



## MODEL QUESTION 9

### Unit: 5, lesson: 1

Unsafe levels of pesticides are present in around half of the vegetables and more than a quarter of fruits sold in the capital's markets, a recent survey has found. A 15-member team of the National Food Safety Laboratory, with support from the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), came up with the findings after collecting and testing food samples from the capital's Gulshan, Karwanbazar and Mohakhali markets. The survey report, a copy of which was acquired by the Dhaka Tribune, read that nearly 40% of 82 samples of milk, milk products, fish, fruits and vegetables contained banned pesticides such as DDT, Aldrin, Chlordane and Heptachlor. The amounts of pesticide in these samples were found to be 3 to 20 times greater than the limits set by the European Union. Around 50% vegetables and 35% fruits were found to be contaminated with unsafe level of pesticides. Analyzing more than 30 samples of turmeric powder (branded, packaged and open), the team also found that nearly 30% of the samples contained traces of lead chromate, which can be fatal if swallowed or inhaled. These samples also contained lead at 20 to 50 times above the safety limit of 2.5 parts per million set by the Bangladesh Standard Testing Institute (BSTI). Arsenic and chromium above safety limits were detected in a total of 5 out of 13 rice samples.

Using a sensitive High-Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) method developed by the Food Safety Lab, 66 samples were analysed for the presence of formaldehyde. Adulteration was thereby detected in samples of coriander, mango and fresh shrimps.

The tests indicated that poultry feed in the country had also been contaminated, as samples of chicken and fish contained traces of antibiotics. High microbial populations were found in several samples of pasteurized milk, indicating poor processing procedures by the manufacturers. Samples of cucumber and street foods also showed high microbial populations, suggesting widespread contamination in the water supply. The Director of Institute of Public Health (IPH), told the Dhaka Tribune that the survey report has been submitted to the Health Ministry. Further tests of different products were being carried out at the Food Safety Lab.

A former Director General of the Health Services and senior national adviser of the FAO, said the findings were shocking for the whole nation. He added that instead of focusing only on the end products, the issue should be addressed at the root level. Pointing out that there were four steps in the production process—farmer, transport, wholesale, and retail trader, he said better monitoring and supervision were mandatory for stopping food adulteration.

Adulterated food products are reportedly the cause behind thousands of people suffering from fatal diseases like cancer, kidney failure and heart problems. Health specialists told the Dhaka Tribune that the Ministry of Food had enacted a Food Safety Act, but was yet to prepare the necessary rules. As the issue of food safety was also linked to 14 other ministries, a coordinated agency should take responsibility of ensuring safety in food products, they added.

1. Choose the right word which is the closest meaning in the context that has been used in the text.

a) The word **pesticides** refers to text \_\_\_\_\_

- i) toxic                      ii) insecticide                      iii) pest                      iv) patronage

b) How did the scientists realize that the water supply was contaminated?

- ii) Because of microbial presence                      ii) From the color of the water  
iii) From an analysis of the mineral content                      iv) Through chemical test

c) The word **contaminated** refers to text \_\_\_\_\_

- i) Pollute                      ii) Pollution                      iii) Polluted                      iv)Polluting

d) The word **swallowed** refers to text \_\_\_\_\_

- i) Devoured                      ii) shadow                      iii) stuck                      iv) perspective

e) The word **mandatory** refers to text \_\_\_\_\_

- i) Mad                      ii) madness                      iii) compulsory                      iv) redefined

f) What percentages of the milk samples contained pesticide?

- i. 60                      ii. 45                      iii. 40                      iv. 50

g) Why were microbial populations present in pasteurized milk?

- i. because of widespread contamination in the water cows drink  
ii. because of the formaldehyde content in the milk  
iii. because of poor processing of the milk  
iv. all of the above

h) The amounts of pesticide in local food samples are \_\_\_\_\_ times greater than the limits set by the European Union.

- i. 3                      ii. 20                      iii. 3-32                      iv. 60

i) How many ministries are concerned with the food safety issue?

- i. 10                      ii. 15                      iii. 1                      iv. 14

j) What were the vegetables and fruits contaminated with?

- i. unsafe level of pesticides                      ii. various insects                      iii. unhygienic medicines                      iv. chemicals

k) The word **swallow** refers to \_\_\_\_\_

- i. consume                      ii. overwhelm                      iii. a bird                      iv. to eat

l) The word **inhale** refers to \_\_\_\_\_

- i. gulp                      ii. inspire                      iii. breathe                      iv. to consume



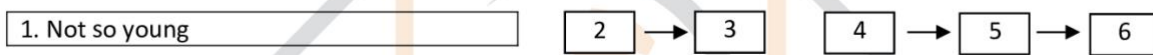
- m) The word **adulteration** refers to \_\_\_\_\_
- i. contamination                      ii. content                      iii. pollute                      iv. adulation
- n) Unsafe level of \_\_\_\_\_ is present in the foods of our country.
- i. insect                      ii. poison                      iii. insecticides                      iv. pesticides
- o) The word **fatal** refers to \_\_\_\_\_
- i. important                      ii. deadly                      iii. significant                      iv. momentous
- p) ) The word 'adulteration' can best be explained as \_\_\_\_\_
- (i) to make impure by adding improper or inferior ingredients  
(ii) to mix something intensely  
(iii) to use unusual methods  
(iv) to drink
- q) The word 'sensitive' can be explained as \_\_\_\_\_
- (i) thoughtful                      (ii) quick                      (iii) to be soft hearted  
(iv) showing ability of measuring very small or delicate change
- r) From the survey, it is clear that food adulteration has reached an/a \_\_\_\_\_ condition.
- (i) anomalous                      (ii) alarming                      (iii) excessive                      (iv) moderate
- s) DDT, Aldrin, Chlordane and Heptachlor are \_\_\_\_\_
- (i) chemicals                      (ii) banned pesticides  
(iii) medicines for plants                      (iv) medicines for various ingredients
- t) In the passage 'food safety' refers to \_\_\_\_\_
- (i) safety of people                      (ii) safety of food                      (iii) safety of food consumers                      (iv) safety of public

2. Write the answer of the following question.

- What was mentioned in the survey report? Who made survey?
- How is turmeric being contaminated and what is the impact of it?
- What does 'new height' refer to in the title of the news report?
- What confirms that even our poultry products are contaminated/
- What are the health risks related to adulterated food?

It was twenty years ago and I was living in Paris. I had a tiny apartment in the Latin Quarter overlooking a cemetery, and I was earning barely enough money to keep body and soul together. She had read a book of mine and had written to me about it. I answered, thanking her, and presently I received from her another letter saying that she was passing through Paris and would like to have a chat with me; but her time was limited, and the only free moment she had was on the following Thursday; she was spending the morning at the Luxembourg and would I give her a little luncheon at Foyot's afterwards? Foyot's is a restaurant at which the French senators eat, and it was so far beyond my means that I had never even thought of going there. But I was flattered, and I was too young to have learned to say no to a woman. . . . I had eighty francs (gold francs) to last me the rest of the month, and a modest luncheon should not cost more than fifteen. If I cut out coffee for the next two weeks I could manage well enough. I answered that I would meet my friend-by correspondence-at Foyot's on Thursday at half-past twelve. She was not as young as I expected and in appearance imposing rather than attractive. She was, in fact, a woman of forty ... and she gave me the impression of having more teeth, white and large and even, than were necessary for any practical purpose. She was talkative, but since she seemed inclined to talk about me I was prepared to be an attentive listener.

**3. Based on your reading of the passage, make short notes in each of the boxes of the flow chart about the woman. (No. 1 has been done for you)**



Or.

Based on your reading of the passage, make short notes in each of the boxes of the flow chart showing the activities of the lady guest (No. 1 has been done for you)



I was startled when the bill of fare was brought, for the prices were a great deal higher than I had anticipated. But she reassured me. "I never eat anything for luncheon," she said. "Oh, don't say that!" I answered generously. "I never eat more than one thing. I think people eat far too much nowadays. A little fish, perhaps. I wonder if they have any salmon."

Well, it was early in the year for salmon and it was not on the bill of fare, but I asked the waiter if there was any. Yes, a beautiful salmon had just come in, it was the first they had had. I ordered it for my guest. The waiter asked her if she would have something while it was being cooked.

"No," she answered, "I never eat more than one thing unless you have a little caviare, I never mind caviare."

My heart sank a little. I knew I could not afford caviare, but I could not very well tell her that. I told the waiter by all means to bring caviare. For myself I chose the cheapest dish on the menu and that was a mutton chop. "I think you are unwise to eat meat," she said. "I don't know how you can expect to work after eating heavy things like chops. I don't believe in overloading my stomach." Then came the question of drink. "I never drink anything for luncheon," she said. "Neither do I," I answered promptly. "Except white wine," she proceeded as though I had not spoken. "These French white wines are so light. They're wonderful for the digestion." "What would you like?" I asked, hospitable still, but not exactly effusive.

4. Make a summary of the text (not more than 100 words)