HSC-2026 Examination • English 2nd Paper

Set—10

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

The process of globalization obviously requires (a) ----- common language for international (b) ----- communication. For many different reasons, English has achieved (c) ----- prestige of being that (d) ----- language because it is (e) ----- international language. It is no longer (f) ----- unique possession of the British or the Americans or other native-speakers, but (g) -----language that belongs to (h) ----- world's people. This phenomenon has led to (i) ----- bewildering variety of (j) ----- English around us.

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

Speaking ill (a) ----- others is a very bad human habit. It develops a negative tendency (b) ----- one's mind. tempts one to indulge (c) ----- a negative approach out of his unsound mind. It leaves bad effects (d) ----- human individuals and society. Sometimes, it hampers the happy and smooth run (e) ----- the society. Sometimes, people burst (f) ----- tears for this. They never think (g) ----- dying (h) ----- others or praise others' activities and they themselves remain blind (i) ----- their own faults. Above all, their bad habit wastes their invaluable time (j) ----- nothing.

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

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

(a) I met him ten years ago. I can hardly recall his name, ----- his address,
(b) ----- has been many years since I saw him. So, I cannot recognize him.
(c) Don't behave ----- you knew everything. Remember, all others here are senior to you.
(d) You ----- build your own house than live in a rented house. House rent has increased much nowadays.
(e) Give him the good news ----- you meet him.
(f) ----- are many rivers in Bangladesh. The rivers abound with plenty of fishes.
(g) ----- I had a typewriter, I would type well.
(h) You ----- consult with a doctor. The condition of your health may deteriorate.
(i) ----- he -----? He is friendly and he can help you.
(j) Time is over. I ----- go now.

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

(a) Sound pollution is very severe in big cities. If we fail to control sound pollution ------.
(b) No sooner had I got down from the train -----. There were some important things in the luggage.
(c) Faisal got a scholarship. He opened a bank account so that -----.
(d) He came to my room while -----. He didn't wake me up.
(e) The poem is too difficult for the students -----. They couldn't but memorize it.
(f) Birds fly in the sky. I wish -----.
(g) It is high time -----. It is detrimental to health.
(h) Life should not be considered -----. It is full of sorrows and sufferings.

(i) Though it rained yesterday , -----. There was an urgent task.

(j) My final examination nation is going on. I studied hard lest-----.

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

Parents (a) ----- (be) the blessings of God to us. When a child (b) ----- (bear), their joys (c) ----- (know) no They begin to (d) ----- (start) (e) ----- (think) of (f) ----- (nurse) and (g) ----- (bring) up their child. Children (h) ----- (remain) safe under the custodz of their parents since their birth. Parents never mind (i) ----- (take) pains for the upbringing of their offspring's. We (j) ----- (offend) our parents.

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

(a) Long ago, there was a king who was very wise (Make it simple), (b) People called him wise Solomon it passive). (c) Actually, at that time he was the wisest of all (Make it comparative). (d) There was another ruler also named Queen of Sheba (Make it complex). (e) One day, she thought Solomon's wisdom should not remain untested (Make it affirmative).

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

"How much do you want?" said the Mayor. "A thousand guilders," said the Pied Piper. "Alright", said the Mayor. "We'll pay you a thousand guilders. When will you set to work?" "Now," said the Pied Piper.

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

If we want to succeed in life, one must remember the wise saying that time and tide wait for none. They never stop their onward march, rather, they continue to move on giving no particular attention to us. It cannot be stopped by any kind of request. Therefore, for the sake of their welfare, we should never waste even a single moment in vain. This will cost us a lot and we will not be able to reach the goal of our life.

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

Once there lived a (a) ----- (pre-modify the noun) wood cutter. But he was (b) ----- (use an intensifier to pre-modify the adjective) honest. He earned his livelihood by cutting wood and selling them in the market. One day while he was cutting wood near a pond, suddenly (c) ----- (use possessive to pre-modify the noun) axe slipped from his hand and fell into the water and (d) ----- (pre-modify the conjunction) after it sank at the bottom of the pond. The wood cutter could not find any way how he would get back his axe. He sat by the side of the pond (e) ----- (post-modify the verb). He was thinking without the axe how he would cut wood and maintain (f) ----- (use possessive to pre-modify the noun) family. Then a (g) ----- (pre-modify the noun) incident happened. A (h) ----- (pre-modifz the noun) fairy was passing near the pond. She saw the wood cutter (i) ----- (use present participle to post-modify the noun) by the pond with a pale face. She asked him with a sweet voice, "Why are you (j) ----- (use an intensifier to pre-modify the adjective) sad? What happened?"

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

Unemployment is a great curse. (a) ----- all the countries of the world suffer from the curse. (b) ----- nowhere in the world, this problem is so acute as in our country. (c) ----- there are many reasons behind it. (d) -----, our country is industrially backward. (e) ----- our traditional education system is not service oriented. (f) -----, our students and youths

have false sense of dignity. (g) -----, they run after jobs only. (h) -----, unemployment problem should be removed at any cost. (i) ----- our education system should be changed. (j) ----- more mills and factories should be established.

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

Illiteracy is a (a) curse (antonym). It is the root (b) cause (synonym) of (c) ignorance (antonym) which (d) frustrates (synonym) all (e) development (synonym) efforts of the government. No development effort can (f) succeed (synonym) unless illiteracy is (g) eradicated (antonym). Eradication of illiteracy in a country like Bangladesh with so (h) vast (antonym) a population is (i) undoubtedly (synonym) a (j) gigantic (antonym) task.

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

Student: Excuse me sir. May I come in?
Teacher: Yes come in.
Student: Thank you sir.
Teacher: What can I do for you.
Student: Would you kindly make me clear about the use of this punctuation mark.
Teacher: Didnt you attend my class yesterday?
Student: No sir. I did not come.
Teacher: Why? You must not miss any class.
Student: Ill never miss any class sir.

Part B: Composition (40 Marks)

13. Write an application to Principal requesting him to set up a Literary Club in your college. 8
14. Suppose, you are a district correspondent of a national daily. Now, write a report on the devastating consequences of Drug Addiction. 8
15. Write a paragraph on 'The Importance of Female Education'. 10
16. Write a short composition on 'Patriotism'. 14

Answer Sheet

1. (a) a; (b) x; (c) the; (d) x; (e) an; (f) a; (g) a; (h) the; (i) a; (j) x.
2. (a) of; (b) in; (c) in; (d) on; (e) of; (f) into; (g) of/about; (h) for; (i) to; (j) for.
3. (a) let alone; (b) It; (c) as if; (d) would rather, (e) as soon as; (f) There; (g) If; (h) had better; (i) What's... like; (j) have to.
4. (a) If we fail to control sound pollution, the city dwellers may suffer from hearing loss./we have to suffer a lot.
   (b) No sooner had I got down from the train than I lost my luggage.
   (c) He opened a bank account so that he could save some money. (d) He came to my room while I was sleeping.
   (e) The poem is too difficult for the students to understand.
   (f) I wish I could fly./I were a bird.
   (g) It is high time you gave up smoking.
   (h) Life should not be considered a bed of roses.
   (i) Though it rained yesterday, I had to go out.
   (j) I studied hard lest I should cut a sorry figure in the exam.

5. (a) are; (b) is born; (c) know; (d) start; (e) thinking; (f) nursing; (g) bringing; (h) remain; (i) taking; (j) should not offend/should never offend.

6. (a) Long ago there was a very wise king.
(b) He was called wise Solomon.
(c) Actually, at that time he was wiser than anyone.
(d) There was also another ruler whose name was Queen of Sheba.
(e) One day, she thought Solomon's wisdom should be tested.

7. The Mayor asked, the Pied Piper how much he (P) wanted. The Pied Piper replied that he wanted a thousand guilders. The Mayor agreed that they would pay him a thousand guilders and asked him (P) when he (P) would set to work. In reply, the Pied Piper said that he would set to work then.

8. If we want to succeed in life, we must remember the wise saying that time and tide wait for none. Time and tide never stop their onward march, rather, they continue to move on giving no particular attention to us. The ongoing movement of time cannot be stopped by any kind of request. Therefore, for the sake of our welfare, we should never waste even a single moment in vain. Wasting time will cost us a lot and we will not be able to reach the goal of our life.

9. (a) poor; (b) very; (c) his; (d) soon; (e) sadly; (f) his; (g) wonderful; (h) beautiful; (i) sitting; (j) so.

10. (a) At present/ Nowadays/ Now; (b) But/However; (c) Obviously/Actually/No doubt/Undoubtedly; (d) To begin with/At first/ Firstly; (e) Then/Secondly; (f) Besides/Moreover/Finally; (g) As a result/ Consequently/So; (h) However, (i) Also/At the same time; (j) Besides/ Then/Moreover.

11. (a) blessing: (b) reason; (c) knowledge; (d) hampers; (e) progress; (f) thrive/advance; (g) established; (h) small; (i) certainly; (j) tiny.

12. Student: Excuse me, Sir! May I come in?
Teacher: Yes, come in.
Student: Thank you, Sir.
Teacher: What can I do for you?
Student: Would you kindly make me clear about the use of this punctuation mark?
Teacher: Didn't you attend my class yesterday?
Student: No, Sir. I did not come.
Teacher: Why? You must not miss any class.
Student: I'll never miss any class, Sir.

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