

44th BCS (Written) Examination

মাছরাঙা

Subject Code: 003

Full Marks: 200

Time: 4 hours

Part A

Read the passage below and answer the question nos. 1-7 that follow:

'Digital detox' is a phrase that we hear more and more, instantly conjuring up loss of control, fear of addiction and imposed periods of 'cold turkey'. As parents, many of us are still beginners in this brave new digital world and rather than empowering our youth to blaze trails into the modern age, our suspicion of Snapchat and general fear of the unknown lead us to restrict or even reject these influences as we see them encroach further into our children's lives.

It's easy to see why the accessibility to technology can be a cause of concern. Bullies, predators and other nasties do exist in the cyber world, just as they do in the natural one. But while some try to combat the influence of social media and the demon 'screen time' on pupils (banning phones and switching off Wi-Fi are two solutions that have been tried), some have adopted a more 21st Century approach. They actively embrace technology as a force for good, incorporating technology in many aspects of their learning and well-being.

It's not just about gadgets and gizmos; digital is fast becoming the language of the age and one in which we must all be literate. Pupils can learn to code and use Swift Playgrounds, an incredibly powerful app which bring their ideas to life. It's the same platform which was used to create applications like Duolingo and Airbnb. In years 10 and 11, students gain experience with professional programming language C# and the new generation can get involved in a 'tech start-up' day.

What of the virtual world? No longer restricted to the realms of entertainment, the applications of VR are enormous, and schools can incorporate exciting technology into their lessons. Learning by doing is, after all, one of the most effective and neglected methods of learning. Just as an airline pilot will train in a simulator before being let loose with a plane full of passengers, VR allows access to global resources and immersive learning experiences with which to experiment, tackle problems, and take risks, in a virtual environment, free from fear. What a wonderful way to help students develop into curious, resilient, and resourceful adults!

A recent article in the Telegraph offered 'survival tips of parents on the technology battlefield'. The battlefield metaphor is a telling one. As parents we are right to worry about the screen time we allow our children and the teenage years can be fraught with the additional pressures of social media, but should blame be laid so squarely at the digital door?

The need to connect in social groups has existed since humans first walked the earth. Most of us want to be liked and to form friendships, and psychologists agree that this kind of affirmation is important for our mental health. Social media is just one of many channels through which we all do this and as adults, we must set a good example and equip young people with the information and skills to use technology responsibly. I believe that by teaching good practice and embedding key IT skills in the classroom, we can embrace technology as our friend here.

For the well-being of our students we should adopt a positive approach. We need to work with experts in psychological health to spearhead the use of an app-based digital toolkit that helps teachers and pupils to monitor and even restrain their emotions, developing positive habits of mind, improved social Wi-Fi and a shared language with which to better communicate both in the classroom and the wider world.

When applied in an intelligent way, technology really can be a force for good improving levels of academic attainment and helping us all to ride the peaks and troughs of everyday life with greater control.

So, let's all engage with the app generation. The online realm is a challenging one but we must equip young people with the skills to explore it with confidence. It is the responsibility of parents and teachers to cast aside their suspicion, and to actively support children as they navigate these uncharted waters, for their own happy futures, and our own.

1. Answer the following questions in your own words without copying any sentence from the passage: $30 \times 10 = 10$
 - a. How has the phrase 'digital detox' been explained in the passage?
 - b. How does the passage highlight the way parents are reacting to the digital world?
 - c. How can technology, according to the passage, be possible causes for concern?
 - d. Why is digital becoming the language of the age?
 - e. How is the virtual world connected to learning?
 - f. How is the metaphor of an airline pilot in a simulator connected to virtual reality?
 - g. Why do we need to connect in social groups?
 - h. How can we train our students to work better in a digital world?
 - i. How can technology be a 'force for good'?
 - j. Is the online world a challenging one? Why?
2. Write the meanings of the following words in English (The words are underlined): $1 \times 5 = 5$
 - a. cold turkey
 - b. predators
 - c. simulator
 - d. to spearhead
 - e. navigate

3. Fill in the empty cells with words indicating appropriate parts of speech:

$$1 \times 5 = 5$$

Noun	Verb	Adjective
(a)	empower	×
×	(b)	immersive
demon	×	(c)
(d)	×	Psychological
attainment	(e)	×

4. Make sentence with each of the following words and phrases. Copying any sentence from the passage above must be avoided. $1 \times 10 = 10$
- mental health
 - positive approach
 - responsibility
 - suspicion
 - teenage
 - academic
 - communicate
 - embrace
 - uncharted
 - embed
5. Give an antonym for each of the following words and make sentences with the antonyms: $2 \times 5 = 10$
- powerful
 - active
 - connect
 - technological
 - confidence
6. Summarize the passage in your own words (within 100 words). 20
7. Write a letter to the editor of an English daily suggesting how best to deal with the digital world for learning. 20

Part B

8. Write an essay in about 1000 words on any one of the following topics: 50
- Bangabandhu and the Independence of Bangladesh
 - The Role of Music in Society
 - The Russia-Ukraine War and Its Impact on World Economy
9. Translate the following text into Bangla: 25

Bangladesh is one of the largest deltas in the world, formed with the fertile silt washed down from the Himalayan highlands by some of the mightiest rivers of Asia, notably, the Ganges and the Brahmaputra. These rivers, together with their countless tributaries, sweep across the vast basin in a bewildering tangle of channels and streams. Acting as arteries, this complicated hydrography is largely responsible for shaping the destiny of the land and its people. While flowing downwards from the melting snow of the Himalayan glaciers, these streams deposit

enormous volumes of fertilizing silt before spilling into the Bay of Bengal. The rich alluvium of the rivers enriches the land and sustains a teeming population. The same rivers often change their courses and engulf many human settlements located on their banks and cause untold miseries to the people during devastating floods. The rivers are, therefore, the sources of both joy and sufferings to the people of Bangladesh.

10. Translate the following passage into English:

25

বাংলা ও বাঙালি সংস্কৃতির উৎসে যদি আমরা যাই তাহলে দেখব, বাংলা ভাষা প্রায় হাজার বছরের প্রাচীন। কিন্তু জাতিসত্তা হিসেবে বাঙালির বয়স কয়েক হাজার বছর। এখানে বিভিন্ন জাতি-উপজাতি আগমনের ফলে, নানা বর্ণ ও জাতির মিশ্রণে বাঙালি একটি মিশ্র জাতিসত্তা হিসেবে বিকশিত হয়েছে। ককেশীয়, ভোটচিন, অস্ট্রিক, নিগ্রোয়েড ইত্যাদি বিভিন্ন জাতিগোষ্ঠীর মিশ্রণেই বাঙালি জাতিসত্তা গড়ে উঠেছে এই ভূখণ্ডে। উভয় বঙ্গের বিভিন্ন অঞ্চলে প্রাগৈতিহাসিক যুগ থেকেই মানব বসতির প্রমাণ ও উপকরণ আবিষ্কৃত হয়েছে। এসবের বিশদ আলোচনায় না গিয়েও বলা চলে যে, যখন ইতিহাসের যবনিকা উন্মোচিত হলো সে সময়ও বিভিন্ন উপজাতি গোষ্ঠীর নামানুসারে বাংলায় বেশ কিছু জনপদের পরিচয় আমরা প্রাচীন আর্য গ্রন্থসমূহ, যেমন রামায়ণ, মহাভারত ও অন্যান্য আদিগ্রন্থ, যেমন কৌটিল্যের অর্থশাস্ত্রে পাচ্ছি। পুণ্ড্র, বঙ্গ, কলিঙ্গ, গৌড়, হরিকেল ইত্যাদি নাম যেমন জনপদের, তেমনি বিভিন্ন কৌম বা উপজাতির। আজ এসব কৌমের আলাদা পরিচয় আর নেই। এরা সবাই এক হয়ে মিশে গিয়ে বাঙালি নাম নিয়েছে, বাঙালি হিসেবে পরিচিত হচ্ছে। বাংলা এদের সবার মুখের ভাষা।