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**Royal College – Colombo 07**

General English I

**Final Term Test – November 2023**

**One hour**

13- E- 1

## Grade 13

27.11.2023 – 8.00 a.m- 9.00 a.m

**Instructions:**

- Answer all questions on this paper itself
- Marks will be deducted for inappropriate punctuation and for mistakes in basic grammar.

Total Marks	
Paper I	
Paper II	
Final Marks	

For Examiner's Use Only	
Total	<u>60</u>

Name: .....	Index No: .....	Class: .....
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**PART A – GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY (35 marks)**

### Question 01

Fill in the blanks in the following text, with a suitable preposition from the list given below.

Use each preposition only once. There is an extra one. (5 marks)

near          in          off          to          of          around

Some of my favourite childhood memories revolve (1)..... the time I spent helping my mother plant and tend a vegetable garden (2)..... our backyard. She let me help till the rows and plant the seeds. Going (3)..... okra plants made her itch, so she let me pick all (4)..... that myself. (5)..... this day, okra makes me think of her.

### Question 02

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

It was already late when we set out for the next town, which according to the map was about fifteen miles away on the other side of the hills. There we (1)..... (feel) sure that we (2)..... (find) a bed for the night. Darkness (3).....(fall) soon after we left the village, but luckily we met no one as we (4).....(drive) swiftly along the narrow winding road that led to the hills. As we (5).....(climb) higher, it became colder and rain began to fall, making it difficult at times to see the road. I asked John, my companion, to drive more slowly.

After we (6)..... (travel) for about twenty miles, there was still no sign of the town which (7)..... (mark) on the map. We (8)..... (begin) to get worried. Then, without warning, the car stopped. A quick examination showed that we (9)..... (run) out of petrol. Although we had little food with us, only a few biscuits and some chocolate, we decided (10)..... (spend) the night in the car.



### Question 3

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

Women in Britain are without (1)..... (doubt /suspicion/ issue) better off today than they used to be. At the beginning of the nineteenth century, women seemed to have (2)..... (already /almost/ also) no rights at all. They could not vote, or even sign contracts. Their marriages were arranged by their parents and (3)..... (then /therefore /once) they are married they could not earn property. Most of the time they were kept at home, and (4)..... (even /often / so) when they were allowed to work, they were never given responsible jobs. It is strange to think that as (5)..... (more /far/ well) as we know, most women were happy with this situation.

Today the position is (6)..... (quite /entire /more) different. Women can now vote, and choose their own husbands. In 1970, a law was (7)..... (brought /forced /imposed) to give them an equal share of property in the case of divorce, and in the same year, the Equal Pay Act gave them the right to equal pay with men for work of equal value.

Yet, (8)..... (with /due to/ despite) these changes, there is no doubt that there are (9)..... (still/ even /quite) great differences in status between men and women. Many employers seem to ignore the Equal Pay Act, and an average working woman is (10)..... (seen /likely /seem) to earn only about half of what a man earns from the same job.

### Question 4

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

1. All in our class (except/ expect/ accept) Poorni have got through the G.C.E. (O/L) Examination.
2. The manager (gave/ arranged/ presented) the final report at the meeting.
3. Rain (disturbed/ interrupted/ interfered) the Asia Cup 2023 final between Sri Lanka and India.
4. Charcoal production in a country could be a major (source/ feature/ fact) of energy.
5. He was in (profession/ possession/ owning) of several birds endemic to Sri Lanka.

### Question 5

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

1. She has contributed several poems to litera..... (ry/ cy/ lly) magazines.
2. There is no guaran..... (ter/ tee/ ting) that every specialist who is recalled is willing to continue to work.
3. Sri Lanka is facing an unpreceden..... (t/ tal/ ted) issue of brain drain.
4. A tiny piece of tissue may also be taken for a biop..... (sy/ sal/ se).
5. The company rejects allegat..... (ors/ ions/ ings) of long hours and harsh conditions.

1) Underline the most appropriate response in each of the questions from (i) – (v).

(i) Which statement is **true** regarding the news item about IndiGo flights?

- a) The flight 6E 1811 will travel between Hyderabad and Colombo.
- b) The flights will be operated daily.
- c) The flight will leave Hyderabad at 12 noon and reach Colombo at 2 pm.
- d) The flight will leave Colombo at 12 noon and reach Hyderabad at 2 pm.

(ii) Which statement is **not true** regarding the news item ②?

- a) Nitharshana is a schoolgirl from Bagawanthalawa.
- b) Her walk ended at 2.35 p.m. in Bagawanthalawa town.
- c) Many people lined up the streets to cheer her.
- d) She started the journey from Nawalapitiya Police Station.

(iii) Which of the following is **not given** in news item ③?

- a) The distance from Sri Lankan shore to Kodiyakkarai.
- b) The material of the boat.
- c) The ones who informed the police about the capsized boat.
- d) The name of the police inspector who led the police team.

(iv) The underlined word '**prowess**' in the news item ④ most nearly means,

- a) Super powers
- b) Skill
- c) Effort
- d) Action

(v) Who /what does the pronoun '**it**' refer to in the news item ④?

- a) the bank
- b) the ATM
- c) the building where the ATM is located
- d) the cash



2) Do the following statements agree with the information given in the above text? In boxes (vi) – (x), write **True**, **False** or **Not Given**.

True	If the statement is correct
False	If the statement is wrong
Not Given	If there is no sufficient information.

Statements	
(vi). Launching 'IndiGo' will only enhance connectivity between Sri Lanka and India	
(vii). The girl walked the 54km distance without a stop	
(viii). Nitharshana received a gift from her school for setting a Cholan record	
(ix). Nearly half of the fishing boat was found sunk in the sea	
(x). Police confirmed that an individual in the bank is involved in the robbery	

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Write a paragraph beginning with the given sentence. Use about 75-100 words. Do not exceed this word limit. Do not write more than one paragraph. (10 marks)

It is essential to practice stress management to keep one's mind and body healthier. ....

1



### Question 7

Read the following four news items and answer the questions (1) and (2). (10 marks)

①

#### IndiGo launches direct flights between Hyderabad and Colombo

IndiGo has announced the introduction of new direct flights between Hyderabad and Colombo from November 2, 2023. IndiGo is the first Indian carrier to provide direct connectivity between the two cities, reinforcing trade, economic, and cultural ties. This is part of IndiGo's strategic expansion in international markets, providing customers with seamless and efficient connectivity.

Head of Global Sales at IndiGo, Vinay Malhotra, said, "The introduction of these flights will not only enhance connectivity but also provide travellers with greater flexibility and convenience."

Customers who wish to plan their travel can book tickets on the official website. The schedule includes Flight 6E 1181 Hyderabad-Colombo operating daily, except Wednesday, and departing at 12 noon to arrive at 2 pm.

②

#### Schoolgirl sets Cholan record

A schoolgirl from the Bagawanthalawa area has walked a distance of 54 kms at a stretch in 8.30 hours and created a Cholan record. Wasantha Kumar Nitharshana (15) is a grade 10 student at St. Mary's National School in the Hatton Education Zone. She set off from the Nawalapitiya police station grounds at 6.05 a.m. on Wednesday (20) and ended the walk at 2.35 p.m. in Bagawanthalawa town, covering a distance of 54 kms. School children, teachers and estate workers lined up the streets and cheered her as she proceeded through Nawalapitiya, Ginigathena, Watawala, Hatton, Dikoya and Norwood towns and reached Bagawanthalawa.

A representative of the Cholan World Record Book of India, Sinagavani Rajah who monitored the event, said that Nitharshana's name would go down in the Cholan record book. Meanwhile, she was felicitated for her prohress by the staff and the students of St. Mary's National School.

#### Sri Lankan fishing boat seized near Kodyakkarai, India

The Vedaranyam Marine Police of the Coastal Security Group in India on Friday, September 22 seized a Sri Lankan fiberglass fishing boat that was found capsized a few metres away from the Kodyakkarai coast in Nagapattinam district, the Hindu reported.

Based on an alert by the local people, a Marine Police team from Vedaranyam led by Inspector Jothi Muthuramalingam seized the boat and brought it to the shore.

Police sources said three-fourths of the boat was found submerged in the sea at nearly 200 metres from the Kodyakkarai coast near Manal Voykkal.

#### Cash Rs.7.8mn robbed from private bank ATM

Cash amounting to Rs.7.8 million has been stolen from the ATM of a private sector bank in Nittambuwa town.

The management of the bank has lodged a complaint to the Nittambuwa police. Investigations revealed that the ATM had not been damaged in any way and that the machine had been opened, the cash removed and then it had been closed.

Police said it is yet to be confirmed whether an organized group or any individuals in the bank is involved in the robbery.

Nittambuwa police are conducting further investigations.



**PART B – READING & WRITING (25 marks)**

**Question 6**

**Underline the option that best expresses the meaning of each of the sentences given below.**

**(05 marks)**

- 1. She's very unlike her mother.**
  - a) She is totally different from her mother.
  - b) She doesn't like her mother.
  - c) She is not so different from her mother.
  - d) Both she and her mother don't like each other.
  
- 2. I never used to have a birthday party when I was small.**
  - a) I hated birthday parties, so I never had one.
  - b) I enjoyed others' birthday parties so I didn't want to have one.
  - c) My parents never had a birthday party for me when I was small.
  - d) I always wanted to go to other kids' birthday parties.
  
- 3. We couldn't have finished the assignment if there had been a power cut.**
  - a) There was a power cut but we were able to finish the assignment.
  - b) There was a power cut so we couldn't finish the assignment.
  - c) There was no power cut so we were able to finish the assignment.
  - d) Although there was no power cut we couldn't finish the assignment.
  
- 4. Despite the criticisms, she remained defiant.**
  - a) She argued on the criticisms.
  - b) She remained silent amidst criticisms.
  - c) She was defeated due to criticisms.
  - d) She was victorious because of her criticisms.
  
- 5. He is very clever and endlessly resourceful.**
  - a) He is clever but not resourceful.
  - b) He is more resourceful than being clever.
  - c) He is clever and resourceful at its best.
  - d) He is very clever but less resourceful.





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