

**ROYAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION  
BHUTAN CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION (BCSE) 2018  
EXAMINATION CATEGORY: DZONGKHA**

## **PAPER II: ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND CURRENT AFFAIRS**

**Date** : 6 October 2018  
**Total Marks** : 100  
**Writing Time** : 3 hours  
**Reading Time** : 15 minutes (prior to writing time)

## **GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Write your Registration Number clearly and correctly on the Answer Booklet.
  2. The first 15 minutes is being provided to check the number of pages of Question Paper, printing errors, clarify doubts and to read the instructions. You are NOT permitted to write during this time.
  3. This paper is divided into two parts:
    - ❖ Part I has three sections: Section I – Essay Writing
    - Section II – Letter Writing
    - Section III – Comprehension
    - ❖ Part II has two Sections: Section IV – Translation (Dzongkha to English)
    - Section V – Current Affairs
  4. Section III under Part I and Section IV and V under Part II are compulsory.
  5. Specific instructions are provided under each Section separately. Please read the instructions carefully and answer the questions.
  6. All answers should be written on the Answer Booklet provided to you. Candidates are not allowed to write anything on the question paper. If required, ask for additional Answer Booklet.
  7. All answers should be written with correct numbering of the Part, Section and Question Number in the Answer Booklet provided to you. Note that any answer written without indicating the correct Part, Section and Question Number will NOT be evaluated and no marks will be awarded.
  8. Begin each Section on a fresh page of the Answer Booklet.
  9. You are not permitted to tear off any sheet(s) of the Answer Booklet as well as the Question Paper.
  10. Use of any other paper including paper for rough work is not permitted.
  - 11. You are required to hand over the Answer Booklets to the Invigilator before leaving the examination hall.**
  12. This paper has **8 printed pages**, including this instruction page.

**GOOD LUCK**

**PART I**

**Section I : Essay Writing (25 marks)**

You will be awarded marks for your knowledge on the subject, analytical ability, orderly and coherent presentation of ideas, appropriate use of style, and accuracy of spelling, punctuation and grammar.

Write an essay of 300 - 350 words on any **ONE** of the following topics:

**Question 1**

While the quality of education seems to be declining in Bhutan, the vacancies created by experienced teachers resigning have been filled by contract teachers.

Do you think this strategy is helpful in solving the problem?

**Question 2**

With the advent of different technologies and gadgets in the lives of youth, moral degradation seems to be a serious issue in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Who can be the main stakeholder in solving this issue and how can this be addressed?

**Question 3**

Going into any staffroom in any school and ask the teachers what their biggest complaint is. They are likely to say that they have to spend too much time on paperwork and not enough time on what they are paid to do: teach.

Will paperless classroom revolutionize teaching in the Bhutanese context?

**Section II: Letter Writing (20 marks)**

Marks will be awarded for correct layout, appropriate language and content.

Write a letter of at least 150 words on any **ONE** of the following:

**Question 1**

Write a letter to one of your former professors requesting him/her to be your referee.

Your letter should include:

- Why you need the letter
- Why you choose him/her to be your referee

### **Question 2**

You want to read a particular book which cannot be found in any of the book shops in Thimphu.

Write a letter to your friend who lives in Delhi requesting him to send you that book. In your letter, you should mention:

- The title of the book
- Why you are particularly interested in reading that book

### **Question 3**

As a resident living in the heart of Thimphu city with two school going children, your concern is they cannot concentrate in their studies owing to too much noise from the Clock Tower. Write a letter to the official concerned suggesting ways to curb this noise pollution. You should mention:

- Who else is being affected
- Two solutions for this problem

### **Section III: Comprehension (20 marks)**

Marks will be awarded for your ability to understand, analyze and express thoughts clearly.

Read the passage below and then answer the questions that follow.

#### **Why You Should Start Learning a Foreign Language**

**Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk, a Czech sociologist and philosopher, said once, “As many languages you know, as many times you are a human being.”** It is difficult to deny the wisdom of these words. Every language is not just a number of rules and grammatical constructions allowing you to understand other people; it is rather a reflection (and at the same time—a determinant) of mentality, the way of thinking of the people who speak it. Learning a language ideally involves not only memorizing a bunch of new words, but also studying its native country’s culture and history, digging into its contemporary context, following its evolution. Believe it or not, but your native language has shaped your personality in the same way your parents and surroundings have. Logically, the more languages you know, the more diverse and profound of a person you can become; by understanding paradigms different from yours, you can broaden your outlook and become more open-minded; you will be able to read between the lines, developing your communications with other people not just in a regular—verbal—way, but in the dimension of gestures, circumlocutions, allegories, etc. You can view it as adopting and integrating a new personality in your mind, which occurs every time you dig deeper into a new language.

Of course, there are more pragmatic and less philosophical reasons to begin studying foreign languages. Since ancient times, people who could communicate with foreigners have been valued greatly. Commerce, diplomacy, and cultural exchange would be difficult or even impossible if there were no people able to converse with the representatives of other countries. Nowadays, the situation has not changed much, even despite the existence of numerous computer-assisted translation

tools. Try having business correspondence with a Japanese company using only Google Translate or any of the more advanced tools, and you will realize how inferior they are compared to a real translator or interpreter. Considering that nowadays there are many companies expanding their business abroad, the demand for qualified people speaking at least one foreign language is extremely high. Even if you will not be travelling around the world all the time, you will still be more valued at work (Fluentin3months). Besides, it will be easier for you to find a job in a different country.

Besides your career, there are many other reasons for learning a foreign language. Have you ever found yourself in a situation when you are alone in an unfamiliar country, unable to find your hostel two hours past midnight, and completely unable to say anything in this country's language? You approach people with a silly smile on your face (you hope it looks polite, but in fact it is rather suspicious), trying to show them your map; some of them ignore you, others nod their heads and start talking quickly, pointing their fingers in all directions—but you cannot understand them. Finally, you find a taxi driver who agrees to help you, and as a result, your ride takes about five minutes, and the driver charges you a hundred dollars. As weird as it may sound to a person from an English-speaking environment, the rest of the world does not speak English; in some countries—European countries, for example—you will find people able to communicate in it, but usually, the farther to the South or to the East you travel, the less English-speaking people you will be able to find. Now, imagine how great it would be to travel to China, for instance, and to have the following conversation:

- Hello! Can you help me?
- Wow!
- What?
- You speak Chinese!
- Oh, yes, a little bit.
- That's cool, I've never met a foreigner able to speak Chinese.
- Well, I just like studying foreign languages. Do you know what transport I should take to get to this hostel (you show it on your map)?
- Oh, you don't need transport—the hostel is just two blocks away from here. Just walk down this street till you see the crossroad, and then turn right, and you should see it.
- Great! Thanks for your help.
- You're welcome. Enjoy your stay in China.

When we are at home and a tourist asks us directions, we *take it for granted* that he or she speaks English. Sometimes we cringe because of their accents or twisted grammar; however, in other countries, people are more grateful when you try to speak their language, and you can find even more help than you are required.

Besides, being able to speak a foreign language can save you a whole lot of money and/or time. If you are a regular English-speaking tourist, you have two options to get to your destination from the airport: either by a shuttle, which is slow (and once you miss one for some reason, you have to wait for a long time until another one arrives), or by taxi, which can cost you a fortune. However, when talking to people in the airport, you can rather often find an alternative; for example, you can learn about a cheaper local bus, or you can run into a person who will agree to drive you up to the city for free, or for a considerably lower sum of money than a taxi (FluentU). This works especially well in poorer countries, where locals are eager to earn some extra coin.

This is not to mention you can easily make new friends from abroad. Even if you are a reserved or introverted person, when abroad, you have to communicate with other people—otherwise, you will not be able to enjoy your travel and sustain yourself. Besides, if you are staying in a hostel or a guest house, the atmosphere of numerous strangers from all over the world gathered at one place often disposes and inspires communication. Sometimes, connections you make when travelling can last for years, transforming into friendships, business contacts, or even romantic relationships. All this is not possible (or would be much harder to achieve) if you do not speak a foreign language (Lingholic).

Learning foreign languages is extremely beneficial for personal development. Not only does it allow you to better understand other cultures and mentalities, but it also *enriches* your personality with new outlooks, makes you more open-minded—which is extremely valuable nowadays. Besides, speaking at least one foreign language can significantly improve your travelling experience, help you make new friends from abroad, and start business or romantic relationships. In addition, professionals who speak foreign languages are more valued by their companies, and often get a chance to work in different countries. Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk used to say, “As many languages you speak, as many times you are a human being,” and it is definitely true.

(Source: <https://academichelp.net>)

**Question A (5 marks)**

Answer the following questions by writing the correct option against each Question Number in your answer booklet. For example 6 (d).

1. The author's main intention in writing this essay is to
  - a) persuade the readers to learn more foreign languages.
  - b) argue that learning many languages has its advantages and disadvantages.
  - c) describe the importance of learning languages.
  - d) None of the above
2. The negative impact of not knowing many languages is
  - a) they will be in high demand.
  - b) they will be greatly valued at work.
  - c) it will be easier for them to find a job in a different country.
  - d) their value will be equivalent to Google Translator.
3. The word enriches (last paragraph, line 2) means
  - a) increases
  - b) enhances
  - c) devalues
  - d) impoverishes
4. Connections you make when travelling can last for years, transforming into friendships, business contacts, or even romantic relationships. This is not impossible if
  - a) you have the art of learning languages.
  - b) you do not have the art of learning languages.
  - c) if you are an extrovert.
  - d) if you are romantic.

5. “*Take it for granted*” is an idiomatic phrase. The most correct meaning as evinced in the text is

  - a) to consider it as unfailingly true.
  - b) to anticipate correctly.
  - c) to underestimate or undervalue someone.
  - d) to consider something as innately available.

## **Question B (5 marks)**

How do we become more diverse and profound when we know more languages? Do you agree with the author? Justify.

## **Question C (5 marks)**

What fact does the author reveal about English language as you travel farther to the South or to the East? What will enable you to have a great travel in China?

## **Question D (5 Marks)**

Explain the line “As many languages you speak, as many times you are a human being.”

## PART II

## **Section IV: Translation (25 marks)**

Marks will be awarded for clarity in expression, accuracy and completeness in translation and correctness of spelling, grammar and punctuation.

Read the following passage carefully and translate it into English.

ମ୍ବାଳିକାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାକୁନ୍ତକୁଣ୍ଡାର୍ଥରୀଷାର୍ଥିକାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାକୁନ୍ତକୁଣ୍ଡାର୍ଥରୀଷାର୍ଥିକାନ୍ତିରେ  
ମ୍ବାଳିକାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାକୁନ୍ତକୁଣ୍ଡାର୍ଥରୀଷାର୍ଥିକାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାକୁନ୍ତକୁଣ୍ଡାର୍ଥରୀଷାର୍ଥିକାନ୍ତିରେ  
ମ୍ବାଳିକାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାକୁନ୍ତକୁଣ୍ଡାର୍ଥରୀଷାର୍ଥିକାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାକୁନ୍ତକୁଣ୍ଡାର୍ଥରୀଷାର୍ଥିକାନ୍ତିରେ  
ମ୍ବାଳିକାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାକୁନ୍ତକୁଣ୍ଡାର୍ଥରୀଷାର୍ଥିକାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାକୁନ୍ତକୁଣ୍ଡାର୍ଥରୀଷାର୍ଥିକାନ୍ତିରେ  
ମ୍ବାଳିକାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାକୁନ୍ତକୁଣ୍ଡାର୍ଥରୀଷାର୍ଥିକାନ୍ତିରେ ଶାକୁନ୍ତକୁଣ୍ଡାର୍ଥରୀଷାର୍ଥିକାନ୍ତିରେ

## **Section V: Current Affairs (10 marks)**

Answer ALL 10 questions by writing the correct option against each question number in your answer booklet. For example, 11 (d). Each question carries ONE mark.

1. The catchphrase for Royal Civil Service Commission is
    - a) “Excellence in Work”
    - b) “Excellence in Service”
    - c) “Dedication to Tsa Wa Sum”
    - d) “Excellence in Performance”
  2. The award recipient for The Women’s Prize for Fiction (2017) is
    - a) Kamila Shamsie
    - b) Andrew Sean Greer
    - c) Helen Dunmore
    - d) Maggie MacDonnell
  3. GNH-Day in Bhutan is observed on
    - a) 4<sup>th</sup> June
    - b) 5<sup>th</sup> February
    - c) 11<sup>th</sup> November
    - d) 21<sup>st</sup> February
  4. The First Schedule of the Constitution of Kingdom of Bhutan is
    - a) Oath or Affirmation of Secrecy
    - b) The National Anthem of Bhutan
    - c) Oath or Affirmation of Office
    - d) The National Flag and the National Emblem of Bhutan

5. Bhutan joined World Bank and International Monetary Fund in
  - a) 1971
  - b) 1981
  - c) 1982
  - d) 1991
6. What was the theme of the 2018 World Earth Day?
  - a) No to Plastic
  - b) Plastic Pollution: A Menace
  - c) End Plastic Pollution
  - d) Save Mother Earth from Plastic
7. The host country for the 22<sup>nd</sup> FIFA World Cup is
  - a) Qatar
  - b) Russia
  - c) Brazil
  - d) South Africa
8. The first person of Indian origin and also first Asian to be awarded the Nobel Prize was
  - a) Mother Teresa
  - b) Amartya Sen
  - c) Venkatraman
  - d) Rabindranath Tagore
9. Identify the prerequisite which disqualifies a Bhutanese citizen with valid citizenship identity card to vote for a constituency.
  - a) Have been living in a foreign country for the past 10 years.
  - b) Not younger than eighteen years of age on the qualifying date as specified by the Election Commission of Bhutan.
  - c) Registered in the civil registry of the Government pertaining to that constituency and having his/her Gung or Mitsi in that place for not less than one year before the qualifying date.
  - d) Not otherwise disqualified from voting under law in force in Bhutan.
10. International Day of Peace is observed on
  - a) 5<sup>th</sup> September
  - b) 8<sup>th</sup> September
  - c) 15<sup>th</sup> September
  - d) 21<sup>st</sup> September

**TASHI DELEK**