HSC-2026 Examination • English 2nd Paper

Set—9

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

Kamal is (a) ----- HSC examinee this year. He is not (b) ----- attentive to his lessons. He is very weak in (c) ----- English. Moreover, he is (d) ----- lazy. So, his preparation in English is not good. (e) ----- month ago before his examination he managed (f) ----- short suggestion and learnt it. On (g) ----- day of examination, he started for the examination hall (h) ----- bit earlier. He entered (i) ----- examination hall with (j) ----- trembling heart.

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

Camels are one of the few animals that can live in a desert. Camels have humps (a) ----- their backs. They store fat (b) ----- these humps. The fat gives them energy. Because camels do not store water, fat helps produce water when camel move (c) ----- the dry desert. They can go (d) ----- several months without water. Camels eat grass to get moisture. The camels are as useful (e) ----- the people of the desert as the buffalo are (f) ----- the grasslands The meat of the camel is good to eat. People make cloth (g) ----- of camel hair. Shoes are made (h) ----- the hides The camels are also good (i) ----- travel in the desert. Some people travel the desert (j) ----- camels to make a living.

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

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

(a) Deforestation is a matter of great concern. We ----- take immediate steps against cutting down trees at random.
(b) To tell a lie is a great sin. We ----- die than tell a lie. Otherwise none will believe us.
(c) Helmet should be used while driving a motorcycle. ----- you were driving your bike and met a serious accident?
(d) ----- swimming in the sea? It seems to be very heroic to me.
(e) ----- mother heard the news, she cried loudly. She lost her child in a car accident.
(f) Rome was not built in a day. ----- took a long time and hard labour to build this city.
(g) Rahman is a poor man. He cannot buy a shirt ----- a car.
(h) Kazi Nazrul Islam is our rebel poet. He ----- in Churulia of West Bengal.
(i) Rina's dress looks very dirty. It is old enough. She ----- buy a new dress.
(j) Rana: Hi, Robi! ----- a pea-cock-?
Robi: It's a very nice bird. It knows how to dance.

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

(a) We cannot buy a car if -----. It costs a lot of money.
(b) You are now very helpless. Call me whenever -----.
(c) The man was so weak that -----. He should consult a doctor.
(d) Since it was raining heavily, ----- We stayed at home.
(e) Though he is dull of hearing, -----. He can make a good result.
(f) Danger comes when -----. So, we have to be careful in our life.
(g) When I was a child, -----. I was fond of playing cricket.

(h) Hardly had we seen the police when -----. Thus we were saved.
(i) Speak the truth or -----. A truthful man is always honoured everywhere.
(j) He took Biology in lieu of -----. Biology is not difficult for him.

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

When I was a child, I (a) ----- (be) afraid of the dark, and I always (b) ----- (go) to sleep with a light on. Even then, I feared that monsters (c) ----- (climb) in through my bedroom window and kill me. And every sound 1 (d) ----- (hear) struck fear into me. Often, I ran away from the room and (e) ----- (sleep) on the floor at the foot of my parent's bed. Now that I (f) ----- (be) almost twenty years old, I obviously do better than what I (g) ----- (do) as a child. However, I (h) ----- (be) still scared of bedtime. I dislike (i) ----- (sleep) alone, and I still keep a tiny night light on. And before I go to bed, I double-check every door and every window to make sure that they (j) ----- (be) locked. Indeed, imaginary beings do not invade from outside, they exist in our superstitious beliefs.

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

(a) Very few insects are as busy as a bee. (Comparative)
(b) It is known as an industrious creature. (Active)
(c) It flies from flower to flower and collects honey. (Simple)
(d) It stores honey in the hive. (Passive)
(e) In winter, it remains idle but it works hard in spring. (Complex) It leads a disciplined life.

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

"I have won a lottery and got a prize of forty lac taka," said Samir. "Congratulations!" I said. "What do you intend to do with this large amount of money?" "I want to serve my poor village people. So, I have made up my mind to establish a hospital in our rural area," Samir replied. "Thank you," said I. "I shall be with you in this respect."

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 cook once roasted a duck for his master. He looked so delicious that he could not resist the temptation and ate up one of the drumsticks. When he sat down to eat the meal, he quickly noticed the missing leg. He asked him. what had happened to the other leg. The cook told him that it had one leg only. The master said that there was no such thing as a one-legged duck but the cook insisted that every duck had only one leg.

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

I can remember a dreadful incident that happened (a) ----- (post-modify the verb). It was a (b) ----- (post-modify the noun) day. I went to New Market for doing some necessary shopping. My brother (c) ----- (post-modify the noun with an appositive), was with me. The market was a (d) ----- (use an intensifier to pre-modify the adjective) busy place. After completing our shopping, we came to a foot-over bridge. We had to cross it. We crossed it with (e) ----- (pre-modify the noun) difficulty. On the other side of the foot-over bridge, there were hawkers (f) ----- (use participle phrase to post-modify the noun). Suddenly, we heard the sound of a big blast and firing. Then panicked people started moving (g) ----- (use an adverbial to pre-modify the verb). Everybody was trying to get out of the endangered area. (h) ----- (use participle phrase to pre-modify the verb), we took shelter inside a (i) ----- (pre-modify the noun) shop (j) ----- (use an infinitive phrase to post-modify the verb).

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

Mobile phones are one of the most commonly used gadgets in today's world. (a) -----, mobile phones have made our life easy and convenient. (b) ----- they are a blessing till we use them judiciously. (c) -----, they are very beneficial; they have some disadvantages. (d) -----, excessive use of the device acts as a barrier to quality communication. (e) -----, mobile phones waste a lot of time. (f) -----, they are the causes of many ailments such as weak eyesight, strain on brain, headaches, dry eyes, sleeplessness and more. (g) -----, they have created a lack of privacy in people's lives. (h) -----, we see how the device is both a boon and a bane. (i) -----, we must not let mobile phones control our lives. (j) ----- we must know when to draw the line.

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

During the nine month long Liberation War the Pakistani army carried out the most brutal massacre in human history. There were thousands of killing fields all around Bangladesh. One of the largest killing fields is located at Dumuria in Khulna. The area is called Chuknagar. Hundreds and thousands of fleeing people arrived at Chuknagar to cross the border. On 20 May 1971 Pakistani soldiers surrounded the area. They started to fire the fleeing people. About eight to ten thousand people were killed at Chuknagar.

(a) liberation (synonym); (b) brutal (antonym); (c) massacre (synonym); (d) human (antonym); (e) located (antonym); (f) called (synonym); (g) surrounded (synonym); (h) started (antonym); (i) killed (synonym); (j) largest (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**

Ishtiak: Excuse me where is the nearest hospital?
Fuad: Its about 2km, from here You will have to hire a taxi You can also go there by bus.
Ishtiak: I see is there a bus station near here
Fuad: Yes there is a bus stop at the corner.
Ishtiak: Thank you.
Fuad: Dont mention it.

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) an; (b) x; (c) x; (d) x; (e) A; (f) a; (g) the; (h) a; (i) the; (j) a.
2. (a) on; (b) in; (c) around; (d) upto/for; (e) to; (f) to; (g) out; (h) from; (i) to; (j) with.
3. (a) have to; (b) would rather; (c) What if; (d) What's it like; (e) As soon as; (f) It; (g) let alone; (h) was born; (i) had better; (j) What does.... look like.

4. (a) We cannot buy a car if we don't get a bank loan.
   (b) Call me whenever you need any help.
   (c) The man was so weak that he could not even walk steadily.
   (d) Since it was raining heavily, we cancelled our programme.
   (e) Though he is dull of hearing, he is very studious.
   (f) Danger comes when there is conflict of interest./we become careless.
   (g) When I was a child, I used to play cricket after coming back from school.
   (h) Hardly had we seen the police when we shouted for help.
   (i) Speak the truth or you will be dishonoured everywhere.
   (j) He took Biology in lieu of Higher Math which he found quite difficult.
5. (a) was; (b) went; (c)would climb; (d) heard; (e) slept; (f) am; (g) did; (h) am; (i) sleeping; (j) are.
6. (a) A bee is busier than most other insects.
   (b) We/People know it as an industrious creature.
   (c) Flying from flower to flower, it collects honey. It flies from flower to flower to collect honey.
   (d) Honey is stored in the hive by it.
   (e) Though it remains idle in winter, it works hard in spring.
7. Samir told me that he had won a lottery and got a prize of forty lac taka. I congratulated him and also asked him what he intended to do with that large amount of money. Samir replied that he wanted to serve his poor village people and so he had made up his mind to establish a hospital in their rural area. I thanked him and told him that I would be with him in this respect.
8. A cook once roasted a duck for his master. The roast looked so delicious that he could not resist the temptation and ate up one of the drumsticks. When his master sat down to eat the meal, he quickly noticed the missing leg. He asked the cook what had happened to the other leg. The cook told him that the duck had one leg only. The master said that there was no such thing as a one-legged duck but the cook insisted that this duck had only one leg.
9. (a) last year; (b) terrible; (c) a famous doctor; (d) very; (e) much; (f) selling various goods; (g) to and fro; (h) Leaving the foot-over bridge rapidly; (i) grocery/super/medicine; (j) to escape the danger.
10. (a) In fact/Undoubtedly; (b) But/However/In fact/Actually; (c) Though; (d)First of all /Firstly; (e) Secondly; (f) Thirdly/Besides; (g) In addition/Moreover/Also; (h) Thus/In this way; (i) So/Hence; (j) Rather/Instead.
11. (a) independence/freedom; (b) humane/kind; (c) genocide; (d) beast; (e) dislocated; (f) termed/named; (g) encircled; (h) ended; (i) murdered; (j) smallest.
12. Ishtiak: Excuse me. Where is the nearest hospital?
    Fuad: It's about 2 km. from here. You will have to hire a taxi. You can also go there by bus.
    Ishtiak: I see. Is there a bus station near here?
    Fuad: Yes, there is a bus stop at the corner.
    Ishtiak: Thank you.
    Fund: Don't mention it.

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