

### MODEL QUESTION 3

Unit: 3, lesson: 2

Read the passage below and answer the following questions:

May Day or International Workers Day is observed on May 1 all over the world today to commemorate the historical struggle and sacrifices of the working people to establish an eight-hour workday. It is a public holiday in almost all the countries of the world.

Since the Industrial Revolution(1) in the 18th and 19th centuries in Europe and the US, the workers in mills and factories had been working a long shift, fourteen or even more hours a day.

On May 1st in 1886, inspired by the trade unions(2), half of the workers at the McCormic Harvester Company in Chicago went on strike demanding an eight-hour workday. Two days later, a workers' rally was held near the McCormic Harvester Company and about 6000 workers had joined it. The rally was addressed by the labour leaders. They urged the workers to stand together, to go on with their struggle and not to give in to their bosses. Just at this moment some strikebreakers started leaving the meeting place. The strikers went down the street to bring them back. Suddenly about 200 policemen attacked them with clubs and revolvers. One striker was killed instantly, five or six others were seriously wounded and many of them were badly injured.

The events of May 1, 1886 is a reminder that workers will continue to be exploited until they stand up and speak out to gain better working conditions, better pay and better lives.

1. Choose the correct answer from the alternatives.

1x7=7

a) Which of the following has the closest meaning of word 'commemorates' .  
i. honour                      ii. remind                      iii. realize                      iv. identity

b) May Day signifies \_\_\_\_\_

- i. the struggle and sacrifices of the working people to establish rights.                      ii. the martyrs  
iii. oppression of the working people                      iv. the inspiration of hardworking people

c) Which of the following has the closest meaning of word 'exploited'  
i. relaxed                      ii. oppressed                      iii. except                      iv. exterminated

d) Which statement of the following is correct?

- i. May 1<sup>st</sup> is a national day.                      ii. May 1<sup>st</sup> is a public holiday  
iii. May 1<sup>st</sup> is observed nationally                      iv. None of them

e) May 1<sup>st</sup> is observed to \_\_\_\_\_

- i. remember the people who worked long hours  
ii. honor the historic struggle of working people  
iii. remind the workers that they have to work hard  
iv. gain better working conditions, better pay and better lives.



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- f) Unless the workers stand united in realizing their demands, they may still be \_\_\_\_\_
- i. manipulated      ii. harassed      iii. neglected      iv. oppressed
- g) It was a struggle organized by the workers to settle for a \_\_\_\_\_
- i. maximum wage      ii. handsome wage      iii. freedom to work      iv. minimum wage
- h) The weapons used by the police were \_\_\_\_\_
- i) gun and knife      ii) pistol and club      iii) handgun and revolvers      iv) clubs and revolvers
- i) The rally was headed by \_\_\_\_\_.
- i) the strikers      ii) the bosses      iii) the trade unions      iv) the labour leaders
- j) May Day is observed \_\_\_\_\_
- i) nationally      ii) partially      iii) officially      iv) globally
- k) Which of the following is not true?
- i) workers in mills and factories had to work for long time
- ii) the workers of Europe went on strike
- iii) working hours lasted for fourteen or even more hours
- iv) working class demanded an eight hour work day
- l) What does the expression “**All the privileges workers enjoy today**” mean?
- i) today workers enjoy some benefits
- ii) today the workers seldom raise their voice for their benefits
- iii) today the workers are deprived their wages
- iv) today the workers are deterred from their rights
- m) Clubs and revolvers were used upon \_\_\_\_\_
- i) trade union leaders      ii) policemen      iii) strikers      iv) strike breakers
- n) To stop exploitation workers should not \_\_\_\_\_
- i) express their opinion in public      ii) think of their privilege
- iii) rule out any unfair condition by their bosses      iv) speak meekly
- o) “ **not to give in to their bosses**” means \_\_\_\_\_
- i) not to struggle to their bosses      ii) not to protest against their bosses

- iii) not to give any chance to the owners                      iv) not to share anything with their senior
- p) The privileges, workers enjoy today are due to the \_\_\_\_\_ of the workers in 1986.
- i) hard work                      ii) toiling                      iii) revolution                      iv) sacrifice
- q) May Day is a \_\_\_\_\_ that the workers themselves have to fight for their rights.
- i) memory                      ii) demand                      iii) reminder                      iv) denouncement
- r) The labor leaders urged the workers to \_\_\_\_\_
- i) to have more patience before going to the strike                      ii) to stand together and continue their struggle
- iii) to negotiate with the authority of the company                      iv) to continue their struggle
- s) 'The rally was addressed by the labour leaders.' What does the sentence mean?
- i) the labor leaders encouraged the workers
- ii) the labor leaders delivered speech in the gathering
- iii) the procession was directed by the labor leaders
- iv) the labor leaders helped workers to arrange the assembly
- t) The phrase **public holiday** means \_\_\_\_\_
- i) government holiday                      ii) holiday of the public                      iii) public day                      iv) workers holiday
- u) What is the purpose of the author of this passage?
- i) to state the short history of May Day and the significance of it
- ii) to highlight the violent roles of about 200 policemen
- iii) to highlight the kind and sympathetic roles of some of strikebreakers
- iv) to portray the brutality and atrocity of the owners of mills and factories
- v) What does the expression "**Industrial Revolution**" means?
- i) demands of the laborers                      ii) revolution of the owners of the industries
- iii) expansion of mills and factories                      iv) rights of the laborers
- w) "to commemorate the historical struggle and sacrifices of the working people" refers to the text \_\_\_\_\_
- i) to publish the effort of the working class
- ii) to remember and honor the effort of the working class
- iii) to despise the effort of the working class
- iv) to dramatize the effort of the working class



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x) What do you understand by trade union?

i) an organization of traders

ii) an organization of workers

iii) an association of workers

iv) an organization of factory owners

**2. Answer the following questions.**

**2x5=10**

a) What were the causes that led to the struggle?

b) What does May Day refer to?

c) How long did the workers have to work a day before the May 1 strike?

d) How many workers were victimized for taking part in the strike?

e) What do you learn from the events of May 1, 1886?

21 February is a memorable day in our national history. We observe the day every year as International Mother Language Day. The day is a national holiday. On this day, we pay tribute to the martyrs who laid down their lives to establish Bangla as a state language in undivided Pakistan in 1952. This is known as the Language Movement. The seed of the Language Movement was Sown on 21 March 1948 when Mohammad Ali Zinnah, the then Governor General of Pakistan, at a public meeting in Dhaka declared that Urdu would be the only official language of Pakistan. The declaration raised a storm of protest in the eastern part of the country. The protest continued non-stop, gathering momentum day by day. It turned into a movement and reached its climax in 1952. The government outlawed all sorts of public meetings and rallies to prevent it. The students of Dhaka University defied the law and they brought out a peaceful protest procession on 21 February 1952. When the procession reached near Dhaka Medical College, the police opened fire on the students, killing Salam, Rafiq, Barkat and Jabbar. This enkindled the sparks of independent movement of Bangladesh.

**3. Fill in the blanks with suitable words:**

**1x5=5**

21 February is a (a) \_\_\_\_\_ letter day in the history of Bangladesh. When Bangladesh was under the rule of Pakistan, the ruler of Pakistan wanted to (b) \_\_\_\_\_ Urdu to be state language of Bangladesh. But the heroic sons of this country (c) \_\_\_\_\_ against it. Even some young people (d) \_\_\_\_\_ their lives to establish Bangla as the state language. (e) \_\_\_\_\_ day is now observed as The International other language Day.