

MODEL QUESTION 12

Unit: 6, lesson: 4

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.

1. Choose the right word which is the closest meaning in the context that has been used in the text.
 - a. The word **reproductive** refers to text _____
 - i) Representative
 - ii) rampant
 - iii) generative
 - iv) rift
 - b. The word **offspring** refers to text _____
 - i) children
 - ii) child
 - iii) son
 - iv) in spring
 - c. The word **complications** refers to text _____
 - i) comfortable
 - ii) simple
 - iii) complexity
 - iv) easiness
 - d. The word **obstructed** refers to text _____
 - i) abuse
 - ii) generate
 - iii) tried
 - iv) prevented
 - e. The word **morbidities** refers to text _____
 - i) healthy
 - ii) illness
 - iii) ill-fated
 - iv) marvelous
 - f) What is the main idea of the passage?



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- i) To focus on social change
- ii) to highlight on the change of cultural practices
- iii) to put emphasize on the harmful effects of early marriage and pregnancy
- iv) to stress on maternal mortality in Bangladesh

g) The word **complications** refers to _____

- i) confessions
- ii) indications
- iii) compliances
- iv) difficulties

h) Which statement is true?

- i) Shilpi failed to understand the harmful effects of early marriage and pregnancy
- ii) Shilpi and her husband resolved to delay having children
- iii) maternal mortality in Bangladesh is augment
- iv) Shilpi's in-laws encouraged them to consult a councilor

i) **Social exclusion** refers to _____

- i) attachment to society
- ii) social barriers
- iii) removal from society
- iv) social bonding

j) The word **hemorrhage** refers to _____

- 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

k) What does the sentence 'peer to peer support' refers to _____

- i) giving assistance to the persons belonging to the same age group or social group.
- ii) discussion among the members of one group
- iii) arranging the training on the empowerment of women
- iv) making people aware of serious health complication

l) One-on-one counseling means _____

- (i) giving suggestions by individual meeting
- (ii) giving only one suggestion
- (iii) giving suggestions to only one person is
- (iv) one suggestion for one person system

m) "Marrying off daughter at an early age is a standard practice for many families living in rural Bangladesh." What does it imply?

- (i) Early marriage is forbidden there
- (ii) The concerning parents are penalized
- (iii) Early marriage is a common phenomenon
- (iv) No early marriage is available there

n) What is the main idea of the passage?

- (i) To focus on social change
- (ii) To highlight on the change of cultural practices
- (iii) To put emphasis on the harmful effects of early marriage and pregnancy
- (iv) To stress on maternal mortality in Bangladesh

- o) Which one of the following statements is not true?
- (i) Marrying off daughters at an adult age is a standard practice in rural Bangladesh.
 - (ii) Today village people do not support early marriage and pregnancy
 - (iii) Hemorrhage and fistula contribute to acute maternal morbidities and social exclusion.
 - (iv) The passage deals with the harmful effects of early marriage of girls and pregnancy.
- p) Which of the following best describes 'pertain'?
- (i) Provider (ii) Prolong (iii) Persist (iv) Belong
- q) In the passage 'cultural practices' refer to _____
- (i) rules sustaining in the community (ii) customs prevailing in the culture of a society
 - (iii) celebrations existing in the society (iv) regulations existing in the community
- r) In Bangladesh many people have a tendency to marry their daughter off:
- (i) when they are adult (ii) prematurely (iii) timely (iv) when they reach maturity
- s) It is true that the rate of maternal mortality _____ in Bangladesh recently.
- (i) has gone up (ii) has come down (iii) has remained static (iv) has remained still

2. Write the answer of the following question.

- a. Why did Shilpi decide to delay her pregnancy?
- b. How were Shilpi and her husband able to handle the pressure for having children?
- c. What are the various health-related services that couples like Shilpi and Rashid need?
- d. Is there any empowerment group working in your area? If yes, what do they do?
- e. As an adolescent boy/girl, what peer support can you provide to boys and girls in your locality who have already married?

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.

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



How can the bird that is born for joy
 Sit in a cage and sing?
 How can a child, when fears annoy,
 But droop his tender wing,



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And forget his youthful spring!
O father and mother if buds are nipped,
And blossoms blown away;
And if the tender plants are stripped
Of their joy in the springing day,
By sorrow and care's dismay,
How shall the summer arise in joy,
Or the summer fruits appear?
Or how shall we gather what griefs destroy,
Or bless the mellowing year,
When the blasts of winter appear?

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



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