

2. Translate the following passage into Bengali:

Dhaka muslin is the brand name of a pre-colonial Bengal textile. In the history of textiles, there is no name more famous than that of Dhaka muslin. Muslin was manufactured in the city of Dhaka and its surrounding areas, by local skill using locally produced finest cotton and attained world-wide fame as Dhaka muslin.

Bengal cotton fabrics were exported to the Roman and Chinese empires and they are mentioned by the ancient Chinese travellers. But Dhaka muslin became famous and attracted foreign buyers after the establishment of the Mughal capital at Dhaka. The muslin industry of Dhaka received patronage from the Mughal emperors. A huge quantity of the finest sort of muslin was procured for the use of the Mughal emperors, provincial governors and high officers. It was costly, and the weavers spent a long time, sometimes six months, to make a piece of this sort.

In the great 1851 Exhibition of London, Dhaka muslin occupied a prominent place, attracted a large number of visitors and the British press spoke very highly of the marvellous muslin fabrics of Dhaka. In 1875, when Edward VII came to Bengal, the then Nawab of Dhaka ordered 30 yards of the most superior muslin as a gift to the prince. One yard of this fabric weighed barely 10 grams! Even today, among aristocratic families of the Indian subcontinent, as well as foreigners, decoration pieces and outfits made of Dhaka muslin are considered the ultimate in luxury.

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3. Translate the following sentences into Bengali:

(a) Will the rain never let up?

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..... (3)

(b) Her remarks hurt me deeply.

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..... (3)

(c) In spite of all the hard work, his attempts went up in smoke.

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..... (3)

(d) How can you put up with such an insult?

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..... (3)

(e) We went to see her off last night.

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..... (3)

(Total 15 marks)

Q3



4. Write an essay in Bengali of about 200–250 words, on one of the following:

Either

- (a) Is the Internet a good replacement to books? ইন্টারনেট কি বইপত্রের ভালো বিকল্প?
- (b) If you could go anywhere, where would you go and why? তুমি যদি কোথাও যেতে চাও, তাহলে কোথায় যাবে এবং কেন?
- (c) A childhood memory শৈশব স্মৃতি

or

- (d) Write a letter of about 200–250 words in Bengali to a friend abroad about your favourite food.

তোমার প্রিয় খাবার সম্পর্কে বিদেশে তোমার বন্ধু / বান্ধবীকে বাংলায় প্রায় ২০০ - ২৫০ শব্দে একটি চিঠি লেখো।

Instructions to candidates:

Indicate which question you are answering by marking the box (☒). If you change your mind, put a line through the box (☒) and then indicate your new question with a cross (☒).

- Chosen question number: **Question 4(a)**
- Question 4(b)**
- Question 4(c)**
- Question 4(d)**

Please turn over for answer space



