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Sample Question Prepared by NCTB for Question Setters and Markers

English Second Paper

Full marks : 100 **Time : 3 hours**

[Answer all the questions. Figures in the margin indicate full marks]

Part A : Grammar

1. Fill in the blanks in the following texts with articles (a/ an/ the) as necessary. Some of the blanks may not require an article. Put a cross (×) in those blanks. .5 × 10 = 5

In (a) — twenty-first century (b) — number of undesirable practices have emerged as mobile phone usage spreads into everyday life. In (c) — workplace, employers report that many members of their staff use (d) — individually owned mobile phone to socialize during work hours. It results in (e) — loss of productive work time and effort. In social settings, people comment that they are irritated by (f) — intrusion of mobile phone conversations in (g) — restaurants, theatres and other public venues. Another worrying trend is that face to face social interaction seems to have been taken over by (h) — mobile phone devices. For example, (i) — analysis of (j) — survey of 2000 teenagers reveals that 93 percent of to-days youth terminate relationships by voice mail or text messages.

2. Complete the text with suitable preposition. .5 × 10 = 5

Uluru is located (a) — central Australia. The place is also known (b) — Ayers Rock (c) — honour (d) — Sir Henry Ayers, who was a Premier (e) — South Australia (f) — 1873. Uluru is listed (g) — a World Heritage Area (h) — both its natural and cultural values. It is a sacred place (i) — the Aboriginal people (j) — the area.

3. Complete the sentences with suitable phrase/ words given in the box. .5 × 10 = 5

there	what does...look like	let alone	as soon as	was born
have to	what's it like	would rather	as if	had better

(a) In England, most school children — wear a uniform. Is it the same in Bangladesh?
(b) I — take a taxi than walk home. It's already too late.
(c) We — take an umbrella. It may rain.
(d) I can't remember the title of the book, — the details of the story. I read it many years ago.
(e) I don't like Tamanna's attitude. She speaks in a way — she knew everything. She should show respect to others.
(f) The tennis match restarted — the rain had stopped. It was a great relief for the spectators.
(g) — living in Hawaiian style? You seem to be very happy with your life in Hawaii.
(h) Baby : Mom, — does a ghost —?
Mom : Sorry dear, no idea. I had never been to any Ghost Island.
(i) Long ago, — lived a mighty warrior, Kubla Khan. He built an amazing alabaster palace in a deep, dark, and mysterious forest.
(j) Socrates was a great Greek philosopher. He — in 469 BC. He spoke against the traditional Greek beliefs and so he was sentenced to death by drinking hemlock.

4. Complete the sentences using suitable clauses/ phrases. .5 × 10 = 5

(a) Rangamati is very busy now. But don't worry. If I find any good hotel, —.
(b) I couldn't understand the chemistry lesson today. I would understand the lecture better if the teacher —.
(c) My cousin, Mohua is going to Cox's Bazar on vacation. If I were she, I —.
(d) Bangladesh is one of the worst victims of climate change. The climate is getting hotter because of —.
(e) Whenever I go out for a walk, —. I know many people don't like this.
(f) I shall stay here until —. I do not want to take any risk.
(g) The shoes were so expensive that —. I didn't have sufficient money with me.
(h) Her voice was too low for the people at the back to —. The organisers should have arranged sound system.
(i) London was a new city for us. We hired a bus so that —.
(j) As I've already completed my studies, — . I need money.

5. Read the text and fill in the gaps with the correct form of verbs as per subject and context.

.5 × 10 = 5

Mr Mojumder (a) — (be) an English teacher for last 15 years. We are his students now. Earlier we (b) — (have) another teacher, Mr Sarker. We never (c) — (see) him smiling. He (d) — (not, explain) anything to us. We really (e) — (feel) bored in his class. However, Mr Mojumder (f) — (change) our class with his nice attitude. Every day he (g) — (involve) us in pairwork and groupwork. We have a presentation in English on Monday. We (h) —

(present) survey findings on Tobacco Consumption. For last few days we (i) — (work) hard for a smart presentation. My team (j) — (decide) to do a power point presentation.

6. Read the text and change the sentences as directed. $1 \times 5 = 5$

Taimur was one of the greatest conquerors of the world. (a) Once Taimur attacked the province of a powerful prince (Make it passive). (b) He entered the kingdom of the prince and captured a large village (Make a question). (c) As soon as the prince heard the news, he came with a large army (Make it a negative sentence without changing the meaning). (d) The village was surrounded from all sides (Make it active). Taimur was defeated. (e) Taimur disguised himself as a poor traveler to survive (Make it a complex sentence).

7. Change the narrative style by using direct speeches. 05

Don Quixote asked Sancho to see those thirty huge giants towering over the plain. He commented that he would do the world a great service if he rid it of such cruel and greedy monsters as those giants always were. Wondering Sancho asked what giants he (Don Quixote) was talking about. Don, his master replied that those were straight before him with the long outstretched arms.

With great respect Sancho replied that the standing elements ahead were not giants, those were windmills. And the arms were nothing but the sails which could turn when the wind blew to make the mills go.

8. Identify the unclear pronoun references in the following paragraph. Where necessary, rewrite the sentence so that all pronoun references are clear. 5

At the Writing Centre, you can receive help on any writing assignment. It can make your writing stronger by discussing it with someone else. This will lead to a greater understanding of the proper mechanics and style expected in academic writing. This is an important part of the writing process, and they spend a good deal of time making sure you understand the expectations of written assignments. Using it will definitely make your writing skills stronger, and that will give you greater confidence for your next assignment.

9. Read the following text and use modifiers as directed in the blank spaces. $0.5 \times 10 = 5$

I experienced a very interesting incident (a) — (Post-modify the verb.) on my way to Dinajpur. My friend Tamalika, (b) — (post-modify the noun with an appositive.) was driving. A cow was crossing the road but suddenly in the middle of the road it stopped and remained standing. In a minute Tamalika had to change her course but she didn't have (c) — (pre-modify the noun.) time and space to do that. Tamalika tried to turn in the left when the cow too walked (d) — (post-modify the verb.) back a few steps. To save (e) — (Use a demonstrative to pre-modify the noun.) cow Tamalika had to move in the right. She lost her control and bumped the car with a (f) — (Use a noun adjective to pre-modify the noun.) tree. (g) — (Use a participle to pre-modify the verb.) Tamalika was shocked but she was (h) — (Use an intensifier to pre-modify the adjective.) happy (i) — (Use an infinitive phrase to post-modify the verb). She patted the (j) — (Pre-modify the noun) cow and burst into laughter.

10. Use appropriate sentence connectors in the blank spaces of the following passage. $.5 \times 10 = 5$

We earned our independence in nine months. There were many reasons that made our victory easier. (a) — we all were united at one point. (b) — it was a question of our survival and dignity. (c) — our freedom fighters were committed. They fought valiantly in the war fields. (d) — we had huge international support. (e) — the Pakistani soldiers didn't have any noble reason before them. They were killers. They were not natives of this country. (f) — they didn't have sufficient ideas about the communication systems, weather, or people's sentiment in this country. (g) — they had two superpowers behind them. (h) — these superpowers could do very little directly for them. (i) — only in nine months the Pakistani soldiers had to accept the worst defeat the world had ever experienced. (j) — it can be said, the war of independence proved that no power can suppress the desire of the mass people.

11. Read the passage and then write the antonym or synonym of the words as directed below.

$.5 \times 10 = 5$

My feet <u>failed</u> to find a <u>suitable</u> <u>crevice</u> and I fell. My hands burned red as I slid down the <u>rough</u> rope, and the coarse strip of leather <u>wrapped</u> around my waist, bit in hard. At the top of the cliff face, at the <u>gateway</u> to the Debra Damo Monastery, an Ethiopian Priest sat with his legs jammed up against either side of the rock-hewn <u>entrance</u>; wrapped around his muscular arms was the other end of the leather <u>strap</u> that had kept me from crashing down below. Further up still, in the <u>piercing</u> blue sky above the <u>jagged</u> mountain, valtures circled around the 6th century stone church.

(a) fail (antonym) (b) suitable (antonym) (c) crevice (synonym) (d) rough (antonym) (e) wrap (antonym) (f) gateway (synonym) (g) entrance (antonym) (h) strap (synonym) (i) piercing (synonym) (j) jagged (synonym)

12. There are ten errors in the use of punctuation marks in the following text. Rewrite the text correcting the errors. $.5 \times 10 = 5$

Marie : You're really fit Paul. Do you exercise very much?

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Paul : Well I almost always get up early and I lift weight for an hour.
Marie : You're kidding
Paul : No. And then go swimming.
Marie : Wow How often do you exercise like that?
Paul : About five times a week. What about you?
Marie : Oh I hardly ever exercise. I usually just watch TV in my free time. Often my mom says Marie darling, dont be a potato couch.

Part B : Composition

13. You are the Secretary of the Sports Club of your college. Read the following e-mail sent by a sports dealer and write a reply requesting him to supply you some sports materials for college. 08

Dear Sir

*We are pleased to inform you that **Modern Sports Company** has recently produced some sports materials locally. We supply these materials to the educational institutes around the country as we offer our products with a good price. Besides, **Modern Sports Company** ensures its clients to supply the best quality products.*

We here attach the specifications of our products for your further interest. Please contact us if you wish to get our products for your institution.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely yours

Shahedul Alam
Manager
Modern Sports Company
Panthapath, Dhaka

14. Suppose you are the District Correspondent of a National English Daily published from Dhaka. You have just covered a road accident in your area. Write a news report of about 120 words. Give a title to your report. 08

15. Write a paragraph comparing and contrasting the types of entertainment in the rural and urban areas in Bangladesh. Use 100–150 words. 10

16. Is freedom of speech necessary in a free society? Give reasons for your answer. Write at least 200 words but don't exceed 250 words. 14

Solution to Sample Question

1. (a) the (b) a (c) the (d) an (e) × (f) the (g) × (h) the (i) an (j) a

2. (a) in (b) as (c) in (d) of (e) of (f) in (g) as (h) for (i) to (j) in

3. (a) have to (b) would rather (c) had better (d) let alone (e) as if (f) as soon as (g) What's it like (h) What does ..... look like? (i) there (j) was born

4. (a) If I find any good hotel, I'll contact you immediately.
(b) I would understand the lecture better if the teacher explained the points with more examples.
(c) If I were she, I would go to Srimongol.
(d) The climate is getting hotter because of the greenhouse effect.
(e) Whenever I go out for a walk, I take my umbrella with me.
(f) I shall stay here until you come back.
(g) The shoes were so expensive that I could not buy them.
(h) Her voice was too low for the people at the back to hear.
(i) We hired a bus so that we could enjoy a hassle free tour round the city.
(j) As I've already completed my studies, I'm thinking of applying for a full time position.

5. (a) has been (b) had (c) saw (d) did not explain (e) felt (f) has changed (g) involves (h) will present (i) have

been working (j) has decided

6. (a) Once the province of a powerful prince was attacked by Taimur.
(b) What did he do when he entered the kingdom of the prince?
(c) No sooner had the prince heard the news than he came with a large army.
(d) Army surrounded the village on all sides.
(e) Taimur disguised himself as a poor traveler so that he could survive.

7. "See Sancho," said Don Quixote, "See those thirty huge giants towering over the plain! I shall do the world a great service if I rid it of such cruel and greedy monsters as those giants always are." "What giants?" asked Sancho staring about him.
"Why, those straight before you, with the long outstretched arms," his master replied.
"O Sir," said Sancho, "those are not giants which are standing up there, but windmills. And their arms are nothing but the sails, which turn round when the wind blows and make the mills go."

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9. (a) last week (b) a famous athlete (c) enough (d) slowly (e) that (f) jackfruit (g) Seeing the damage in her new car (h) very (i) to save the cow (j) naughty

10. (a) Firstly (b) Besides (c) Moreover (d) Not only that (e) On the other hand (f) Hence (g) True that (h) However (i) As a result (j) Finally

11. (a) succeed (b) unsuitable (c) crack (d) smooth (e) unwrap (f) entrance (g) departure (h) band (i) sharp (j) pointed

12. Marie : You're really fit, Paul. Do you exercise very much?
Paul : Well, I almost always get up early, and I lift weight for an hour.
Marie : You're kidding!
Paul : No. And then go swimming.
Marie : Wow! How often do you exercise like that?
Paul : About five times a week. What about you?
Marie : Oh, I hardly ever exercise. I usually just watch TV in my free time. Often my mom says, "Marie darling, don't be a potato couch."

13. Dear Sir
I am pleased to place the following order with you in view of the Annual Sports Meet to be held in the first week of August. Kindly send the goods latest by the 28th of this month. Please also see that the goods supplied by you are of good quality and in accordance with the specifications quoted by you earlier.

Serial No.	**Items with description**	**Quantity**
1.	Cricket balls	2 dozen
2.	Badminton rackets	1 dozen
3.	Shuttle cocks (duck feather)	5 boxes
4.	Hockey sticks	32
5.	Volleyballs	1 dozen
6.	Footballs	1 dozen
7.	Badmintion nets	3

The goods should be neatly packed and the parcel should be addressed to the Principal of the College. Payment will be made immediately after the parcel is received.

Yours faithfully

Shudip Barua
Secretary, Sports Club
Model Town College,
Srimangal, Sylhet

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14. **Three Killed in Road Crashes**

GOPALGANJ, June 7 : Three people were killed and 30 others injured when a bus plunged into a roadside ditch on the Dhaka-Dinajpur Highway at Sirajgonj early Saturday. The deceased were identified as Fouzia Shikder, 60, son of Lal Mia Shikder of Keshabpur in Netrakona district, Khokon Mallik, 28, son of Shobhan Mallik of Bashgram in Kushtia district, and Wadud Ali Mridha, 70, son of Ashik Ali Mridha of Ishwardi in Pabna district.

Locals, said the accident took place in the area around 3:30 am when a Dinajpur-bound 'Tapan Paribahan' bus from Dhaka skidded off into a roadside ditch, leaving three people killed on the spot and 30 others injured. The injured were rushed to Sirajgonj General Hospital. Being informed, police recovered the bodies and sent those to the same hospital morgue for autopsy.

15. (The answer will vary and so model answer is not given)

16. (Answer will vary here and so model answer is not given)