

SPECIAL PREPARATION FOR SSC EXAMINATION 2020

Md. Jasim Uddin Biswas, Lecturer
Dhaka Residential Model College

First Paper

The pioneer of Bangladeshi modern art Zainul Abedin is widely acclaimed for his Bengal 'Famine Sketches'. Through a series of sketches, Zainul not only documented the harsh famine of 1940 but also showed its sinister face through the skeletal figures of the people destined to die of starvation in a man-made plight. He depicted these extremely shocking pictures with human compassion. He made his own ink by burning charcoal and used cheap ordinary packing paper for sketching. He produced a series of brush and ink drawings, which later became iconic images of human suffering. Zainul developed a knack for drawing and painting when he was a high school student. After completing high school, he got admission to the Government School of Art, Calcutta (now Kolkata). He graduated with the first position in first class in 1938. He was appointed as a teacher of the Art School while he was still a student there. He also attended the Slade School of Arts, London in 1951-52. Zainul Abedin is considered the founding father of Bangladeshi art. He was an artist of outstanding talent and earned an international reputation. For his artistic and visionary qualities, he is referred to as Shilpacharya meaning 'great teacher of art' in Bangladesh. He was the first Principal of the first art school in Dhaka in East Pakistan (now Bangladesh). He organized the Nabanna (harvest) exhibition in 1969. In the exhibition, a 65-foot long scroll portraying the rural East Pakistan in phases from abundance to poverty. This intensified the already heightened non-cooperation movement against the Pakistan regime. The exhibition was symbolic of the artists protest and a milestone in demanding cultural and political freedom. Zainul's dynamic style of work is evident in a 30 foot long scroll painting called Manpura, which was done to commemorate the death of hundreds and thousands of people in the devastating cyclone of 1970. He designed the pages of the Constitution of Bangladesh. He founded the Folk Art Museum at Sonargaon, and also Zainul Abedin Shagrahasala, a gallery of his own works in Mymensingh in 1975.

The river Brahmaputra plays a predominant role in his paintings and a source of inspiration all through his career. Much of his childhood was spent near the scenic beauty of the river Brahmaputra. A series of water colours that Zainul did as his tribute to the river earned him the Governor's Gold Medal in an all-India exhibition in 1938. This was the first time when he came into the spotlight and this award gave him the confidence to create his own visual style. Zainul was born in Kishoreganj on 29 December 1914, and died on 28 May, 1976.



Seen Passage

1. Choose the best answer from the alternatives.

1×7=7

(a) Zainul Abedin's art shows that the people are destined to die _____.

- (i) of diseases (ii) by accidents
(iii) from over-working (iv) of starvation

(b) Which of the following phrase indicates the effect of the famine?

- (i) Man-made plight (ii) Extremely shocking
(iii) Skeletal figure (iv) Human compassion

(c) 'Manpura' was done to commemorate the death of thousands of people _____.

- (i) in the devastating cyclone of 1970 (ii) in the bloody war of 1971
(iii) in the devastating flood of 1973 (iv) in the mass-movement of 1969

(d) The statement which indicates that initially Zainul did not get any patronization as _____.

- (i) he managed the ink and paper on his own
(ii) he depicted the extremely shocking pictures
(iii) he became an iconic figure in art
(iv) all the answers are correct

(e) The word 'series' in line two refers to _____.

- (i) serious (ii) important
(iii) sequence (iv) flippant

(f) The word 'harsh' stands for _____.

- (i) soft (ii) severely
(iii) severe (iv) hash

(g) He is greatly _____ for his 'Famine Sketches.'

- (i) praised (ii) disliked
(iii) condemned (iv) followed

2. Answer the following questions.

2×5=10

- (a) Why did Zainul Abedin organize Nabanna (harvest) exhibition in 1969?
(b) Why did he draw the scroll painting 'Manpura'?
(c) Why is he called 'Shilpacharya'?
(d) How did Zainul produce the iconic images of human suffering?
(e) What did Zainul show in a 65 feet long scroll?

Answer to the question number 1:

- (a) (iv) of starvation
(b) (iii) Skeletal figure
(c) (i) in the devastating cyclone of 1970
(d) (i) he managed the ink and paper on his own
(e) (iii) sequence
(f) (iii) severe
(g) (i) praised

Answer to the question number 2:

(a) Zainul Abedin organized Nabanna (harvest) exhibition for two reasons. Firstly, he showed his sympathy for the cultivators of our country. Secondly, it was a protest against the ruling Pakistani government in respect of their cultural exploitation.

(b) He drew the scroll painting 'Manpura' for two reasons. First of all, he showed the human passion for the victims. Secondly, he did it to commemorate the cyclone victims of 1970.

(c) Zainul Abedin, considered to be the founding father of Bangladeshi art, was an artist of outstanding talent and earned reputation at home and abroad. He is called Shilpacharya for his artistic and visionary qualities.

(d) Zainul produced the iconic images of human sufferings with great human compassion. He made his own ink by burning charcoal and used cheap ordinary packing paper for sketching. A series of brush and ink drawings produced by him reflected the sinister face of famine.

(e) Zainul Abedin organized the Nabanna exhibition in 1969 where a 65-foot long scroll was portraying the rural East Pakistan in phases from abundance to poverty. The exhibition symbolized the artistic protest and a milestone in demanding cultural and political freedom. It strengthened the non-cooperation movement against the Pakistan regime.

Second Paper

Change the sentences according to the directions provided in the bracket.

3.

(a) Haji Mohammad Muhsin was not an unkind man at all. (Affirmative)
Answer: Haji Mohammad Muhsin was a very kind man.(b) He inherited vast property from his father and sister. (Interrogative)
Answer: Didn't he inherit vast property from his father and sister?(c) He was unmarried. (Negative)
Answer: He was not married/He did not marry.

(d) During his lifetime, he spent money lavishly to help the poor. (Complex)

Answer: When he was alive, he spent money lavishly to help the poor. Or, It was his lifetime when he spent money lavishly to help the poor.

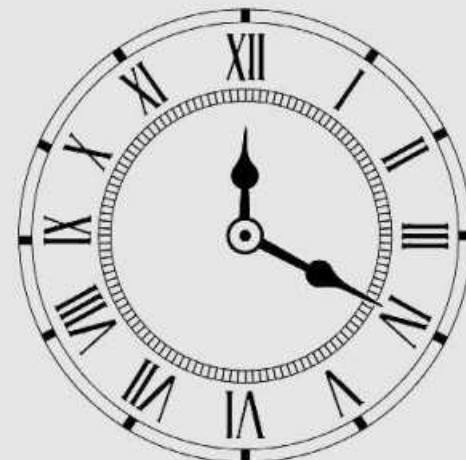
(e) One night, when he was saying his prayer, a thief broke into his room. (Simple)
Answer: One night, at the time of saying his prayer, a thief broke into his room. Or, One night, while praying a thief broke into his room. Or, One night during the time of saying his prayer, a thief broke into his room.

(f) Seeing Muhsin, the thief cried. (Compound)
Answer: The thief saw Muhsin and cried.(g) The thief was caught by him. (Active)
Answer: He caught the thief.(h) How needy the thief was! (Assertive)
Answer: The thief was very needy.(i) He gave the thief some food and money. (Passive)
Answer: Some food and money were given to the thief by him. Or, The thief was given some food and money by him.(j) Muhsin was one of the best philanthropists in the world. (Positive)
Answer: Very few philanthropists in the world were so/as good as Muhsin.

4.

(a) Bangladesh is a low-lying country. (Interrogative)
Answer: Isn't Bangladesh a low-lying country?(b) Every year natural disasters visit us. (Passive)
Answer: We are visited by natural disasters every year.(c) Flood is one of the most dangerous natural disasters. (Comparative)
Answer: Flood is more dangerous than most other natural disasters.(d) It is Dhaka city which has not yet suffered any severe earthquake. (Simple)
Answer: Dhaka city has not yet suffered any severe earthquake.(e) People living in the high land can escape flood. (Complex)
Answer: People who live in the high land, can escape flood.(f) Crops are damaged by this flood. (Active)
Answer: This flood damages crops.(g) Who does not know the consequence of Tsunami? (Assertive)
Answer: Everybody knows the consequences of Tsunami.(h) The recent flood was very devastating. (Exclamatory)
Answer: How devastating the recent flood was!(i) Bangladesh is in the active earthquake zone. (Negative)
Answer: Bangladesh is not in the inactive earthquake zone.(j) Dhaka is the most risky city in the earthquake zone. (Positive)
Answer: No other city in the earthquake zone is so/as risky as Dhaka.

5.

(a) Student life is the time of preparation for future life. (Complex)
Answer: It is student life which is the time of preparation for future life.(b) It is study which is the first and foremost duty of a student. (Simple)
Answer: Study is the first and foremost duty of a student.(c) As students are the future hope of a nation, they should equip themselves accordingly. (Compound)
Answer: Students are the future hope of a nation and so they should equip themselves accordingly.(d) They should utilize every valuable moment of their life. (Passive)
Answer: Every valuable moment of their life should be utilized by them.(e) They should never put off their work for tomorrow. (Assertive)
Answer: They should always finish their work in time.(f) They should acquire the qualities to become good citizens. (Complex)
Answer: They should acquire the qualities which help them become good citizens.(g) They should also be engaged in social service. (Active)
Answer: They should also engage themselves in social service.(h) In social context, their service is as important as any responsible sector. (Comparative)
Answer: In social context, their service is no less important than any other responsible sector.(i) Students are undoubtedly great assets to any nation. (Negative)
Answer: There is no doubt that students are great assets to any nation.(j) None can deny the fact. (Interrogative)
Answer: Who can deny the fact? Or, Can anyone deny the fact?

6.

(a) Cox's Bazar is the longest sea beach in the world. (Positive)
Answer: No other sea beach in the world is as long as Cox's Bazar.(b) Everyone knows this. (Interrogative)
Answer: Who does not know this?(c) This seabeach is visited by tourists from home and abroad. (Active)
Answer: Tourists from home and abroad visit this seabeach.(d) They come here to enjoy themselves. (Complex)
Answer: They come here so that they can enjoy themselves.(e) It is one of the most amusing places in the world. (Comparative)
Answer: It is more amusing than most other places in the world.(f) How charming the scenery of Cox's Bazar is! (Assertive)
Answer: The scenery of Cox's Bazar is very charming.(g) The sea is wide open and it widens the hearts of the visitors. (Simple)
Answer: The wide open sea widens the hearts of the visitors. Or, The sea being wide open widens the hearts of the visitors.(h) Only the harsh people can avoid this beauty. (Negative)
Answer: None but the harsh people can avoid this beauty.(i) Since it is a famous tourist place, its condition should be developed. (Compound)
Answer: It is a famous tourist place and so its condition should be developed(j) Our government is going to take some steps to make it more attractive. (Passive)
Answer: Some steps are going to be taken by our government to make it more attractive.