

ENGLISH PAPER I
(Language and Writing)

Three hours and a quarter

(The first fifteen minutes of the examination are for reading the paper **only**.
Candidates must **NOT** start writing during this time.)

Instructions:

1. *This paper has two sections, **Section A** for Writing and **Section B** for Language. Section B is further divided into nature of language and grammar.*
 2. *All the questions are compulsory.*
 3. *The intended marks for each question is given in brackets.*
 4. *You are recommended to spend 2 hours on Section A and 1 hour on Section B.*
 5. *You should begin each answer on a fresh page.*
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SECTION A: Writing

Question 1.

[30]

Write an original essay using the features of an argumentative essay on any ONE of the following topics. (You are reminded that you will be awarded marks for orderly and correct presentation of material, use of appropriate features and style and general accuracy of spelling, punctuation and grammar.)

- a. The quality of life has improved by leaps and bounds in comparison to that of our forefathers.
- b. The Bhutanese were well informed and prepared to fully appreciate the total solar eclipse that occurred on the morning of 22nd July, 2009.
- c. Should Bhutanese youth be encouraged to leave home at the age of 18 so as to foster a degree of responsibility and independence?
- d. Is money spent on religious activities a good investment?

Question 2.

Write an original story titled “The Sacrifice” employing all the elements of a short story with special emphasis on plot development. You are reminded that in the above task, you will also be assessed on expression, style and mechanics.

SECTION B: Language**I NATURE OF LANGUAGE****[10]****Question 3.**

Direction: Read the following questions carefully. For each question choose the correct answer from the given alternatives and write it in your answer sheet. [1x4]

- (i) “Human language can be used to refer to any dimension of space and time.”
This statement refers to
- A displacement.
 - B duality of structure.
 - C cultural transmission.
 - D metalinguistic system.
- (ii) The study of meaning in language is called
- A syntax.
 - B lexicon.
 - C semantics.
 - D morphology.
- (iii) The single unit of graphics in language is called
- A grapheme.
 - B phonemes.
 - C phonemics.
 - D morphemes.

- (iv) The representation of sounds by similar sounding words is called
- A iconicity.
 - B assonance.
 - C alliteration.
 - D onomatopoeia.

Question 4.

Direction: Answer the questions given below. [6]

- (i) Write any **four** purposes of language. (2)
- (ii) Is language innate or is it acquired? Justify. (4)

II GRAMMAR [30]

Question 5.

Direction: Read the following questions carefully. For each question choose the correct answer from the given alternatives and write it in your answer sheet. [1x5]

- (i) The accident was my fault so I had to pay for the damage
- A of the other car.
 - B to the other car.
 - C on the other car.
 - D for the other car.
- (ii) The officer asked me to fill
- A in the application form.
 - B on the application form.
 - C up the application form.
 - D down the application form.

- (iii) It's Sunday. You
 A cannot go to school today.
 B needn't go to school today.
 C mustn't go to school today.
 D shouldn't go to school today.
- (iv) Dorji decided to go to the hospital yesterday because he
 A is not feeling well.
 B was not feeling well.
 C hasn't been feeling well.
 D haven't been feeling well.
- (v) The hot water spilt and
 A burnt my hand.
 B singed my hand.
 C scalded my hand.
 D scorched my hand.

Question 6a.

Direction: Rewrite the following sentences using the correct phrases from the choices given in the table below. Your sentence should have a similar meaning to that of the original sentence.

[1x5]

going up	given up	fill out	blow up	put out
lives on	put off	blow up	called off	cut off

- (i) If the demands of the workers are met, the strike maybe withdrawn soon.
- (ii) The meeting has been postponed to next Friday.
- (iii) It is difficult to make ends meet when the prices are rising everyday.

(iv) I wish to enlarge the photographs I took with my best friends.

(v) The fire in the building was extinguished.

Question 6b.

Direction: Rewrite the following sentences using the most relevant idiomatic phrases from the choices given in the table below. Use the idioms correctly in the sentence. Your sentence should have a similar meaning to that of the original sentence.

[1x5]

fit as a fiddle	not somebody's cup of tea	a bull in a china shop
to turn a deaf ear	a wolf in sheep's clothing	to spill the beans
to hang in the balance	leave somebody in the lurch	to dance to one's tune
tooth and nail		

(i) They fought bitterly for their share of the property.

(ii) The husband always obeys his wife's command.

(iii) They were not paying attention to the teacher's advice.

(iv) When he needed their help the most, his friends let him down.

(v) We were trying to organize a surprise party for our parents on their wedding anniversary but our younger sister went and told them all about it.

Question 7.

Direction: Complete the following sentences by writing the correct form of the verbs given in the brackets.

[1x5]

(i) Everyone thought that Tashi _____ (capture) the glorious colours of the sunset in his painting.

- (ii) While Pema _____ (take) a sharp bend in the road, I shouted out to him to reduce the speed.
- (iii) The news of the military uprising _____ (shake) the stability of the nation.
- (iv) It _____ (believe) that the price of food grains will fall soon.
- (v) The elderly _____ (have) special seats set aside for them at the concert tomorrow.

Question 8.

Direction: Read the following letter carefully, edit it and rewrite it correctly in your answer sheet. Underline the edited part.

[1x10]

Dear father,

I write to you today, a different letter. I neither write to tell you of my studies, or to ask you for money.

A few weeks ago, I read a beautiful story of a loving father and he remind me so much of you. Fortunately, I realized that I resembled the son in the story; just as ungrateful, selfish and insensitive.

I write today, dear father to thanks you for being this wonderful person you are. I write to tell you that I appreciate your presense in my life and that I love you very much. The list of all the things you have done for me are so long that I cannot write it down in paper, but it is all in my heart.

I know 'fathers day' is not even close, but who needs someone to tell us when to love our father?

Your son,

