

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

Section A—Reading Test (Seen Passage)

Read the text carefully and answer the questions 1, 2 and 3 :—

River gypsies are an ethnic group in Bangladesh. They are known as 'bedey' to local people. The gypsies have their own lifestyle and culture. They live in groups and do not own any land. Therefore, they live a nomadic life travelling from one place to another. These people roam across our rivers and waters from May to December in small country boats. These boats are their houses and these people are a part of our waters. In winter, many water bodies dry up. At that time they return to the mainland and live in make-shift tarpaulin tents on open river banks. You can see their men relaxing in the tents. Toddlers play with dogs or other pets in the dust. Women often idle away time by hair doing, picking off lice in twos or threes sitting in a row. Throughout the monsoon, they remain busy with fishing. They also dive for natural pearls in waters. Sometimes, they camp for a couple of weeks. Men catch snakes and certain people with snake charming and sell herbal cures. Women go from door to door to sell bangles, cosmetics and other things. They also try to heal pains of old people often by sucking out blood from their body.

Many villagers believe in the magical power of the gypsies. They can an evil spirit leave someone's body by magic or special powers.

Marks

1×5=5

1. Choose the best answer from the alternatives :—

- (a) The term 'ethnic' is connected with ———
 (i) people (ii) plants (iii) animals (iv) fishes
- (b) The gypsies lead a ——— life.
 (i) luxurious (ii) nomadic (iii) fashionable (iv) simple
- (c) They are locally known as ———
 (i) jeley (ii) kumar (iii) snake charmer (iv) bedey
- (d) 'Monsoon' refers to the ———
 (i) summer (ii) winter (iii) autumn (iv) rainy season
- (e) They gypsies have no ———
 (i) language (ii) religion (iii) land possession (iv) culture

2. Give short answers to the following questions :—

2×5=10

- (a) Who are river gypsies?
 (b) What do river gypsies do for a living?
 (c) Where do they return in winter?
 (d) What do the village people believe about the river gypsies?
 (e) How long do they stay on boats?

3. Read the text in A again. Now, write the summary of it in around 50 words.

10

Reading Test (Unseen Passage)

Read the following text carefully and answer the questions 4 and 5 :—

Rabindranath Tagore was one of the most leading poets in the history of the 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 years, Rabindranath along with his father, went to visit the Himalayas. At the age of seventeen he was sent to London to study law. But he studied literature with Professor Henry Morely 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.

[Please turn over]

4. Complete the following table with the information given in the passage :—

Who/what	Even/activity	Where/institute	When
Rabindranath Tagore	born	(i)	1861
He	visited	Himalayas	(ii)
He	(iii)	London	1878
He	(iv)		1911
Poems and essays	publication	journals	(v)

5. Read the passage again and write True or False beside the following statements. Give answers for the false statements :— 1×5=5

- At the age of seventeen he was sent to the USA to study law.
- Banaphul is a drama written by Rabindranath Tagore.
- Rabindranath Tagore began to write in all branches of literature after coming back from America.
- He translated his poems of "The Gitanjali" into English in 1911.
- Tagore was awarded Nobel prize in 1913.

6. Fill in the gaps with appropriate words :— 1×5=5

Kazi Nazrul Islam is (a) _____ national poet. He is (b) _____ as a rebel poet. (c) _____ a rebel poet his (d) _____ spreads far and wide. (e) _____ poetry deals with love for humanity.

7. Rearrange the following sentences in correct order :— 10

- Bruce saw the spider climbing to the ceiling after some unsuccessful attempts.
- He took shelter in a remote cave.
- Then he saw a spider trying hard to reach the ceiling of the cave.
- But it did not give up hope.
- He had to flee from his kingdom to save his life.
- The king fought bravely but lost the battle.
- Once he was lying in the cave.
- The spider failed again and again to succeed.
- Robert Bruce was a famous king of Scotland.
- Enemies invaded his kingdom.

8. Fill in the gaps using clues from the boxes. There are more words than necessary :— 0.5×10=5

for	besides	variety	junctions	everybody	Bangladesh
search	vehicles	overtaking	road	poor	feature

Road accidents have become a common (a) _____ of everyday life in our country, (b) _____. A lot of reasons act behind (c) _____ accidents. Roadside environment, poor design of (d) _____ and road sections, excessive speed, dangerous (e) _____, reckless driving, disobeying mandatory traffic rules, (f) _____ of traffics' characteristics and defects of (g) _____ are the principal reasons of it. (h) _____ road accidents are the major challenges (i) _____ the development of Bangladesh. We should (j) _____ the way how to overcome these fatal problems.

9. The phrases in Column A are the beginning of some sentences. The phrases in column B are the endings. Match the phrases in Column A with the phrases in Column B to make complete sentences :— 1×5=5

Column A	Column B
(i) A library is a place	(a) borrow books from here if we wish.
(ii) It is very useful because	(b) as a store house of knowledge.
(iii) It is very essential	(c) where various types of books are found.
(iv) We can also	(d) to enrich our knowledge.
(v) A library is also known	(e) we can read many kinds of books there.

Section B—Writing Test

10. Suppose you are Sumon/Sumona and your friend is Rashed/ Rasheda. Make a dialogue in 100 words between you and your friend about your preparation for the J.S.C examination to be held in November. 10

11. Write a paragraph on "Our National Flag" by answering the following questions. Your paragraph should not exceed 100 words :— 10

- What do you mean by a "National Flag"?
- How have we got Our National Flag?
- What is its width and breadth?
- How can we protect and uphold the honour of Our National Flag?

12. Read the beginning of a story. Now, complete it in 150 words :— 10

There were two friends. They lived in a certain village. They promised that they would help each other at the time of danger. One day they were passing through a deep forest. Suddenly a bear came in front of them.....

13. Suppose, you are Nabil/Nabila. Your friend is Sakib/Sakiba. He/She wants to know about your aim in life. Now, write a letter to your friend describing your aim in life. (Word limit—150) 10