

#### **Unit—4, Lesson—1 (2) (i, ii, iii)**

**Read the following text and answer the questions A and B.**

Children must pass through several stages in their lives to become adults. For most people, there are four or five such stages of growth where they learn certain things: infancy (birth to age 2), early childhood (3 to 8 years), later childhood (9 to 12 years) and adolescence (13 to 18 years). Persons 18 and over are considered adults in our society. Of course, there are some who will try to act older than their years. But, for the most part, most individuals have to go through these stages irrespective of their economic or social status.

World Health Organisation (WHO) identifies adolescence as the period in human growth and development that occurs after childhood and before adulthood. This phase represents one of the critical transitions in one's lifespan and is characterised by fast paced growth and change which are second only to those at infancy. Biological processes drive many aspects of this growth and development with the onset of puberty marking the passage from childhood to adolescence.

The biological determinants of adolescence are fairly universal; however, the duration and defining characteristics of this period may vary across time, cultures, and socio-economic situations. This period has seen many changes over the past century—puberty for example, comes earlier than before, people marry late, and their sexual attitudes and behaviours are different from their grandparents, or even parents. Among the factors responsible for the change are education, urbanization and spread of global communication.

The time of adolescence is a period of preparation for adulthood during which one experiences several key developments. Besides physical and sexual maturation, these experiences include movement toward social and economic independence, development of identity, the acquisition of skills needed to carry out adult relationships and roles and the capacity for abstract reasoning. While adolescence is a time of tremendous growth and potential, it is also a time of considerable risks during which social contexts exert powerful influences.

**A. Choose the correct answer from the alternatives.**

(a) To become adults children have ——.

(i) to get proper education (ii) to have good intelligence

(iii) to be social (iv) to pass several stages of life

**(b) What could be the closest meaning for 'transition'?**

(i) translation (ii) occurrence (iii) stage (iv) change-over

**(c) The word 'individuals' could be replaced by ——.**

(i) individuality (ii) individualize (iii) independent (iv) persons

**(d) The word 'critical' means ——.**

(i) easy (ii) noticeable (iii) complex (iv) common

**(e) The word 'onset' refers to ——.**

(i) set on (ii) setting (iii) settled (iv) arrival

**B. Answer the following questions.**

- (a) What things occur during adolescence?
- (b) Which significant developments do the adolescents experience?
- (c) Why is adolescence the time for preparation?
- (d) How is adolescence a period of considerable risks?
- (e) Why do some people try to act oldest than their age?

**3. Summarize the following text.**

The survey report, a copy of which was acquired by the Dhaka Tribune, read that nearly 40% of 82 samples of milk, milk products, fish, fruits and vegetables contained banned pesticides such as DDT, Aldrin, Chlordane and Heptachlor. The amounts of pesticide in these samples were found to be 3 to 20 times greater than the limits set by the European Union. Around 50% vegetables and 35% fruits were found to be contaminated with unsafe level of pesticides. Analysing more than 30 samples of turmeric powder (branded, packaged and open), the team also found that nearly 30% of the samples contained traces of lead chromate, which can be fatal if swallowed or inhaled. These samples also contained lead at 20 to 50 times above the safety limit of 2.5 parts per million set by the Bangladesh Standard Testing Institute (BSTI). Arsenic and chromium above safety limits were detected in a total of 10 out of 13 rice samples.

**5. Fill in the blanks with appropriate word in each gap.**

Traffic jam is one of the major problems of our time. It is a very (a) ——— affair in big cities and towns. Our population has (b) ——— very fast over the last fifty years or so. The (c) ——— of vehicles has also gone up. But our roads are not broad (d) ——— to accommodate so many buses, trucks and cars. Slow-moving vehicles (e) ——— rickshaws and baby-taxies have added complications to the problem. On top of that our drivers are not very willing to (f) ——— traffic rules. They often (g) ——— impatient and look to go (h) ——— of one another (i) ——— traffic signals. Sometimes they (j) ——— recklessly and meet horrible road accident.

**6. The following sentences are jumbled. Rearrange them in proper sequence.**

- (i) They were aliens in their own country and were subjected to all sorts of indignities.
- (ii) The blacks were treated cruelly.
- (iii) The great leader vowed to put an end the inhuman practice.
- (iv) They were denied all basic human rights.
- (v) Even dogs received a much better treatment than the blacks.
- (vi) Eventually, the great leader realized the goal of liberating his own people.
- (vii) He was thrown behind the prison bar.
- (viii) Nelson Mandela was the great leader of South Africa.
- (ix) But the oppressive rulers could not break the spirit.
- (x) In fact, he was one of the greatest leaders of the world who struggled against apartheid throughout his life.