

MODEL QUESTION 11

Unit: 6, lesson: 2

Adolescents constitute a nation's core resource for national renewal and growth. Adolescence is a period in life when transition from childhood to adulthood takes place and behaviours and life styles are shaped. According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), adolescence is the period which shapes the future of girls' and boys' lives. There are 28 million adolescents in Bangladesh; 13.7 million of them are girls and 14.3 million boys.

The situation of adolescent girls in Bangladesh is characterised by inequality and subordination within the family and society. This inequality leads to widespread practice of child marriage, marginalisation or exclusion from health, education and economic opportunities, and vulnerability to violence and sexual abuse.

In Bangladesh, the legal age of marriage is 18 for girls and 21 for boys. However, 33 percent of adolescent girls are married before the age of 15 and 60 percent become mothers by the age of 19. Research finds that adolescents with higher level of education and from more affluent families tend to marry at a later age. Boys, however, become ready for marriage only after several years of adolescence and young adulthood.

When a girl gets married, she usually drops out of school and begins full-time work in her in-laws' household. In the in-laws' house, she is marginalized. She becomes vulnerable to all forms of abuse, including dowry-related violence. In Bangladesh, it is still common for a bride's family to pay dowry, despite the practice being illegal. Dowry demands can also continue after the wedding. For an adolescent bride, even if her in-laws are supportive, there are greater health risks in terms of pregnancy and child birth. The majority of adolescent brides and their families are uninformed or insufficiently informed about reproductive health and contraception. The maternal mortality rate for adolescents is double the national rate.

1. Choose the right word which is the closest meaning in the context that has been used in the text.
 - a. The word **Adolescent** refers to text _____
 - i) teenage
 - ii) youngster
 - iii) matured
 - iv) both (i) and (ii)
 - b. The word **transition** refers to text _____
 - i) Transfer
 - ii) train
 - iii) thrash
 - iv) terminate
 - c. The word **subordination** refers to text _____
 - i) survival
 - ii) refer
 - iii) independence
 - iv) dependence
 - d. The word **marginalization** refers to text _____
 - i) holding a lot of power
 - ii) holding no power
 - iii) boldness in decision making
 - iv) having sympathy
 - e. The word **exclusion** refers to text _____
 - i) included
 - ii) conclusion
 - iii) sought
 - iv) elimination
 - f. The word **vulnerability** refers to text _____
 - i) Immune
 - ii) assailable
 - iii) free
 - iv) serious
 - g. The word **affluent** refers to text _____
 - i) Impoverish
 - ii) prosperous
 - iii) poverty
 - iv) scanty
 - h. The word **supportive** refers to text _____



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- i) Helpful ii) rude iii) greedy iv) illiterate
- i. The word **reproductive** refers to text _____
i) Production ii) generation iii) generative iv) growth
- j. The word **contraception** refers to text _____
i) Birth control ii) generate iii) counteraction iv) vivid
- k. The word **indigenous** refers to text _____
i) Foreign ii) own iii) alien iv) native
- l. Transition from childhood to adulthood takes place _____
i) After birth ii) in old age iii) in infancy iv) in adolescence
- m. Which statement is incorrect?
I) Marriage age of boys and girls in Bangladesh is 21 years and 16 years.
II) The girls are deprived of their rights most of the time in this country.
III) The adolescent brides are unaware of family planning.
IV) The character of a child is moulded during adolescence
- n. Dowry demands can also continue _____
i) After birth ii) after marriage iii) up to death iv) both (i) and (ii)
- o) **Dowry** stands for _____
i) Collection of girls for marriage ii) wedding gift by the groom to the bride
iii) wedding gift by the bride to the groom iv) the money or property demanded by bridegroom
- p) By which words is the situation of adolescents girls characterized in Bangladesh?
i) Equality and cooperation ii) inequality and subordination
iii) understanding and admiration iv) power and domination
- (q) **Adolescence** is _____
(i) a stage of life (ii) last stage for becoming an adult
(iii) last stage of life (iv) early stage of life
- (r) **The word 'transition' in the second sentence refers to** _____
(i) change-over. (ii) escalation (iii) occurrence (iv) acceleration
- (s) **What does economic independence mean?**
(i) When one earns (ii) When one inherits a property
(iii) When one gets married (iv) When one attains puberty
- (t) **Social independence refers to** _____
(i) right to family (ii) decisions in relation to socialization
(iii) adult relationship (iv) right to marriage
- (u) **What does the word 'abstain' signify in the passage?**
(i) Indulge in (ii) Luxuriate in (iii) Refrain (iv) Participate in
- (v) **The word 'considered' refers to** _____
(i) consideration (ii) to consider (iii) treated (iv) treatment
- (w) **'Individuals' could be best replaced by** _____
(i) individuality (ii) individualize (iii) independent (iv) persons
- (x) **Adolescence is** _____ **preparation for adulthood.**
(i) a section of (ii) the time of (iii) a difficult thing (iv) an external time of

(y) WHO stands for _____

- (i) World Humans Organization (ii) World Humanity Organism
(iii) World Health Organization (iv) World Higher Organization

(z) Most of the growth and development occurs during _____

- (i) infancy met (ii) childhood (iii) later childhood (iv) adolescence

(1) _____ is characterized by fast paced growth.

- (i) Adolescence (ii) Adulthood (iii) From 30-40 years (iv) Later childhood

(2) Some key developments are experienced during _____

- (i) childhood (ii) later childhood (iii) adolescence (iv) adulthood

2. Write the answer of the following question.

- a. When does a girl usually drop out of school?
b. Who tend to marry at later age?
c. What are the two risks the young married girls have to undergo?
d. What are the effects of female inequality in Bangladesh?
e. Why is the maternal mortality rate higher than the national rate?

Shilpi was only 15 years old when she married Rashid in 2008. Marrying off daughters at an early age is a standard practice for many families living in rural Bangladesh. After her wedding, Shilpi joined a local empowerment group that provides adolescent girls with the tools needed to gradually change cultural practices, particularly those pertaining to early marriage and pregnancy. The group's activities include discussions on how to most effectively change behaviour related to reproductive health as well as one-on-one counselling. It also offers peer-to-peer support and life skills training that help adolescents say no to early marriage. The empowerment group is one of more than 10,000 groups supported by some local Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) working all over Bangladesh. These NGOs work through Canada's Adolescent Reproductive Health Project which also aims to increase access to quality health services for adolescents. During one of the group sessions, Shilpi came to understand the potentially harmful effects of early marriage and pregnancy. While maternal mortality in Bangladesh has declined by nearly 40 percent since 2001, the rate remains high with 194 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births in 2010-dropping from 322 in 2001 with a projected decrease to 143 by 2015. Girls who get pregnant are at risk of serious health complications. These include dangerous hemorrhage and fistula, a painful internal injury caused by obstructed childbirth that commonly leads to serious maternal morbidities and social exclusion. When Shilpi heard about those risks, she invited her husband, Rashid, to discuss pregnancy with a counsellor. After hearing about the risks, Rashid agreed to delay having children for five years despite pressures from his parents and neighbours to produce an offspring. Together, the couple met with a female health care provider, who informed them about the various family planning options available. Shilpi's mother-in-law and neighbours continued to pressurize the newlyweds. Deeply rooted cultural practices and traditions caused a rift between Shilpi and Rashid and their extended family, some of whose members insulted and criticized the couple. Unable to convince their close relatives of the risks, Shilpi and Rashid returned to the counsellor. They took the help of a parent peer who has been trained to speak to other parents about adolescent issues. Shilpi's mother-in-law and neighbours eventually came to understand the harmful effects of early pregnancy on mother and child. Today, the village no longer pressurizes the couple; their parents and neighbours now support them and speak out against early marriage and pregnancy.



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



'The Schoolboy' by William Blake

I love to rise in a summer morn,
When the birds sing on every tree;
The distant huntsman winds his horn,
And the skylark sings with me:
O what sweet company!
But to go to school in a summer morn,
O it drives all joy away!
Under a cruel eye outworn,
The little ones spend the day
In sighing and dismay.
Ah then at times I drooping sit,
And spend many an anxious hour;
Nor in my book can I take delight,
Nor sit in learning's bower,
Worn through with the dreary shower.

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

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