

## MODEL QUESTION 21

### Unit: 12, lesson: 1

Water, water, everywhere,  
And all the boards did shrink;  
Water, water, everywhere,  
Nor any drop to drink.

Coleridge' poem, a ballad, narrates the **harrowing** sea-voyage of an old mariner who at one point of his journey didn't have any water to drink because of a curse. Cursed or not, we know how important drinking water is in our life. We know we cannot survive without it. In fact two-thirds of our body is made up of water. Not for nothing is it said that the other name of water is life. Is there a crisis in our time with regard to access to clean drinking water? The United Nations in a meeting on the **eve** of the new millennium identified the drinking water problem as one of the challenges for the future. But do we need to worry about the problem as ours is a land of rivers and we have plenty of rainfall? Besides, we have a sea in our backyard too.

One of the sources of water in our country is the rivers. Rivers are everywhere in our life, literature, economy and culture. But are the rivers in good shape? Unfortunately, they are not. A few are already dead and several are going through the **pangs** of death. The river Buriganga is an example of a dying river. A report published in the Daily *Sun* describes what has happened to the river Buriganga and why. Its water is polluted and a **perpetual stench** fills the air around it. But that is not what it was like before. The report says that the river had a glorious past. Once it was a **tributary** of the mighty Ganges and flowed into the Bay of Bengal through the river Dhaleshwari. Gradually, it lost its link with the Ganges and got the name Buriganga. The Mughals **marveled** at the tide level of the Buriganga and founded their capital Jahangirnagar on its banks in 1610. The river supplied drinking water and supported trade and commerce.

Jahangirnagar was renamed Dhaka which grew into a heavily populated city with a **chronic** shortage of space.

The city paid back the **bounty** of the river by sucking life out of it! According to newspaper report, the Buriganga is dying because of pollution. Huge quantities of toxic chemicals and wastes from mills and factories, hospitals and clinics and households and other establishments are **dumped** into the river every day. The city of

Dhaka discharges about 4500 tons of solid waste every day and most of it is directly released into the Buriganga. According to the Department of the Environment (DoE), 20,000 tons of tannery waste, including some highly **toxic** materials, are released into the river every day. Experts identified nine industrial areas in and around the capital city as the primary sources of river pollution: Tongi, Tejgaon, Hazaribagh, Tarabo,

Narayanganj, Savar, Gazipur, Dhaka Export Processing Zone and Ghorashal. The river would need a **monster's** stomach to digest all the wastes mentioned above. There is a limit up to which it can put up with its cruel and thoughtless treatment. We the humans have successfully killed one of our rivers. There are other rivers in the

country that are being subjected to similar thoughtless treatment. Unless we take care of our rivers there may come a time when we will cry 'water, water' and find it nowhere.



# English Language Zone

JSC, SSC & HSC English

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

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

- never                      ii) already                      iii) strong                      iv) continuous

b) The word **survive** refers to text \_\_\_\_\_

- i) sever                      ii) die                      iii) live                      iv) flee

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

- i) territory                      ii) kingdom                      iii) steamy                      iv) affluent

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

- i) enjoyed                      ii) surprised                      iii) alarmed                      iv) disappointed

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

- i) discard                      ii) avoid                      iii) relate                      iv) lead

f) "**Harrowing sea-voyage**" refers to \_\_\_\_\_

- i) Horrifying sea-animals                      ii) destructive sea-animals  
iii) Frightening and shocking journey across a sea                      iv) frightful condition of sea

g) What does the ballad narrate?

- i) The pleasant journey of the mariner                      ii) the harrowing sea-voyage of the mariner  
iii) The romantic lifestyle of the old mariner                      iv) the happy personal life of the mariner

h) The water of the Buriganga is \_\_\_\_\_

- i) Increasing                      ii) purified                      iii) polluted                      iv) decreasing

i) What is one of the sources of water in our country?

- i) hill                      ii) cultivable land                      iii) river                      iv) road

j) The old mariner had a very \_\_\_\_\_ sea- voyage.

- i) memorable                      ii) wonderful                      iii) agonizing                      iv) pleasant

k) Which one of the following is the exact opposite of 'pangs of death'?

- i) face of death                      ii) comforts of living                      iii) joys of living                      iv) verge of life

l) The Buriganga water fills the air with \_\_\_\_\_

- (i) aroma                      (ii) fragrance                      (iii) stink                      (iv) scent

**m) Which of the following statements is false?**

- (i) The Buriganga is a river                      (ii) Our rivers are not in a good shape  
(iii) Jahangirnagar was once called Dhaka                      (iv) Water is being contaminated

**n) The Buriganga is on deathbed due to \_\_\_\_\_**

- (i) water vehicles                      (ii) pollutions  
(iii) the Mughals                      (iv) the report published in the newspaper

**o) How did Dhaka city pay back the bounty of the river?**

- (i) By cleaning the river                      (ii) By polluting the river  
(iii) By purifying its water                      (iv) By making it glorious

**p) How did the river help?**

- (i) By giving a good communication network                      (ii) By increasing the beauty of surroundings  
(iii) By supplying drinking water                      (iv) By supplying drinking water and supporting trade and commerce

**q) A huge quantity of toxic chemicals and wastes are \_\_\_\_\_**

- (i) thrown in the river everyday                      (ii) produced from the river everyday  
(iii) made from river water everyday                      (iv) sold in the market everyday

**r) The Buriganga amazed the Mughals \_\_\_\_\_**

- (i) in 16th century                      (ii) in early 17th century  
(iii) at the first decade of 17th century                      (iv) in-between 16th and 17th century

**s) The best way to save the river is-**

- (i) introducing strict law                      (ii) involving all concerned people  
(iii) punishing polluters                      (iv) cleaning the river

**t) "Its water is polluted and a perpetual stench fills the air around it."-What does it imply**

- (i) The water of the Buriganga is getting polluted and the surrounding air is getting full of smell  
(ii) The water of the rivers being polluted is creating bad smell  
(iii) The water of canals getting polluted creates bad smell.  
(iv) Our drinking water being polluting is creating unpleasant odour

**u) The word 'core' in line 1 can be replaced by-**





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- (i) unnecessary                      (ii) most important                      (iii) extra                      (iv) unwanted

(k) The phrase 'take place in the second sentence stands for

- (i) occur                      (ii) recur                      (iii) go to a place                      (iv) all of them

2. Write the answer of the following question.

- How is water important to our life?
- How did the United Nations identify the drinking water problem?
- What is the present situation of the rivers in our country?
- What is the present situation of the Buriganga?
- Give some suggestions to upgrade the condition of our rivers.

My name is Amerigo. I am 13 years old and I live on the street, alone. My mother, who is separated from my father, doesn't want me. She told me to go away .... Now she is married to another man. My father lives very far away. I want to go to him, but he won't take me either. I begged him to send me some money so that I could buy a bus ticket. I am still waiting. He hasn't answered. The streets are now my home. Sometimes I find work. I used to collect trash and sell it to a vendor. I stopped doing that after I had a serious infection and a doctor told me to stay away from the trash dump. Once I worked for an ice cream shop owner and sold ice cream on the beach. But I got no money in return. The owner of the shop gave me something to eat, and let me sleep in his hut at night. The work was difficult and painful. The ice cream box is quite heavy when it is full. I had to walk for hours, offering my ice cream to whoever wanted to buy. There were days when I could not even sell one ice cream. In a way, I am lucky because I am alive. My friends who work sorting rubbish in dumps often suffer from serious diseases. One of them was recently killed after he fell into a hole that opened up in the pile of trash. Many of us work for 10 to 12 hours, and get so little in return that we can't even buy food. Shoe-shining is very popular among the street kids. A few of my friends also work in factories and workshops. A boy I know lost one of his eyes after a piece of hot glass flew into his eye at the glass factory where he worked. The owner refused to pay for medical help and fired him. For me, like all other children on the street, it is very hard. I am always hungry, and I don't know where I will sleep the next night. I would like to live in my own home and sleep there in peace. The nights are very cold in the winter. You can die of cold in the street.

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



Hakaluki haor is known as a good grazing land in winter. People from villages around the Haor and also from distant areas send their herds for grazing. During this time, herders make temporary shelters near the beels and graze their animals for a period of 4-5 months. The Haor had very dense swamp forests in the past, but deforestation and a lack of conservation practices have virtually destroyed this unique forest in the last two decades. Two small patches of swamp forests still exist in the area of which one is in Chatla beel and the other near the village of Kalikrishnapur. With the exception of these two swamp forest patches, the vegetation surrounding Hakaluki haor is unique. It includes both swamp forest as well as mixed evergreen rain forest. Thatching material is the most useful natural wetland product of the area. The haor system provides a wide range of economic and non-economic benefits to the local people as well as to the people of Bangladesh. These include fish production, rice production, cattle and buffalo rearing, duck rearing, collection of reeds and grasses, and collection of aquatic and other plants. The haor system also protects the lower floodplains from flash floods occurring in the months of April-May, maintains the supply of fish in other lower water bodies and provides habitat for migratory and local waterfowls.

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