

SET 1

Sample question for JSC examination

Full marks: 100

Time: 3 hours

Marks for individual items are mentioned next to the test items.

A: Seen part

Read the text and answer questions 1 and 2.

Bangladeshi cuisine is rich and varied with the use of many spices. We have delicious and appetizing food, snacks and sweets.

Boiled rice is our staple food. It is served with a variety of vegetables, curry, lentil soup, fish and meat. Fish is our main source of protein. Fishes are now cultivated in ponds. Also we have fresh-water fishes in the lakes and rivers. More than 40 types of fishes are common. Some of them are *carp*, *rui*, *katla*, *magur* (catfish), *chingri* (prawn or shrimp). *Shutki* or dried fishes are popular. *Hilsha* is very popular among the people of Bangladesh.

Panta-ilish is a traditional platter of *Panta bhat*. It is steamed rice soaked in water and served with a fried *hilsha* slice, often together with dried fish, pickles, lentil soup, green chilies and onion. It is a popular dish on the *Pohela Boishakh*.

The people of Bangladesh are very fond of sweets. Almost all Bangladeshi women prepare some traditional sweets. *Pitha*, a type of sweets made from rice flour, sugar, syrup, molasses and sometimes milk, is a traditional food loved by the entire population. During winter *Pitha Utsab*, meaning *pitha* festival, is organized by different groups of people.

Sweets are distributed among close relatives when there is good news like births, weddings, promotions, etc.

Sweets of Bangladesh are mostly milk-based. The common ones are *roshgolla*, *sandesh*, *rasamalai*, *gulap jamun* and *cham-cham*. There are hundreds of different varieties of sweet preparations. Sweets are therefore an important part of the day-to-day life of Bangladeshi people.

1. Choose the correct answer to each question from the alternatives given and write the corresponding number of the answers in your answer script. 1x7=7

- i) The word 'cuisine' in line 1 of the text means-
 - a) a style of cooking
 - b) a special kind of food
 - c) cooking spicy dishes
 - d) a combination of different dishes

- ii) The words 'appetizing food' in line 1 of the text mean-
 - a) expensive food
 - b) food that makes you feel hungry
 - c) food that is cooked with spices
 - d) food that has good nutritional value

- iii) The word 'platter' in line 8 of the text means-
 - a) a large plate to serve food
 - b) a meal served on a large plate
 - c) a dish with a variety of food items on it
 - d) all of the above

- iv) The main source of protein for Bangladeshi people is-
 - a) boiled rice
 - b) lentil soup
 - c) fish
 - d) meat

- v) *Panta bhat* is usually served with-
 - a) dried fish
 - b) green chili and onion
 - c) hilsha
 - d) all of the above

- vi) *Panta-ilish* is eaten with much festivity
 - a) throughout the year
 - b) to the wedding guests
 - c) on a special day
 - d) in winter

- vii) A popular food item in winter is
- a) lentil soup
 - b) *pitha*
 - c) *panta bhat*
 - d) dried fish

Answers: i) a, ii) b, iii) d, iv) c, v) d, vi) c, vii) b

2. Answer the following questions from your reading of the above text.

2x4 = 8

- a) Name four fresh water fishes.
- b) How is *panta bhat* prepared?
- c) Name four milk-based sweets.
- d) Where are most of the fish cultivated?

3. Read the following text and fill in the gaps with appropriate words to make it a meaningful one.

1x5 = 5

In a plane, oxygen and the air pressure are always being monitored. In the event of a lack of oxygen, an oxygen mask will automatically (a) _____ in front of you. Pull the mask towards you and (b) _____ it firmly over your nose and mouth. Secure the elastic band behind your head, and breathe normally. If you are travelling with a child or someone who requires (c) _____, secure your mask on first, and then help the other person. Keep your mask on until a uniformed crew member advises you to (d) _____ it. In the event of an (e) _____ please assume the bracing position.

Answers: (a) appear (b) place/put (c) assistance/help/support (d)remove (e) emergency

B: Unseen part

Read the following text and answer questions 4 and 5.

Meera is a singer with a great zeal for folk songs. She is a dancer too. She enjoys dancing with folk songs. She performs at national events and also represents our culture in different countries. Besides singing she also studies Computer Science in a university in China. Manosh and Rudro are also two promising folk singers of our time. Manosh passed the S.S.C examination in 2018 when Rudro was a student of class eight. Manosh won the Star Voice Singing competition in 2012 in the folk song category. Rudro won that award in 2015 in the same category. He performed in the Boishakhi open concert at Dhaka University campus in

2016. Both Manosh and Rudro love folk songs because it appeals to our root culture. They believe that folk music can reach the heart of our common people easily. In 2018 Manosh successfully released his first album titled 'Mon Janala'.

4. Complete the table below. Write no more than three words and/or numbers for each answer. 1X5=5

Who?	What?	When/where?
Meera	studies Computer Science	in a university in (1)
Meera	(2)	in foreign countries
(3)	was awarded Star Voice Singing competition	in 2012
Rudro	appeared in the Boisakhi concert	at (4) in 2016
Manosh	released his maiden album	(5) in

Answers: (1) China (2) represents our culture (3) Manosh (4) Dhaka University campus (5) 2018

5. Read the passage again and write, whether the statements are true or false. Give correct answers, if the statement is false. 1x5=5

- a) Meera enjoys singing folk songs.
- b) Meera performs at both national and international levels.
- c) Manosh and Rudro won two different awards.
- d) The first album of Manosh was released in the same year when he passed the S.S.C. examination.
- e) The common people of our country love folk songs.

Answers

- a) False. Meera enjoys dancing with folk songs.
- b) True
- c) False. Manosh and Rudro won the same award.
- d) True
- e) True

6. Read the text below and fill-in the gaps using the clues given in the boxes. There are more words than necessary. One word can be used once only.

½ X10=5

the	off	as	namely	This	finances
length	cost	country	width	Roads	touch

The Padma Multipurpose Bridge is a mega project in the construction history of Bangladesh. This will connect three districts (a) _____, Munshiganj, Shariatpur and Madaripur. With (b) _____ connectivity 21 districts of (c) _____ south-western part of the (d) _____ will come under direct (e) _____ with the capital as well (f) _____ the whole country. It's total (g) _____ is 6.15 kms. and (h) _____ is 18.1 meters. It will (i) _____ 3.6 billion USD. Bangladesh government (j) _____ this huge project.

Answers: (a) namely (b) this (c) the (d) country (e) touch (f) as (g) length (h) width (i) cost (j) finances

7. Read the text below and fill in the gaps using suitable words to make it a meaningful text.

1x5=5

The sun is the source of all energies. All the living beings (a) _____ sunlight directly or indirectly for their (b) _____ on this earth. Sunlight (c) _____ white as we see it with our naked eyes but the actual (d) _____ of sunlight is green. Now, we are going to explain why sunlight looks white (e) _____ it is originally green.

Answers: (a) use (b) existence (c) looks (d) colour (e) though

8. Match the part of sentences from columns A and B to make five complete sentences. 1x5=5

Column A	Column B
a. One day a fisherman	i. to see the coins as the fisherman returned home
b. Suddenly he saw	ii. began to boast of it before all the friends
c. His wife was very happy	iii. a bag full of gold coins in his net
d. The fisherman asked his wife to keep	iv. cast his net in the river
e. But instead of doing so she	v. the find of gold coins a secret

Answers: a. iv, b. iii, c. i, d. v, e. ii

C: Grammar part

9. Read the text below and fill in the gaps with the root words in the brackets adding suitable suffix, prefix or both. **½ x10= 5**

Altaf Mahmud is a musician, (a) _____ (culture) activist and a (b) _____ (free) fighter of Bangladesh. He took part in the historic Language (c) _____ (move) of 1952. He is the (d) _____ (compose) of the famous song "Amar Bhaier Rokte Rangano". He wrote that immortal song to honour the language martyrs of 1952. The songs composed and sung by Altaf Mahmud were great source of (e) _____ (inspire) to the people who protested against the (f) _____ (brutal) of Pakistani Government. Altaf Mahmud was very (g) _____ (support) to those who fought for Bangladesh in the Liberation of 1971. He created a camp inside his house to provide (h) _____ (accommodate) to them. His (i) _____ (patriot) songs were then broadcast from Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendro. He was awarded the Ekushey Padak for his (j) _____ (contribute) to Bengali culture and the War of Liberation.

Answers: (a) cultural (b) freedom (c) movement (d) composer (e) inspiration (f) brutality (g) supportive (h) accommodation (i) patriotic (j) contribution

10. Fill-in the gaps in the following text with appropriate articles (a, an or the). Put a cross (x) where no article is used. **½ x10=5**

Friendship is one of (a) _____ most precious gifts of life. (b) _____ person who has true friends in life is lucky enough. Friendship makes (c) _____ life thrilling. It is indeed, (d) _____ asset in life. True friendship is (e) _____ feeling of love, sharing and caring. (f) _____ true friends stand by us when we are in trouble. Lasting friendship is indeed, (g) _____ blessing. However, it is better to have friends of (h) _____ same age group and mentality. In short, friendship is (i) _____ essential condition for (j) _____ happy life.

Answers: (a) the (b) a (c) x (d) an (e) a (f) x (g) a (h) the (i) an (j) a

11. Change the following sentences as directed in the brackets. **1x5= 5**

Sylhet is one of the most beautiful districts of Bangladesh. (a) In the 14th century, Saint Hazrat Shah Jalal conquered Sylhet. (Make it a passive sentence.) (b) It was declared as a division by the government in 1995. (Make it an active sentence.) (c) The vast green tea gardens attract many tourists. (Make it an interrogative sentence.) (d) The climate of this place is very fine. (Make it an exclamatory sentence.) Sylhet produces a lot of quality pineapple. (e) Sylvi, a local girl, likes pineapple. (Make it a negative sentence.)

Answer: (a) Sylhet was conquered by Saint Hazrat Shah Jalal in the 14th century. (b) The government declared it as a division in 1995. (c) Do the vast green tea gardens attract many tourists? (d) How fine the climate of this place is! (e) Sylvi, a local girl, does not like pineapple.

12. Rewrite the following passage changing the form of speech: **5**

“It’s so unusual! It’s a cold night, but I feel warm now,” the Prince said. “It happens when I do something good to help someone,” he added. The Queen smiled to look at his son and said “Good night” “Good night” The Prince also smiled and said to his mom.

Answer: The Prince wondered at the unusual feature of the night because he felt warm even at that time of the cold night. He remarked that it (unusual behavior of the night) happens when he does something good to help someone. The Queen smiled to look at his son and wished him good night. The Prince also smiled at her mom as he said her good night.

13. Use capital letters and punctuation marks as needed in the following passage. **½ X10=5**

one day Neela went to see bela her elder sister bela she found her very depressed there Neela asked what happens darling

Answer: One day Neela went to see Bela, her elder sister. She found her very depressed there. Neela asked, “What happens, darling? “

D: Writing part

14. Suppose you are Rabid and you are in a restaurant with your sister. Make a dialogue between you and the waiter before ordering your meal. **10**

Answer (sample only):

Waiter	Can I help you?
Rabid	A table for two please.
Waiter	You can take this table, sir.
Rabid	Thanks, this is a nice corner table.
Waiter	Are you ready to order?
Rabid	Yes, we'll have the cashew nut salad, a Thai soup and a serve of fried rice with chili chicken.
Waiter	Anything to drink?
Rabid	Just water for me and a lemonade for my sister, please.
Waiter	Is that all, sir?
Rabid	Yes, I think, that’s all for now. Thank you.

15. A social organisation in your locality is hiring some volunteers for a fund raising event. Write an email to the coordinator of that organisation to be a volunteer for the event. The email can be sent to abcd123@charity.org.bd. In your email, you should

10

- write a subject line
- use proper salutation/greetings
- give a brief introduction of you
- express your interest for the role of a volunteer
- mention why you are interested to work as a volunteer
- write a closing remark, your name, and contact address

Sample answer

To: abcd123@charity.org.bd

Subject: Interested to be a volunteer

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a student of class eight at ABC Boys High School, Pabna. I have seen your advertisement about hiring volunteers for your charity event. I am really interested to work as a volunteer for that event.

I always look for opportunities to help the poor and helpless people in our society. Moreover, I enjoy working with like-minded people in a team.

I hope to hear from you soon.

Thanking you,

Mohamad Zaif
123, Road, Pabna

16. Write a paragraph in 150 words on the advantages and disadvantages of nuclear families. Your writing should address the following questions:

10

- What is a nuclear family?
- What are the advantages of a nuclear family?
- What are the disadvantages of a nuclear family?
- What kind of family do you prefer and why?

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SET 2

Sample question for JSC examination

Full marks: 100

Time: 3 hours

Marks for individual items are mentioned next to the test items.

A: Seen part

Read the text and answer questions 1 and 2.

Good afternoon passengers. This is your captain Rashid Akbar speaking. First I'd like to welcome everyone on Flight BG 88. We are currently cruising at an altitude of 10058.40 feet at airspeed of 643.7376 km per hour. The time is 1:25 pm. The weather looks good and with the tailwind on our side we are expecting to land in Bangkok approximately fifteen minutes ahead of schedule. The weather in Bangkok is clear and sunny. The temperature is 32 degrees Celsius for this afternoon. If the weather is good, we should get a great view of the city as we descend. The cabin crew will be coming around in about twenty minute's time to offer you a light snack and drinks. The inflight movie will begin shortly after that. I'll talk to you again before we reach our destination. Until then, sit back, and enjoy the flight.

1. Now choose the correct answer to each question from the alternatives given and write the corresponding number of the answers in your answer script. 1x7=7

i) What is the job of Rashid Akbar?

- a) Cabin Crew
- b) Announcer
- c) Pilot
- d) An army officer

ii) The word cruise means-

- a) moving ahead
- b) moving fast
- c) travelling at a steady speed
- d) None of the above

iii) The word "tailwind" means-

- a) wind blowing from behind a moving vehicle
- b) wind coming from front

- c) the wind that blows around the tail
- d) the wind that propels the tail

iv) What is the objective of the announcer?

- a) to call everyone's attention
- b) to warn the passengers
- c) to begin a communication
- d) to give necessary information

v) When can the passengers get the view of the city?

- a) within fifteen minutes
- b) as the flight comes down
- c) all through the flight in the sky
- d) immediately after the announcement

vi) Passengers will be treated with some light refreshment within

- a) 15 minutes
- b) 20 minutes
- c) 25 minutes
- d) 32 minutes

vii) Where is the temperature 32 degree Celsius?

- a) inside the plane
- b) outside the plane
- c) Bangkok
- d) In departure city

Answers

i) c ii) a iii) a iv) d v) b vi) b vii) c

2. Answer the following questions from your reading of the text above.

2x 4 = 8

- a) Where is the flight now?
- b) What destination is the flight bound for?
- c) When will the in-flight movie begin?
- d) Why did the announcer describe the weather?

3. Read the following text and fill in the gaps with contextually appropriate words 1X5=5

River gypsies are an ethnic group of people in Bangladesh. They are known as *beday* to (a) _____ people. The (b) _____ have their own lifestyle and (c) They live in groups and do not (d) _____ any land. Therefore, they live a nomadic life, (e) _____ from one place to another.

Answers: (a) local (b) gypsies (c) culture (d) own/have
(d)travelling/moving/roaming/shifting (e) roam/move/travel

B: Unseen part

Read the following text and answer questions 4 and 5.

The current world population roughly calculated by the United Nations is 7.5 billion as of September 2017. Six of the seven continents of the Earth are permanently resided on a large scale. Asia is the most populous continent, with its 4.54 billion inhabitants accounting for 60% of the world population. China and India are world's most populated countries. They together have about 37% of the world's population. Africa is the second most populated continent, with around 1.28 billion people and it is 16% of the world's population. The population of Europe is 742 million which is 10% of the world's population as of 2018, while 651 million live in the Latin America and Caribbean regions and it is 9% of the world's population. Northern America primarily consisting of the United States and Canada has a population of around 363 million which is 5% and Oceania is the least-populated region with about 41 million inhabitants which is 0.5% of world population although it is not permanently resided by any fixed population. Antarctica has also a small and varied international population based mainly in polar science station.

4. Complete the grid below with appropriate information. 1X5=5

Continent/ Country	Population	% of world population
Asia	4.5 billion	i).....
Africa	ii).....	16%
iii)	742 million	10%
U.S.A and Canada	iv).....	5%
Oceania	41 million	v).....

Answers: i) 60% ii) 1.28 billion iii) Europe iv) 363 million v) 0.5%

5. Read the passage again and write, whether the statements are true or false. Give correct answers, if the statement is false. 1x5=5

- a) Asia has the largest population among all the seven continents.
- b) Africa is in the third position in case of the number of population.
- c) The number of population in Europe is the same as in Asia.
- d) The United States and Canada are the North American countries.
- e) In Oceania and Antarctica, the number of population rises and falls.

Answers

- a) True
- b) False. Africa is in the second position in case of the number of population.
- c) False The number of population in Europe is less than that of Asia.
- d) True
- e) True

6. Read the text below and fill in the gaps using clues from the boxes. There are more words than necessary. ½ X10=5

connectivity	remains	cannot	without	among	
Pandora	for	education	strange	made	dimension

Mobile phone is a wonderful invention of modern science. It has added a new (a) _____ to our everyday life. People (b) _____ think of a single moment (c) _____ a mobile phone. It has (d) _____ life easier by increasing our (e) _____. No doubt the world now (f) _____ in our pocket through this (g) _____ device. It is really a (h) _____ box which can be used (i) _____ different purposes like entertainment to (j) _____.

Answers

- (a) dimension (b) cannot (c) without (d) made (e) connectivity (f) remains (g) strange (h) Pandora (i) for (j) education

7. Read the text below and fill in the gaps with words that are appropriate. 1X5=5

The world is changing every day. People are constantly moving to different (a) _____ for different reasons. So people need (b) _____ journey. People also need speed. Wheels (c) _____ made it possible. This is why, (d) _____ of wheels is so important to (e) _____.

Answers

(a) destinations (b) comfortable (c) have (d) invention (e) us.

8. Match the part of sentences from columns A and B to make five complete sentences. Column B has one more options than required.

1x5=5

Column A	Column B
a. Once upon a time there was a king	i. went everywhere on foot.
b. He was extremely	ii. to invent some kind of seat that could move by itself.
c. Being afraid of riding horse he	iii. who was known as Prudence.
d. Naturally, his soldiers and ministers	iv. cautious and very nervous as well.
e. At last, they went to a magician and requested him	v. had to walk on foot too.
	vi. To go home.

Answers

a. iii b. iv c. i d. v e. ii

C: Grammar part

9. Read the text below and fill in the gaps with the root words in the brackets adding suitable suffix, prefix or both. **½ x10=5**

Visa, the global payment solutions (a) _____ (provide) will introduce (b) _____(contact)_cards in Bangladesh this year. These cards do not have (c) _____(paid) system and allow customers to make (d) _____(pay) simply by waving the card near the point of sales machine. It needs no (e) _____ (insert) of the card into the machine. The cards provide customers with improved and (f) _____(speed) transaction. It will be (g) _____(fast) and offer increased protection from card fraud than (h) _____(tradition) cards. Such payment solution will add (i) _____(secure) to card service (j) _____(significant).

Answers:

a) provider b) contactless c) prepaid d) payment e) insertion
f) speedy g) faster h) traditional i) security j) significantly

10. Fill in the gaps of the following text with appropriate articles (a, an or the). Put a cross (x) for zero article. **½ x10=5**

(a)_____ violent storm hit Netrokona district last week. The storm blew at (b)_____ speed of 150 km per hour. It hit 12 villages and demolished almost all (c)_____ houses of those villages. It caused (d)_____ severe damage. All (e)_____ the electric poles were blown up and as a result there was a power-cut. People had to remain in darkness for over (f)_____ week. It was (g)_____ unbearable situation for them. (h)_____ poor suffered (i)_____ lot. It was really (j)_____ terrible storm.

Answers: (a) a (b) a (c) the (d) x (e) the (f) a (g) an (h) the (i) a (j) a

11. Change the following sentences as directed in the brackets. **1x5=5**

(a) Dhaka was founded by the Mughals in the 17th century. (Make it an active sentence). (b) The Mughals governed the region during the early modern period. (Make it an interrogative sentence). (c) The Mughals constructed many buildings here. (Make it a passive sentence). (d) Ahsan Manjil is one of the attractive buildings. (Make it an exclamatory sentence). (e) Nila is yet to visit Dhaka (Make it a negative sentence in terms of sentence construction).

Answer: (a) The Mughals founded it in the 17th century. (b) Did the Mughals govern the region during the early modern period? (c) Many buildings were constructed here by the Mughals. (d) What an attractive building the Ahsan Manjil is! (e) Nila did not visit Dhaka yet.

12. Rewrite the following passage changing the form of speech: **5**

Sakina said to Himel, "How are you? I went to your house yesterday but you were not there." "I went to a shop," said Himel, "I had to buy some dresses for my sister."

Answer: Sakina asked Himel how he was. She told him that she had gone to his house the previous day but he was not there. Himel replied that he had gone to a shop and added that he had to buy some dresses for his sister.

13. Use capital letters and punctuation marks as needed in the following passage. .5X10=5

daniel defoe the writer of robinson crusoe was born in london in 1660 defoe started to write when he was a young man the idea for writing the great story came from the story of alexander selkirk when he was at the age of 59

Answer: Daniel Defoe, the writer of Robinson Crusoe was born in London in 1660. Defoe started to write when he was a young man. The idea for writing the great story came from the story of Alexander Selkirk when he was at the age of 59.

D: Writing part

14. Suppose you are Samiya and chatting with your cousin, Subarno. Make a dialogue with him/her about folk songs. **10**

Key (This is just an example.)

Samiya Ah, you are listening to music!
Subarno Oh, yes. You know Samiya, I'm so fond of music.
Samiya I know. But I'm not sure what type of music you like.
Subarno To be honest, I like Bangla folk music.
Samiya Great. Please tell me about the folk songs. I know little about it.
Subarno Ok, the folk songs are the traditional songs of Bangladesh. It is sung by the common people of the country. It is simple in terms of theme, tunes, lyric or melody. Pollogiti, bhatiyali, lolongiti are some of our popular folk songs.
Samiya Can you tell me about some famous folk singers?
Subarno Sure, Hason Raja, Abbasuddin, Abdul Alim, or recent Momtaj Begum, Firoj Shai, Dilruba Khan are some famous folk singers. You must listen to them.
Samiya Ok. I'll.

15. You have invited some of your friends to a get together at your place. Unfortunately, you are unable to hold the event as you have fallen sick. Write an email to one of your invited friends telling that the event is postponed now. You may send the email to abcd123@gmail.com. In your email, you should **10**

- write a subject line
- use proper salutation/greetings
- tell that the event is postponed
- give reasons for the postponement
- regret for the unfortunate situation
- write a closing remark
- write a closing remark, your name, and contact address

Sample answer

To: abcd123@gmail.com

Subject: Get together postponed

Hello X,

Hope you are doing well. I am passing horrible time as I have been fighting a nasty viral flu since last week. That means we are not going to get together this weekend. I am extremely sorry for cancelling the event.

I hope you will understand my situation. We may think about a new date when I come round.

Please pray for my recovery.

Best regards,

Y

16. Write a paragraph in 150 words on your favourite movie/TV programme. You have to write what the movie/programme is about, why you like it, and what your learning is from this movie/programme.