

ROYAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
BHUTAN CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION (BCSE) 2010
EXAMINATION CATEGORY: GENERAL

PAPER II: ENGLISH LANGUAGE & GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

Date : 23 November 2010
Total Marks : 100
Examination Time : 3 hours
Reading Time : 15 Minutes (Prior to examination time)

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

- This paper is divided into two parts – Part I and Part II. Part I has two sections – A: Case Study and B: Topical Discussion. Part II also has two sections – C: Subjective Questions and D: Objective Questions (Multiple Choice).
- Specific instructions are provided for each section separately. Please read the instructions for each section carefully and answer the questions that follow.
- Section A under Part I and Section D under Part II are compulsory.
- For Section D under Part II (Multiple Choice Items), you are required to write your responses on the Answer Sheet provided.
- The intended marks for each question are given in brackets.
- Please begin each section on a fresh page.
- This booklet contains 9 pages (including this cover page).

PAPER II: ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

This paper is divided into two parts – Part I and Part II. Part I has two sections – A and B. Part II also has two sections – C and D. Please read the instructions for each section carefully and answer the questions that follow.

PART I

Section ‘A’ is a Case Study, while Section ‘B’ is a Topical Discussion. Please follow the instructions under each section.

SECTION A: Case Study (40 Marks)

Read the following passage and answer ALL FOUR questions that follow.

The Loss of Privacy

The first thing that the globalization of communication through the Internet threatened was the notion of boundaries – a notion as old as the human race, in fact as old as the animal kingdom. Ethology teaches us that every animal recognizes around itself, and its fellows, a bubble of respect, a territorial area within which it feels safe, and that it will see as an adversary whoever steps over that boundary. Social anthropology has shown us how this protective bubble varies according to cultures. In certain cultures, for example, the closeness of another person is an expression of familiarity; in others it is seen as intrusive and aggressive.

On the human level, this area of protection was extended from the individual to the community. The boundary – of the city, region, realm – has always been viewed as a kind of collective enlargement of the individual bubble of protection. We need only think of how obsessed the Latin mentality was with boundaries, so much so that Rome’s own foundation myth centers on a territorial violation: Romulus traced a boundary and killed his brother because his brother did not respect it. In crossing the Rubicon, Julius Caesar felt the same distress that perhaps seized Remus before he violated the boundary marked by his brother. Caesar knew that by crossing that river he was invading Roman territory under arms. That he later established a bridgehead in Rimini and marched on Rome is irrelevant: the sacrilege occurs when you cross the boundary, and it is irreversible. The die is cast. The Greeks knew the boundary of the polis, and the boundary was marked by the use of the language – or by its various dialects. The barbarians began where people no longer spoke Greek.

Sometimes the notion of (political) boundaries has been so obsessive as to result in the construction of a wall inside the city itself, to establish who must stay on one side and who on the other. Stepping over an inner-city boundary exposed East Germans to the same punishment inflicted on the legendary Remus. The example of East Berlin tells us something that concerns every boundary: a boundary protects a community not only from attack by outsiders but also from their gaze. Walls both physical and linguistic can help a despotic regime keep its subjects in ignorance of what is happening elsewhere, but in general they guarantee citizens that no intruder will gain knowledge of their customs, riches, inventions, or agricultural systems. The Great Wall of China did not only defend the subjects of the Celestial Empire from invasion, it also safeguarded the secret of silk production. Conversely, people have always paid for this communal privacy by accepting the loss of individual privacy. Inquisitions of various kinds, secular and religious, had the right to watch over the behavior and even thoughts of subjects, not to mention customs, regulations and tax laws, hence it has always been thought just that the private wealth of citizens be known to the state.

With the Internet the very definition of the nation-state is being put into question. The Internet is not only an instrument that enables the establishment of international and multilingual chat lines. The fact that today a city in Pomerania can pair itself with a town in Estremadura, finding common interests online and doing business independently of the road and rail networks, which still cross frontiers. Today, amidst an unstoppable wave of migrants, it is getting easier and easier for a Muslim community in Rome to link up with a Muslim community in Berlin.

Question 1 (10 Marks)

How important were boundaries and walls to the community and society described in the passage and what purpose did they serve?

Question 2 (10 Marks)

The Internet has now caused the collapse of boundaries and the very definition of the nation-state is being put into question. Please discuss.

Question 3 (10 Marks)

How can the Internet and the ICT in general be harnessed to increase good governance and enhance the achievement of Gross National Happiness (GNH)?

Question 4 (10 Marks)

It is often observed that, privacy issues are to the information economy (age), what environmental concerns and consumer protection have been to the industrial society. Do you agree? Please discuss.

SECTION B: Topical Discussion (20 Marks)

This section consists of four questions related to topical issues. You may answer ANY TWO questions. Each answer will carry 10 marks each.

Question 1 (10 Marks)

The Chamkhar town fire in Bumthang on October 26, 2010 gutted 59 shops and houses seriously affecting 266 people in a span of about three hours. What needs to be done to mitigate and avoid the recurrence of such fire hazards in our towns and rural settlements.

Question 2 (10 Marks)

According to the Small Area Estimation of Poverty in Rural Bhutan released to coincide with the World Statistics Day on October 20, 2010, Samtse and Zhemgang are the poorest Dzongkhags. Why do you think this is so and what can be done to improve and hasten the development of these two Dzongkhags.

Question 3 (10 Marks)

Almost three decades after signing the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), Bhutanese women's participation in public and political life is still poor. What are your views and what interventions should be put in place to address this issue?

Question 4 (10 Marks)

Promoting Bhutan as a destination for Meeting, Incentive, Conference and Event (MICE), is one of the Government's policies. What are the strengths of Bhutan for MICE and what more needs to be done to promote Bhutan as a MICE destination?

PART II

SECTION C: Subjective Questions (20 Marks)

Answer **ANY TWO** questions from the following four questions. Each answer will carry **10 marks each**.

Question 1 (10 Marks)

All aspects of good governance are facilitated by a strong and independent media within a society. Express your views for or against this statement.

Question 2 (10 Marks)

Bureaucratic. Ineffective. Undemocratic. Are some of the adjectives used by critics to describe the United Nations. However, some argue that the relevance of the United Nations is evident from the ongoing work of the more than two dozen organizations comprising the UN system. Discuss the UN's importance in the 21st century.

Question 3 (10 Marks)

“Life is a marathon, don't burn out early on in the race. Pace yourself wisely and remember it is not how you begin the game that matters, it is how you've played it in the end.”

This is a quote from the Royal Address of His Majesty the King on 25 October, 2010 in India. Where was the Royal Address and explain the quote in your own words?

Question 4 (10 Marks)

“Let's go forth from this summit not only rededicated to the eight goals of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), but also to the ninth voluntary goal, to build a world that can sustain happiness for all its people today and for generations to come.”

What is the ninth goal that Lyonchhoen Jigme Y. Thinley was referring to and does it contribute towards the enrichment of the MDGs? Discuss.

SECTION D: Objective Questions (Multiple Choice, 20 Marks)

Answer **ALL 20** questions by writing the correct option against each question number in your answer sheet. For e.g. 21(b).

1. In which year did His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuck command the formation of the Constitution Drafting Committee?
 - a. 2001
 - b. 2000
 - c. 1999
 - d. 2001

2. What is the size of the Buddha Dordenma Statue that is being built at the Kuenselphodrang overlooking the Thimphu valley?
 - a. 250 feet
 - b. 169 feet
 - c. 200 feet
 - d. 275 feet

3. Who was declared three times the woman of the match during the ACC U-19 Women's Cricket Championship held in Singapore this year?
 - a. Yeshey Choden
 - b. Choening D. Tenzin
 - c. Devika Darjee
 - d. Tshering Wangmo

4. Which book among the following four is not a short list for the Man Booker Prize for fiction for 2010?
 - a. Room by Emma Donoghue
 - b. The Long Song by Andrea Levy
 - c. C by Tom McCarthy
 - d. Labyrinth by Kate Moss

5. Mario Vargas Llosa who was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature, 2010 is from:
 - a. Mexico
 - b. Spain
 - c. Peru
 - d. Argentina

6. Which beverage is brewed from the plant *Camellia sinensis*?
 - a. Coffee
 - b. Wine
 - c. Beer
 - d. Tea

7. The International Court of Justice is located in:
 - a. Geneva
 - b. Hague
 - c. New York
 - d. Paris

8. The United Nations Day is observed on:
 - a. October 10
 - b. October 28
 - c. September 24
 - d. October 24

9. As per the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) signed by the Russian and the US Presidents in April 2010, the two nations will reduce their nuclear weapons stockpile by:
 - a. One fourth
 - b. A third
 - c. Half
 - d. Two-thirds

10. Operation “Desert Storm” was the war between:
 - a. Iraq and Iran
 - b. Iraq and the Kurds
 - c. America and its allies against Iraq
 - d. Shiite Iraqis and Northern Iraqis

11. “Oscar Awards” are given for excellence in the field of:
 - a. Social Service
 - b. Film
 - c. Sport
 - d. Journalism

12. Which session of the Cabinet Meeting (Lhengye Zhungtshog) in October, 2010 was held using video conference call facility?
- 80th Session
 - 79th Session
 - 81st Session
 - 82nd Session
13. The first woman Chancellor of Germany is:
- Helen Clarke
 - Michelle Bachelet
 - Angela Merkel
 - Mary Eugene Charles
14. The world's second largest economy is:
- USA
 - Japan
 - China
 - Germany
15. The present Chairperson of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), is:
- Dr. Sheel Kant Sharma
 - Lyonchhoen Jigme Y. Thinley
 - President Mahinda Rajapaksa
 - President Mohamad Nasheed
16. Who is the author of the 'Adventures of Tom Sawyer'?
- Charles Dickens
 - Rudyard Kipling
 - Alexander Dumas
 - Mark Twain
17. The number of miners trapped for 68 days at the San Jose mine accident in Chile in August, 2010 was:
- 33
 - 30
 - 46
 - 53

18. Which among the following is the latest newspaper which started publication on 29 August 2010?
- The Journalist
 - Druk Neytshuel
 - Bhutan Today
 - Bhutan Observer
19. The Nobel Prize for physics for 2010 was awarded to:
- Peter A. Diamond, Dale T. Mortensen & Christopher A. Pissarides
 - Richard F Heck, Ei-ichi Negishi & Akira Suzuki
 - Robert G. Edwards
 - Andre Geim & Konstantin Novoselov
20. Which session of Bhutan's National Assembly started on 25 May 2010 and concluded on 14 July 2010?
- The third Session
 - The fifth Session
 - The fourth Session
 - The sixth Session