EASTERN UNIVERSITY, SRI LANKA

Second Year Second Semester Examination in Arts and Culture 2010 / 2011 (August/September 2013)

GEL 2201 - General English

Time: 03 hours

Instruction to the candidates:

- 1. Answer all questions on the answer script given to you.
- 2. Do not return this question paper.
- 3. Write neatly and clearly.

Question - 01

Read the following article and answer the questions by underlining the correct answer.

Targeted violence against female public officials, dismal healthcare and desperate poverty make Afghanistan the world's most dangerous country in which to be born a woman, according to a global survey released recently. High mortality rates, limited access to doctors and a "near total lack of economic rights" render Afghanistan such a threat to its female inhabitants.

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Pakistan, India and Somalia feature in descending order after Afghanistan in the list of the five worst states, the poll among gender experts shows. The "staggering levels of sexual violence" in the lawless east of DRC account for its second place in the list. One recent study claimed that more than 400,000 women are raped there each year. The UN has called Congo the rape capital of the world. "Rights activists say militia groups and soldiers target all ages, including girls as young as three and elderly women," the survey reports, "They are gang raped, raped with bayonets and some have guns shot into their vaginas."

The appearance of India, a country rapidly developing into an economic super-power, was unexpected. It is ranked as extremely hazardous because of the subcontinent's high level of female infanticide and sex trafficking. Pakistan is ranked third on the basis of cultural, tribal and religious practices harmful to women. "These include acid attacks, child and forced marriage and punishment or fetribution by stoning or other physical abuse," the poll finds. According to Pakistan's human rights commission, as many as 1,000 women and girls die in honour killings annually. India is the fourth most dangerous country. "India's Central Bureau of Investigation estimated that in 2009 about 90% of trafficking took place within the country and that there were some three million prostitutes, of which 40% were children," the survey found. Forced marriage and forced labour trafficking add to the dangers for women. "Up to 50 million girls are thought to be 'missing' over the past century due to female infanticide and foeticide," the UN Population Fund says, "because parents prefer to have young boys rather than girls."

Others were less surprised to be on the list. Informed about her country's inclusion, Somalia's women's minister, Maryan Qasim, responded: "I thought Somalia would be the first on the list, not fifth." The survey has been compiled by the Thomson Reuters Foundation to mark the launch of a website, TrustLaw Woman, aimed at providing free legal advice for women's groups around the world. Somalia, a state in political disintegration, suffers high levels of maternal mortality, rape, female genital mutilation and limited access to education and healthcare. (Kirthi Hewamanne, *Daily News*, 13 Aug., 2013)

- 1. What is the meaning of the word 'states' in paragraph 2? (a) village (b) building (c) rank (d) country
- 2. What is the meaning of the word 'study' in paragraph 2? (a) lesson (b) research (c) table (d) experiment
- 3. What does the acronym DRC stand for ?
 - (a) Disaster Relief Committee
 - (b) District Rehabilitation Centre
 - (c) Democratic Republic of Congo
 - (d) Development Research Centre
- What are the countries that are worst places for women to in the descending order? (a) Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Congo, Somalia

 - (b) Afghanistan, Congo, Pakistan, India, Somalia
 - (c) Somalia, India, Pakistan, Congo, India
 - (d) India, Congo, Pakistan, Somalia, Afghanistan
- 5. Who conducted the survey mentioned in the report? (a) Maryan Qasim (b) Thomas Reuters Foundation (c) TrsutLaw Women (d) Kirthi Hewamanne
- 6. What kind of violence against women is committed most in India?
 - (a) poor health care
 - (b) rape
 - (c) cultural and religious punishment
 - (d) female infanticide and trafficking for sex
- 7. According to the first paragraph, one of the sentences given below is wrong. Which one is wrong? (a) Afghanistan is the worst country for women.
 - (b) Women can own property in Afghanistan.
 - (c) There is poverty in Afghanistan.

 - (d) Women government servants are attacked in Afghanistan.
- 8. According to the last paragraph, one of the sentences given below is wrong. Which one is wrong? (a) Maryan Qasim is a minister for women's affairs in Somalia.
 - (b) TrustLaw Woman is a new website.

 - (c) Somalia is a country destroyed by lack of political leadership.
- (d) Thomas Reuters Foundation is a threat to women's groups in the world.
- 9. One of the following statements given below is wrong, according to the third paragraph. Find it out. (a) 1000 women and girls are killed every year in Pakistan for the honour of the family.
 - (b) There are 3,000,000 prostitutes in India.
 - (c) Parents in India prefer to have female babies.
 - (d) Acid attacks, child marriages, forced marriages, punishment by stoning are common in Pakistan.
- 10. Identify the wrong sentence given below:
 - (a) In the last 100 years 50,000,000 girls have disappeared or killed without records in India.
 - (b) Every year 400,000 girls and women of all ages are raped by militia and soldiers in Congo.
 - (c) In Afghanistan becoming pregnant is very dangerous as there are not enough doctors.
 - (d) In Somalia women have high level of maternity care.

Question – 02

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Question - 04

Choose one of the followings and write about it in 75 words:

- (a) Write an excuse letter to the Co-ordinator /ELTU about your absence for a long time for the lecture.
- (b) Write a paragraph on how English has helped you to develop your academic career.

 $(1 \times 20 = 20 \text{ marks})$

[2 X 10 = 20 marks]

Question - 05

Choose one of the followings and write an essay about it in 150 words:

- (a) Interesting places you have visited during your pleasure trip./ field trip.
- (b) Farewell experience (going down function) which is a formality of the senior students.
- (c) Magazine launch (Veli Arts Faculty journal) which is annual release of the journal by the final year students of the Faculty of Arts and Culture.

 $(1 \times 20 = 20 \text{ marks})$