

[N.B. – Answer all the questions. The figures in the right margin indicate full marks.]

Read the passage and then answer the questions below (1–2)

Meherjan lives in a slum on the Sirajgonj Town Protection Embankment. Her polythene-roofed shelter looks like a cage. She is nearly 45 but looks more than her age. In front of her shelter, she is trying to make a fire to cook the day's only meal. Her weak hands tremble as she adds some fallen leaves and straw to the fire. The whispering wind from the river Jamuna makes the fire unsteady. The dancing of the flames reminds Meherjan of the turmoil in her life. Not long ago Meherjan had everything—a family, cultivable land and cattle. The erosion of the Jamuna consumed all her land property gradually. It finally claimed her only shelter during the last monsoon. It took the river only a day to demolish Meher's house, trees, vegetable garden and the bamboo bush. She had a happy family once. Over the years, she lost her husband and her family to diseases that cruel hunger and poverty brought to the family. Now, she is the only one left to live on with the loss and the pain. The greedy Jamuna has shattered her dreams and happiness.

There are thousand others waiting to share the same fate like Meherjan. Bangladesh is a land of rivers that affect its people. Erosion is a harsh reality for the people living along the river banks. During each monsoon many more villages are threatened by the roaring rivers like the Jamuna, the Padma and the Meghna. It is estimated that river erosion makes at least 1,00,000 people homeless every year in Bangladesh. In fact, river erosion is one of the main dangers caused by climate change. If we can't take prompt action to adapt to climate change, there will be thousands of more Meherjans in our towns and villages every year.

1. Choose the correct answer from the fair alternatives given after each question:–

1×7=7

(a) What does the expression "The turmoil in her life" in the 1st paragraph mean?

- (i) The pleasures of life (ii) The thunderstorm in her life
(iii) The pangs and pains of her life (iv) The dreams of her life

(b) What are the rivers mentioned in the passage?

- (i) The Jamuna (ii) The Padma (iii) The Meghna (iv) All the Above

(c) Once Meherjan was —.

- (i) solvent (ii) insolvent (iii) poor (iv) impoverished

(d) Meherjan was homeless because of —.

- (i) the erosion of the Jamuna (ii) selling of her house
(iii) destruction of her house (iv) flood

(e) What is the main purpose of the author of the passage?

- (i) To explain the importance of river. (ii) To describe the impact of monsoon.
(iii) To describe the effect of river erosion. (iv) To describe the fate of a woman.

(f) She is living — in her makeshift house now.

- (i) with her relatives (ii) alone
(iii) with her husband (iv) with her family

(g) Dancing of the flame means —.

- (i) a traditional form of folk dance.
(ii) a flame that makes people dance around it.
(iii) unstability of flame.
(iv) a flame made by people to remember their past.

2. Answer the following questions.

2×5=10

- (a) Why does Meherjan look more than her age?
(b) Where does she live and how does her living place look like?
(c) When are many more villages threatened by the roaring rivers?
(d) What happens then?
(e) How can we reduce the increasing number of shelterless people affected by river erosion?

3. Read the following text and fill in each gap with a suitable word based on the information of the text.

1×5=5

26 March, our Independence Day, is the biggest state festival. The day is celebrated every year in the country with great enthusiasm and fervour. It is a national holiday. All offices, educational institutions, shops and factories remain closed on this day. The day begins with 31 gunshots. Early in the morning the President and the Prime

Minister on behalf of the nation place floral wreaths at the National Mausoleum at Savar. Then diplomats, political parties, social and cultural organizations and freedom fighters pay homage to the martyrs. People from all walks of life also go there in rallies and processions. There are several cultural programmes throughout the day, highlighting the heroic struggle and sacrifice in 1971. The country also witnesses a smartly dressed parade of defence forces, border guards, police, ansars and the VDP (Village Defense Party) at the National Parade Ground near the National Parliament. In Bangabandhu Stadium, school children, scouts and girl guides take part in various displays to entertain thousands of spectators. Educational institutions also organise their individual programmes. Sports meets and tournaments are also organised on the day, including the exciting boat race in the river Buriganga.

Question:

Independence day is the biggest festival in our country. The day is observed throughout the country in a befitting (a) —. The (b) — of the Independence Day begins with 31 gunshots. People from all walks of life (c) — to the National Mausoleum to pay their respect by offering (d) —. Several cultural programmes are also (e) — to highlight the supreme sacrifice of our heroic sons for the independence of the country.

Read the following passage and answer the questions no. 4 and 5.

Rabindranath Tagore was one of the most leading poets in the history of world literature. He was at the same time a poet, a novelist, a dramatist, a philosopher and a musician. He was born in the renowned Tagore family in March, 1861. After the completion of his house education, he was sent to school. But he did not like institutional education. So arrangements were made at home for his proper education. In his thirteenth year, Rabindranath along with his father went to visit Himalayas. At the age of seventeen he was sent to London to study law. But he studied literature with professor Henry Morley only for a few months and then returned home. Only at the age of eight he started composing poems. He wrote his poetic novel Banaphul at the age of fifteen. When he was sixteen, his poems and essays were being published in journals. After returning from England, he began to write tirelessly in all branches of literature. In 1911 he translated his poems of "The Gitanjali" into English which brought him the highest honour in the form of the Nobel Prize in 1913.

One year after his awarding of the Nobel Prize, he was made a knight by the British Government which he rejected as a protest against the atrocities of British Government at Jalianwalabagh. The University of Oxford honoured him with D.Litt., in 1940. Earlier in 1921, he laid the foundation of Viswa Bharati. At the age of eighty, Rabindranath Tagore breathed his last.

4. Complete the table below with information from the above passage.

1×5=5

Biography of Rabindranath Tagore					
Known as	a poet, a novelist, a dramatist, a philosopher and a musician				
Life span	From 1861 to (i) —				
Who	What	Event/Activity	Time/When	Place/Where	Subject/Specialty
Rabindranath Tagore	tour	went to visit	(ii) —	Himalayas	accompanied by his father
Rabindranath Tagore	education	was sent to study	(iii) —		(iv) —
—	(v) —	brought him the highest honour in the form of the Nobel Prize	1913	—	

5. Write a summary of the above passage in your own words.

10

6. Match the parts of the sentences given in column A, B and C to write five complete sentences.

1×5=5

A	B	C
(a) Our Parliament House	(i) by an artificial lake called	(i) in 1982.
(b) It has been designed	(ii) is one of the most spectacular	(ii) buildings in the world.
(c) The building is surrounded	(iii) was held on February in	(iii) the same year.
(d) It	(iv) was inaugurated	(iv) Louis I Kahn.
(e) The first parliamentary session	(v) by a famous American architect	(v) Crescent Lake.

7. Put the following parts of the story in correct order to make the whole story. Only the corresponding numbers of sentences need to be written. 1×8=8

- (a) The dog dropped the bone and barked at the crow.
- (b) One of them started pecking to dog's tail.
- (c) Both the crows went near the dog.
- (d) Once a dog was eating a bony piece of meat sitting under a tree.
- (e) The dog not only felt disturbed but also became angry.
- (f) If flew away and after sometime returned with another crow.
- (g) A crow saw him and wished to eat that.
- (h) In the meantime the other crow flew away with the bone.

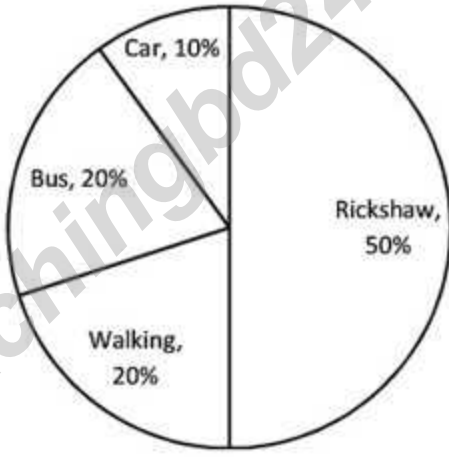
8. Answer the following questions to write a paragraph on 'Environment Pollution' in 200 words. 10

(a) What do you mean by "Environment Pollution"? (b) What are the elements of Environment? (c) How are the elements being polluted? (d) What are the effects of pollution? (e) What should we do to get rid of Environment Pollution?

9. Read the beginning of a story. Add at least ten new sentences to complete the story. 10

Liton is a brilliant student. Though he wants to make good result, he does not attend classes regularly. Rather going to a coaching center, he memorises answers from guide books and sheets and finds that he cannot cut a good figure in the exams. One day his class teacher called him and

10. The pie chart below shows the percentage of transportation used by the students to come to their school. Describe the chart in 150 words. You should highlight and summarize the information given in the chart. 10



11. Imagine, you are Rafi/Rafia and your friend is Swapan/Swapna. You are an SSC examinee of 2019. After your examination you will have enough time for leisure. 10

Now, write a letter to your friend telling him/her what you intend to do after your SSC Examination.

12. Suppose, you are Bakul and your friend is Nayan. Recently you have noticed the road accident is on the rise horribly in our country. Everyday many people fall victim to road accidents.

Now, write a dialogue between you and your friend about the causes and remedies of road accidents. 10