



තෙවන වාර පරීක්ෂණය - 13 ශ්‍රේණිය - 2024
Third Term Test - Grade 13 - 2024

Index No.:

General English - I

01 hour

Part A – Grammar and Vocabulary (35 marks)

Question 01

Fill in the blank in the following text, using the Prepositions given in the box. Use each preposition only once. There is one preposition extra. (5 marks)

from, about, down, above, for, of

After a hasty breakfast in the station restaurant, Peter set about the task finding a room where he could live the next few months. He knew exactly what he wanted: a room which was not too small, nor so large that it would be difficult to heat in winter. It had to be clean and comfortable too but, all, it has to be quiet, with a view that did not look directly on to the street. In the newspaper he had brought the bookstall there were very few advertisements for rooms to let. But, as he glanced the page, a notice in bold capital letters caught his eye.

Question 2

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

The newly appointed district superintendent tapped his champagne glass with a spoon and the hall (1) (become) quiet.

“(2) I (have) your attention please?” he said into a microphone. “Good evening, everyone, I’m Dr. Brian Mitchell. As you know, we’re here (3) (celebrate) one of the finest educators Willow Crest Unified School District has ever had the privilege of (4) (employ), Mrs. Evelyn Peters.”

Her name (5) (followed) by a warm round of applause. A bright spotlight hit Mrs. Peters, who was seated at the front of the room beside Dr. Mitchell. She smiled and waved at the guests, but secretly she wished she (6) (never agree) to the gathering. Special attention and compliments from her colleagues always made her uncomfortable, and tonight it was just getting started.

“I (7) (ask) to say a few words about Mrs. Peters, which is very intimidating,” Dr. Mitchell said. “It (8) (not matter) what I say, because rather than taking any praise to heart, I know she (9) (only listen) to my speech for grammatical errors.” The guests laughed and Mrs. Peters hid a giggle behind her napkin. Anyone who knew her (10) (know) it was true.

Question 3

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

Diamond soon made great friends with an old woman who kept a toyshop, (1) (for, but, so) his mother had given him two pence for pocket-money (2) (after, before, when) he left, and he had gone into her shop to spend it, and she got talking to (3) (his, himself, him). She looked very funny, because she had not got (4) (any, some, a few) teeth, but Diamond liked her, and went often to her shop, although he had (5) (something, anything, nothing) to spend there after the two pence was gone.

One afternoon he had been wandering rather wearily about the streets for (6) (a little, much, some) time. It was a hot day, and he felt tired. As he passed the toyshop, he stepped in.

"Please may I sit down for a minute on (7) (some, any, this) box?" he said, thinking the old woman was (8) (anywhere, somewhere, nowhere) in the shop. (9) (But, However, So) he got no answer, and sat down without one. Around him were a great many toys of all prices, (10) (for, from, at) a penny up to shillings.

Question 4

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

- (1) She was (hit / impressed / struck / amazed) by surprise when she saw her birthday present.
- (2) He got his retirement last week. Now, he (lavishly / almost / happily / hardly) earns any money.
- (3) The landslide (happened / produced / caused / created) an immeasurable damage to the Tea factory.
- (4) All the students in the primary section (do / play / train / fight) 'Karate' this year.
- (5) When I got the promotion, everyone (respected / complimented / greeted / honoured) me

Question 5

Underline the correct word ending, selecting from those given within brackets. (05 marks)

- (1) The creat..... (ion / ivity / ive) of mother nature is unbelievable.
- (2) The boardroom is not spa..... (ciously / cious /ce) enough for the meeting.
- (3) A lot of sophisti..... (cate / catedly / cated) machinery has come to the market due to technology.
- (4) This factory manufactures beauti..... (fully / fied / ful) decorated glass ware.
- (5) Swimming and sailing are recrea..... (tion / tional / tionally) activities.

Part B – Reading and Writing Skills (25 marks)

Question 06

Underline the option that best expresses the meaning of each of the sentences given below. (5 marks)

- 1) If somebody had identified the suspect, he could have been arrested.

- i. The suspect could be arrested since everybody could identify.
- ii. The suspect could not be arrested since nobody identified him.
- iii. Finally ,the suspect was arrested.
- iv. One could identify the suspect.

- 2) The man to whom I handed over my key , is very trustworthy.

- i. The man handed over my key and he is trustworthy.
- ii. The man I handed over my key is not trustworthy.
- iii. I'm trustworthy , So you can hand over the key to me.
- iv. The man is trustworthy , So I handed over my key.

- 3) Having complained against the proposal , Mr. Hameed left the place.

- i. After complaining against the proposal, Mr.Hameed left.
- ii. Mr.Hameed complained .before coming there.
- iii. Without complaining , Mr.Hameed left the place.
- iv. Mr.Hameed did not leave after complaining.

- 4) The little girl used to wander through the country roads.

- i. The little girl enjoys wandering through the country roads.
- ii. The girl had a habit of wandering through the country roads.
- iii. She hated to wander through the country roads.
- iv. The girl used the country roads to wander.

5) Ravi ate all the sweets in spite of his doctor's advice.

- i. Ravi listened to his doctor's advice but ate all the sweets.
- ii. Although the doctor's advice was not to eat sweets, he ate all.
- iii. The doctor's advice was to eat sweets.
- iv. The doctor and Ravi ate all the sweets.

Question 07

Read the following text and answer the questions

(10 marks)

The silence of the Reference Library was broken only by an occasional cough and now and then by the scarcely audible sound of pages being turned over. There were about twenty people in the room, most of them with their heads bent over their books. The assistant librarian who was in charge of the room sat at a desk in one corner. She glanced at Phillip as he came in, then went on with her work.

Phillip had not been to this part of the library before. He walked around the room almost on tiptoe, afraid of disturbing the industrious readers with his heavy shoes. The shelves were filled with thick volumes: dictionaries in many languages , encyclopaedias , atlases , biography and other works of reference. He found nothing that was likely to interest him , until he came to a small section on photography , which was one of his hobbies.

The books in this section were on a high shelf out of his reach, so he had to fetch a small ladder in order to get one down. Unfortunately, as he was climbing down the ladder, the book he had chosen slipped from his grasp and fell to the floor with a loud crash. Twenty pairs of eyes looked up at him simultaneously annoyed by this unaccustomed disturbance. Phillip felt himself go red as he picked up his book, which did not seem to have been damaged by its fall.

He had just sat down when he found the young lady assistant standing alongside him . "You must be more careful when you are handing these books ," she said severely. Satisfied that she had done her duty, she turned to go back to her desk. Then a sudden thought struck her, "By the way how old are you ?" she asked Phillip. "Thirteen ," he told her. "You're not allowed in here under the age of fourteen , know ," the assistant said. "Didn't you see the notice on the door?" Phillip shook his head . He expected the assistant to ask him to leave. Instead , in a more kindly tone, she said; "Well , never mind . But make sure that you don't disturb the other readers again, otherwise I shall have to ask you to leave."

1) Complete the following sentences using the words given in the text (1 x2 marks)

- a. One of Phillip's hobbies was _____
- b. The young assistant lady advised Phillip to be _____

[illegible]



තෙවන වාර පරීක්ෂණය - 13 ශ්‍රේණිය - 2024
Third Term Test - Grade 13 - 2024

Index No.:

General English - II

03 hours

Part A

Reading Skills (50 marks)

Question 01

Read the following 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)

When Gates wasn't playing poker at night, he was usually working in the Aiken Computer Centre. That was when the machines were least used. Sometimes, an (1) **exhausted** Gates would fall asleep on computer worktables instead of returning to his room at Currier House. "There were many mornings when I would find him (2) **dead** asleep on the tables," (3) **recalled** Leitner, a graduate math student who was also interested in computers. "I remember thinking he was not going to (4) **amount** to anything. He seemed like a hacker, a nerd. I knew he was bright, but with those glasses, his dandruff, sleeping on tables, you sort of formed that impression. I (5) **indeed** didn't see the future as clearly as he did."

But Paul Allen saw the future. He may have seen it even more clearly than Gates.

On a cold winter day in December 1974, Allen was walking across Harvard Square in Cambridge on his way to visit Gates, when he stopped at a kiosk and spotted the (6) **upcoming** January issue of Popular Electronics, a magazine he had read (7) **regularly** since childhood. This issue, however, sent his heart (8) **pounding**. On the cover was a picture of the Altair 8080, a rectangular metal machine with toggle switches and lights on the front. "World's First Microcomputer Kit to Rival Commercial Models," (9) **screamed** the magazine cover headline.

"I bought a copy, read it, and (10) **raced** back to Bill's dorm to talk to him," said Allen, who was still working at Honeywell in nearby Boston. "I told Bill, 'Well, here's our opportunity to do something with BASIC'"

Gates knew Allen was right. It was time. The personal computer miracle was going to happen.

(Source: Hard Drive: Bill Gates and the Making of the Microsoft Empire)

(1) exhausted	angry	excited	tired	bored
(2) dead	lifeless	deeply	deceased	half
(3) recalled	remind	summoned	remembered	recollected
(4) amount	achieve	climb	learn	understand
(5) indeed	really	evidently	often	usually
(6) upcoming	incoming	publishing	famous	oncoming
(7) regularly	frequently	happily	rarely	willingly
(8) pounding	shivering	waving	breaking	beating
(9) screamed	cried	shouted	said	explained
(10) raced	went	walked	drove	ran

Question 02

Read the following text and answer the questions (I) and (II). (10 marks)

The Chartered Institute of Personnel Management (CIPM) successfully concluded the eighth Annual CIPM Symposium, which took place on 31 May 2024. Themed, 'Nurturing the Human Element - Redefining HRM in a Rapidly Changing World', the symposium underscored the pivotal role of human resource management (HRM) in today's dynamic dedicated to advancing the HR profession through education, professional development, and advocacy, **solidifying** its position as Sri Lanka's leading professional body for HRM.

The President of the CIPM Ken Vijayakumar attended the occasion as the chief guest. The symposium commenced with the welcome address by the Chairperson Prof. Arosha Adikaram, followed by the web launch of the symposium proceedings and abstract book by the CIPM President. The **event** featured distinguished addresses, including a speech by Chief Guest Vijayakumar and an address by Guest of Honour the Chief Operating Officer of MAS Holdings (Pvt) Ltd., Sri Lanka, Shakthi Ranatunga.

The symposium also featured an inspiring keynote address by the Professor of Management and Director of the Centre for Cross Cultural Management (CCCM) at the University of Wollongong, Australia, Prof. Mario Fernando. Vote of Thanks of the inauguration session was delivered by the Symposium Co-chair Dr. Dillanjeni Weeratunga.

The symposium served as a comprehensive platform for researchers to present their findings across a wide range of critical topics in HRM. These included; 'Cultural Diversity and Inclusion', 'Talent Development and Retention', 'Ethical Leadership and Corporate Social Responsibility', 'Adapting to Technological Advancements', 'Mental Health and Wellbeing at Work', 'Global Workforce Challenges', 'Employee Empowerment', and 'Reskilling and Upskilling'.

The plenary session was led by Prof. Wasantha Rajapakse. Certificates were awarded to the best paper presenters during the valedictory session, followed by a vote of thanks delivered by the Manager of Research and Development Kamani Perera.

The annual symposium of CIPM was a truly inclusive event, attracting a diverse audience that spanned undergraduates, graduates, working professionals, research scholars and lecturers. This widespread interest highlights the symposium's significance in the field of HRM, offering a unique opportunity for everyone to network and learn from scholarly brains.

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

In boxes (1) – (8), write **True** or **False**

True	If the statement is true
False	If the statement is False

	Statements	
(1)	CIPM concluded the eighth Annual General Meeting	
(2)	The Chartered Institute of Personnel Management is Sri Lanka's leading professional body for HRM	
(3)	Mr. Ken Vijayakumar delivered the welcome speech	
(4)	The President of the CIPM works at the University of Wollongong.	
(5)	Prof. Mario Fernando is not a Director of CIPM	
(6)	The symposium was of little importance for researchers	
(7)	Certificates were awarded to all the presenters	
(8)	Undergraduates, graduates, working professionals, research scholars and lecturers Participated in the symposium	

(II) Underline the most appropriate response to complete the following sentences.

(9) The word 'solidifying' in paragraph 1 most nearly means

- (a) strengthening
- (c) making

- (b) naming
- (d) establishing

(10) The word "event" in paragraph 2 refers to

- (a) proceedings
- (c) The symposium

- (b) welcome address
- (d) abstract book

Question 03

Read the following poem and **underline** the most appropriate response to each of the questions from (1) – (5) (05 marks)

Nature's Embrace

In the quiet woods where the tall pines sway,
A whisper of breeze greets the break of day.
Sunlight spills gold on the emerald glade,
While shadows dance softly, in twilight's cascade.

The brook sings a melody, crystal and clear,
Its laughter a balm that calms every fear.
Moss blankets the stones with a velvety touch,
Each petal, a promise, the earth holds so much.

Above, the sky **dons** a cloak of deep blue,
With clouds like soft pillows, drifting anew.
Birds weave through the branches, a delicate thread,
Nature's own tapestry, where magic is spread.

- (1) According to the 1st stanza, what natural element can you find in it?
(a) rivers (b) oceans (c) forests (d) mountains
- (2) The sound of the brook is compared to
(a) fear (b) a balm (c) a melody (d) petal
- (3) Which line suggests a sense of peacefulness and calmness?
(a) "A whisper of breeze greets the break of day."
(b) "While shadows dance softly, in twilight's cascade."
(c) "With clouds like soft pillows, drifting anew."
(d) "Its laughter a balm that calms every fear."
- (4) The word '**dons**' in bold print most nearly means
(a) draws (b) depicts (c) drops (d) wears
- (5) Which word is opposite in meaning to '**blankets**'
(a) covers (b) shields (c) exposes (d) wears

Question 4

Complete the summary using **one word only** from the passage for each blank. (05 marks)

Last Saturday, the annual Community Arts Festival took place in the downtown park, attracting visitors from all over the city. The event highlighted local artists showcasing their work, live music performances, and food vendors offering a variety of delicious options. Families enjoyed activities like face painting and pottery workshops. The highlight of the festival was a mural painting contest, where artists collaborated to create a vibrant mural that represents the spirit of the community. Many attendees participated in a scavenger hunt, adding an interactive element to the day. The atmosphere was lively and filled with creativity, bringing people together to celebrate the arts. Organizers reported a record turnout, indicating the festival's growing popularity. The event not only supported local talent but also fostered a sense of unity among residents. As the sun set, the park was illuminated with fairy lights, creating a magical ambiance that left everyone looking forward to next year's festival.

The annual Community Arts Festival that took place last Saturday attracted citywide visitors to downtown park. Local artists, live music, and food vendors (1) different tastes were prominent. Activities that were enjoyed included face painting, pottery workshops and a mural contest that showcased community spirit by the (2) work of artists. Attendees took part in a scavenger hunt, (3) lively atmosphere to the event. The (4) of the festival was reported through the large crowd present. With record turnout and support for local talent, the event (5) unity among residents. As night fell, fairy lights illuminated the park, leaving everyone excited for next year's festival.

Question 5

Read the following text and answer the questions from (1) – (7)

Elderly population

According to the United Nations, the number of people aged 65 years or older worldwide is projected to more than double, rising from 761 million in 2021 to 1.6 billion in 2050. "The number of people aged 80 years or older will grow even faster. Regionally, the highest elderly population is reported from Asia and Europe. The most significant impact of the rapidly ageing population is on the labour force participation and quality of labour. The increase in the elderly, lowers working-age people in the economy, creating a supply shortage of qualified workers in the labour market. Therefore, now, many developed countries like Australia, Canada and the United Kingdom attract immigrant labour to fill this gap. However, international immigration has now become a serious political concern in these countries, pushing those countries to impose

various restrictions on international immigrants. Further, the increase in the elderly population not only impacts the labour force, but also increases the dependency ratio of the economy pressuring the states to increase the allocation of pension, benefits, and other social security programs. Though advanced economies have this capacity, less and least developing countries face a greater challenge in increasing funds , for elders,” pointed out Dr. Rasnayake.

The increase in the elderly population increases healthcare costs. Countries with a high elderly population have to allocate more money and resources for their healthcare system. Though advanced economies have already increased the GDP allocation for elderly healthcare, the biggest challenge that they face is skillful labour for elderly care at home. This has been further challenged due to the risk of the prevalence of chronic diseases among the elderly.

"However, many less or least-developed countries face the population ageing challenge in poor or growing economies, reducing their capacity to ensure the socioeconomic well-being of the old-age population. Therefore, an increase in GDP and resources for healthcare systems for the elderly is a significant challenge for these countries. On the other hand, institutional care for elders is not well-established in these countries, increasing the burden on families to look after their old age parents. Further, changes in the traditional family system and value system towards caring for old age parents. have increased their social vulnerability, increasing helplessness and mental problems among the elderly, In many countries including Sri Lanka, suicide in the elderly population is higher than other demographic groups. According to the research, the increased prevalence of chronic diseases, vulnerability to mental problems, high levels of hopelessness and helplessness, and dependency trigger suicide risks among the elderly. In finding solutions to face this demographic and social issue, global and country specific efforts are required. Searching for possibilities to promote a healthy ageing population, strengthening the healthcare sector, absorbing them into the economy, promoting alternative support caregiver systems, and strengthening community-based practices for elderly caring would be some of the aspects in searching solutions for this problem,”

01. Do the following statements agree with the information given in the above text?

In brackets (I) - (VI), write **True** or **False**

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

- | | | |
|------|--|----------|
| I. | The highest elderly population is reported from Asia and Europe | () |
| II. | Developed Countries attract migrant labour to fill the labour market. | () |
| III. | Increase of elderly population does not impact labour force. | () |
| IV. | The risk of chronic diseases among the elderly impacts the economy of a country. | () |
| V. | Institutional care for elders is well-established in developing countries. | () |
| VI. | Suicide in the elderly population is higher in Sri Lanka | () |

02. Complete the Following sentences with the ideas contained in the passage. (2x2=4 marks)

- I. The most important impact of the rapidly ageing population is on
.....
- II. Developing countries face the challenge of allocation of pension, benefits, and other social programmes due to
.....

03. I. Write the main effect on economy when there is an increase in the elderly. (2x3=6marks)

-
- II. Write What has made a serious political concern.
.....
- III. Write what has increased elders social vulnerability.
.....

04. Significant challenge for less or least developing countries is. (1 Mark)

- I. To face cronical diseases among elders.
- II. To increase G.D.P. and resourcers for healthcare system for the elderly.
- III. Changing the traditional family system.
- IV. Imposing various restrictions for international immigration.

05. Write one word in each blank, selecting from the passage, which means the same as the folowing.
(1x3 marks)

- 01 An action of coming to live in
a foreign country
02. Relating to the structure of populations.
03. State of being exposed to the possibility
of being attacked or harmed.

PART B Dialogues (25 marks)

Question 6

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

1. Your friend requests you to join their family trip, but you refuse it. Give a fair reason for your refusal.

“Sorry, I

2. At a textile shop, you want to buy a shirt/frock and you ask the sales assistant for a blue colour one.

“Can?”

3. You failed to finish your class project before the deadline. Ask your teacher to give you some more time.

Please

4. Your friend borrowed your notes two weeks ago, but you need them now since you're getting ready for the term test.

Would you?

5. Your brother Mihraj wants to select the types of paint to use in his art. You advise him to use only pastels.

You

Question 7

You are going to buy a smart phone for your studies. You are speaking to the salesman and you wish to buy a phone of any brand with a powerful battery and 3 cameras.

Use the given guidelines and complete the dialogue between the two of you. (5 Marks)

Salesman : Good Morning. Can I help you?

You : Good Morning. I'm looking for a smart phone for my studies.

Salesman : (1).....? (brand of the phone)

You : well, the brand is not a matter, but it should have a powerful battery.

Salesman : (2)..... (shows a phone with two cameras)

You : (3)..... (respond appropriately)

Salesman : What about this one? It's Samsung A03. It has a powerful battery and offers us more options

You : (4)..... (ask the price)

Salesman : Ok, The best Price we can offer you is twenty thousand rupees.

You : (5)..... (express willingness to buy it)

Question 8

Imagine you are on holiday with your uncle and aunt in Nuwara Eliya. After arrival at

Nuwara Eliya you call your parents over the phone and tell them the new experience you had.

Write down the telephone conversation between you and your parent.

Each one should speak at least five times. (15 marks)

.....

.....

.....

.....

[illegible]

Part C

Writing Skills (65 marks)

Question 9

Select any five from the list of nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs given below and use each one of them in a meaningful sentence. You may use the verbs in any tense and nouns in singular or plural form. Do not change the form of the other words. (5 marks)

Nouns	relationship, offence, crime
Verbs	achieve, tolerate, waste
Adjectives	general, anxious
Adverbs	finally, impatiently

[illegible]

The following pie-chart shows the sale of five different brands of mobile phones in a shop, during the last six months.

A pie chart illustrating the market share of five mobile phone brands in the UK. The chart is divided into five segments, each with a unique pattern and a corresponding percentage label. The segments are: Apple (20%, solid blue), Redmi (10%, wavy blue), Samsung (15%, vertical blue lines), Nokia (35%, diagonal blue lines), and Huawei (20%, cross-hatched blue). A legend on the right side of the chart identifies each brand with its respective pattern.

Brand	Market Share (%)
Apple	20%
Redmi	10%
Samsung	15%
Nokia	35%
Huawei	20%

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal dashed lines, typical of primary school writing paper. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

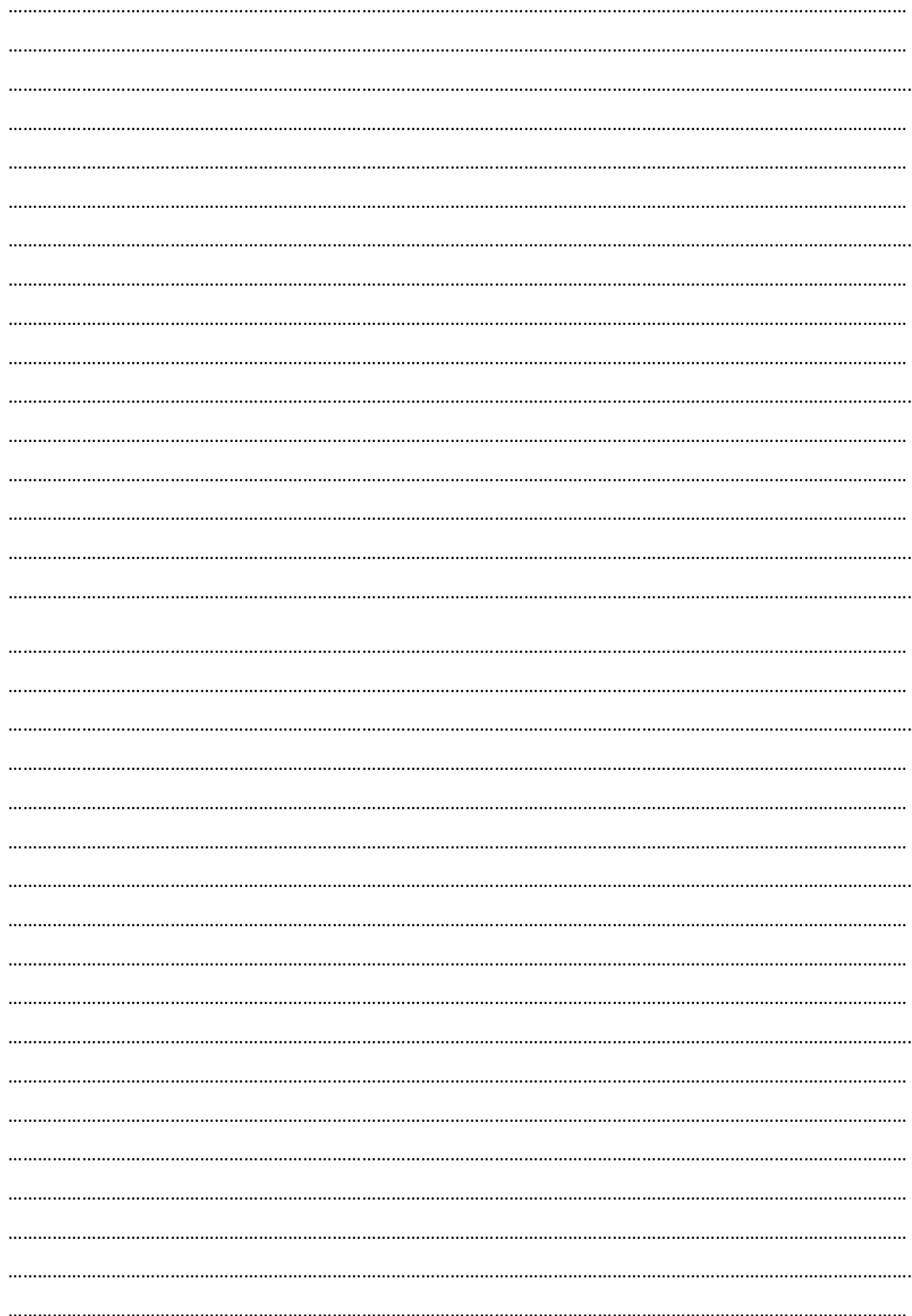
[illegible]

Question 11

Imagine your cousin brother/sister who lives in Kandy, could not get good results at G.C.E. (O/L) exam last year.

Write a letter to him /her, encouraging and advising him/her to sit for the exam again this year.
Use about 100-125 words. (15 marks)

This image shows a full page of primary-ruled paper. It features multiple sets of horizontal dashed lines spaced evenly down the page, providing a guide for handwriting practice. The lines are thin and light gray, set against a white background. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the page.



[illegible]

