

# EASTERN UNIVERSITY, SRI LANKA

THIRD YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION IN ARTS – 2015/2016  
(JANUARY/FEBRUARY - 2018)

**NEL3110 Advanced General English-I**

**Time: 02 Hours**

Index No: .....

Instruction to the candidates:

- Answer all questions on this paper itself.
  - Write your index number clearly and legibly.
  - This paper consists of ELEVEN (11) pages.
- Marks will be deducted for wrong spellings and grammatical errors.

Examiner's use only

| Question Number    | Maximum Marks | Marks Obtained |
|--------------------|---------------|----------------|
| 01                 | 30            |                |
| 02                 | 30            |                |
| 03                 | 10            |                |
| 04                 | 15            |                |
| 05                 | 15            |                |
| <b>Total Marks</b> | <b>100</b>    |                |

## Question – 01

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

Ragging is a verbal, physical or psychological abuse on newcomers to the institutions. It is similar to the American phenomenon known as hazing or bullying. Sri Lanka is said to be its worst affected country in the world.

There is no record to prove such an act has prevailed in the ancient Sri Lankan institutions such as Mahavihara or Abhayagiri Vihara. In the post-World War II era, ragging came into existence. Ragging is not an indigenous phenomenon, but a direct result of the British colonialism in Sri Lanka. Soldiers returning from war re-entered the country and brought with them the technique of ragging learned in military camps. Ragging now occurs in most government universities and several private institutions. In majority of these institutions, ragging implies that seniors mocking and jesting at freshers. There is a certain period, usually the first few months in the university, assigned for each and every undergraduate to undergo ragging. This period is known as the *ragging period*. In Sri Lanka, several types of ragging can be observed.

Inception of ragging can be pleasant at first, hence the name *Mal Samaya*. During this period, so, all newcomers are ordered to memorize the name and hometown of their peers. The main purpose of this exercise is said to be increasing the friendship among batch mates (locally termed as *fit*).

There are a number of different ways ragging is being done. Very often the freshmen are asked to dress in a specific dress code for a particular period of time. For the dress code prescribed, it is generally weird, e.g. dressing totally in white or black with the hair oiled and combed in a particular style, dressing shirts that do not contain stripes, dressing long skirts for girls to attract unnecessary attention from everybody else.

Sometimes the freshmen may be asked to do silly things like climbing a tree, kissing someone, proposing to someone from the opposite sex, holding a hand of someone from the opposite sex and walking, etc. Verbal torture involves indulging in loose talks. The freshmen may be asked to sing the lyrics of any vulgar song or use abusive language in the presence of a large number of peers. The form of verbal ragging differs from one institution to another. In some universities, students have to memorize poems made up of filth and recite them in front of others.

Ragging has been frequently associated with a broad spectrum of physical, behavioral, emotional, and social problems among the victims. It has independently increased suicides in Sri Lankan universities. It is reported that few students have left their courses due to unbearable ragging they underwent. And a new tendency is emerging as students who could not pass their GCE Advanced Level examination enter private higher educational institutions.

ragging remains minimum, without entering government universities. Ragging is not merely a non-legal problem. It has a certain psychological basis too.

The human rights of citizens of Sri Lanka are protected in terms of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka which is the supreme law in the country. According to this Constitution, any citizen can produce a petition to the Supreme Court in terms of the Article 126 of the Constitution in case of a human right violation or a case closer to the management. The Constitution further highlights ruthless, brutal or contemptuous treatment to any party by another as a violation of human rights. University students are also considered as citizens and are subjugated to the Common Law that prevails in the country. Accordingly, the constitutional constraints specified above are equally applicable to university students. Any form of civil or criminal offence executed by them are liable to be punished and in an instance of violation of such rights committed by university students, they shall be produced before the Magistrate Court and subject to suitable punishment that followed by the trial. After the series of ragging-related incidents happened in 1997, *Prohibition of Ragging and Other Forms of Violence in Educational Institutions Act, No. 20 of 1998* was passed in the Sri Lankan Parliament. As specified in the detailed note of the Act, it is identified as an Act to eliminate ragging and other forms of violent and cruel inhuman and degrading treatment from educational institutions.

(Adopted from: Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia)

Give a suitable heading to the text presented above.

(01 Mark)

Using your own words, summarise the text into 40-50.

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(04 marks)

3. How do you define ragging according to the text given above?

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.....  
.....

(02 marks)

4. How, according to the passage the concept of ragging entered in to Sri Lanka?

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.....  
.....

(02 marks)

5. What is known as the “ragging period” according to the text, in the Sri Lankan universities?

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(02 marks)

6. What does the term “Mal Samaya” mean according to the text?

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(02 marks)

7. What are the three different methods of ragging being done on freshers, according to the passage?

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.....

(03 marks)

8. What could be the intention of the writer(s) of the above passage?

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.....  
.....

(02 marks)

Explain the term verbal torture mentioned in the text. (Do not copy from the paragraph. (Use your own words))

(03 marks)

What are the adverse consequences of ragging, according to the text? (At least mention three of them)

(03 marks)

According to the constitution of Sri Lanka ragging is a crime. Do you agree? Support your answer with the relevant constitutional provisions mentioned in the passage.

(04 marks)

2. Identify the writing style being employed in constructing the above passage? (There are four styles of writing-descriptive, narrative, persuasive and expository)

(02 marks)

(Total: 30 marks)

**Question – 02**

**Choose the correct form of the verb by underling.**

1. The lectures ..... during the Cultural festival in 2017 at the univers  
[a] cancelled [b] will be cancel [c] can be cancel [d] were cancelled
2. I ..... my assignments always with my friends because to make it per  
[a] does [b] will be do [c] done [d] do
3. Somebody has ..... the learning environment.  
[a] disturbing [b] disturb [c] disturbs [d] disturbed
4. I feel good because I ..... very well last night.  
[a] sleeps [b] sleeping [c] slept [d] was slept
5. We ..... a very good art exhibition tomorrow.  
[a] visited [b] visiting [c] will visit [d] are visited
6. Undergraduates usually ..... a lot after attending lectures.  
[a] enjoy [b] enjoying [c] will be enjoying [d] will enjoyed
7. I've lost my library book. Have you ..... it.  
[a] saw [b] seen [c] see [d] seeing
8. My friend's project report ..... next week.  
[a] will submit [b] will be submitted [c] submitted [d] submit
9. I ..... to the library to borrow a book on "National Economy"  
[a] was went [b] gone [c] went [d] was gone
10. Have you ..... your research work?  
[a] completion [b] complete [c] completed [d] completing

1. The arts faculty auditorium .....about 02 years ago.  
 [a] build [c] built [c] building [d] was built
2. Cultural programmes ..... by the students' union.  
 [a] are organizing [b] are organized [c] organized [d] will organize
3. I've never ..... any business conference so far.  
 [a] attend [b] attended [c] attending [d] will attend
4. Business is a good source of income to ..... a wealthy and healthy life.  
 [a] lead [b] leading [c] will lead [d] will be lead
5. Yesterday I .....able to attend sports practice as the lectures were over early.  
 [a] is [b] am [c] are [d] was

(15x02 = 30 marks)

**Question – 03**

**Write the following sentences using appropriate punctuation marks.**

We had a great time in Colombo the kids really enjoyed it

.....

Some people work best in the mornings others do better in the evenings

.....

What are you doing next weekend

.....

Mother had to go into hospital she had heart problems

.....

Did you understand why I was upset

.....

6. It is a fine idea let us hope that it is going to work

.....

7. We will be arriving on Monday morning at least I think so

.....

8. A textbook can be a wall between teacher and class

.....

9. The girls father sat in a corner

.....

10. In the words of Murphys Law Anything that can go wrong will go wrong

.....

(10x01=



Question - 04

Write an **excuse letter** to the Head / ELTU about your absence last week for the reasons due to medical reasons.

(15 marks)

A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing the answer.

Question – 05

Write an article on **The importance of English Language in the modern world of work** in about 200 – 250 words.

(15 marks)

