

**Part A: Seen Comprehension (40 marks)**

**Read the passage below and answer the questions 1 – 4:**

Feeding the ever growing population is a big challenge for Bangladesh in the coming decades. The major challenge for the country is to sustain the current level of agricultural production. The task is daunting, especially when the country loses about 80 thousand hectares of cultivable land annually due to excessive pressure of land for human settlement as well as the building of infrastructure such as roads and bridges. Moreover, river erosion and other non-agricultural uses contribute to the diminishing of agricultural land. Although the total number of farm holding has increased by 18 percent, the cultivated area has declined with the average farm size decreasing for 2.26 acres in 1983-84 to 1.69 acres in 1996.

Given that about 805 of the farms are small and highly fragmented more imaginative and effective organizations of production are needed to sustain community. The newly emerging 'contract farming' taken up by a number of private agri-business farms in one approach for promoting food production, especially vegetables and fruit. One possibility to compensate for the loss of land is to go for land reclamation in the Bay of Bengal for which of course the country needs massive external assistance.

It is essential to improve agricultural production in general and food production in particular. For this, support from public sector is necessary to generate and promote technologies and hence to strengthen production. Bio-technology research and development of hybrid crops and animal species need to be given which will probably involve partnerships with multinational private sector firms and institutions.

**1. Choose the right word to complete each sentence. 1×5=5**

- (a) Sustaining the current level of agricultural production is not encouraging/discouraging/ tremendous.
- (b) We must keep aside/ in/ up the current production of food.
- (c) Accommodation of people also causes much stress/ weight/confinement on our cultivable land.
- (d) By taking only one method/concept/step we cannot expect to have the desired food production.
- (e) Most of our farms are disintegrated/shattered/united.

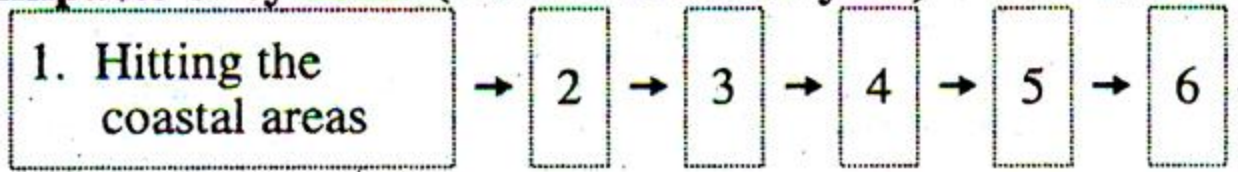
2. **True/False? If false, give the correct information.**  $1 \times 5 = 5$
- (a) Government support is enough to accelerate technologies.
  - (b) The pressure of population causes an adverse impact on our land.
  - (c) For land reclamation in the Bay of Bengal, we have sufficient technological support.
  - (d) The contribution of public sectors in this regard should be encouraged.
  - (e) Our farm lands are divided into small pieces.
3. **Fill in the gaps with the correct forms of words in brackets. Add any prepositions if necessary.**  $1 \times 5 = 5$
- (a) The (sustain) — current level of food production is now important.
  - (b) We need to have our huge population (settlement) — different places.
  - (c) Measures must be taken to stop the (fragment) — land.
  - (d) The (emerging) — the new idea of contract farming is encouraging.
  - (e) The text deals (particular) — the problem of agricultural production in the coming decades.
4. **Make a list of five important causes for the loss of cultivable land below:**  $1 \times 5 = 5$

**Read the passage below and answer the questions 5 – 8:**

Much of the destruction caused by the cyclone of April 1991 was due to the wind velocity and the tidal surge which began to swell about the time the cyclone hit the coastal areas of the country. Twenty-five feet at some points, it swamped the offshore islands, submerging them and then bursting across the shoreline, raced inland. The impact of such an event was especially catastrophic because there was a dense rural population living in extreme poverty and with little protection in these areas. It is estimated that nearly 1,40,000 people lost their lives during this cyclone. As many as 1 million people in 16 districts of the country were affected in varying degrees while nearly 1,38,849 were reported to have been injured.

5. **Write short answers to the following questions.**  $1 \times 5 = 5$
- (a) What two things did worsen the cyclone of April 1991?
  - (b) When did the tidal surge swell?
  - (c) How did the tidal surge affect the offshore islands?
  - (d) Why was its impact so catastrophic?
  - (e) What was the number of loss of lives?

6. **Fill in the gaps with suitable words.**  $1 \times 5 = 5$   
 The cyclone of April 1991 was much (a) —. The (b) — surge hit the coastal areas (c) — the offshore islands. The number of deaths was very high because of the (d) — of rural population. The (e) — people had little protection.
7. **Summarise the passage in five sentences.**  $1 \times 5 = 5$
8. **Based on your reading of the passage, make short notes in each of the boxes in the flow chart showing the impacts of cyclone. (No 1 is done for you.)**  $1 \times 5 = 5$



**Part B: Vocabulary (20 marks)**

9. **Fill in the gaps with a suitable word from the box (make any grammatical changes if necessary). There are more words in the box than you need.**  $1 \times 10 = 10$

public	temper	excuse	private
furious	make	beast	pay
thunder	amuse	poured	cool
irritation	educate	winds	

Socrates believed that an angry man was more of a (a) — than a human being. He had a wife who used to loose her (b) — on the slightest (c) — and tried her utmost to (d) — Socrates. One day, the woman became more (e) — than ever and began to insult Socrates. Socrates went out and sat on the door step of his house looking out on the (f) — street. The wife finding that Socrates was not (g) — the least heed to her, went up to him and (h) — much water over him. The passers by in the street were much (i) — in the incident and Socrates joined with them in their laughter and quietly remarked, "I was expecting this, after (j) — comes rain."

10. **Fill in the blanks with appropriate words in each gap**  $1 \times 10 = 10$   
 Hospitality has long been a part of our culture in Bangladesh. Although many other things are changing (a) — people are still quite polite and (b) — towards foreigners. They like speaking to (c) — even if they have not been (d) —. It is quite common for the (e) — to ask personal questions about family, (f) — and the income which visitors from (g) — might find awkward. However, it should be (h) — that no harm is (i) — by such questions. On the other (j) — they express a genuine interest in the foreigner's state of a affairs.

11. Match the phrases in the following substitution table to make sensible sentences. Write the sentences in full. 6×2=12

A	B	C	D
(a) The role of women in nation building	is not possible for any nation to reach	western countries but also	dignity and honour
(b) It	was a time when women were	any more in the	has been changed
(c) There	cannot be denied	its goal without allowing the women folk	family affairs
(d) They	of civilization, outlook and	looked upon without any	situation of the world
(e) But with the progress	is true not only for the	to serve the	to play their active role
(f) This	were the only instrument	attitude of the world towards women	for the Islamic countries as well

12. The sentences in the following text are jumbled. Rewrite the sentences in the proper order and in a continuous paragraph to make a story. 14

- (i) The king was fond of knowing his future from astrologer.
- (ii) The king called him to the palace.
- (iii) At this the king got furious and condemned him to death.
- (iv) A good astrologer visited the capital of the king.
- (v) Once there was a king.
- (vi) With ready wit he said, "The stars declare that I'll die only a week before your death!"
- (vii) But another thought crossed his mind before the astrologer was removed for execution.
- (viii) The king then asked, "How long would you live?"
- (ix) The astrologer told something very unpleasant.
- (x) He then thought for a while for some way of escape.
- (xi) He thought that the king would prove him a liar putting him to death.
- (xii) At this the king turned pale.
- (xiii) "Drive this wretch away and let him not come again", shouted the king.
- (xiv) "I shall wait to receive your majesty where you have been sending me.

13. Write a paragraph of about 100 words based on the following questions. Your answer to the question should give a much detail as possible. 14

- (a) What is good health?
- (b) How can one keep good health?
- (c) Do all the people of our country get the food they need for good health?
- (d) Why do you think that the rich and educated of our country are not conscious of the rules of good health?
- (e) What impacts do the complexities of life have on our health?
- (f) Do you think a simple and a care-free life is conducive to good health?