HSC-2026 Examination • English 2nd Paper

Set—8

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

Literacy as (a) ----- skill was first institutionalized in Mesopotamia, Szria, Egypt and China soon after (b) ----- art of writing was invented. Then education was not for (c) ----- general people but (d) ----- privilege for (e) ----- chosen (f) ----- few who took on strategic roles in (g) ----- running of (h) ----- state and in religion. In Greece, education became more widespread in about the 5th century BC. (i) ----- Greeks, however, sent only their (j) ----- male children to school.

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

Badal lived (a) ----- a village of Bangladesh. He was a school boy. There was a canal (b) ----- his way (c) ----- school. An old bridge was (d) ----- that canal. It was useful to one and all of the villagers. Yet none cared (e) ----- its repair. So one day it broke (f) ----- and caused a good deal (g) ----- hardship to the villagers. They were (h) ----- difficulty. They could not go to the town (i) ----- the other side of the canal to sell their fruits and vegetables profitably. They sold their products (j) ----- local market at a nominal price.

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

as if	have to	as soon as	it	was born
let alone	would rather	there	had better	what if

(a) We ----- pay a visit to Cox's Bazar than the Sundarbans. We have alreadz visited the Sundarbans.

(b) The storm was raging violently. We got out ----- it abated.

(c) Fardin is always boastful of his uncles. He talks ----- they were the most powerful men in the country.

(d) My college is far away from our house. I ----- walk a long way to go to my college.

(c) Jasim Uddin is a rural poet. He ----- in 1903 in a village named Tambulkhana in Faridpur.

(f) ----- is very hot today. Load shedding is aggravating the situation.

(g) Maruf cannot earn 50 marks ----- 80 marks. He is a student of average standard.

(h) ----- are many mango trees around our home. They give us very sweet mangoes.

(i) Faiaz seems to be weak. He ----- consult an experienced doctor.

(j) The river is calm. ----- we swim in the river? To swim in the river is a nice experience.

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

(a) Industry is the key to success. If you work hard, -----.

(b) Corruption is the main hindrance to development. It is high time -----.

(c) Abdul is an HSC candidate. He is studying hard lest -----.

(d) There are a good number of reasons why -----. That English is a foreign language is the main reason.

(e) Birds fly in the sky. I wish -----.

(f) No sooner had we reached there than -----. Unless we went there earlier, we would miss the beginning of the programme.

(g) It is not good -----. A man is known by the company he keeps.
(h) Dulal Mia is a quack. He behaves as if -----.
(i) It is very cold outside. You had better-----.
(j) My childhood was full of joys and happiness. Would that -----.

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

Dhaka, the world's densest and fastest growing city, (a) ----- (face) unbearable traffic jams. There (b) ----- (be) many reasons for this. The ever increasing number of vehicles and population (c) ----- (be) the main reason. During a traffic jam, people (d) ----- (has) to suffer much. They have to (e) ----- (move) inch by inch. They have to wait on roads hours after hours (f) ----- (face) unbearable sufferings. Again, the roads of Dhaka city (g) ----- (be not) spacious. Only seven percent of Dhaka city is (h) ----- (cover) by roads, compared with around 25 percent of Paris and Vienna. If anybodz falls in a traffic jam, he (i) ----- (not know) when he will reach home. Sometimes, a distance of 1km (j) ----- (take) an hour to cross.

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

(a) "Beautiful! Isn't she?" Tanvir whispered. (Make it assertive)
(b) Tania nodded in agreement, but she was extremely nervous. (Make it complex)
(c) The tigress was now quite close to them. (Make it interrogative) Tania's heart was pounding, but Tanvir seemed oblivious to any danger.
(d) He got closer to the animal and pressed the shutter button with a boyish grin in the face. (Make it simple)
(e) And it suddenly occurred to Tania that her husband was the strongest man she had ever met. (Use the positive degree of the adjective)

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

"What is your name?" said the teacher. "I am Jerin. I am a new student here," said Jerin. "Where are you from? What is your previous college?" said the teacher." I am from famous Rajshahi College. How nice the college is!" said Jerin.

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

A rich man went to a farmer with one thousand taka in a bag. He said to him, "Look, my friend. I have brought one thousand taka for you. Keep this money and remove your distress." He was surprised. He took the bag from the rich man and thanked him. The farmer said to himself, "One thousand taka is a lot of money." He could not think where to keep them. He did not find any safe place. He dug a hole in his hut and kept it there.

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

A village doctor is a (a) (use an intensifier to pre-pre-modify the adjective) familiar person in the rural areas of Bangladesh. He is (b)-(pre-modify the verb) known as a quack. A village doctor is not a (c) (pre-modify the noun) doctor. He (d)-(pre-modify the verb) sits in a small dispensary in the morning and in the evening. He treats the patients (e)-(use a participle to post-modify the verb) small fees. A village doctor is not a (f)-(pre-modify the noun) man. His chamber is (g)-(pre-modify the verb) furnished. He cannot supply costly medicines to the (h) -(pre-modify the noun) patients. In our country, the number of qualified doctors is (i) - (use an intensifier to pre- modify the adjective) few. So, a village doctor is a great friend to the (j)-(pre-modify the noun) people.

10. Use appropriate sentence connectors in the blank spaces of the following passage.

0.5×10=5

Once there lived a grasshopper and an ant. The ant was hard-working. (a) -----, the grasshopper was lazy. (b) -----, he idled away his time dancing and sleeping. (c) -----, he sometimes advised the ant not to work so hard. (d) -----, the an paid no heed to the grasshopper. (e) -----, he continued to work hard gathering food for the coming winter. (f) -----, winter came, covering everything with snow. The surface of the earth went under the snow-cover. (g) -----, the grasshopper could not find any food. (h) -----, he had nothing in stock. (i) -----, he went to the ant for help. The ant gave him some food for the day. (j) -----, the long winter was ahead, and the grasshopper was really worried about his survival.

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

The process of globalization obviously requires a common language for international communication. For many different reasons, English has achieved the prestige of being that language. As a result, it has crossed national bord to reach people who speak other languages. It is no longer the unique possession of British or American peo but a language that belongs to the world's people. In fact, bilingual and multilingual users of English far outnumber its monolingual native speakers. This phenomenon has led to a bewildering variety of English around the world. As more and more people speak English, more and more varieties have emerged which are stromly influenced by the pronunciation, grammar and idioms of the respective mother-tongues. World English has ow moved away from the control of the native speakers. However, the question of British or American English is not so important now. Today's slogan is mutual intelligibility among users of the language.

(a) obviously (synonym); (b) prestige (synonym); (c) national (synonym); (d) unique (antonym); (e) native (antonym); (f) variety (synonym); (g) emerge (antonym); (h) control (antonym); (i) important (synonym). (j) intelligibility (antonym).

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**

Rodela: Hello Rahela what are you doing
Rahela: Im reading a newspaper
Rodela: Do you read them regularly
Rahela: Yes everyday before breakfast. Don't you
Rodela: No, I don't. Whats the use of it
Rahela: Newspaper is an indispensible part of our life. It helps us in many ways.

Part B: Composition (40 Marks)

13. Suppose, you are a student of Bangladesh. Write an e-mail to the admission section, Oxford University, asking them about admission procedure for overseas students. 8
14. Suppose, you are a reporter of an English daily. You have observed that 'facebook' is influencing both positively and negatively our young generation. Now, write a report on 'Impact of Facebook on Our Young Generation.! 8
15. Write a paragraph on 'Importance of Games and Sports'. Use at least 150 words. 10
16. Write a composition on 'Students and Social Services' within 200 words. 14

Answer Sheet

1. (a) a; (b) the; (c) the; (d) a; (e) the; (f) x; (g) the; (h) the; (i) The; (j) x.
2. (a) in; (b) on; (c) to; (d) over; (e) about; (f) down; (g) of (h) in: (i) on; (j) in.
3. (a) would rather; (b) as soon as; (c) as if; (d) have to; (e) was born; (f) It; (g) let alone; (h) There; (i) had better, (j) What if.
4. (a) If you work hard, you will be successful.
   (b) It is high time we stood against corruption.
   (c) He is studzing hard lest he should fail in the exam./ he should fail to make a brilliant result.
   (d) There are a good number of reasons why many students in Bangladesh fail in English.
   (e) I wish I were a bird.
   (f) No sooner had we reached there than the programme began.
   (g) It is not good to keep bad company.
   (h) He behaves as if he were an MBBS doctor.
   (i) You had better stay inside./ put on warm clothes.
   (j) Would that I could be a child again.
5. (a) faces; (b) are; (c) is; (d) have; (e) move; (f) facing; (g) are not; (h) covered; (i) does not know; (j) takes.
6. (a) "She is very beautiful."
   (b) Though Tania nodded in agreement, she was extremely nervous.
   (c) Wasn't the tigress now quite close to them?
   (d) Getting closer to the animal, he pressed the shutter button with a boyish grin in the face.
   (e) No other man she had ever met was as strong as her husband.
7. The teacher asked Jerin what her name was. Jerin told her name and added that she was a new student there. Then the teacher asked her where she was from and what her (J) previous college was. Jerin replied that she (J) was from famous Rajshahi College. She also exclaimed with joy that the college was very nice.
8. A rich man went to a farmer with one thousand taka in a bag. The man said to the farmer, "Look, my friend, I have brought one thousand taka for you. Keep this money and remove your distress." The farmer was surprised. He took the bag from the rich man and thanked him. The farmer said to himself, "One thousand taka is a lot of money." He could not think where to keep the money. He did not find any safe place. He dug a hole in his hut and kept the money there.
9. (a) very/quite; (b) usually/commonly; (c) qualified; (d) generally; (e) taking/receiving; (f) rich; (g) poorly; (h) poor; (i) very; (j) village.
10. (a) On the other hand/But; (b) So/That's why/In fact/For this; (c) Moreover/On top of that; (d) However/But; (e) Instead/Rather; (f) Subsequently/Naturally/Inevitably; (g) For this reason/That's why; (h) In addition/Moreover/ Besides; (i) Then/So; (j) Still.
11. (a) apparently; (b) honour; (c) domestic/nationwide; (d) common; (e) foreign; (f) type; (g) disappear; (h) freedom/unrestraint; (i) significant/remarkable; (j) unintelligibility/ incomprehensibility.
12. Rodela: Hello! Rahela, what are you doing?
    Rahela: I'm reading a newspaper.
    Rodela: Do you read them regularly?
    Rahela: Yes, everyday before breakfast. Don't you?

Rodela: No, I don't. What's the use of it?
Rahela: Newspaper is an indispensable part of our life. It helps us in many ways.

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