

Model Question 10

English (Compulsory) First Paper

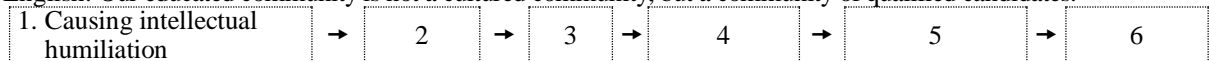
Part I: Reading Test (60 marks)

The cost of Dhaka's traffic congestion is estimated at \$3.8 billion a year, and that's just the delays and air pollution, not the less-tangible losses in quality of life. Paradoxically, the poor infrastructure is one of the reasons why the city is growing so fast. Without roads or trains to whisk them to the suburbs, Dhaka residents have no choice but to crowd into the middle, set up slums between high-rises, and walk to work. Then there are the users of the roads. Besides pedestrians, the narrow lanes are shared by bicycles, rickshaws, scooters, motorcycles, CNGs, buses, and cars. All these modes take up a different amount of space and have different top speeds. Most people you talk to in Bangladesh blame the traffic jams on the rickshaws. There are too many of them, they say, and they drive so slowly that they trap the cars, buses, and CNGs behind them. The government is under pressure to designate some lanes as car-only, to build wider roads and overpasses, to take the slow traffic out from in front of the fast. And this brings us to the third reason why the traffic problem is so difficult to solve. All of these fixes sound easy and obvious, but they come at a cost. One and a half million people drive rickshaws for a living, plus another few hundred thousand own and repair them. Government efforts to get people out of rickshaws and into buses and trains are going to attract huge opposition. Even increasing bus capacity is more complicated than it sounds. A 2009 World Bank analysis found 60 separate bus companies in Dhaka. Since the bus companies compete with one another, the drivers have every incentive to drive aggressively and take more passengers than the buses can hold. What's more, the public transport isn't all that public. Many of the bus companies are owned or linked to political parties or powerful trade unions. Government efforts to unify or regularize the system would amount to a hostile takeover of all of these small companies

- A. Choose the correct answer from the alternatives:** 1×5=5
- a. What could be the closest meaning for 'poor'?**
- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| i) deprived | ii) destitute |
| iii) weak | iv) humble |
- b. Why do people blame 'rickshaws' for traffic jam? It is because**
- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| i) they are slow | ii) they make other vehicles go slow |
| iii) they are too many in number | iv) all of them |
- c. The word 'drive' refers to —**
- | | |
|-----------|-------------|
| i) force | ii) operate |
| iii) send | iv) swept |
- d. Dhaka's traffic congestion costs \$ 3.8 billion excluding —**
- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| i) the tangible losses | ii) delays and air pollution |
| iii) global warming | iv) the less-tangible losses |
- e. "The public transport isn't all that public." What does the sentence imply?**
- | | |
|---|--|
| i) Public transports do not take passengers | ii) Public transports compete with each other |
| iii) Political parties own bus companies | iv) Public transports are used by general public |
- B. Answer the following questions:** 2×5=10
- a. What are the arguments given for banning rickshaws?
 - b. Why is it difficult to solve the traffic problem in Dhaka?
 - c. Give four suggestions to minimize the traffic congestion in Dhaka city.
 - d. Why would it not be easy for the government to ban rickshaws?
 - e. Bus companies are also responsible for traffic congestion. Do you agree? Why/Why not?

- 2. Read the following text and make a flow chart showing the characteristics of education in India as mentioned in the passage. (One is done for you)** 2 × 5 = 10

Man's intellect has a natural pride in its own aristocracy, which is the pride of its culture. Culture only acknowledges the excellence whose criticism is in its inner perfection, not in any external success. When this pride succumbs to some compulsion of necessity or lure of material advantage, it brings humiliation to the intellectual man. Modern India, through her very education, has been made to suffer this humiliation. Once she herself provided her children with a culture which was the product of her own ages of thought and creation. But it has been thrust aside, and we are made to tread the mill of passing examinations, not for learning anything, but for notifying that we are qualified for employments under organizations conducted in English. Our educated community is not a cultured community, but a community of qualified candidates.



- 3. Write a summary of the following poem.** 10

Because I have seen Bengal's face I will seek no more;
 The world has not anything more beautiful to show me.
 Waking up in darkness, gazing at the fig-tree, I behold
 Dawn's swallows roosting under huge umbrella- like leaves. I look around me
 And discover a leafy dome – Jam, Kanthal, Bat, Hijol and Aswatha trees
 All in a hush, shadowing clumps of cactus and zedoary bushes.
 When long, long ago, Chand came in his honeycombed boat
 To a blue Hijal, Bat and Tamal shade near the Champa, he too sighted
 Bengal's incomparable beauty. One day, alas. In the Ganguri,
 On a raft, as the waning moon sank on the river's sandbanks,
 Behula too saw countless aswaths bats besides golden rice fields

And heard the thrush's soft song. One day, arriving in Amara,
Where gods held court, when she danced like a desolate wagtail,
Bengal's rivers, fields, flowers, wailed like strings of bells on her feet.

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.** .5×10=5

tremendous	product	transaction	alternative	human	productivity
enhance	comprises	reducing	animation	involves	manipulating

Information technology is the technology that (a) — in creating, storing, (b) — and communicating information. It is the end (c) — of data processing. Micro computers have brought multidimensional disciplines to the Information Technology. Tremendous development in computer and electronics had brought (d) — development in the field of Information Technology. It can (e) — the economic growth. It has many opportunities in the field of business. It can be used for (f) — process, management information system etc. We find its uses in multimedia which (g) — text, sound, graphics, video and (h) —. It can also help in (i) — poverty. It can help improving the (j) — of the working people.

5. **Fill in the blanks with appropriate word in each gap.** 1×10=10

Natural gas is one of the greatest (a) — of our country. It has (b) — many countries and foreign (c) —. It is said that Bangladesh is (d) — on natural gas. This natural gas is a (e) — of our nation. Natural gas can do a lot to (f) — the airy quality of our cities if we can use it in lieu of other (g) —. After (h) —, the natural gas does not produce any particular matter, Sulphur-oxide or Nitrogen-oxide. So the government has (i) — to (j) — petroleum powered vehicles.

6. **Rearrange the following sentences to make a coherent order.** 10

- The Quazi got down from his seat and showed due respect to the Sultan.
- The widow complained to the Quazi against the Sultan for justice.
- Seeing a fawn, he shot an arrow at it.
- The Quazi said that he would have caned the Sultan black and blue if he disobeyed his justice.
- Once Sultan Giasuddin Azam went on a hunting in a jungle.
- The Sultan thanked the Quazi for his brave and true judgement and embraced him warmly.
- Drawing out his sword, the Sultan told the Quazi that he would have cut off his head if he had failed to do justice to the widow.
- The Quazi called the Sultan and asked him to compensate the widow for the loss or undergo punishment.
- The Sultan pleased the widow with a handsome compensation.
- But the arrow missed the aim and killed a widow's only son who was standing in the jungle.

Part II: Writing Test (40 marks)

7. **Write a paragraph on "Culture" in about 200 words based on the answers to the following questions.** 10

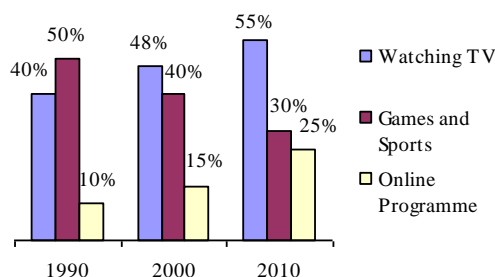
(a) What is culture? (b) What are the elements of culture? (c) What does culture reflect? (d) What do you mean by cultural assault? (e) What things do you notice in Asian and Western culture? (f) Why do cultures differ from society to society or country to country?

8. **The following is the beginning of a story. Complete it in your own words.** 7

Rahima works in a big garment factory. There are more than five hundred workers in the factory. One day, as usual, she was busy at her work. Suddenly, she heard that there was an outbreak of fire from the short circuit. As ill news runs apace, the news spread very fast among the workers. But no one noticed whether there was actually any fire

9. Suppose, you are Anis. Your e-mail ID is anis24@yahoo.com. You have a friend, Rafia. Her e-mail ID is rafia24@gmail.com. **Now, write an e-mail to her for sending a nice present on your seventeenth birthday celebration.** 5

10. Look at the following graph. It shows different types of pastime activities of the students of Bangladesh from 1990 to 2010. **Now, describe the graph in at least 80 words. You should highlight the information and report the main features given in the graph.** 10



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

8

Once upon a time, an old man lived with his three sons in a village. All his three sons were hard workers. Still, none of them agreed with each other and quarrelled all the time. The old man tried a lot to unite them but he failed. While the villagers were surprised at their hard work and efforts, they also made fun of them on their fights.

Months passed by and the old man fell sick. He talked to his sons to stay united, but none of his sons heard his words. So, he decided to teach them a practical lesson so that they would shed off their differences and stay united.

The old man called as his sons. He told them, 'I will give you a bundle of sticks. Separate each stick and you will have to break each stick into pieces of two. The one who breaks the sticks quickly will be rewarded more.'

All sons agreed.

The old man gave a bundle of 10 sticks to everyone of them and asked to break it into pieces. All the sons broke the sticks into pieces in minutes.

And again they started to quarrel among themselves as who came first.

The old man said, 'Dear sons, the game is not over. Now I will give another bundle of sticks to all of you. You will have to break the sticks as a bundle, not as separate sticks.'

The sons agreed and began to break the bundle of sticks. Unfortunately, they could not break the bundle. They tried very hard but failed to complete the task.

All sons said to the father about their failure.

The old man replied, 'Dear sons, See! You could easily break the single sticks into pieces, but you were not able to break the bundle! The sticks were same. So, if you stay united, nobody can make any harm to you. If you quarrel every time with your brothers, anyone can easily defeat you. I request you to stay united.'

The three sons understood the power of unity and promised their father that whatever be the problem, they would all stay together.