

English (Compulsory) First Paper Part I: Reading Test (60 marks)

1. Read the passage and answer the questions A and B.

Kalpana Chawla's first space mission (Mission STS 87) began on 19 November 1997 with six other astronauts on the Space Shuttle Columbia. On her first mission that lasted for 15 days, 16 hours, 34 minutes and 4 seconds she travelled 6.5 million miles. She was responsible for deploying the Spartan Satellite which however malfunctioned, necessitating a spacewalk by Winston Scott and Tako Doi, two of her fellow astronauts, to retrieve the satellite.

In 2000 she was selected for her second space mission STS 107. This mission was repeatedly delayed due to scheduling conflicts and technical problems. On 16 January 2003, Kalpana Chawla finally started her new mission with six other space crew on the ill-fated space shuttle Columbia. She was one of the mission specialists. Chawla's responsibilities included the microgravity experiments, for which the crew conducted nearly 80 experiments studying earth and space science, advanced technology development, and astronaut health and safety.

After a 16 day scientific mission in the space, on 1 February 2003, Columbia disintegrated over Texas during its reentry into the Earth's atmosphere. All the crew in Columbia including Chawla died only 16 minutes prior to their scheduled landing. Investigation shows that this fatal accident happened due to a damage in one of Columbia's wings caused by a piece of insulating foam from the external fuel tank peeling off during the launch. During the intense heat of re-entry, hot gases penetrated the interior of the wing, destroying the support structure and causing the rest of the shuttle to break down.

A. Choose the correct answer from the alternatives:

 $1 \times 5 = 5$

- The best synonym of 'necessitate' is
 - i) require ii) acquire
- iii) regret
- iv) have
- b. What could be the closest meaning for 'disintegrated'?
 - i) destroyed
- ii) regained
- iii) discontinued
- iv) malfunctioned

- c. A spacewalk was to retrieve the Spartan Satellite.
 - i) required
- ii) unnecessary
- iii) called for
- iv) abandoned

- d. The second mission of Chawla was delayed —.
 - once
- ii) twice
- iii) several times
- iv) none of the above
- e. Which of the followings is true according to the passage?
 - i) Chawla died after her first space mission.
 - ii) She was successful to deploy the Spartan Satellite.
 - iii) Columbia is the name of a country.
 - iv) All the crew of mission STS 107 died during their return.

B. Answer the following questions:

 $2 \times 5 = 10$

- a. What do you know about Chawla's first space mission?
- b. What ideas about other astronauts do you have from the 1st paragraph?
- c. Why was the space shuttle termed 'ill-fated' by the author?
- d. What were the responsibilities of Chawla in her second mission?
- e. How did the space shuttle get destroyed?

2. Read the passage and complete the table below with the given information.

1×10=10

When you are in the driving seat of a car, you have the steering and the horn in your hands, the brake and accelerator under your feet, eyes open looking ahead, left and right. The same can be said about a motorcycle rider, with some modifications. These are all very visible. But, behind all, there is something that keeps working unseen. And that is the Central Processing Unit (CPU), your brain. CPUs are artificially intelligent machines that are programmed to do specific jobs under fixed conditions and judgments. But the human brain is intelligent by nature. It is the most sophisticated machine that is able to operate on ever-changing conditions and standards of judgment.

As conditions in the traffic keep invariably changing, this virtue of sophistication of your brain must be at work when you are driving. The difference between traffic in the roads and highways and racing circuit must not be blurring inside you. Never imagine yourself to be a Michael Schumacher driving an F-1 at 300 mph. Leave no room for fantasy. You must always be ready to encounter unexpected behavior from any vehicle or pedestrian. 'Keep your cool' is easy to advice but difficult to maintain. Still you must always restrain yourself because, at the end of the day, you don't want to be regarded as a killer. Now you see, the last thing that differentiates you from a computer is your conscience.

Who/What	Action	What	Where
(i)—	finds	steering	in (ii) —
A driver	finds	(iii) —	under his/her feet
(iv) —	can operate on ever-changing conditions		

	must be at working	(v) —	in human brain
(vi) —	(vii) —	F-1	in racing circuit
(viii)—	should avoid	(ix)—	
Human brain	differs from computer	by (x) —	

3. Write a summary of the following poem.

Blow, blow, thou winter wind,
Thou art not so unkind
As man's ingratitude;
Thy tooth is not so keen,
Because thou art not seen,
Although thy breath be rude.

Freeze, freeze, thou bitter sky,
That dost bite so nigh
As benefits forgot:
Though thou the waters warp,
Thy sting is not so sharp
As friend remembered not.
Heigh-ho! sing heigh-ho! unto the green holly...

Heigh-ho! sing heigh-ho! unto the green holly, Most friendship is feigning, most loving mere folly:

Then heigh-ho, the holly! This life is most jolly.

4. Read the following text and fill in the blanks with suitable word from the box. There are more words than needed. Make any grammatical change if necessary. 0.5×10=5

sacrifice	virtue	hope	comfortable	over	achieve	inconsiderate
safeguard	peace	paying	real	take	tolerate	

Tolerance is a must for living in the society (a) —. It is one of the greatest (b) — of human beings. To (c) — this quality a person must be virtuous. In every step we should care for the (d) — of others. Becoming (e) — we cannot (f) — of a civil society. Very often we are suggested to be (g) —. But very few of us (h) — heed to this. We fail to look (i) — the little disputes and confusion. Actually, tolerance may be the (j) — of a happy home.

5. Fill in the blanks with appropriate word in each gap.

 $1 \times 10 = 10$

Many people do not get enough nutrition from what they eat. Many children become blind because they do not get (a) — nutrition. Diarrhoea is a common (b) — . This is because many people do not (c) — clean water or they (d) — dirty food. So, they often suffer (e) — diarrhoea. The condition of our village is very (f) — . The best way to keep in good health is to (g) — the rules of cleanliness. A large (h) — of people do not follow the rules of health. It is one of the great (i) — in our country. So, in order to keep in sound health all the people must be (j) — to the rules of health.

6. Rearrange the following sentences to make a coherent order.

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- (a) The crow at last thought of a plan to get rid of its enemy.
- (b) It stole an expensive necklace of the princess from the royal palace and dropped it into the snake's hole after scattering a few rubies here and there.
- (c) A snake lived in a hole at the foot of a tree.
- (d) The king became very angry at the loss and sent out men to look for the necklace.
- (e) High up on its branches was the nest of a crow.
- (f) In this way the snake ate up three of the chicks.
- (g) The crow had four young chicks.
- (h) In course of time they noticed the scattered rubies near the hole.
- (i) Whenever the crow would leave the nest to bring food for its chicks, the snake would climb up and eat one.
- (j) They dug the hole, killed the snake and took the necklace.

Part II: Writing Test (40 marks)

7. Write a paragraph on "Higher Education in Bangladesh" in about 200 words based on the answers to the following questions.

(a) What is higher education? (b) What are the categories of higher education? (c) How many public universities, private universities and colleges are there in Bangladesh? (d) What are the features of public universities? (e) Why cannot many students get higher education from public universities? (f) How can this problem be solved?

8. The following is the beginning of a story. Complete it in your own words.

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9. Suppose, you are Nasim/Nasima of 50 Kazalshah, Sylhet-3104. You have a best friend named Salam/Salma who lives at 30 Pallabi, Ali Para, Sunamgonj-3074. S/he is a chain smoker. You know that smoking is a bad habit and it causes many fatal illness. Now, write a letter to your friend advising him/her to give up smoking.

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11. Write down the theme of the following poem (Not more than 50 words).

Whose woods these are I think I know His house is in the village though; He will not see me stopping here To watch his. Woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer To stop without a farmhouse near Between the woods and frozen lake The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake To ask if there is some mistake. The only other sound's the sweep Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep. But I have promises to keep, And miles to go before I sleep, And miles to go before I sleep.