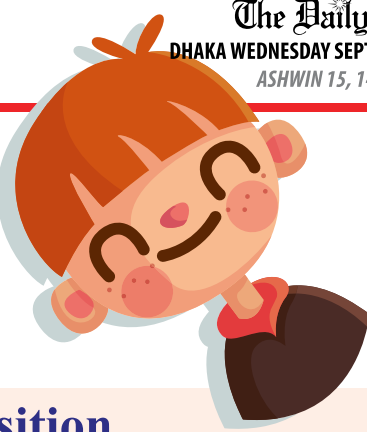




## HSC SPECIAL MODEL TEST 2020

Md. Jasim Uddin Biswas, Lecturer, Department of English  
Dhaka Residential Model College, Dhaka



### SUBJECT: ENGLISH FIRST PAPER

### SEEN PASSAGE



Read the passage and answer the following questions.

British-Bangladeshis, also known as British-Bengalis, are an important part of the Bangladeshi diaspora or those of Bangladeshi origin who are living abroad. Almost half of all British-Bangladeshis live in London, especially in the East London boroughs, of which Tower Hamlets has the highest concentration.

Today a tourist who is new to London may well decide to make her way over to the East End of the city, to visit 'Banglatown'. After exiting the Tube Station there she might follow the signs that point to Brick Lane, a street that has gained certain notoriety from Monica Ali's best-selling

novel of the same name, which was also made into a movie. She may decide to try out one of the many Bangladeshi restaurants she sees there for lunch. Sitting at one of the tables with a window onto the street, she might notice that the street signs are not just in English but also in Bengali. And the lamp-posts are in green and red—the colours of the Bangladeshi flag. In fact, everywhere she looks she finds visual cues of the Bangladeshi, and even more specifically, the Sylheti presence in the area. Storefronts advertise flights from London to Sylhet, some on Bangladesh Biman (the national airline of Bangladesh) and others on Air Sylhet, a private airline company formed

by British Bangladeshis. There is a sign for Sonali Bank- the major state-owned commercial bank of Bangladesh. There is a food store advertising frozen fish from Sylhet's Surma River. She watches two elderly men with long, grey beards enter the store, they are dressed in long white tunics, baggy pants and white head caps. She sees a group of teenage girls walking down the street in animated conversation. One is dressed in a black burqa and the others are in jeans and long shirts, along with bright sequined hijabs on their heads. Looking through her London guidebook, she reads about how this neighbourhood is in 'Banglatown'.

#### 1. A. Choose the correct answer from the alternatives.

(a) Which of the following best describes 'tourist'?

- (i) a vagabond
- (ii) a terrorist
- (iii) a traveller
- (iv) a man who visits 'Banglatown'

(b) Where is 'Banglatown'?

- (i) in the East London
- (ii) in the Boroughs
- (iii) in the East End of the city
- (iv) in the heart of London

(c) A tourist can find the Sylheti presence in \_\_\_\_.

- (i) Banglatown
- (ii) the heart of London
- (iii) the East city
- (iv) Sylhet

(d) 'British-Bangladeshis' refers to \_\_\_\_.

- (i) the people of British origin, living in Bangladesh
- (ii) the people of Britain and Bangladesh living in other countries
- (iii) the people of Bangladeshi origin, living in Britain
- (iv) the people of Britain and Bangladesh

(e) The word 'diaspora' refers to \_\_\_\_.

- (i) origin
- (ii) local inhabitants
- (iii) people migrated far from ancestral homelands
- (iv) countryman

#### B. Answer the following questions.

- (a) What is your idea about British-Bangladeshis?
- (b) Describe 'Banglatown' in your own word.
- (c) How is Monica Ali related to Brick Lane?
- (d) "British-Bangladeshis are not forgetful of their own religion, culture and tradition." — Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Give reasons.
- (e) What are the visible Bangladeshi landmarks in 'Banglatown'?

#### 2. Read the following text and make a flow chart showing the major characteristics of adolescence. (One is done for you.)

The time of adolescence is a period of preparation of adulthood during which one experiences several key developments. Besides physical and sexual maturation, these experiences include movement toward social and economic independence, development of identity, the acquisition of skills needed to carry out adult relationships and roles and the capacity for abstract reasoning. While adolescence is a time of

tremendous growth and potential, it is also a time of considerable risks during which social contexts exert powerful influences. Many adolescents face pressure to use alcohol, cigarettes, or other drugs and to initiate sexual relationships putting themselves at high risk for intentional and unintentional injuries, unintended pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

Many also experience a wide range of adjustment and mental health problems. Behaviour patterns that are established during this period such as the use or avoidance of drugs and taking or abstaining from sexual risk can have long-lasting negative and positive effects on future health and wellbeing. As a result, adults have unique opportunities to influence adolescents.

1. Physical and sexual maturation → 2 → 3 → 4 → 5 → 6



### Part B: Composition

3. Can you still remember the events and days you passed in your childhood? Write elaborating on 'Your Childhood Memories'. Write at least 200 words but don't exceed 250 words.

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## A N S W E R S

### SEEN PASSAGE

Answer to the question number 1(A):

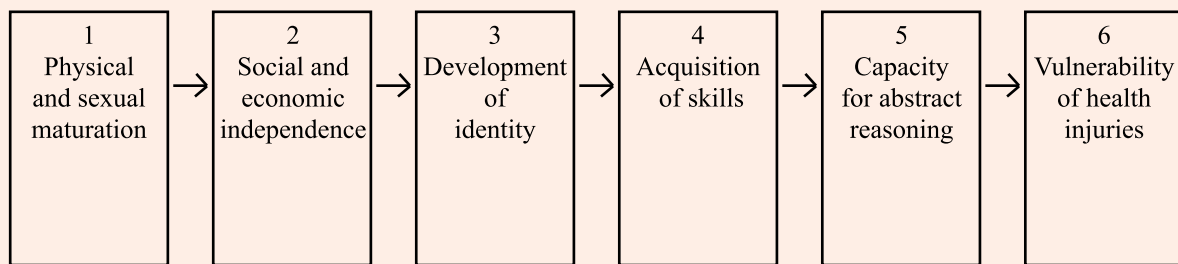
- (a) = (iii) a traveller
- (b) = (i) in the East London
- (c) = (i) Banglatown
- (d) = (iii) the people of Bangladeshi origin, living in Britain
- (e) = (iii) people migrated far from ancestral homelands



Answer to the question number 1(B):

- (a) British-Bangladeshis, also known as British-Bengalis are a great part of the Bangladeshi diaspora or those of Bangladeshi origin who are now living in Britain.
- (b) Banglatown is to the East End of the city of London. Most British-Bangladeshis live there. There is a street named Brick Lane. There are many Bangladeshi restaurants. The street signs there are not only in English but also in Bengali. The lamp-posts are painted in the colours of the Bangladeshi flag. A lot of Sylhetis live there.
- (c) 'Brick Lane' is Monica Ali's best selling novel. In this novel, she has portrayed the life of the British-Bangladeshis living there. This novel was also made into a movie.
- (d) I agree with this statement. From the passage, we come to know that the elderly men in Brick Lane wear long white tunics, baggy pants and white head caps. Again, we see two teenage girls one of whom wears black burkha while the other wears jeans and long shirts, with hijabs. These types of dress are identical to the Bangladeshi dress. It also shows that living abroad does not make them forgetful of their own religion, culture and tradition.
- (e) The visible Bangladeshi landmarks there are Altab Ali Park, the Kobi Nazrul Cultural Centre and the Shaheed Minar Monument.

Answer to the question number 2:



Answer to the question number 3:

### My Childhood Memories

The memories of childhood always remain fresh in the minds of people. Childhood memories never go into oblivion. Because childhood does not appear to us only with joyous events and it also appears with some sorrowful events to us. Man has a tendency to turn back to past memories from the present. There is a saying that the lost days were better days. My childhood haunts me like a passion. Whenever I am sick of the present, I try to get relief in the past days of my childhood.

I was born in the village Majhina under Narayanganj district. The river Sitalakshaya flows through the district and just by the eastside of our village. In all the seasons, this river was a source of pleasure for me and my friends. We played together on the bank of this river,

we used to row on the river, jump into it and swim in it.

The village Maktab was another interesting place in my childhood. An old erudite Moulvi who loved me affectionately used to teach us there. A large number of boys and girls used to attend the Maktab every morning. We would learn lessons in a deafening noise. Many interesting incidents would happen when we attended the Maktab.

When the school bell rang for break, we used to run in groups and wandered around the green land before returning home. We stole fruits from trees that belonged to others. Sometimes, we would forget to eat our midday meals. There was a bush near our school. We always searched for birds there and if found, we would

steal them.

During holidays when my mother went to sleep at noon, we went to the railway line. There I, together with other children gathered pebbles. We watched with wonder how the train passed. However, my mind is filled with joy when I recollect my sweet memories of childhood. But my mind becomes obsessed with grief when I recollect that bad event when my dearest Moulvi of the village Maktab passed away.

I can never forget my childhood. It was the best period of my life. Life was totally carefree then. When I sit idle alone after the tiring day's work, my childhood memories make me nostalgic. That was really a joyous period in my life.

