

ENGLISH FIRST PAPER

Subject Code : 107

Time - 3 hours

Full marks - 100

[N.B. The figures in the right margin indicate full marks.]

Part I - Reading

Marks - 60

1. Read the following text and answer the questions A and B:

Adolescents constitute a nation's core resource for national renewal and growth. Adolescence is a period in life when transition from childhood to adulthood takes place and behaviours and lifestyles are shaped. According to the World Health Organization (WHO) adolescence is the period which shapes the future of girls' and boys' lives. There are 28 million adolescents in Bangladesh; 13.7 million of them are girls and 14.3 million boys.

The situation of adolescent girls in Bangladesh is characterised by inequality and subordination within the family and society. This inequality leads to widespread practice of child marriage, marginalization or exclusion from health, education and economic opportunities, and vulnerability to violence and sexual abuse.

In Bangladesh the legal age of marriage is 18 for girls and 21 for boys. However, 33 percent of adolescent girls are married before the age of 15 and 60 percent become mothers by the age of 19. Research finds that adolescents with higher level of education and from more affluent families tend to marry at a later age. Boys, however, become ready for marriage only after several years of adolescence and young adulthood.

A. Choose the correct answer from the alternatives:

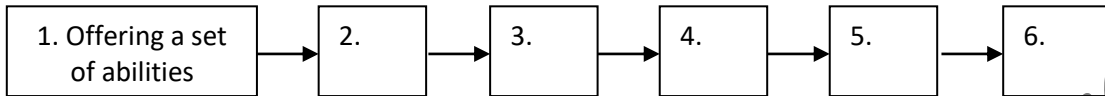
- (a) What does the word '**constitute**' mean?
 (i) form (ii) add (iii) take (iv) make
- (b) The synonym of '**legal**' is---
 (i) illicit (ii) banned (iii) lawful (iv) prohibited
- (c) The phrase '**leads to**' refers to---
 (i) results of (ii) results in (iii) results from (iv) results to
- (d) Adolescence is a ____ period from childhood to adulthood.
 (i) constant (ii) rigid (iii) transitional (iv) fixed
- (e) The word '**economic**' can be replaced by---
 (i) monetary (ii) cheap (iii) financial (iv) economical
- (f) What could be the closest meaning of the word '**core**' in the first sentence?
 (i) Alternative (ii) Subsidiary (iii) Central (iv) Minor
- (g) The phrase 'take place' stands for-
 (i) occur (ii) go to a place (iii) happen (iv) destroy
- (h) The synonym of '**affluent**' is---
 (i) destitute (ii) poverty (iii) poor (iv) solvent
- (i) The transition from childhood to adulthood takes place in life-
 (i) during childhood (ii) in adolescence (iii) before death (iv) when they get maturity
- (j) The word '**marginalisation**' refers to---
 (i) holding a lot of money (ii) holding no power (iii) boldness in decision making (iv) having empathy

B. Answer the following questions:

- (a) What do you understand by adolescence?
 (b) What is the condition of girls in Bangladesh?
 (c) What is gender disparity? What are the consequences of it?
 (d) Which factors are responsible for girls' early marriage?
 (e) Why is adolescence an important period in life?

2. Based on the text below write short notes in each of the boxes mentioning the benefits of education to make a flow chart (No. 1 has been done for you):

Education gives us knowledge and a set of abilities to function meaningfully in life such as the ability to decide things rationally and make the right choices. As we learn how to read, write and do the basic operations of arithmetic, we gain a degree of self confidence. We learn to think for ourselves and articulate our thoughts; we pick up skills to communicate with others and manage our affairs well. Education helps us think independently and make our own opinions. As we know more about the world, we appreciate the good things it offers us but also become critical of the durations from the values it imparts and the rise of hatred or conflict that follows.



3. Write a summary of the following passage:

Sheikh Kamal knew that there is no short cut to success. He groomed himself up as a young man who earned success by dint of perseverance and commitment. When the Pakistan military began its genocide in Bangladesh, he joined the Liberation War and received military training at Camp Murtce located at the Himalayan foothills in India. The tall young man who carried himself with dignity and possessed remarkable traits of leadership became the ADC of General Ataul Goni Osmani, the Commander in Chief of Bangladesh Armed Forces during the Liberation War. After Independence, Sheikh Kamal could easily remain in Bangladesh Army and pass a secure life but he preferred to engage himself in country building and organizing the young forces to that end. Journalist Syed Ishtiaq Reza in one of his columns 'Ekjon Sheikh Kamal' in Bangla Tribune rightly says that the unique qualities of Sheikh Kamal's character, especially his wholehearted involvement in sports and culture are never seen in any son or daughter of any President, Prime Minister or High Officials in Bangladesh.

4. Read the following text and fill in the blanks with suitable words from the box. There are more words than needed.

Make any grammatical change if necessary:

alleviation	burden	liability	explosion	asset	resource
predict	poverty	possible	think	planning	crises

Population (a) _____ is considered as one of the greatest (b) _____ in our country. Many people (c) _____ that over population is (d) _____ and it causes (e) _____. But, in fact, proper (f) _____ and management can turn this (g) _____ into an asset. If we can develop our human (h) _____ properly, it can be a (i) _____ way for poverty (j) _____.

5. Fill in the blanks with an appropriate word in each gap:

Self employment means to create job opportunity for oneself by one's own effort. Various government organizations (a) _____ trying to create (b) _____ congenial atmosphere for (c) _____. Different NGOs have (d) _____ dered their help. Livestock (e) _____ agriculture farming, poultry (f) _____ are some of (g) _____ sectors. There are (h) _____ opportunities for self (i) _____ in Bangladesh. One (j) _____ easily engage oneself in these jobs.

6. Rearrange the following sentences to make a coherent order:

- (i) He asked him where God is.
- (ii) He praised him highly.
- (iii) Once a lad went to a famous teacher.
- (iv) The teacher thought highly of the boy's understanding.
- (v) The lad replied that he would answer if he would tell where he is not.
- (vi) The boy devoted himself to earning knowledge.
- (vii) He begged to instruct him in arts and science.
- (viii) He agreed to teach the lad.
- (ix) He expressed his desire to acquire knowledge.
- (x) The teacher wished to find out the ability of the boy.

Part II - Guided Writing
Marks - 40

7. The pie chart below shows Rima's time spending on various activities. Describe the chart in at least 80 words:



8. The following is the beginning of a story. Complete it in your own words:

Once a lion was sleeping in a forest. Suddenly a mouse came there. It did not notice the lion.....

9. Write a letter to your brother describing the importance of reading newspaper.

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