HSC-2026 Examination • English 2nd Paper

Set—1

Time: 3 Hours | Full Mark: 100

Part A: Grammar (60 Marks)

1. Use articles where necessary. Put cross (×) where an article is not needed. 0.5×10=5

My mother is (a) ----- ideal housewife. She is (b) ----- affectionate lady. She manages (c) ----- family very nicely. She hopes to see me happy at (d) ----- cost of her own life. She does not enjoy (e) ----- wink of sleep if I fall sick. She is very kind to (f) ----- poor. She is also (g) ----- very religious lady. She advises us to follow (h) ----- path of truth and honesty. (i) ----- woman like her is very rare. She bears a good moral (j) ----- character.

2. Complete the text with suitable prepositions. 0.5 ×10 = 5

Some people get pleasure (a) ----- reading books. Reading books is a good habit. The pleasure (b) ----- reading books is different (c) ----- the pleasure of hearing songs. Books are our best companion (d) ----- life. Reading books keeps us free (e) ----- tension and anxiety. It gives relief (f) ----- a while (g) ----- our monotonous life. So, all (h) ----- us should develop the habit (i) ----- reading books (j) ----- pleasure,

3. Complete the sentences with suitable phrase/words given in the box. 0.5 ×10 = 5

No sooner had	unless	what does .... look like	in order to	as if
what if	there	let alone	was born	it

(a) Accessibility to higher education in our country is very difficult. Students must work hard ----- get themselves admitted into universities.
(b) Time is very important in our life. You cannot prosper in life ----- you make the best use of time.
(c) The students were talking in the class. ----- the teacher entered the class than they stopped talking.
(d) He proceeded ----- he had never seen me. His behaviour shocked me.
(e) The man is very weak. He cannot walk a mile, ----- five miles.
(f) I'm in short of time. ----- the train is late?
(g) Once ----- lived a farmer. He had four sons.
(h) Have you seen a camel? ----- it ----- ?
(i) ----- is unfortunate that many students spoil their time by using Facebook.
(j) Joynul Abedin was a great artist. He in ----- Kishoregonj.

4. Complete the sentences with suitable clauses/phrases. 0.5 ×10 = 5

(a) John is fond of reading. Whenever he goes to the book fair, -----. He has a good collection now.
(b) We've got plenty of chairs. We don't need any more. You may take any one -----.
(c) Rupa didn't notice the sign even though -----. So, she stopped a stranger for help.
(d) Knowledge is very useful but -----. Strong determination is required for acquiring it.
(e) He was so ill that -----. We immediately decided to shift him a hospital.
(f) Corruption is present in almost every sphere of our life. It hinders all the development efforts. It is high time -----.
(g) It is true that most of the parents in our country are not interested to -----. Hence, the rate of female education is not so high in Bangladesh.

(h) My mother was a philanthropist. She loved to live among the poor villagers so that -----.

(i) James heard noise in front of his house. As he opened the door, -----. They were playing in the yard.

(j) Salam is good at all of his subjects except English. He cannot compete with his classmates because of -----.

5. Read the text and fill in the gaps with the correct form of verbs as per subject and context. 0.5 ×10 = 5

Newspaper (a) ----- (consider) the people's parliament. The newspaper (b) ----- (play) a vital role in modern civilization. It (c) ----- (call) to be the mirror of the world. We must (d) ----- (develop) the habit of (e) ----- (read) newspaper daily. helps us (f) ----- (acquire) general knowledge, which (g) ----- (be) essential for our education. Nobody (h) ----- contact with the outside world without reading the newspaper. Mere bookish knowledge (i) ----- (be) not sufficienti the struggle of life. A man who (j) ----- (read) the newspaper daily is like a creature of the narrow well. (maintain)

6. Read the text and change the following sentences as directed. 1×5 = 5

Success never comes automatically. (a) We work hard to attain success in our life. (Complex) (b) Peace and prosperity is not possible without being industrious. (Affirmative) (c) A man who leads an idle life, brings misery for his life. (Simple) (d) He can never help the people of the society. (Passive) Such kind of man is the burden on the society. (e) Everybodz abhors him. (Negative)

7. Change the narrative style by using indirect speeches. 5

"My sons," said he, "A great treasure lies hidden in the estate. I am about to leave you." "Where is it hidden?" said the sons. "I am about to tell you," said the old man. "But you must dig the land for it."

8. Identify the unclear pronoun references in the following paragraph. Where necessary, rewrite the sentence so that ali pronoun references are clear. 1×5 = 5

Education is the birth right of every man. But even then many people in our country are deprived of this for many reasons. They are unconscious and unskilled for want of it. For this, they are unable not only to develop their own fate or their family, but also unable to play any role for the development of society or the state. If the people are n properly educated, that is not possible. So, the more we can educate our people, the more the country will be developed. With a view to developing human resource, the government has given many incentives in the field of expanding the primary and the secondary education. We must ensure these for every child of the country.

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

Long ago there was an (a) **-----** (pre-modify the noun) king in England. He was tired of ruling and needed rest. He had (b) **-----** (pre-modify the noun with a quantifier) daughters Goneril, Regan and Cordelia. He made up his mind (c) **-----** (post-modify the verb with an infinitive phrase) among his daughters. But he first wanted (d) **-----** (post-modify the verb with an infinitive) how much they loved him. At first the king asked his (e) **-----** (pre-modify the noun) daughter how much she loved him. Goneril declared that she loved him (f) **-----** (use an intensifier to modify the verb) than she could say. The king was (g) **-----** (pre-modify the adjective with an adverb) satisfied. He gave her one third of the kingdom. Then he asked his (h) **-----** (pre-modify the noun) daughter Regan. She replied that her love for him would never change. She was able (i) **-----** (post-modify the

adjective with an infinitive) him. So the king gave her another third of his kingdom. Then it was the turn of Cordelia, the (j) ----- (pre-modify the noun with an adjective) daughter of the king.

10. Use appropriate sentence connectors in the blank spaces of the following passage. 0.5×10=5

Early rising is one of the best habits (a) ----- a man can possess. No doubt, the benefits of early rising are many. (b) -----, if we get up early, we can get enough time to work. (c) -----, we can enjoy the fresh air of the morning which refreshes our bodz and mind. (d) -----, we can take some exercises or a walk. (e) -----, in the morning nature smiles with colourful flowers and chirping of birds. (f) -----, if we do not get up early in the morning, we will suffer a lot. (g) -----, we do not have enough time to do our work. (h) -----, we cannot finish our work in time. (i) -----, we can never enjoy the freshness of nature. (j) -----, we should make a habit of early rising.

11. Read the passage and then write the antonym or synonym of the words as directed below. 0.5×10=5

Books are men's best <u>friends</u> in life. You may have many good friends but you do not find them when you <u>need</u> them. They may not always come to you with <u>sympathy</u>. Some may prove true or some may prove <u>false</u> and do you much <u>harm</u>. But books are always ready to be your side. Some books will make you <u>laugh</u>, some others will give you much <u>pleasure</u>. Again, some books will <u>bring</u> new knowledge and <u>ideas</u>. They are ever friends throughout your life.

(a) friend (antonym); (b) need (antonym); (c) sympathy (synonym); (d) prove (synonym); (e) false (antonym); (f) harm (antonym); (g) laugh (antonym); (h) pleasure (synonym); (i) bring (synonym); (j) idea (synonym).

12. There are ten errors in the use of punctuation marks in the following text. Rewrite the text correcting the errors. 0.5×10=5

Laila: I cant see anything. Where am I?
Aunt: Youre safe in your aunts house. Whats the matter?
Laila: I'm afraid I can hear a sound.
Aunt: But I cant.
Laila: Listen again can you hear it now?
Aunt: Yes, I can.
Laila: Is it a ghost?
Aunt: No, its only an owl.
Laila Owl But it makes a horrible sound.
Aunt: It's a bird only, dear.
Laila Could you sleep with me?
Aunt Okay. Now go to sleep
Laila. You're very tired After your long journey.
Laila: You're right.

Part B: Composition (40 Marks)

13. Suppose, you are Adeeb/Adeeba and studying at ABC College in Chattogram. Now, on behalf of the students of your college, write an application to the Principal seeking his permission to go on a study tour. 8

14. Suppose, you are a reporter of The Daily Observer. You have recently witnessed a massive fire on a garment factory. Now, write a report on it about 120 words. Give a title to your report. 8
15. Write a paragraph on Drug Addiction mentioning its causes and effects on the society. Use 150 words. 10
16. As we grow older, we like to recollect the memories of our childhood days. Now, write a short composition that tells about your childhood memories. Write at least 200 words but don't exceed 250 words. 14

Answer Sheet

1. (a) an; (b) an; (c) the; (d) the; (e) a; (f) the; (g) a; (h) the; (i) A (j) x.
2. (a) from; (b) of; (c) from; (d) in; (e) from; (f) for; (g) from; (h) of; (i) of; (j) for.
3. (a) in order to; (b) unless; (c) No sooner had: (d) as if (e) let alone; (f) What if; (g) there; (h) What does... look like; (i) It; (j) was born.
4. (a) Whenever he goes to the hook fair, he buys a number of books,
   (b) You may take any one of these chairs if you need.
   (c) Rupa didn't notice the sign even though it was right in front of her.
   (d) Knowledge is very useful but not everyone can acquire it.
   (e) He was so ill that he fainted.
   (f) It is high time we stood against it.
   (g) It is true that most of the parents in our country are not interested to send their daughters to school.
   (h) She loved to live among the poor villagers so that she could do good to them.
   (i) As he opened the door, he saw some children.
   (j) He cannot compete with his classmates because of his weakness in English.
5. (a) is considered; (b) plays; (c) is called; (d) develop; (e) reading; (f) acquire/to acquire; (g) is; (h) can maintain; (i) is; (j) does not read.
6. (a) We work hard so that we can attain success in our life.
   (b) Peace and prosperity is impossible without being industrious.
   (c) Leading an idle life, a man brings misery for his life./A man leading an idle life brings misery for his life./An idle man brings misery for his life.
   (d) The people of the society can never be helped by him.
   (e) Nobody likes him./ There is nobody but abhors him.
7. The old man affectionately told his sons that a great treasure lay hidden in the estate and added that he was about to leave them. The sons asked him where it was hidden. He replied that he was about to tell them, but they had to dig the land for it.
8. Education is the birth right of every man. But even then many people in our country are deprived of education/this right for many reasons. They are unconscious and unskilled for want of education. For this reason/want of education, they are unable not only to develop their own fate or their family but also unable to play any role for the development of society or the state. If the people are not properly educated the development of the country is not possible. So, the more we can educate our people, the more the country will be developed. With a view to developing human resource, the government has given many incentives in the field of expanding the primary and the secondary education. We must ensure these incentives for every child of the country.

9. (a) old/aged; (b) three; (c) to divide his kingdom; (d) to know; (e) eldest; (f) more; (g) very/highly; (h) second; (i) to please; (j) youngest.
10. (a) that; (b) For example; (c) Then/Also; (d) Besides; (e) Moreover; (g) On the other hand/ On the contrary; (g) Firstly; (h) Consequently/As a result; (i) Secondly; (j) So/Therefore.
11. (a) enemy/foe; (b) ignore/avoid; (c) compassion/love; (d) appear/seem; (e) real/genuine; (f) help/favour; (g) cry; (h) joy/delight; (i) give/provide; (j) view/concept.
12. Laila: I can't see anything. Where am I?
    Aunt: You're safe in your aunt's house. What's the matter?
    Laila: I'm afraid. I can hear a sound.
    Aunt: But I can't.
    Laila: Listen again! Can you hear it now?
    Aunt: Yes, I can.
    Laila: Is it a ghost?
    Aunt: No, it's only an owl.
    Laila: Owl? But it makes a horrible sound.
    Aunt: It's a bird only, dear.
    Laila: Could you sleep with me?
    Aunt: Okay. Now go to sleep, Laila. You're very tired after your long journey.
    Laila: You're right.

●***Note:*** For writing part solution, see the folder name 'Writing Part' in Google drive.
