

Class: IX-X

Waterfalls

Materials Designed by BRAC University Centre for Languages (CfL)

## A. Waterfalls



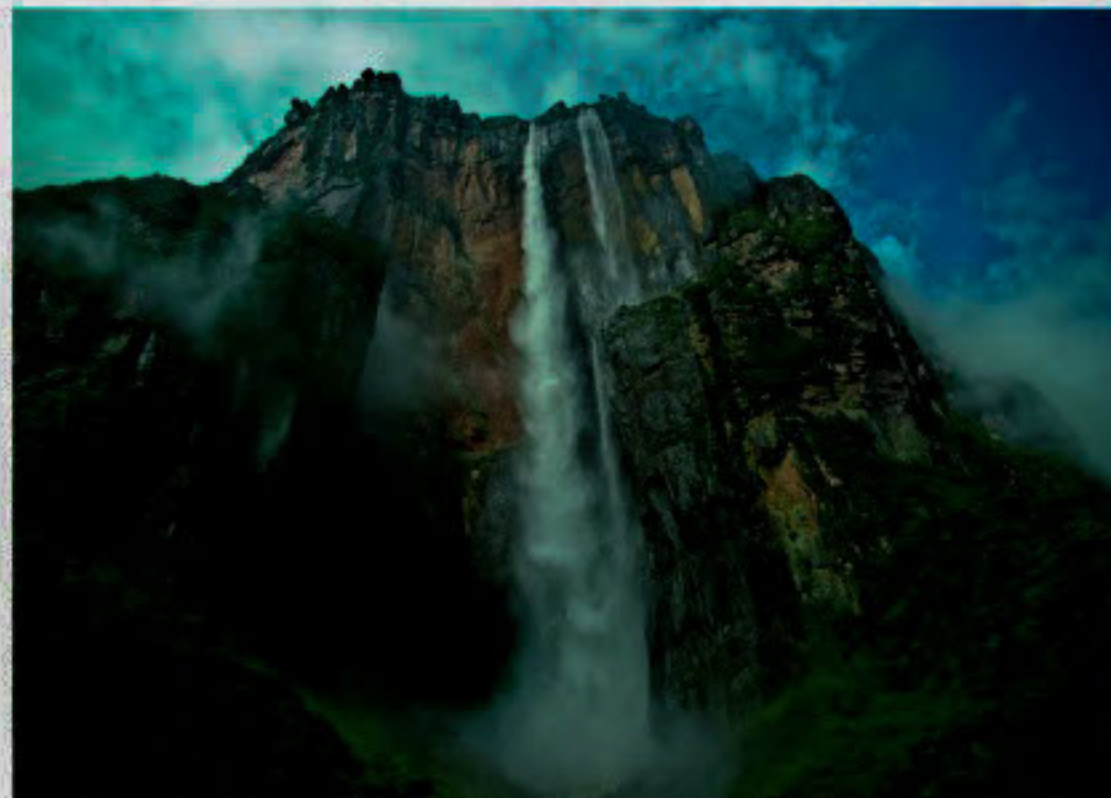
A waterfall is a flow of water which falls from a high point. They are usually formed when a river or stream flows over a steep incline. They may also be created when the stream course is interrupted as the stream passes over a layer of harder rock to an area of softer and eroded rock, usually at the edge of a cliff or a hanging valley. Normally, as a stream grows older, waterfalls move upstream and lose some of their original height. There are several types of waterfalls such as cascades, cataracts and chutes.

The following section is about some of the most famous waterfalls in the world. Form complete meaningful sentences by matching and joining the phrases in Column A with those in Column B.

Column A	Column B
1. Angel Falls in Venezuela is the world's <b>highest</b> waterfall, with a height of 979 metres (3, 212 ft). The height of the fall is so great	(a) other is called American Falls, which is on the American side. The larger Horseshoe Falls drop is about 53m (173 ft) while the height of American Falls varies between 21 - 30m (70 - 100 ft).
2. Jurong Falls in Singapore is an	(b) waterfall in the world. It is situated in Italy and stands 165m (541 ft) tall.
3. Hannoki Falls is Asia's <b>tallest</b> waterfall with a height	(c) artificial waterfall which is 30m (100ft) tall.
4. Niagara Falls is <b>the most powerful</b> waterfall in North America. This waterfall has two major sections; one is called Horseshoe Falls, which is on the Canadian side, and the	(d) that before getting anywhere near the ground, much of the water evaporates or is carried away as a fine mist by the strong wind.
5. Rhine Falls is Europe's <b>widest</b> waterfall and is located	(e) a mile long. It is located on the Zambezi River on the border of Zimbabwe and Zambia at a height of 108m (354 ft).
6. Victoria Falls is the <b>largest</b> waterfall in the world and is more than	(f) in Switzerland. It is 150m (450 ft) wide and 23m (75 ft) high.
7. Cascata delle Marmore is the tallest man-made	(g) of 500m (1,640 ft), and it is located in Tateyama, Japan.



Niagara Falls, Canada



Angel Falls, Venezuela

## B. You Can't Ignore the Beauty of a Waterfall

Rearrange the statements below in a meaningful way and then read the following passage.

- With their thundering splash of water and rainbow-causing mist, we simply can't ignore the commanding presence of a waterfall. Why are we drawn to the beauty of a waterfall?
- In fact, since life revolves around water, you can make the argument that they announce the health of the ecosystem, and in the larger picture - the world.
- Well, they present a certain reassuring sense of order in a chaotic world of randomness.
- Nature displays its beauty in many forms; one of these forms is in a waterfall.
- The order is evident when we see its graceful patterns or awesome geometric shape gaudily showing itself to us. When we see a natural waterfall flowing and mesmerizing us, we get the sense that things feel "right" and healthy.

## C. Mystery & Myth about Waterfalls

Waterfalls are one of nature's greatest mystiques. Since ancient times, there have been tales of the magical powers of waterfalls. For instance, it was the belief of the old Indians of Wisconsin that waterfalls were the creations of powerful spirits. Some falls were the dwelling places of spirits. Here, the water was believed to form a curtain in order to hide the spirit's secret medicine-making and spells from the eyes of man. Niagara Falls is the most sacred waters of the Iroquois people and a focus of many legends and myths. They believed that the sound of the waterfall was the voice of a mighty spirit in the water. They sought the favor of the Water Spirit by sacrificing a maiden to the Falls each year - sending her in a white canoe decorated with fruits and flowers over the brink of the falls. To be sacrificed was the greatest honor, and it insured special gifts and a happy afterlife.

While some tales tell of forbidden lovers leaping to their death so as to express their eternal commitment, others speak of supernatural occurrences or tales of healings. In some myths, many witches knew the secrets of a waterfall's magic springs of eternal youth or of beautiful maids who were swept away by the falls.

Do you know of any such myths or stories about waterfalls? Please send us your story at:

CfL, BRAC University, 66 Mohakhali, Dhaka- 1212

## D.

### Poem on Waterfalls

by Robert Southey

#### About a Famous Waterfall in the Lake District

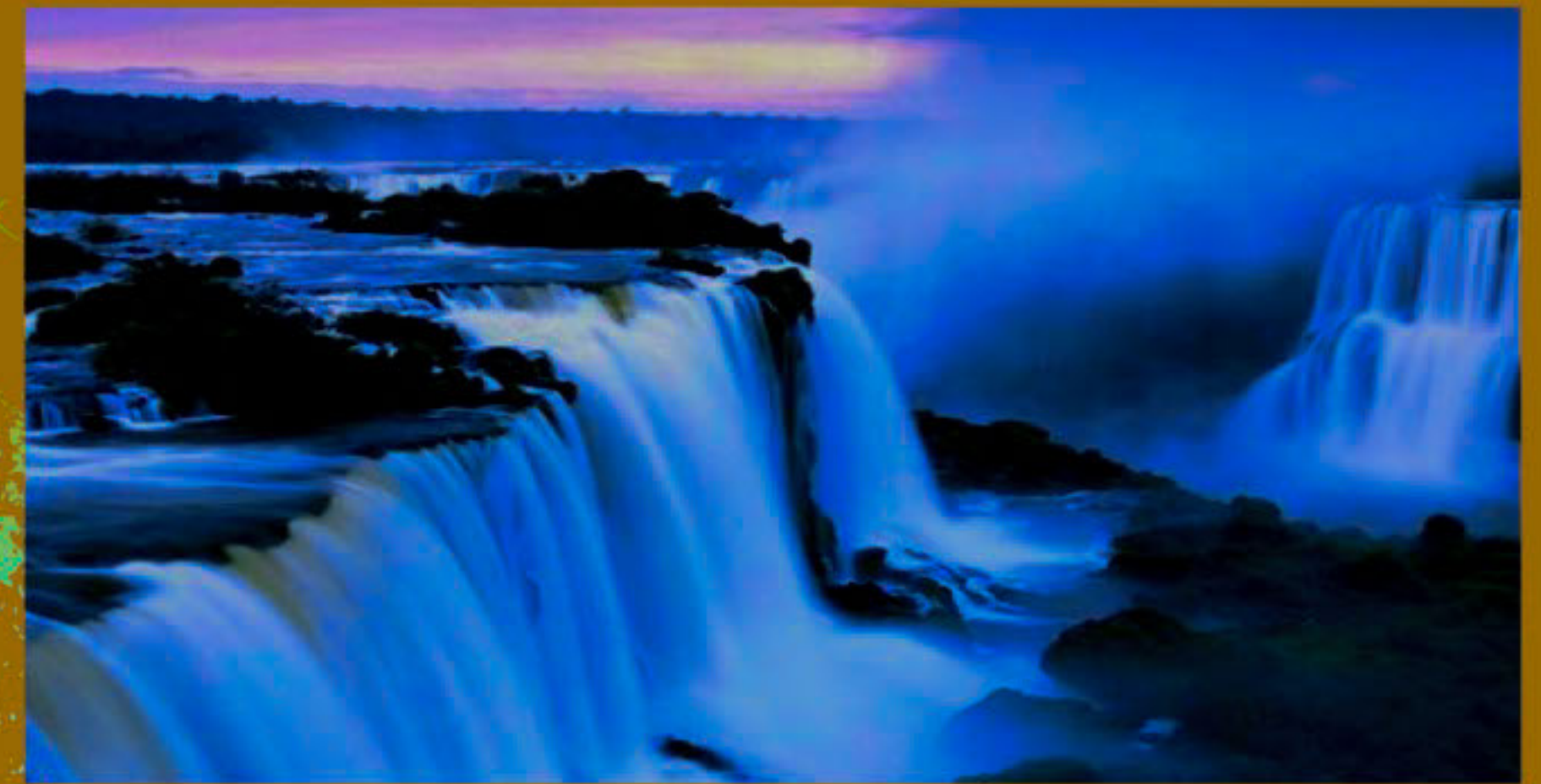
And *rushing* and *flushing* and *brushing* and *gushing*,  
And *flapping* and *rapping* and *clapping* and *slapping*,  
And *curling* and *whirling* and *purling* and *twirling*,  
And *thumping* and *plumping* and *bumping* and *jumping*,  
And *dashing* and *flashing* and *splashing* and *clashing*;  
And so never ending, but always descending,  
Sounds and motions for ever and ever are blending,  
All at once and all o'er, with a mighty uproar,  
And this way the water comes down at Lodore.

The bold words in the poem describe sounds. They are onomatopoeic words which imitate the natural sounds.



Nafakhum, Bangladesh

Iguazu Falls, Brazil



### Answer Key:

A. 1. (d) 2. (c) 3. (g) 4. (a) 5. (f) 6. (e) 7. (b)  
B. 4. , 1. , 3. , 5. , 2.



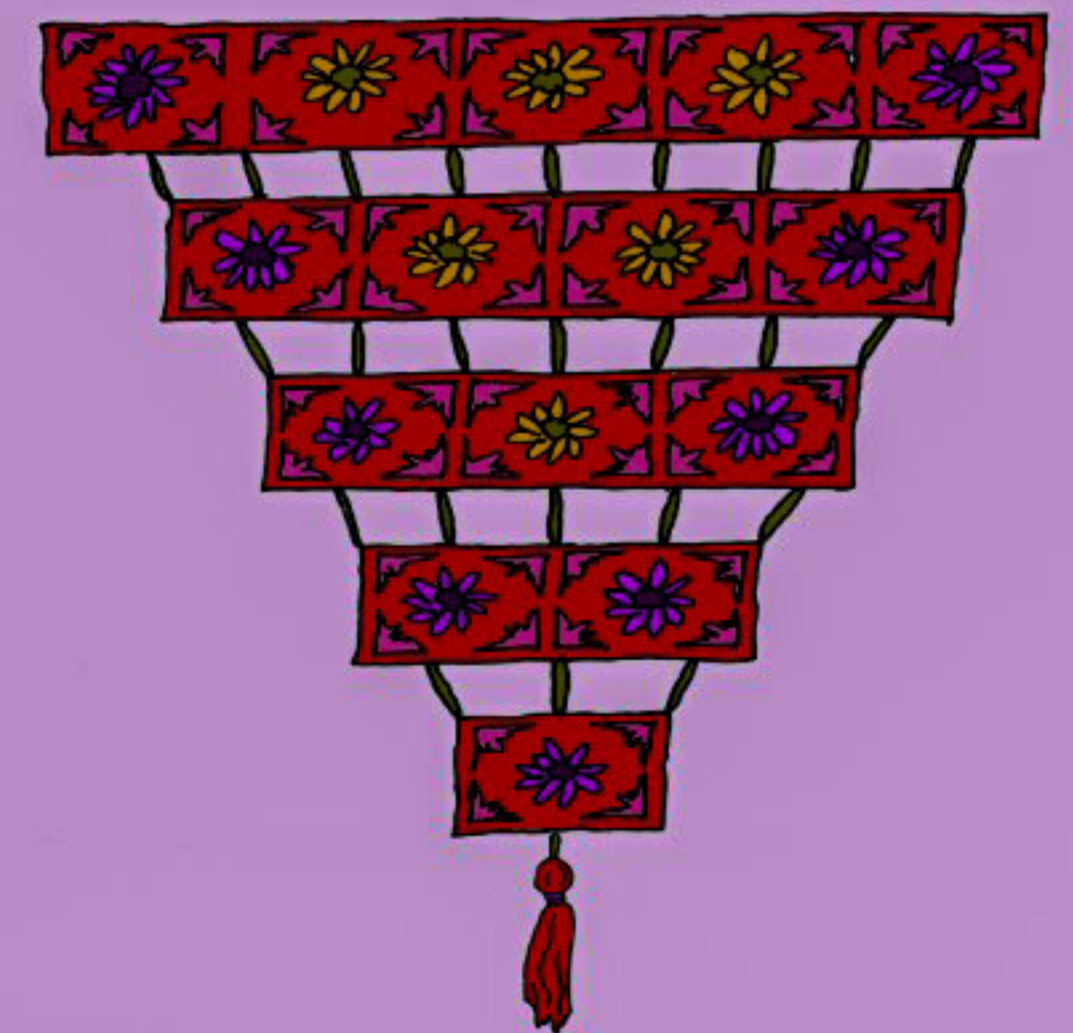
## E. Waterfalls in Bangladesh

Madhabkunda is the largest waterfall in Bangladesh situated in Barlekha in Moulvi Bazar, Sylhet. It is about 61 m (200 ft) high. Another waterfall, Sapchari is situated in Khagrachari. The waterfall is near the Sapchari village and emerges from Alutla Hill Range situated by the Chengi River. Nafa-khum is situated on the Sangu River in Bandarban. It is among the largest waterfalls in the country by volume of water falling. The word "Khum" in Marma language means "Waterfall". Shuolong falls of Rangamati is also a popular falls and is earning its name as a noteworthy tourist attraction. The amazing waterfall of Himchari is a very rare scene to enjoy. The waterfall from the green hill is relatively extraordinary to look at, especially in the rainy season.

Imagine that you are Rick Steves, a famous American tour guide. In your visit to Bangladesh, you have toured across the country seeing the most popular attractions as well as some lesser known attractions. You are very excited to describe the waterfalls of Bangladesh. Now, write a paragraph describing these waterfalls. Try and use as many superlative forms (Section A - table) and onomatopoeic words (Section D) as you can.

## F. Origami Waterfalls: Using fabric you can make waterfalls like this.

Source: Internet



# FIRE

can be useful, if you are careful

Fire is an essential part of our life. We really cannot do without it. Handle fire with care to avoid mishaps, especially when using gas stoves, candles and mosquito coils. Remember, fire can bring havoc, if you are careless, even for a moment.



আপনার সচেতনতাই আপনার শক্তি, জ্বলে উঠুন আপন শক্তিতে