

**ROYAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
BHUTAN CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION (BCSE) 2020
EXAMINATION CATEGORY: DZONGKHA**

PAPER II: ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND CURRENT AFFAIRS

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| Date | : February 26, 2021 |
| 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 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 must hand over the Answer Booklet 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]

Write an essay of 300 - 350 words on any ONE of the following topics (Question 1 - 3).

(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).

Question 1

As per the Bhutan Professional Standards for Teachers (2020), teachers in the Proficient Teacher career stage will receive an incentive of 10% proficiency allowance from 2022.

Do you think this initiative of the Ministry of Education will achieve the desired outcomes?

Question 2

“More than 200 students from class X and XII dropped out from school when the schools resumed in July” (MOE, 2020).

Discuss how this issue could have been addressed despite the current COVID-19 pandemic challenges.

Question 3

The financial institutions in Bhutan had waived off interest on loans and deferred the monthly loan instalment payment for a period of six months starting from April 2020.

Is this practice fair for the country’s economic growth? Argue for or against.

Section II: Letter Writing [20 marks]

Write a letter of at least 150 words on any ONE of the following situations (Question 1 -3).

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

Question 1

In the Kuensel issue dated 30th November 2020, Yangtse Dzongkhag Education Office has advertised the vacancy for the post of a temporary teacher for Kholong Chhu Primary School.

Write a letter to the Chief Dzongkhag Education Officer of Trashi Yangtse requesting him/her for a temporary teaching job for three months with effect from 1st March, 2021. In the letter, describe your qualification, interest and the professional experiences that justify your candidature to work in the school.

Question 2

You are a new teacher working in Chamkhar Higher Secondary School, Bumthang. Recently, in your Parent-Teacher Meeting, many parents raised the concern of their children not being able to use the cell phone for learning purposes at home.

Write a letter to your friend, Dorji who teaches IT in Dungdung Middle Secondary School in Tashigang explaining to him about the inappropriate usage of cell phones by your students in the community and seeking his suggestions and advice on the matter.

Question 3

You are Dawa, a farmer residing in Lobesa village in Punakha. You and your family have taken up a vegetable cultivation project to sustain your family livelihood. However, due to the availability of cheap imported vegetables in the market, the family business could not become viable.

Write a letter to the Principal of Lobesa Central School, Punakha, requesting him/her to accept your supply of vegetables for the school mess. In your letter, mention the benefits and other terms and conditions you may like to propose for the supply of vegetables.

Section III: Comprehension [20 marks]

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

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

Less is More

Stuart Jeffries

The 17th century French artist Poussin is well-known for his paintings, usually set in serene and idyllic pastoral landscapes, which convey serious lessons for mankind. These messages are sometimes a bit obscure, and some continue to puzzle art historians, but in the picture Landscapes with Diogenes, things seem relatively straight forward. The ancient philosopher Diogenes is depicted casting away his last possession, a drinking bowl. He realizes he doesn't need it after seeing a youth cupping a hand to drink from a river. The significance for us is that Diogenes' spiritual descendants known as 'new minimalists' are now everywhere, if not as radically possession-free as he was.

There are hundreds of websites extolling the virtues of uncluttered living. 'I can carry everything I own,' says Kevin. 'I have a few changes of clothing, laptop, two pots, bowl, spoon, fork, futon and flask. I like sitting on the floor eating fruit, nuts, vegetables and rice.' At this point I really hated Kevin, but I should have known better because he continued, 'The nice thing about a bare room is that you begin to notice other things like the changing sunlight during the day. Many possessions tend to tie one down mentally and physically – seeing too much permanence in inanimate objects rather than being aware of the vitality of the outside world of nature.'

Everyone is trying to cut down on things these days. People are trying to reduce their carbon footprints, their waistlines, and their monthly outgoings. What's more, there's a general fear that people are becoming asphyxiated by their possessions, and this is fuelled by the knowledge that, according to innumerable sociological surveys, the leading pastime these days seems to be shopping.

It's true, sales of e-readers and e-books outstrip those of paperbacks, and we know that only losers and reactionaries buy camera film today. As a result, the need for bookshelves and photo albums is cut out. However, today's new minimalists don't urge us to burn our books and crush our CDs, but just make sure we have them as digital files. So, for example, I have digitized versions of some of my old Vinyl LP records and haven't, as yet, stirred myself to take the LPs to the nearest charity shop – and I admit I shall probably go on keeping them. Technology has, perhaps, gone beyond our dreams and there is always the lurking suspicion that our hard drives will crash and all will be lost. Far more important, however, is the fact that our memories are so inextricably tied to our possessions that we can't get rid of stuff. No matter how much glossy magazines insist that we should.

We are not exactly suffering withdrawal symptoms as we try to break our addiction to objects. We are just acquiring new stuff that means we can bin or recycle our old stuff. Diogenes, who was quite the cynic philosopher, would have seen through this imposture in seconds. Those who can afford to, buy the kit to make the minimalist dream a reality, but they are still investing in commodities, just different ones from those they collected a decade earlier.

A few years ago I wrote a piece predicting the demise of incredibly expensive watches, believing that they would inevitably be eclipsed by the amazingly more versatile mobile phone, no matter how beautifully crafted and elegant they might be, but they still seem to be covetable objects of conspicuous consumption. Clearly the ostensible function of a £20k watch is negligible enticement to owning it. Here then is another manifestation of the lure of possessions – we are not only sentimental in our attachment to them, but also status driven.

I'm happy to have found another website which seems to solve a whole lot of problems at once – a thriving online advice surgery offering storage solutions. The interior designer responsible for this does not counsel getting rid of stuff, but rather recommends buying more stuff (elegant flexible trugs, colourful lidded containers) to hide the first lot of stuff from view. I love this philosophy – get that decluttered minimalist look, convince yourself you've got your desire for possessions under control, without having to lose a thing. There's no reason to think such bad faith will change soon: we aren't rootless enough to emulate Diogenes and caste away all our possessions.

Question A

(5x1 = 5 marks)

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

1. In the painting of Poussin, Diogenes represents
 - a) a contemporary philosopher.
 - b) a wise philosopher.
 - c) the significance of minimalism.
 - d) the significance of possessions.

2. Which of the following lessons did the writer learn from Kevin's website?
 - a) Learning to enjoy one's natural surroundings.
 - b) Taking pleasure in the simple things of life.
 - c) Not to become tied down by the possessions.
 - d) Not to be too quick to judge people.

3. The ancient philosopher Diogenes is depicted casting away his last possessions, a drinking bowl. The synonym of the word 'depicted' used in the sentence is
- a) exaggerated
 - b) falsified
 - c) deformed
 - d) portrayed
4. In the writer's opinion, which of the following will NOT help people to reduce their possessions?
- a) A desire to create more space.
 - b) A desire to do more shopping.
 - c) A desire to reduce their carbon footprints.
 - d) A desire to take advantage of the new technology.
5. As per the passage, people invest in smart new storage in order to
- a) indulge their desire to make purchases.
 - b) provide a temporary solution to a problem.
 - c) make attractive additions to their home.
 - d) ease their conscience over having too many things.

Question B

(5 marks)

Do you think technology has influenced people to cut down their possessions these days? Justify your answer with reference to the passage.

Question C

(5 marks)

The concept of "Less is More" has wide application in the real world context. Describe two ways in which you can apply the concept of "Less is More" to enhance the school efficiency in Bhutan?

Question D

(5 Marks)

Write a dialogue between you and the writer where you write a presentation together and bring out the theme of 'Less is More' in your conversation. In your dialogue, each speaker should have five turns to speak.

PART II

Section IV: Translation [25 marks]

Read the following passage carefully and translate it into English.

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

དུས་ཚི་ སློབ་རིམ་ དཔ་ཚུན་གྱི་ སློབ་གྲྭ་ཚུ་ སློམ་ཕྱེ་ནི།

༔ བད་ཡམས་གོ་བོ་འདྲ་ ཉེ་མེད་ཉེ་མེད་ལམ་ སློབ་ཕྲུག་ཚུ་གིས་ གསོ་བའི་ཉེན་སྲུང་གི་ ཐབས་ལམ་ཚུ་ ལག་ལེན་འཐབ་
མི་ཤེས་ནི་ཨིན་མ་ལས་ དུས་ཚི་ སློབ་གྲྭ་ཚུ་ སློམ་ཕྱེ་ནི་སླེ་ ཐག་བཅད་ལུག་ དེ་ཡང་ ལ་ཚ་ གནས་ཚུལ་ཞལ་འཛོམས་ནང་
གསོ་བ་སློན་པོ་ བདེ་ཆེན་དབང་ལོ་གིས་ ཤེས་རིག་ལྷན་ཁག་དང་ ཨ་ལོའི་ཕམ་ཚུ་དང་ཅིག་ལམ་གྲོམ་བསྐྱེད་འབད་དེ་ ལྷབས་མ་བདེ་ཨ་
ཚུ་ ག་ཅི་ར་ཡོད་པ་ཨིན་ན་ཞིབ་དཔྱད་འབད་དེ་ སློབ་གྲྭ་ཚུ་ སློམ་ཕྱེ་ནི་སླེ་ ཐག་བཅད་ཅི་ཟེར་བཤད་ཅི།

གསོ་བ་སློན་པོ་གིས་ སློབ་གྲྭ་ཚུ་ སློམ་ཕྱེ་མི་དེ་གཙོ་བོ་ར་ ཉེན་སྲུང་གི་དོན་ལུ་ཨིན་ཟེར་ བཤད་པའི་ལམ་ ཉེན་སྲུང་ལུ་ཡང་ གནས་
ཚང་ ཡོད་མི་ལས་ ཕྱི་གཞུགས་ཉེན་སྲུང་ ལག་ལུ་འཇུག་དང་ གཅིག་གིས་གཅིག་གི་བར་ན་སྤོང་བཞག་ནི་ ལ་རས་ལག་ལེན་
དེ་ཨིན་མ་ད་ གལ་སྲིད་ ཨ་ལོ་ཚུ་གིས་ རྫོང་འབར་རུང་ ལྷབ་མ་ཚུགས་པའི་ དཀའ་རལ་ཡོད་པ་ལས་ བད་འབྲུབ་འཐོབ་ནིའི་ ཉེན་
ལ་སློམ་འདུག་ཟེར་བཤད་ཅི།

མོ་གིས་འབད་བ་ཅིན་ སློབ་གྲྭ་ཚུ་ སློམ་ཕྱེ་མིའི་གནད་དོན་གཞན་དེ་ ཕྱིའི་རྒྱལ་ཁབ་ཚུ་ནང་བསྐྱབ་བའི་སྐབས་ མང་ཤོས་ནང་ར་
སློབ་གྲྭ་ཚུ་ལས་ གོ་བོ་འདྲ་ དར་བྱུང་མང་སྤེལ་ཡོད་པ་ལས་ དེ་ཚུ་ལུ་གཞི་བཞག་སླེ་ ཐག་བཅད་བཅད་པ་ཨིན་ཟེར་ཨིན་པས།
གལ་སྲིད་ ཨ་ལོ་ཚུ་ཀུ་ཚུ་ བད་འབྲུབ་ཐོབ་སླེ་ ཁོང་ར་རྒྱུང་མ་གཅིག་སླེ་ ལུར་བཞག་ནད་བཟླ་གླེ་བ་དང་ རོ་རྒྱུང་སླེ་བཞག་པའི་
སྐབས་ གདོང་ལེན་སློམ་འབྲུང་འོང་ཟེར་བཤད་ཅི།

སློབ་གྲྭ་ཚུ་ སློམ་ཕྱེ་བའི་བསྐྱེད་ལས་ ཚ་གྲང་ལང་དགོཔ་བྱུང་མི་དེ་ཡང་ གལ་སྲིད་ སློབ་གྲྭ་གཅིག་ནང་ལས་ ཨ་ལོ་གཅིག་ལུ་ བད་
འབྲུབ་ཐོབ་པ་ཅིན་ སློབ་གྲྭ་འདི་ནང་གི་ སློབ་དཔོན་དང་ སློབ་ཕྲུག་ ཨ་ལོའི་ཕམ་ཚུ་མཉམ་ཟུར་བཞག་བཟླ་གླེ་བ་ལེན་འབད་དགོཔ་
འཐོན་འོང་ཟེར་བཤད་ཅི།

ཨིན་རུང་ ཨ་ལོ་ཡར་སླེད་གཅེས་སློང་དང་གོང་འཕེལ་སླེ་བ་ཚུ་ ལོག་སློམ་ཕྱེ་ནིའི་ཐད་ལུ་ རོ་བདག་དང་ ཨ་ལོའི་ཕམ་ཚུ་ལུ་ བཞག་སླེ་
ཡོད་པའི་ལམ་ སློམ་གཞི་ཚུ་ བཟོ་བའི་བསྐྱེད་ཡོད་པ་ཨིན་པས།
དེ་ལས་ སློབ་གྲྭ་ཚུ་ སློབ་སླུམ་བཞག་པའི་སྐབས་ སློབ་ཕྲུག་ཚུ་འབྲེལ་འཛིན་སླེ་བཞག་ཐབས་ལུ་ ཡོངས་འབྲེལ་དང་ རང་ཉིད་སློབ་
སློན་ཐོག་ལུ་ ཤེས་ཡོན་སླུང་བཟུག་དགོཔ་ཨིན་པས།

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. Which following set of countries constitutes BIMSTEC?
 - a) Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, Thailand
 - b) India, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bangladesh, Bhutan
 - c) Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand
 - d) Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Pakistan, Bangladesh, India, Afghanistan

2. For how many years did the G-8 countries remain active prior to the exit of Russia in 2014?
 - a) 15 years
 - b) 16 years
 - c) 17 years
 - d) 18 years

3. Bhutan imposed first 21 days nationwide lockdown due to COVID-19 on
 - a) 6 March 2020.
 - b) 1 July 2020.
 - c) 11 August 2020.
 - d) 1 September 2020.

4. World Suicide Prevention Day (WSPD) is observed on
 - a) 20 March.
 - b) 10 September.
 - c) 10 October.
 - d) 20 November.

5. The National Judicial Commission comprises of the following EXCEPT
 - a) The Chief Justice of Bhutan as Chairperson
 - b) The Chief Justice of the High Court
 - c) The Chairperson of the Legislative Committee of the National Assembly
 - d) The Attorney General

6. Why are forests important for mitigating climate change?
 - a) Forests provide building materials.
 - b) Forests serve as sink in the carbon cycle.
 - c) Trees are the important source of food.
 - d) Trees reflect all sunlight away from the earth.

7. Which country confirmed the first case of COVID-19 outside China?
 - a) Japan
 - b) Thailand
 - c) USA
 - d) Brazil

8. Who is the author of the book titled 'Fire and Fury: Inside the Trump White House'?
- a) David Frum
 - b) Ronald Kessler
 - c) Michael Wolff
 - d) Michael D'Antonio
9. Which educational philosophy believed in the fact that 'All children have the potential to learn'?
- a) Johann Friedrich Herbart
 - b) Maria Montessori
 - c) John Dewey
 - d) Friedrich Frobel
10. Which Dzongkhag hosted the 4th Royal Bhutan Flower Exhibition in 2018?
- a) Samdrup Jongkhar
 - b) Punakha
 - c) Paro
 - d) Haa

TASHI DELEK