

**BACCALAUREAT « A-B »**

*SESSION 1999*

**Section A: Grammar (10 marks)**

*1. Complete the following exchanges with the appropriate responses in the blank spaces provided. (5marks)*

Bell: The last African Nations' cup was a disaster for our football, wasn't it?

Kunde: .....

Bell: What do you think were the causes of the failure of our national football team?

Kunde: .....

Bell: Yes, I do agree with you that the team did not have enough time to train together. But was that the only reason?

Kunde: .....

Bell: Yes, I suppose you are right. It can be agreed that the coaches were not decisive enough but don't you think that it was the collective responsibility of all the officials?

Kunde: .....

Bell: well, it is true that the coach is the main person, the leader of the team. However, I still hold the view that he is the one who is responsible for the failure of the team.

Kunde: I think you have something against the coach.

Bell: .....

Kunde: Yes, I know that you always had a lot of respect for him. So what do you think we should do to save the team now?

Bell: .....

Kunde: That's a ridiculous idea. Why should we rely on a white man at the end of the twentieth century?

Bell: .....

Kunde: I'm sorry I do not agree with you. Let's agree to disagree.

**2. Choose the correct word in brackets below each sentence. Then write it in the space provided.**

- a) He wanted to know if..... witnessed the crime. (was, had, have).
- b) The player said he was now sorry that he slapped the referee, but he could not avoid..... that during the match. (doing, to do, done)
- c) It is a national day of mourning, something tragic..... (must happen, has passed, must have happened)
- d) He is an excellent athlete, he..... long distances so the mountain race will not be too difficult for him. (use to run, is used to running, can't run)
- e) The festivities went on uninterrupted ..... five days and nights.(during, while, for)

**3. Make complete sentences by matching the correct phrases in column B with their correct beginnings in column A. Use each item only once and write in the spaces provided (2,5 marks)**

Column A	Column B
1. While swimming in the sea .....	a) Unless good forestry laws are passed.
2. He drowned in a swimming pool .....	b) Before being outstanding in the field.
3. We'll have no forests left.....	c) He was attacked by a shark!
4. Had he known that there would be scarcity of wood .....	d) Though an excellent swimmer
5. Much hard work is required .....	e) He would have invested in a saw mill.

**Section B: Vocabulary (10 marks)**

**I. Write the opposite of the words underlined in the following sentences in the spaces provided (5 marks).**

- a) Traditional farming methods such as drifting cultivation render the land infertile .....(1 marks)
- b) Optimistic economists argue that the earth can support more people than live on it now .....
- c) Parent socialise children into responsible citizens .....

**2. Forms nous from the verbs underlined in the following sentences. Write the new words in the space provided.**

- a) A spacecraft flies past the moon at a distance of 6.000 kilometres (1 mark)
- b) The English teacher supervised the work on the farm \_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)

**3. Read the passage below and fill in the blanks with some words of your own so that the passage should make sense. (5marks)**

**A case of poisoning.**

Yesterday, said Mr Okala. ‘Omar and I had been working in the fields. We came home and an hour later we had..... in our stomachs and felt sick’.

Then they had pains in..... said Mrs Okala.

And everything went blurred’ added Omar. We couldn’t..... properly.

‘I see,’ said the doctor. And what were you..... the fields?

‘We were spraying our crops’, said Okala.

‘Do you know the..... of the chemical that you were using?’, the doctor asked.

‘No’, said Mr Okala. ‘My cousin gave me .....in an old tin last week; He told me that it was very good for.....insects. He told me to mix it with..... he lent me his sprayer to carry on my back. Omar helped me to mix it in a plastic..... It had a horrible smell’ said Omar. Did you wear any special .....when you were spraying the pesticide?’ the doctor asked.

‘My cousin said we should cover our mouths, so we tied a piece of cloth over our faces.’ The doctor sighed. I’m afraid, that would not have been enough to stop it poisoning you.’

### **Section C: Comprehension (10 marks)**

*Read the following passage carefully and then answer the questions below in good English. You should use your own words as much as possible.*

#### **Acid Harrows**

The New Year began dreadfully at the burns unit of the Dhaka Medical College Hospital, the only special place for burns treatment in the whole country. In just a few days, 16 young women were brought in suffering from acid burns. The hospital coped as well as it could, with two or three patients sharing beds. All were victims of an increasing common crime: young women who have annoyed their husbands or spurned the advances of other men have had acid thrown in their faces.

The case of 12-year-old Asma Begum is typical. She had a dispute with her husband, a rickshaw driver, after returning late to her home from the clothing factory where she works. Her husband, furious that his food had not been prepared, left to work a night shift but later returned with a container of sulphuric acid. He threw it at her while she was asleep with other women workers from the factory. All five were injured. Part of Asma's face, one of her arms and her chest were burned.

Some victims of acid attacks die of severe burns. Most of those who survive remain grotesquely disfigured and blind. The few surgeons available may be able to perform what they describe as reconstructive surgery on some lucky patients. But facilities for plastic surgery in Bangladesh are limited and anyway far too expensive for most women to afford. Acid attacks on women occur in other countries, including India and Egypt. Yet it seems especially common in Bangladesh. The extent of the crime is hard to establish, but there may be more than 100 victims a year. Many accidents are in rural areas where women cannot easily get to hospital, and go unrecorded.

Officials struggle to find explanations for the increase in this horrendous crime. According to one theory, the attacks are a dreadful manifestation of male backlash against women improving their lot. Though the Prime Minister and the leader of opposition are female, among the poor - almost all- acid attacks involve the poor - women are held in low esteem. Yet more and more women are becoming breadwinners for their families, including husbands who are often unemployed. Jobs have offered an army of young women with self-confidence and a measure of independence.

Female employment has come in part from the success of micro-credit schemes iii which nearly 4 million people - over 90% of them women - have been provided with loans to start small businesses and help themselves out of poverty. This has given a big boost to the standing of women in villages, and shown them to be astute in managing money. The clothing industry, which has expanded very rapidly, exporting \$4.2 billion - worth of T-shirts and other clothes last year, has played a part. It now employs 103 - million workers, the vast majority of them woman.

The government is under pressure to take action by enforcing the laws regulating the sale of acid. Acid is widely available. Many shops supply it to tanneries, jewellers and car-battery sellers, and it can often be bought with no questions asked. But there is also a different kind of pressure on the government. 'The authorities have to think of new development strategies which create jobs for men' says Farida Aktar, a women's activist.

*(Culled from The Economist, January 1998)*

### Questions

1. What is special about the Dhakar Medical College Hospital? (1 mark)
2. Why was Asma Bagurn's husband particularly cruel? (2 marks)
3. What evidence is there in the text that the lot of the rural women in Bangladesh has improved? (2 marks)
4. Why does the author in paragraph 3 think that some patients are 'lucky'? (2 marks)
5. What is the impact of the micro-credit schemes on women in Bangladesh? (2 marks)
6. How, in your opinion, can acid violence against women in Bangladesh be stopped? (1 mark)

### Section D: Essay (10 marks)

*Write an essay of between 250 and 300 words on any one of the following topics. Make sure that you write **in** paragraphs.*

1. Imagine that you are one of the men in Asma Begum's village and Yod were particularly saddened by the incident. You have been invited to a meeting to advise husbands against

violence. In the speech you will deliver, you want to educate the people without antagonising them. Write the speech.

2. You find some of the practices towards women in your village unfair. Write an article to be published in the newspaper, the Futurist, condemning some of the practices. Explain why you think the practices are unfair. You should not disclose your real name. Call yourself Marcel Nang.

3. You feel very strongly that some of the things happening in your school are wrong. Write a letter to your friend in another school in which you discuss what you do not like in your school. Your friend should be called Arouna and your name should be Nang Marcel. It will not be necessary to write the name of your school.

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