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இலங்கை அபிவிருத்தி நிர்வாக நிறுவகம்  
SRI LANKA INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION



First Efficiency Bar Examination for Officers of Sri Lanka  
Planning Service – 2019(II)

Time: 03 Hours

English Language (13)

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Index No / சுட்டெண்

- Answer All Questions.

Question No. 01

Read the text below and answer the questions.

Future Jobs

Economic, health and geopolitical trends have created **divergent** outcomes for labour markets globally in 2023. While tight labour markets are **prevalent** in high-income countries, low- and lower-middle-income countries continue to see higher unemployment than before the COVID-19 pandemic. On an individual level, labour-market outcomes are also diverging, as workers with only basic education and women face lower employment levels. At the same time, real wages are declining as a result of an ongoing cost-of living crisis, and changing worker expectations and concerns about the quality of work are becoming more **prominent** issues globally. The fourth edition of the survey has the widest coverage thus far by topic, geography and sector.

The Future of Jobs Survey brings together the **perspective** of 803 companies-collectively employing more than 11.3 million workers-across 27 industry clusters and 45 economies from all world regions. The survey covers questions of macro trends and technology trends, their impact on jobs, their impact on skills, and the workforce transformation strategies businesses plan to use, across the 2023-2027 timeframe. Technology **adoption** will remain a key driver of business transformation in the next five years. Over 85% of organizations surveyed identify increased adoption of new and frontier technologies and broadening digital access as the trends most likely to drive **transformation** in their organization. Broader application of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) standards within their organizations will also have a **significant** impact. The next most-impactful trends are macroeconomic:

the rising cost of living and slow economic growth. The impact of investments to drive the green transition was judged to be the sixth-month impactful macro trend, followed by supply storages and consumer expectations around social and environmental issues. Though still expected to drive the transformation of almost half of companies in the next five years, the ongoing **impact** of the COVID-19 pandemic, increased geopolitical divisions and demographic dividends in developing and emerging economies were ranked lower as drivers of business evolution by respondents.

The largest job creation and destruction effects come from environmental, technology and economic trends. Among the macro trends listed, businesses predict the strongest net job-creation effect to be driven by investments that **facilitate** the green transition of businesses, the broader application of ESG standards and supply chains becoming more localized, albeit with job growth offset by partial job displacement in each case. Climate change adaptation and the demographic dividend in developing and emerging economies also rate high as net job creators. Technological advancement through increased adoption of new and frontier technologies and increased digital access are expected to drive job growth in more than half of surveyed companies, offset by expected job displacement in one-fifth of companies. The net job creation effect places these two trends in 6th and 8th place respectively. The three key drivers of expected net job destruction are slower economic growth, supply shortages and the rising cost of inputs, and the rising cost of living for consumers. Employers also recognize that increased geopolitical divisions and the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic will drive labour market disruption-with an even split between employers who expect these trends to have a positive impact and employers who expect them to have a negative impact on jobs.

*(source: World Economic Forum 2023)*

**Do the following statements agree with the information given in the text?**

**In the space given for question 1-5, write**

- TRUE**            - If the statement agrees with the information  
**FALSE**           - If the information contradicts the information  
**NOT GIVEN** - If there is no information on this

- i.     All the countries in the world face unemployment due to COVID-19 .....
- ii.    After the COVID-19 pandemic people in poor and lower-middle  
income countries find it more difficult to get a job. ....

- iii. Education level and gender of the workers affect their employment level. ....
- iv. The most significant impactful trends are microeconomic .....
- v. The impact of COVID-19 has created a split between employers and employees. ....

(05 Marks)

**Underline the words closet in meaning to the words in bold type in the text given below.**

vi. **divergent**

- a) similar
- b) bipolar
- c) difference
- d) parallel

vii. **prevalent**

- a) widespread
- b) exceptional
- c) infrequent
- d) scarce

viii. **prominent**

- a) obscure
- b) outstanding
- c) invisible
- d) sunken

ix. **perspective**

- a) position
- b) disbelief
- c) misunderstanding
- d) overlook

- x. **adoption**
- a) opposition
  - b) repudiation
  - c) disapproval
  - d) acceptance
- xi. **transformation**
- a) stagnation
  - b) conversion
  - c) sameness
  - d) prevention
- xii. **significant**
- a) important
  - b) trivial
  - c) meaningless
  - d) Minor
- xiii. **impact**
- a) imperfection
  - b) aftermath
  - c) unimportance
  - d) disregard
- xiv. **facilitate**
- a) obstruct
  - b) delay
  - c) promote
  - d) hinder
- xv. **access**
- a) denial
  - b) refusal
  - c) rejection
  - d) approach

**(10 Marks)**

**Answer the following questions.**

xvi. Name three factors which affect global labour market.

.....  
.....  
.....

xvii. Which countries face unemployment mostly?

.....  
.....

xviii. What are the most crucial problems in the global job market? (Write not more than three)

.....  
.....  
.....

xix. What are the trends in job creation and destruction?

.....  
.....  
.....

xx. What are the key factors of possible job destruction?

.....  
.....  
.....

**(10 Marks)**  
**(Total marks for Question No. 01 = 25)**

## Question No. 02

**Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the words given in brackets. Verbs must be put in the correct tense. An example is given.**

Sri Lanka needs to be ...**re-created**... (re-create) as a country which ..... (celebrate) a diversity of languages, cultures, ethnic and religious groups. Generations of suspicion, hostility and antagonism along ethnic and religious lines ..... (need) to be replaced by a positive environment for people from a variety of ethnic and religious identities to ..... (live) peacefully and harmoniously together. Schools and universities can contribute to the development of an inclusive democracy by ..... (promote) a gender sensitive, multi-ethnic, multi-religious and multi-cultural society. In the future, as communications and transportation ..... (technology) evolve, the country will see ..... (increase) exchanges of people and cultures. This needs to be ..... (welcome), instead of being perceived as a threat in Sri Lankan society.

Education institutions, along with other ..... (culture) institutions, serve as important repositories of the shared memory, history and culture of a country. Schools and universities are the main institutions that record and ..... (transmit) the history and culture of a nation across generations. As Sri Lanka ..... (continue) to grow as a nation, its education sector should ..... (play) a prominent role in shaping, processing and transmitting the benefits of: (a) the fair and ..... (equitability) treatment of girls and boys and women and men; (b) of religious and social tolerance; and (c) of ..... (respect) for ethnic diversity, to current and future generations.

Education institutions are uniquely capable of ..... (develop) an accountable and vibrant democracy. In this context, we need to consider an important aspect of our current ..... (politic) landscape.

*(Source: An Adventure of Enchantment and Virtue; Dr. Harsha Athurupane)*

**(15 Marks)**

### Question No. 03

#### Part 1

**Write the missing words in the following story using the words given below. Use only one word in each space.**

**that, which, who, whose, what, it, where**

The two boys walked slowly across the valley which was bathed in the light of the setting sun. Then suddenly, Isuru stopped and sat down on a large stone. He said, “I can’t go any further; I’m absolutely exhausted.” ..... took some minutes to break the silence of the moment.

Gayan looked at him without believing ..... his friend was telling at ..... time. Isuru pointed to the path in front of them ..... then have to climb up. It went straight up the side of the valley. Gayan sat down exhaustedly. For a while, the two boys said nothing. Then Isuru pointed to a big squirrel ..... tail was very long than usual. They started to walk again along the path. After walking about half a mile, suddenly, Isuru was shouting out loudly to ..... Gayan had a feeling of fear.

It was the hut in the corner of the path ..... made Isuru amazed. Isuru ..... is braver than Gayan entered the hut, ignoring Gayan’s warnings. The two boys cleaned out the hut, and ..... was safe for them to spend the night there. Suddenly they realized the place ..... they found to be safe is not as they thought.

**(10 Marks)**

#### Part 2

**Read the following text below and write the missing preposition.**

One evening *in* winter, Miss Mixter came home from seeing a show in town. As she reached her porch, she heard a furious muted mewing ..... the bushes.

She paused, listened, then said aloud. “This is not my affair” and let herself ..... the house. “A stray. A neighbour’s pet just passing by. Nothing to do with me.” She put the kettle on ..... tea. It was a windy night, and snug inside, she could not hear anything outside. In her mind, though, she

could hear. The cry had been that ..... a kitten; not a cat. To her expert ear, it had been the angry complaint ..... hunger.

She thought it had gone thinking it wouldn't linger ..... a stranger's house ..... a night like that. Miss Mixer, ..... the year, had got in the way of talking aloud to her cats and now that she had no audience or companion.

She came out to check. A tiny yowl greeted. The light ..... the porch revealed a skinny, big-eyed kitten. She went down the steps, picked ..... the kitten and carried him inside.

**(10 Marks)**

#### **Question No. 04**

**You have been invited to make a speech at a training session of newly recruited Development Officers to make them aware of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) focusing Good Health and Wellbeing.**

**Write your speech in about 250 words. The speech should be brief with a general introduction of SDGs.**

#### **Question No. 05**

**Write an essay on one of the following topics. The structure of your essay should include introduction, body with a minimum of three (03) paragraphs and conclusion. (word limit 500).**

1. Advance sources of information open the path to a better future.
2. Use of mobile phones by school children as a tool for learning.
3. ICT for Management and Planning

**(25 Marks)**

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