.
- ③ Despite its advanced capabilities, ChatGPT is not without disadvantages. According to Noam Chomsky, a pioneering linguist and a keen observer of societal trends, AI is a "plagiarism software because it doesn't create anything but copies existing works of existing artists modifying them enough to escape copyright laws." Chomsky's criticism of artificial intelligence arises from a broader concern regarding the originality and ethical implications of AI-generated content. ChatGPT also allows cheating on exams and homework, which puts students' critical thinking and analytical skills at risk.
- ④ Although ChatGPT is a very helpful tool that offers a range of benefits, its limitations and ethical considerations cannot be overlooked. As with any powerful tool, it is essential to use ChatGPT responsibly.

- (1). Do the following statements agree with the information given in the above text? Write **True**, **False** or **Not Given** in the boxes (a) – (f).

<b>True</b>	If the statement is correct
<b>False</b>	If the statement is wrong
<b>Not Given</b>	If there is no sufficient information on this

<b>Statements</b>		
(a)	ChatGPT plays a significant role in the gaming industry.	<b>Not given</b>
(b)	ChatGPT can be creatively used to develop problem solving skills.	<b>True</b>
(c)	Kevin Roose encourages schools to use ChatGPT as a resource.	<b>True</b>
(d)	Chomsky accepts ChatGPT as a useful educational tool.	<b>False</b>
(e)	ChatGPT can be used to identify students' cheating on exams.	<b>Not given</b>
(f)	ChatGPT has no ethical issues.	<b>False</b>

**(06 marks)**

- Match information with the paragraphs of the text and write the number of the paragraph in the relevant box.

Information		Number of the paragraph
(a)	Authors have challenged ChatGPT for using their information without permission.	3
(b)	ChatGPT is a large language model developed in 2022 by OpenAI.	1
(c)	ChatGPT can be used to offer personalized tutoring.	2

(03 marks)

- (4). Who or what do the following pronouns in **bold print** refer to?
- |                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| (a) <b>It</b> (paragraph ②)   | - <b>ChatGPT</b>   |
| (b) <b>He</b> (paragraph ②)   | - <b>Kevin Roose / Technology columnist (for the New York Times)</b> |
| (c) <b>Them</b> (paragraph ③) | - <b>Existing works (of existing artists)</b> (03 marks)             |

- ## Overlooked

(05 marks)

**DIALOGUES [25 MARKS]****PART B**

Candidates may write different sentences / questions. Accept if each one forms grammatically correct and appropriate utterance in the given context. Do NOT deduct marks for spelling or punctuation errors.

**Question 06**

How do you respond in each of the following situations? Write only one sentence or question for each, beginning with the word/s given. (05 marks)

- (1) You want to join an online class, but you do not have the link. Request the teacher to send it to you.

"Teacher, could you please send me the link ....."?

- (2) Your friend is going to start a new business, and he invites you to invest in it. Refuse the request with a reason.

"I'm sorry I am not interested in doing a business/ I don't have money to invest .."

- (3) At an interview to select school prefects, the principal asks you to say why you should be selected as a school prefect. Give a reason.

"I have done so many extra-curricular activities/ I think I can take responsibilities .."

- (4) You want to use your father's mobile phone to download some lessons. Ask your father for permission.

"Shall I use your phone / I use your phone to download some lessons ..?"

- (5) Your brother is addicted to video games. Advise him.

"You'd better stop playing video games .."

**Question 07**

Complete the following dialogue between Ameer and Devendran. Do not use more than two sentences/questions in each blank. (05 marks)

Ameer : Hello, Devendran. Ameer here.

Devendran : Oh, Ameer, why didn't you come to school today?

Ameer : I was not well. Anyway, I saw your WhatsApp message. We have a group assignment, right?

Devendran : Well, yes. Maheshi and Kasun too will join us.

Ameer : (1) Have you discussed anything/ Have you shared responsibilities ?

Devendran : Yes, we discussed and shared the responsibilities among ourselves.

Ameer : (2) What am I supposed to do /  
What should I do ..?

Devendran : Well, Ameer, you have to find information about Sigiriya.

Ameer : (3) From where ?  
From where can I get information about Sigiriya ..?

Devendran : You can get information from the internet.

Ameer : (4) Can you recommend me a web site? ..?

Devendran : You can try the website of the Central Cultural Fund.

Ameer : (5) Sure. Are you coming tomorrow ..?

Devendran : Yes, I'm coming tomorrow, See you, then.

Ameer : See you.

**Question 08**

The following is an advertisement. Imagine that you intend to buy some books. So, you contact the **Book Lover** online bookstore over the phone. Write out the telephone conversation that takes place between the manager of the bookstore and you. You may use the information given in the advertisement. Each one should speak at least five times.

**(15 marks)**

- Do NOT deduct marks for spelling or punctuation errors unless they distort the intended meaning.
- Candidates may use sentence fragments, but they should be grammatical.
- Marks should not be given if the answer is not in the form of a conversation. (i.e., writing a report, letter)

	Description	Marks
<b>Format</b>	Has used dialogue form with minimum of five exchanges.	1
<b>Content</b>	See the band description given below.	5
<b>Language Use</b>	See the band description given below.	9

**Band Description for Content**

Level	Description	Marks
<b>Very Good</b>	Content very appropriate to get details of the books. Facts very interestingly arranged. Conversation natural and coherent	5
<b>Good</b>	Content interesting & appropriate. Conversation natural and coherent.	4
<b>Moderate</b>	Content fairly interesting. Occasional breakdowns in the flow.	3
<b>Satisfactory</b>	Frequent breakdowns in the flow of the conversation.	2
<b>Limited</b>	Content extremely limited. Does not reflect features of a natural conversation. Very poor coherence.	0 - 1

**Band Description for Language Use**

Level	Description	Marks
<b>Very Good</b>	Excellent use of language. Free of grammatical errors. Excellent word choice.	9
<b>Good</b>	Only few grammatical errors. Choice of words effective for a conversation.	7-8
<b>Moderate</b>	Occasional errors of grammar. Choice of words fairly appropriate for a conversation.	5-6
<b>Satisfactory</b>	Frequent errors of grammar and word choice.	3-4
<b>Limited</b>	Only very few grammatically correct sentences. Vocabulary very limited.	0 - 2

PART C

WRITING SKILLS [65 marks]

Question 09

Select any five words from the list given below. Write five meaningful sentences using the selected words. You may use the verbs in any tense and nouns in singular or plural form. Do not change the form of other words.

(05 marks)

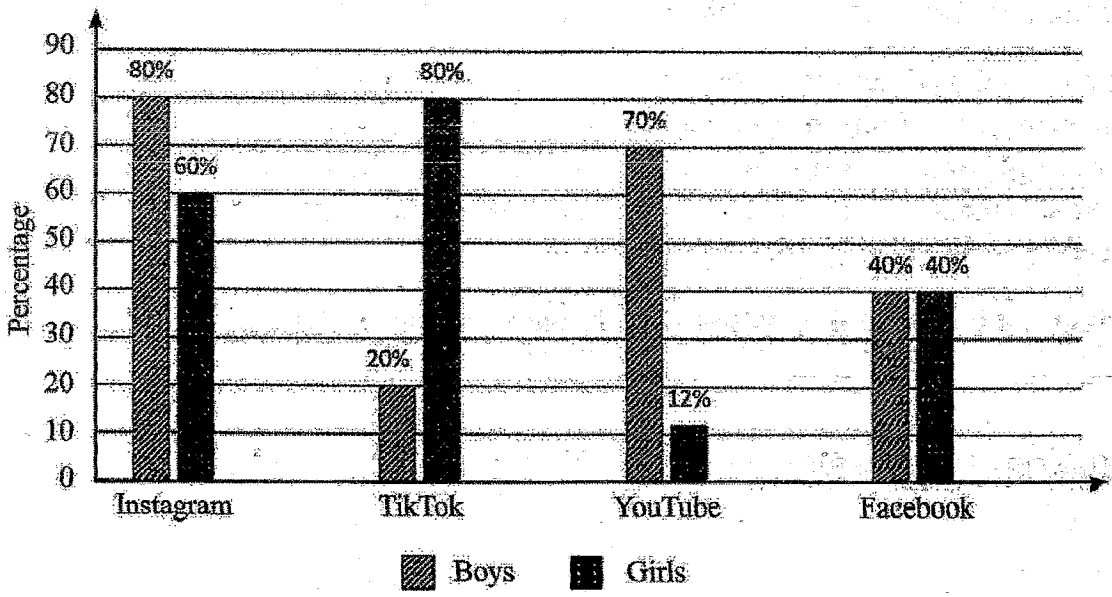
arrangement	direction	preference	realise	identify
personal	affordable	heroic	promptly	excessively

- Asses each sentence separately. Give one mark for each correct sentence (maximum five (05) marks.
- Do not give any mark if the sentence is not grammatically correct.
- Do not give any mark if the sentence does not bring out the meaning of the selected word effectively. i.e. It is personal (unacceptable). It is a personal decision (acceptable).
- Deduct one mark from the overall mark if there are more than five (05) spelling errors altogether.
- If the same word is misspelt several times, consider them as ONE spelling error.
- If the candidate has constructed more than five (05) sentences, mark only the first five.

Question 10

The bar chart below shows the use of different social media platforms by boys and girls in Sri Lanka in 2023. Describe the information given in the bar chart by reporting the main features and making comparisons where relevant. Use about 100 words.

(10 marks)



	Description	Marks
Content	See the band description given below.	4
Language Use	See the band description given below.	6

**Band Description for Content**

Level	Description	Marks
<b>Very Good/ Good</b>	Content appropriate. Has elaborated data sufficiently and made comparisons effectively. Has used specific length. Selects and organizes facts in a logical manner.	<b>4</b>
<b>Moderate</b>	Content fairly appropriate. Selects and organizes facts in a fairly logical manner.	<b>3</b>
<b>Satisfactory</b>	Content not sufficiently elaborated. Frequent gaps in presenting facts.	<b>2</b>
<b>Limited</b>	Content extremely limited. Presentation of facts very weak.	<b>0 - 1</b>

**Band Description for Language Use**

Level	Description	Marks
<b>Very Good</b>	Excellent use of language. Free of grammatical errors. Excellent word choice and effective comparisons.	<b>6</b>
<b>Good</b>	Only few grammatical errors. Choice of words effective for description of data.	<b>5</b>
<b>Moderate</b>	Occasional errors of grammar. Choice of words fairly appropriate for description of data.	<b>3-4</b>
<b>Satisfactory</b>	Frequent errors of grammar and word choice.	<b>2</b>
<b>Limited</b>	Only very few grammatically correct sentences. Vocabulary very limited.	<b>0 - 1</b>

**Sample Answer:**

The bar chart depicts the use of different social media platforms (Instagram, TikTok, YouTube and Facebook) by boys and girls in Sri Lanka in 2023.

The most desired platform among boys is Instagram (80%) while TikTok is the most popular platform among girls. Equal percentage of boys and girls prefer Facebook. The least preferred social media platform among boys is TikTok whereas YouTube is the least desired platform among girls. Although TikTok is the least popular platform among boys, it is the most popular social media platform among girls.

In conclusion, it is obvious that Instagram is the most common platform among boys and girls.

**N.B. In this question, candidates may use either present tense or past tense.**

**Question 11**

You watched an interesting movie recently. You want to tell your friend about the movie. Write a letter to your friend asking him/her to watch it. In your letter, include the following details:

- General details about the movie (name of the movie, characters, category, etc.).
- A brief summary of the movie.
- Why is it interesting?
- Recommend it for your friend to watch.

Use about **100 - 125** words.

(15 marks)

	Description	Marks
<b>Content</b>	See the band description given below.	<b>5</b>
<b>Language Use</b>	See the band description given below.	<b>10</b>

**Band Description for Content**

Level	Description	Marks
<b>Very Good</b>	Has used specific length. Content very appropriate & includes all necessary details.	<b>5</b>
<b>Good</b>	Has used specific length. Content appropriate & includes necessary details.	<b>4</b>
<b>Moderate</b>	Content fairly appropriate and includes some important details.	<b>3</b>
<b>Satisfactory</b>	Content not sufficient.	<b>2</b>
<b>Limited</b>	Content extremely limited.	<b>0 - 1</b>

**Band Description for Language Use**

Level	Description	Marks
<b>Very Good</b>	Excellent use of language. Free of grammatical errors. Excellent word choice.	<b>10</b>
<b>Good</b>	Only few grammatical errors. Choice of words effective for an informal letter.	<b>8-9</b>
<b>Moderate</b>	Occasional errors of grammar. Choice of words fairly appropriate for an informal letter.	<b>5-7</b>
<b>Satisfactory</b>	Frequent errors of grammar and word choice.	<b>3-4</b>
<b>Limited</b>	Mostly sentence fragments.	<b>0 - 2</b>

**Question 12**

Imagine that you are the Secretary of the Social Service Society of your school. The society has decided to organise a Medical Camp for elderly people in your area. Write a letter to the principal requesting permission to organise the Medical Camp. Include the following in your letter:

- A short description of the event you intend to organise.
- How your society plans to organise it.
- Proposed date, time, and venue.
- Request permission from the principal for the event.

Use about 100-125 words.

(15 marks)

	Description	Marks
<b>Format</b>	Has used a format of a formal letter, including sender's address (if the sender's name is included, do not deduct marks), date, receiver's address, appropriate salutation, close and signature (Do not give marks for this part if even one of the above is missing)	0-1
<b>Content</b>	See the band description given below.	0-4
<b>Language Use</b>	See the band description given below.	0-8
<b>Organization</b>	Has used appropriate beginning and ending. Has arranged facts in a logical sequence. Has used appropriate linking devices, if/when required. Has paid attention to meaningful paragraphing.	0-2

**Band Description for Content**

Level	Description	Marks
<b>Very Good/Good</b>	Has used specific length. Content appropriate & relevant to the given situation. Has elaborated sufficiently. Selects & organizes facts in a logical manner.	4
<b>Moderate</b>	Content fairly appropriate and relevant. Selects & organizes facts in a fairly logical manner.	3
<b>Satisfactory</b>	Content not sufficiently elaborated. Frequent gaps in presenting facts.	2
<b>Limited</b>	Content extremely limited. Presentation of facts very weak.	0 - 1

**Band Description for Language Use**

Level	Description	Marks
<b>Very Good</b>	Excellent use of language. Free of grammatical errors. Excellent word choice.	8
<b>Good</b>	Only few grammatical errors. Choice of words effective for a formal letter.	7
<b>Moderate</b>	Occasional errors of grammar. Choice of words fairly appropriate for a formal letter.	5-6
<b>Satisfactory</b>	Frequent errors of grammar and word choice.	3-4
<b>Limited</b>	Only very few grammatically correct sentences. Mostly sentence fragments. Vocabulary very limited.	0 - 2

- Deduct two marks from the overall mark if the candidate has used SMS language in the formal letter.
- If the body of the formal letter is missing, do not give any mark for the format alone.
- "Thanking" is not a part of the format but it comes under the content.

**Question 13**

Some people believe that marriages should be arranged by the parents. Others think that people should choose their own marriage partner. Discuss both views and give your opinions. Use about 150-200 words. Do not exceed the word limit.

**(20 marks)**

Component	Description	Marks
<b>Content</b>	See the band description given below.	<b>6</b>
<b>Language Use</b>	See the band description given below.	<b>10</b>
<b>Organization</b>	See the band description given below.	<b>4</b>

**Band Description for Content**

Level	Description	Marks
<b>Very Good/</b>	Has used specific length. Content very appropriate & very interesting.	<b>6</b>
<b>Good</b>	Has used specific length. Content appropriate & interesting.	<b>5</b>
<b>Moderate</b>	Content fairly appropriate and interesting.	<b>3-4</b>
<b>Satisfactory</b>	Content not sufficiently elaborated. Information given inadequate in presenting facts.	<b>2</b>
<b>Limited</b>	Content extremely limited.	<b>0 - 1</b>

**Band Description for Language Use**

Level	Description	Marks
<b>Very Good</b>	Excellent use of language. Free of grammatical errors. Excellent word choice.	<b>10</b>
<b>Good</b>	Only few grammatical errors. Choice of words effective for an essay.	<b>8-9</b>
<b>Moderate</b>	Occasional errors of grammar. Choice of words fairly appropriate for an essay.	<b>5-7</b>
<b>Satisfactory</b>	Frequent errors of grammar and word choice.	<b>3-4</b>
<b>Limited</b>	Only very few grammatically correct sentences. Mostly sentence fragments. Vocabulary very limited.	<b>0 - 2</b>

**Band Description for Organization**

Level	Description	Marks
<b>Very Good</b>	Excellent organization. Has selected, organized and presented relevant information in a very logical manner. Ideas are connected very effectively. Paragraphs are meaningfully divided.	<b>4</b>
<b>Good</b>	Organization good. Has selected, organized and presented relevant information in a logical manner. Ideas are connected effectively. Paragraphs are meaningfully divided.	<b>3</b>
<b>Moderate</b>	Moderate degree of organization. Has selected, organized and presented relevant information in a fairly logical manner. Ideas are fairly connected. Has paid attention to paragraph division.	<b>2</b>
<b>Satisfactory</b>	Lacks logical flow of ideas. Paragraph division not very meaningful.	<b>1</b>
<b>Extremely Limited.</b>	Extremely poor organization. Sentences fragmentary and disjointed. Not intelligible.	<b>0</b>

## Appendix ①

### Detailed Information about Band Description

#### Language Use

This component is assessed in five competency levels: "Very Good", "Good", "Moderate", "Satisfactory" & "Limited". The relevant competency levels are described below in common:

Level	Description
<b>Very Good</b>	Able to construct both simple & complex sentences free of grammatical errors. Able to select most appropriate grammatical structures for the intended purpose. Able to use spelling & mechanics of writing without errors. Able to select and use exact words most appropriate for the intended purpose.
<b>Good</b>	Able to construct both simple and complex sentences appropriately. Able to use spelling & mechanics of writing appropriately. Nevertheless, few errors in these areas can be found. Able to select appropriate words to suit the intended purpose.
<b>Moderate</b>	Able to construct grammatically correct sentences most of the time. However, occasional errors can be found in grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization etc. Able to use fair amount of vocabulary to convey the intended meaning.
<b>Satisfactory</b>	Able to construct simple sentences. However, frequent errors can be found in grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization etc. Able to use only a limited range of 'general' vocabulary.
<b>Limited</b>	Able to construct only a very few grammatically correct sentences. The piece of writing mostly contains fragmentary sentences. Serious errors of spelling, punctuation, capitalization etc. Able to use only very limited 'day-to-day' vocabulary items.

#### Content

This component is also assessed in five competency levels: "Very Good", "Good", "Moderate", "Satisfactory" & "Limited". The relevant competency levels are described below in common:

Level	Description
<b>Very Good</b>	Able to select very important facts and present them in a very logical manner. Effectively addresses the topic/task. Uses appropriate explanations/exemplifications where relevant.
<b>Good</b>	Able to address the topic/task well, though some points may not be fully elaborated. Uses sufficient explanations/exemplifications where relevant.
<b>Moderate</b>	Able to address the topic/task using somewhat developed explanations/ exemplifications.
<b>Satisfactory</b>	Limited development in response to the topic/task. Inappropriate or insufficient exemplifications/explanations to support or illustrate generalizations in response to the task.
<b>Limited</b>	Serious disorganization/underdevelopment. Little or no detail, or irrelevant specifics, or questionable responsiveness to the task.

**General Instructions for Writing Questions (Subjective-type Test Items)**

- The examiner should use his or her discretion when allocating marks for each category.
- Make sure that the candidate deserves the overall mark you give him/her.
- If the content is totally irrelevant/question copied, give zero (0) for the whole answer.
- If all sentences are fragmentary/grammatically incorrect but the content is sufficient, relevant and good, give zero (0) for language use and not more than two marks for content.
- If only one/two sentences are grammatically correct but the content is sufficient, relevant and good, give one (01) or two (02) marks for language use and not more than two (02) marks for content.

**General Instructions for Objective-type Test Items (MCQs & Binary Choice)**

- One mark will be given for each correct response.
- For All MCQs: If the candidate has circled, underlined, marked or written the correct response, accept it.
- For All Binary Choice Items: If the candidate has appropriately written T/F, True or False or Yes/ No, or Right/Wrong or put a tick or a cross, accept it.
- Unless otherwise specified, spelling/punctuation/grammatical errors should not be penalized in objective-type questions.

\*\*\*End\*\*\*

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