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সিলেট বোর্ড

02 Set

ENGLISH
FIRST PAPER

[According to the Syllabus of 2023]

Subject Code :

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Time—3 hours

Full marks—100

[N.B. The figures in the right margin indicate full marks.]

Part 1—Reading Test

Marks—60

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

Education gives us knowledge and a set of abilities to function meaningfully in life, such as the ability to decide things rationally and make the right choices. As we learn how to read, write and do the basic operations of arithmetic, we gain a degree of self confidence. We learn to think for ourselves and articulate our thoughts; we pick up skills to communicate with others and manage our affairs well. Education helps us think independently and make our own opinions. As we know more about the world, we appreciate the good things it offers us but also become critical of the deviations from the values it imparts and the rise of hatred of conflict that follows. The first thing education does is to give us an awareness about ourselves which leads to the development of our personality. As we begin school, we feel the need to belong to the class and make friends. We then expand our sense of belonging to include the school at large, our community and finally our country. Education thus prepares every child to become an active member of the community and work for its welfare. Education, is believed, releases our potentials and our inner strengths. It sharpens our intellect and develops our creativity. As we are taught to reason well and find solutions to the problems of life, we become productive members of society. Education by definition is progressive and liberal, teaching us to respect human diversity and cultural and religious differences. If all of us practise these values in life, the world becomes a much happier place.

Education also fosters critical thinking and provides us a set of competencies including life skills that enable us to become competitive even in the most challenging of circumstances. Education also teaches us to appreciate beauty and the bounties of nature.

School, however, is not the only place where a child gets education. A Bangla poem tells us that nature can be our best teacher. Here are a couple of lines from the poem in English translation :

The sky has taught me to be liberal.

The wind has given me the motto to be industrious.

If we can make nature our friend, philosopher and guide, we can learn lessons about life that, combined with what our schools teach us, will prepare us for the future.

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A. Choose the correct answer from the alternatives :

- (a) What does the idiom 'at large' mean?
(i) briefly (ii) independently largely (iv) dependently
- (b) The word 'arithmetic' relates to —
(i) physics mathematics (iii) biology (iv) chemistry
- (c) The sky teaches us to be —
(i) honest (ii) sincere liberal (iv) courageous
- (d) Imparting education to the common mass leads a community to —
(i) meanness (ii) backward prosperity (iv) humanity
- (e) The term 'self confidence' is an outcome of —
 education (ii) earning and success
(iii) establishment (iv) wealth
- (f) The wind inspires us to be —
(i) punctual industrious (iii) virtuous (iv) disciplined
- (g) The word 'function' refers to —
 to work (ii) to know (iii) to think (iv) to analyze
- (h) The passage describes —
(i) the expense of education the purpose of education
(iii) the scholars of education (iv) the institution of education
- (i) What does the word 'competencies' refers to —
(i) energies (ii) powers capabilities (iv) vitalities
- (j) Education supports us to choose —
(i) profit from loss (ii) wrong from right
 right from wrong (iv) vice from virtue

B. Answer the following questions :

3×5=15

- (a) What does education provide us?
(b) Does education influence us in thinking? How?
(c) Do you believe that education leads the path to socialization? How?
(d) How do we obtain the ability to manage our affairs well?
(e) Elucidate the role of nature as our "friend, philosopher and guide."

2. Based on your reading of the passage, make short notes in each of the boxes in the flow-chart showing the information about Sheikh Kamal's passion for sports and cultural activities : (No. 1 has been done for you.)

1×5=5

Sheikh Kamal, the eldest son of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Bangamata Fazilatunnesa Mujib, was born at Tungipara in Gopalganj district. He spent his childhood there. Kamal received his secondary education at Dhaka's BAF Shaheen school from where he passed his SSC examination. He was then admitted to Dhaka college, and after his HSC Examination, he became a student at the department of sociology of Dhaka University. Kamal had a colourful life marked by liveliness and creativity. Besides his academic studies, he also pursued his passion for sports and cultural activities. He was a first division

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basketball and cricket player as well as a sports organizer. He was also interested in classical music, and became a student of Chhayanaut to learn Sitar under the tutelage of Ustad Ful Mohammad. Apart from Sitar, Kamal had a passion for Piano. He had a good collection of musical instruments on the second floor of their house at Dhanmondi, Road no. 32.

Marks

It is well known to his friends that Sheikh Kamal used to begin his day practising the Sitar and during the day played basketball or football or cricket. In the evening, he was often seen on stage rehearsing a play. He took part in stage performance of Kabar written by prominent play wright Shaheed Munir Chowdhury.

Kamal was one of the founders of Dhaka Theatre. He was also a founder of Spondon Shilpi Gosthi a cultural organization. And who doesn't know that Sheikh Kamal was the founder of Abahoni' Krira Chokro that introduced modern football in our country.

1. lover of classical music → 2 → 3 → 4 → 5 → 6

2. player of basketball and cricket

3. student of Chhayanaut/learner of Sitar

4. holder of a good collection of musical instruments

5. performer of 'Kabar' play

6. founder of Dhaka Theatre/founder of Spondon Shilpi Gosthi/founder of Abahoni Krira Chokro

3. Write a summary of the following text :

1×10=10

Hold fast to dreams
For if dreams die
Life is a broken-winged bird
That cannot fly.
Hold fast to dreams
For when dreams go
Life is a barren field
Frozen with snow.

4. Read the following text and fill in the blanks with suitable words from the box. There are more words than necessary. Make any grammatical change if necessary :

0.5×10=5

from	hand	good	ask	is	towards
questions	even	no	change	part	depend

Hospitality has long been a (a) _____ of our culture in Bangladesh. Although many other things are (b) _____. Now, people are still quite polite and friendly (c) _____ foreigners. They like speaking to foreigners (d) _____ if they have not been introduced. It is quite common for Bangladesh is to (e) _____ personal questions about family, jobs and income which visitors (f) _____ overseas might find awkward. However, it should be understood that (g) _____ harm is meant by such (h) _____. On the other (i) _____, they express a genuine interest in the foreigner's state of affairs. The whole country has a fairly (j) _____ communication network now.

Ans: (a) part; (b) changing (c) towards; (d) even; (e) ask;
(f) from; (g) no; (h) questions; (i) hand; (j) good;

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5. Fill in the blanks with a appropriate word in each gap : 1×10=10
Kuakata is a rare scenic spot (a) — in Patuakhali district about 320 km (b) — Dhaka. It is a famous (c) — destination because of the picturesque (d) — beauty, sandy beaches, blue sky and the shimmering expanse of water of the Bay of Bengal and the evergreen (e) — . The name Kuakata (f) — from the digging of a well (kua) by the early Rakhaines for (g) — water. Kuakata allows its visitors to (h) — both sunrise and sunset from the (i) — . Gentle and sandy slopes make it (j) — for bathing, swimming and diving.

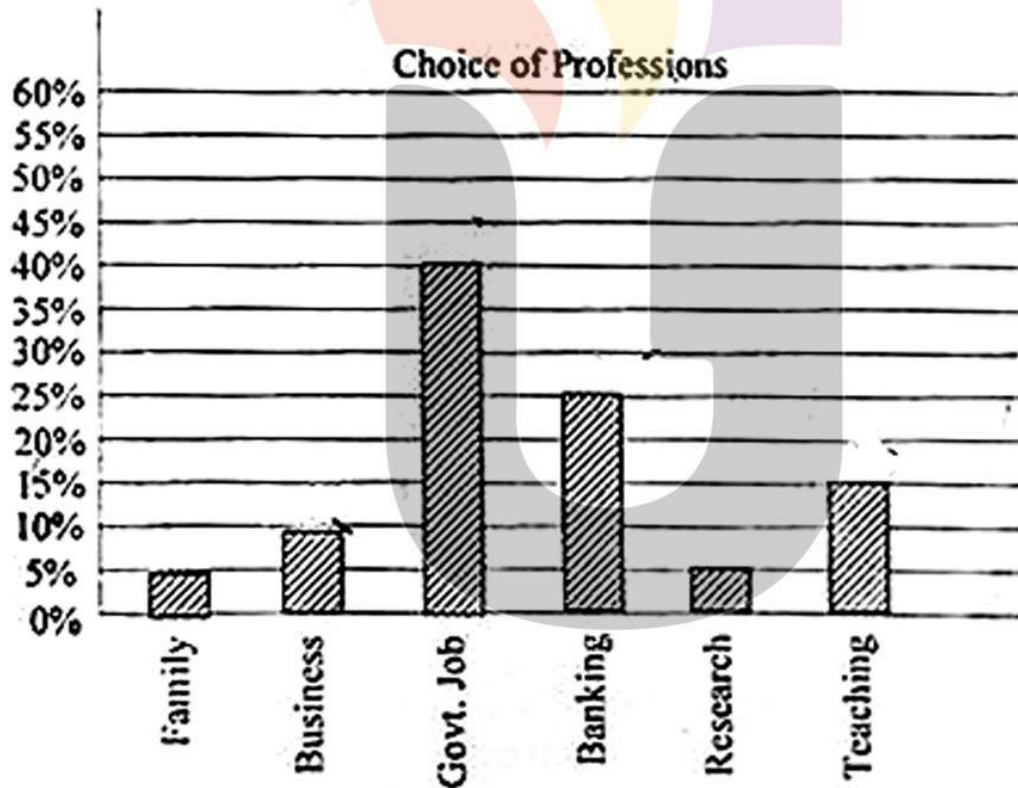
Ans: (a) situated; (b) from; (c) tourist; (d) natural; (e) forest;
(f) originates; (g) collecting; (h) watch; (i) beach; (j) pleasant

6. Rearrange the following sentences to make a coherent order : 1×10=10
(a) The grapes were too high for him to reach.
(b) One day he was very hungry.
(c) Again and again he jumped.
(d) At last he entered into a vineyard.
(e) Once upon a time, there lived a fox in a forest.
(f) At last being tired, he went away saying that the grapes were sour.
(g) But each time, he failed to reach the grapes.
(h) He took a run and jumped to reach the bunch of grapes but could not reach it.
(i) He searched for food everywhere but he did not get any food.
(j) There were ripe grapes hanging up on the vine.

Ans: e + b + i + d + j + a + h + c + g + f

Part 2—Writing Test Marks—10

7. The graph chart shows the choice of profession by educated people in our country. Now describe the chart highlighting important points : 15



8. The following is the beginning of a story. Complete it in your own words : 15
Once there lived a wood cutter. He was very poor but honest. He lived on the bank of a river near a jungle. He used to cut wood
9. Write a letter to your friend congratulating him/her on his/her getting first prize in English debate competition. 10