



# ৪৫ তম বিসিএস লিখিত

ইংরেজি ক্লাসে সবাইকে

## স্বাগত



**M Mostafa Kamal**

**FACULTY OF ENGLISH**

**BIDDABARI**

**45<sup>th</sup> BCS Written**

**Reading Passage 01**

**Author:** How to Learn Written English

**□ Read the following passage and answer the questions No. 1 to 7**

**Bangladesh has greatly progressed in various fields over the last twenty years. These include revolution in information technology, women empowerment, infrastructural development, reduction in child and mother mortality rate, rise in average per capita income, increase in literacy rate, expansion of trade and commerce and so on.**

**As Bangladesh has achieved worth mentioning success in economy, the government has been able to take the risk of constructing big projects like the Padma Bridge Project by self finance. Besides, poverty and want and crisis have fallen significantly over the last decade. The greatest development has taken place in the life and livelihood of lower class people because their real income has considerably increased.**

**Inspite of having various positive achievements, people are still suffering from mental unrest and searching for mental tranquility. It cannot be denied that in recent times, Bangladesh has been witnessing a sharp and steep decline in social and moral values—values that dignify and distinguish a society.**

**Everyday newspapers carry series of harrowing, gruesome tales that were unheard of a few decades ago. What has happened that the Bangladeshi society is sadly sliding into such a social and moral depravity?**

**A homogenous nation as we are with rural root and common culture, the society is now in the process of gradual disintegration into a fragmented, greed oriented, selfish entity. This gradual degradation of values makes our society less humane and we become poorer in social capital.**



**What is causing this slide? Is it the politics of hatred and confrontation and toxic relations between leaders that is violating the society? Is it the immoral accumulation of wealth at meteoric speed by some in the society which is spawning the seed of hatred and animosity? Is it the intolerance of social and political peers that is permeating into the social fabric? Or is it the oppressive poverty that drives people to the point of utter desperation?**

**We do not know how a sociologist or a social psychologist will interpret and analyse the phenomena. But we are aghast to notice the pervading cruelty and callousness, the deviant behaviour in the society. How can a nation be called happy and peaceful if everyday the society experiences gruesome murders, dozens of deaths in a series of accidents, multiple suicides across the country, violence against women, abuse of children, and vicious vendettas?**

**Juvenile gang widely known as Kishore gang has emerged and created panic and phobia among all walks of people in both rural and urban arrears though committing brutal criminal offence in the name of such a gang was not heard even a decade ago.**

**In many areas including the capital city, many teenagers are becoming monsters destroying their academic life and career. The deaths of the members of rival gang in the hands of some gang group or other are not nothing new. Is it very hard to find out why and how they have become miscreants instead of being good members of the society?**

**Punishing one or two of them after their brutal activities cannot save the society from their poisonous and heinous hands. Rather, we will have to uproot the poisonous teeth of the culprits who are indulging the teenagers in committing criminal activities. At the same time, family members should be very cautious while upbringing their teenage sons and daughters.**

**Suicide is another sad and unexpected incident that we are experiencing in a greater number. We do not have the figures of suicide on our hands, perhaps because suicide is self-inflicted and therefore beyond the purview of official statistics. But the number of suicides is staggering if one notices the news appearing in the newspaper everyday.**

**It was French sociologist Emile Durkheim who observed that the suicides are committed because “some people lose their sense of belongingness, the feeling of participating in a meaningful social whole. Such individuals feel disoriented, frightened and alone.” This is a condition of normlessness in which values and norms have little impact and the culture no longer provides adequate guidelines to behaviour.**

**While we observe this sad spectacle of the society on the one hand there is on the other hand a corrosive culture that undermines the society. A section of young men and women are driven to drugs—be it yaba or phensydyl or such other substance. The bane of this scourge is felt at all strata of society. The number of ‘clinics’ mushrooming in the cities for the healing of such sickness is a testimony to that.**



**Another section of young men and women who get involved in bloody and brutal clash over establishing control on tender business, or they fight for leadership with guns and machetes. Criminals terrorise the innocent citizens for money over phone, invoking “Subrata Bain or Kala Jahangir.” Affluent citizens are mainly targeted by the terrorist outfits.**

**Bangladesh has the dubious distinction of being at the top of the league of corrupt countries. We may officially question the statistics but we cannot deny its disagreeable existence in the society.**

**Then we find parliament members abusing political opponents in the foulest language. In such a case we hardly have hopes for better social values in the future.**

**The gross result of such social deviations is the loss of respect and values in the society for the persons who are to be held high in esteem. It is not that only individuals suffer in the society; the society as a whole suffers , resulting in the gradual devaluation of social and moral standards.**

**1) Answer the questions below. Do not copy any sentence from the passage above. Write the answers in your own sentences having your own wordings or phrasing.**

$$10 \times 3 = 30$$

**a) What are the positive attainments of Bangladesh over the last two decades?**

**Answer**

**Bangladesh has had a number of positive attainments over the last two decades. These include revolution in information technology, women empowerment, infrastructural development, reduction in child and mother mortality rate, rise in average per capita income, increase in literacy rate, expansion of trade and commerce and so on.**

**b) What is often seen in the name of students' involvement in politics?**

**Answer**

**Clash over establishing dominance with an eye to holding tender business, fighting with one another for leadership with guns and machetes and terrorizing the innocent citizens for money are often seen in the name of students' involvement in politics.**

**c) What are the changes in life and livelihood of the lower class people in the last two decades?**

**Answer**

**A great change has been noticed in the life and livelihood of lower middle class people in the last two decades since their real income has considerably risen.**



**d) To what extent have social and moral values been affected over the last few decades?**

**Answer**

**Social and moral values have been affected to a great extent over the last few decades. Bangladesh has been witnessing a sharp and steep decline in social and moral values—values that dignify and distinguish a society. Because of such a depravity, we hear a series of harrowing and gruesome tales which could not be heard earlier.**

**e) What do you mean by a homogenous nation with rural root and common culture?**

**Answer**

**By the word a homogenous nation with rural root and culture I mean such a nation whose people are same kind and have little variation in beliefs, thinking, food habit, language, clothes, religion and custom. Most of the people of such a nation live in the villages.**

**f) What might be the result of degraded social values?**

**Answer**

**The result of degraded social values might be dreadful as gradual degradation of values makes a society less humane and makes its people poorer in social capital.**

**g) How can juvenile delinquency be controlled?**

**Answer**

**Juvenile delinquency can be controlled by ensuring proper upbringing of the teenagers in family level and uprooting heinous and poisonous teeth of the culprits who indulge the teenagers in committing criminal activities.**

**h) When do some people commit suicide?**

**Answer**

**Some people commit suicide when they lose the sense of belongings, the feelings of participating in meaningful social whole. They also feel disoriented, frightened and alone.**

**i) What is the result of social deviation?**

**Answer**

**The result of social deviation is the loss of respect and values in the society for the persons who possess honour and dignity in the society. Because of this frustrating social deviation not only the individuals but also the society as a whole suffers. The ultimate result of it is the gradual degradation of social and moral standards.**

**j) Give a suitable title to this reading passage.**

**Answer**

**Suitable title to this reading passage is “  
Dangerous decline of values”.**

**2) Guess the meanings of the following words/ expressions using contextual clues: ( the words are underlined in the passage)**



## **Answer**

### **Given word**

**a)harrowing**

**b)gruesome**

**c)depravity**

**d)hatred**

**e) animosity**

### **Meaning**

**(a) distressful**

**(b) despicable**

**(c) moral degradation**

**(d) intense dislike**

**(e) strong hostility**

**3) Fill in the table by putting words in the empty cells according to their parts of speech:      $5 \times 1 = 5$**

<b>Noun</b>	<b>Verb</b>	<b>Adjective</b>
		<b>(a) better</b>
		<b>(b) meaningful</b>
<b>c) monster</b>	<b>x</b>	
<b>d) accumulation</b>		
	<b>e) cause</b>	

# Answer

Noun	Verb	Adjective
betterment	better	(a) better
meaning	mean	(b) meaningful
c) monster	x	monstrous
d) accumulation	accumulate	accumulated
cause	e) cause	causal

#### **4) Join the sets of sentences into one sentence**

**5x2= 10**

**a) Bangladesh has greatly progressed in various fields over the last twenty years. People have started enjoying the benefits.**

**b) Poverty has fallen significantly over the last decade. Besides, infant and mother mortality rate has fallen significantly.**

**c) We have various positive achievements over the last two decades. We are suffering from social security.**

**d) In the society, we have experienced a number of nuisances. One of them is juvenile delinquency.**

**e) Some teenagers lose their lives. They fall victim to juvenile gang.**

## **Answer**

- a) As Bangladesh has greatly progressed in various fields over the last twenty years, people have started enjoying the benefits.**
- b) Not only poverty but also infant and mother mortality rate has fallen significantly over the last decade.**

## **Answer**

- c) Though we have various positive achievements over the last two decades, we are suffering from social security.**
- d) In the society, we have experienced a number of nuisances of which one is juvenile delinquency.**
- e) Some teenagers lose their lives falling victim to juvenile gang.**

**5) Make sentences of your own with each of the following words and phrases ( copying of any sentence from the passage above must be avoided)**

**10x1= 10**

**a) esteem    b) opponent    c) outfit    d) purview    e)  
phobia    f) heinous    g) confrontation  
h) expansion    i) aghast    j) spectacle**



## **Answer**

### **a) Esteem**

**The charismatic leader had won great esteem, not only on political grounds but also for his personal qualities.**

### **b) Opponent**

**An autocratic ruler always tries to suppress its opponents and even the people with an ill motive.**

### **c) Outfit**

**Some terrorist outfits get involved in politics to get favour from the political party in their terrorist activities.**

### **d) Purview**

**To enact law has fully been brought under the purview of the members of parliament.**

### **e) Phobia**

**An English teacher should make his lessons suitable for the learners so that they can read with pleasure and can come out from phobia.**

### **f) Heinous**

**All walks of people will have to raise voice against juvenile gang to save the society from their heinous activities.**

### **g) Confrontation**

**The people do not like the politics of confrontation as it causes sufferings not only for the politicians but also for the general people.**

### **h) Expansion**

**Expansion of trade and commerce has severely been affected because of Covid-19.**

**i) Aghast**

**We are aghast at the news that increasing number of females is getting addicted to narcotic.**

**j) Spectacle**

**If we do not want to see any sad spectacle of the society committed by any gang outfit, we will have to raise voice unitedly.**

**6) Summarise the passage in your own words ( in 100 words).**

**20**

**Answer**

**Inspite of having progress in economy and development in life and livelihood, there has been a massive dangerous slide in social and moral values over the last two decades.**

**As outcomes of it, we notice series of harrowing, gruesome tales, merciless criminal offences by the members of Kishore gang, increasing rate of suicide, abuse of drug by both males and females, growing rate of deadly clash among student politicians, mounting corruption and so on.**

**Though the causes of gradual degradation of social values are not explicitly mentioned in this reading passage, some implicit causes are inferred. These include politics of hatred and confrontation, toxic relation between leaders, immoral accumulation of wealth by some quarters, intolerance of social and political peers, indulgence of culprits and so on. Degradation of values will surely result in sufferings for all.**



**7) Write a letter to the editor of an English daily highlighting the importance of social values and morals in making a peaceful and tolerant society.**

## **Answer**

**10 January 2021**

**The Editor**

**The Daily Star**

**64-65 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka 1215**

**Dear Sir**

**I long for the hospitality of your highly esteemed daily to express my opinion about the growing importance of social values and morals in making peaceful and tolerant society. As your daily is biased for people, I earnestly seek for some space in your daily to present my views with an eye to drawing the attention of a large number of people of the society. I shall be highly grateful to you if you kindly publish the following letter in your daily.**

**Yours faithfully**

**A Rafi**

**Azimpur, Dhaka.**

# **Social values and morals in making peaceful and tolerant society**

**Social values and morals are long practised social norms that lead a particular social structure to a peaceful and tolerant entity for all the members irrespective of religion, caste and creed. Deviation from such values creates bubbles at first and then spread in the entire society as a poisonous germ making fracture in existing social system.**

**We, the people of Bangladesh, have long practised conservative values and morals which have encouraged people to raise voice against injustice, inspired them to stand by the helpless, taught the young members to respect the elders, helped establish firm family bonding and amicable political environment.**

**But in recent days, we have noticed with great horror and panic that many of our social values and morals have greatly been hurt by some quarters to fulfill their own interest and gain. As a consequence, social structure has become fragile, social anarchy has risen, the naked claw of evil politics has reached each and every segment of the society,**

**evil competition of earning more and more money by fair means or foul has made its members blind, molestation of women has risen even in the golden age of women empowerment, the policy of vengeance and confrontation has spread upto remote villages of Bangladesh.**

**As a consequence, we are living in such a social environment which is full of more and more material objects but lacks tolerance, mutual respect, fellow feelings, peace and tranquility. What is causing this slide in our social system? In my opinion, it is nothing but the deviation of social values and morals.**



**The earlier the intellectuals and the policy makers of the country concentrate here, the sooner the values will be re-established and we will have a society where all people will live without fear and with equal opportunities..**

**A Rafi**



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