

HSC EXAMINATION'S QUESTIONS

ENGLISH FIRST PAPER

DHAKA BOARD—2025

ENGLISH (COMPULSORY) FIRST PAPER

100

Part I : Reading Test (60 Marks)

1. Read the passage and answer the questions A and B.

[Unit—8; Lesson—3(C)]

At daylight, I was half wakened by the sound of chopping. Again it was so even in texture that I went back to sleep. When I left my bed in the cool morning, the boy had come and gone, and a stack of kindling was neat against the cabin wall. He came after school in the afternoon and worked until time to return to the orphanage. His name was Jerry... He had been at the orphanage since he was four. I could picture him at four, with the same grave gray-blue eyes and the same independence? No, the word that comes to me is "integrity".... It is bedded on courage, but it is more than brave. It is honest, but it is more than honesty. The ax handle broke one day. Jerry said the woodshop at the orphanage would repair it. I brought money to pay for the job and he refused it. "I'll pay for it," he said. "I broke it. I brought the ax down careless."

"But no one hits accurately every time," I told him. "The fault was in the wood of the handle. I'll see the man from whom I bought it." It was only then that he would take the money. He was standing back of his own carelessness. He was a free-will agent and he chose to do careful work, and if he failed, he took the responsibility without subterfuge.

And he did for me the unnecessary thing, the gracious thing, that we find done only by the great of heart. Things no training can teach, for they are done on the instant, with no predicated experience. He found a cubbyhole beside the fireplace that I had not noticed. There, of his own accord, he put kindling and "medium" wood, so that I might always have dry fire material ready in case of sudden wet weather. A stone was loose in the rough walk to the cabin. He dug a deeper hole and steadied it, although he came, himself, by a shortcut over the bank. I found that when I tried to return his thoughtfulness with such things as candy and apples, he was wordless. "Thank you" was, perhaps, an expression for which he had had no use, for his courtesy was instinctive. He only looked at the gift and at me, and a curtain lifted, so that I saw deep into the clear well of his eyes, and gratitude was there, and affection, soft over the firm granite of his character.

A. Choose the correct answer from the alternatives.

5×10=5

- (a) Jerry's courtesy was —.
- | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|
| (i) artificial | (ii) acquired | (iii) inborn | (iv) taught |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|
- (b) What does the phrase 'of his own accord' indicate?
- | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| (i) half-heatedly | (ii) reluctantly | (iii) neutrally | (iv) willingly |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
- (c) What does the word 'subterfuge' in the passage refer to?
- | | | | |
|---------------|--------------|----------------|-----------------|
| (i) deception | (ii) honesty | (iii) openness | (iv) candidness |
|---------------|--------------|----------------|-----------------|
- (d) Jerry wanted to get the ax handle —.
- | | | | |
|--------------|------------|------------|---------------|
| (i) repaired | (ii) fixed | (iii) made | (iv) reshaped |
|--------------|------------|------------|---------------|
- (e) Jerry chose to do careful work because of his —.
- | | | | |
|------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------------|
| (i) intelligence | (ii) courage | (iii) meanness | (iv) responsibility |
|------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------------|
- (f) The author was half awakened by the —.
- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| (i) sound of barking | (ii) sound of footsteps |
| (iii) sound of cutting wood | (iv) sound of rain |
- (g) 'Cubbyhole' means —.
- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| (i) a small enclosed space | (ii) a noisy place |
| (iii) a deep hole | (iv) a snake hole |
- (h) 'I saw deep into the clear well of his eyes' — What did the writer see?
- | | | | |
|----------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| (i) steadiness | (ii) gratefulness | (iii) farsightedness | (iv) freedom |
|----------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------|
- (i) What does the word 'integrity' in the passage mean?
- | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| (i) intuition | (ii) simplicity | (iii) uprightness | (iv) incompleteness |
|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|
- (j) Jerry had been at the orphanage —.
- | | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| (i) for four years | (ii) for eight years | (iii) for twelve years | (iv) for six years |
|--------------------|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|

3×5=15

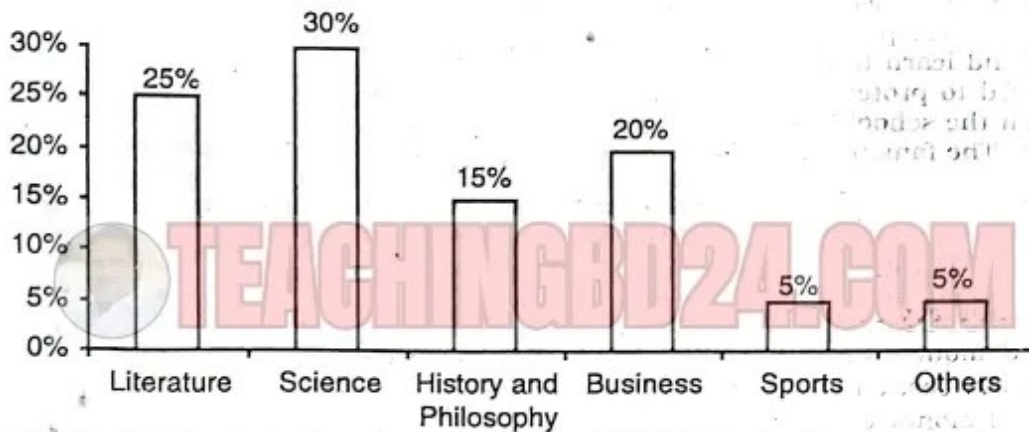
B. Answer the following questions.

- (a) What unnecessary things did Jerry do for the authoress?
 (b) How would Jerry usually react after getting gifts from the authoress?
 (c) Why did Jerry refuse to take money from the authoress to repair the ax handle?
 (d) Why was the authoress impressed with Jerry?
 (e) Do you like the personality of Jerry? Why?

Part II : Guided Writing (40 Marks)

7. The graph shows the percentage of different types of books preserved in a college library. Analyze the graph in about 150 words.

15



8. The following is the beginning of a story. Add around 150 words of your own to complete the story.

15

It was a foggy winter morning. Dr. Rabbi was driving home from hospital after his exhausting overnight shift. Driving was difficult because of the haze. Suddenly, he felt he had driven past somebody sitting by the road. He stopped the car and backed up to see who it was. It was an elderly man, dressed in thin, ragged clothes

9. Imagine, you are Lisa/Latif. You have a Facebook friend in Australia. Recently, she/he has shown interest in visiting Bangladesh. Now, write a letter to her/him to give him a brief account of the sights and sounds of Bangladesh.

10