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Daffodil International University

Department of Agricultural Science
Faculty of Agriculture Sciences
BSc. in Agricultural Science
Final Examination-Summer 2026

Course Code: 0231-111 **Course Title: Basic English**
Level and Term:1-1 **Section:A,B,C,D** **Course Teacher Initials: AA, BMA**
Time: 2 hours **Total Marks: 40**

Splitting any answer is strictly prohibited

1. *Read* the following passage carefully and answer Questions 1–15. (15 Marks) [CLO1] [PLO3] [Level 2]

A.Agriculture has always been closely linked to human civilisation, yet the methods used to produce food have changed dramatically over time. During the twentieth century, increased mechanisation, synthetic fertilisers, and improved irrigation systems significantly boosted agricultural productivity. While these innovations helped meet the food demands of a rapidly growing population, they also created environmental challenges, including soil degradation, biodiversity loss, excessive water consumption, and greenhouse gas emissions. Today, researchers argue that increasing food production alone is no longer sufficient; the focus has shifted towards producing food sustainably while protecting natural resources for future generations.

B. One promising approach is precision agriculture, which uses technologies such as satellite imagery, drones, GPS-guided machinery, and soil sensors to monitor crop conditions with remarkable accuracy. Instead of applying fertilisers and pesticides uniformly across an entire field, farmers can identify areas requiring specific treatments. This targeted approach reduces waste, lowers production costs, and minimises environmental pollution. However, implementing such systems often requires substantial financial investment and technical expertise, making adoption difficult for many small-scale farmers, particularly in developing countries.

C.Another important development is the growing interest in regenerative agriculture. Unlike conventional farming, which often focuses primarily on crop yields, regenerative practices aim to restore soil health by increasing organic matter, reducing soil disturbance, rotating crops, and integrating livestock where appropriate. Advocates argue that healthier soils not only improve crop productivity over time but also capture atmospheric carbon dioxide, contributing to climate change mitigation. Nevertheless, critics point out that measurable improvements may take several years to appear, making some farmers reluctant to adopt these methods despite their long-term benefits.

D.Climate change has intensified the urgency of transforming agricultural systems. Rising temperatures, unpredictable rainfall patterns, prolonged droughts, and increasingly frequent floods threaten food production across many regions of the world. Scientists are developing climate-resilient crop varieties capable of tolerating heat, salinity, and water shortages. Although

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these innovations offer considerable promise, experts caution that technological solutions alone cannot guarantee food security unless they are accompanied by effective policies, farmer education, and improved access to agricultural markets.

E.Digital technology is also reshaping agricultural decision-making. Artificial intelligence can analyse enormous volumes of data collected from weather stations, satellites, and farm equipment to predict disease outbreaks, recommend irrigation schedules, and estimate future yields. Some agricultural economists believe that these predictive systems could substantially reduce production risks. Others, however, warn that dependence on digital technologies may widen inequalities between farmers who have reliable internet access and those living in remote rural communities where digital infrastructure remains inadequate.

F.Consumers are increasingly influencing agricultural practices through their purchasing decisions. Demand for organically produced food, environmentally certified products, and locally grown produce has expanded considerably in recent years. Many consumers are willing to pay higher prices for products they perceive as environmentally responsible. Nevertheless, critics question whether consumer preferences alone can drive widespread agricultural transformation, arguing that government regulations, financial incentives, and international cooperation remain essential components of sustainable food systems.

G.Most experts agree that no single innovation will solve the complex challenges facing global agriculture. Sustainable food production will require a combination of scientific research, technological innovation, sound public policy, environmental stewardship, and active participation from farmers and consumers alike. Rather than replacing traditional knowledge, modern agricultural technologies are increasingly viewed as complementary tools that, when combined with local experience, can create resilient farming systems capable of feeding future generations without exhausting the planet's natural resources.

Questions 1–5

1. Traditional agricultural intensification has contributed to environmental problems such as soil degradation and _____.
2. Precision agriculture uses _____ to identify areas requiring different levels of treatment.
3. Regenerative agriculture seeks to increase _____ in the soil.
4. Scientists are developing crop varieties that can tolerate heat, salinity, and _____.
5. Some experts believe limited _____ may prevent farmers in remote areas from benefiting fully from digital agriculture.

Questions 6–10

Match each paragraph (A–G) with the most suitable heading below.
Write the correct letter (A–G) beside Questions 6–10.
There are FOUR extra headings which you do not need to use.
List of Headings
i. Consumer influence on farming practices

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ii. Technology-driven crop management
iii. The importance of preserving soil ecosystems
iv. The historical evolution and environmental cost of agriculture
v. Climate-related threats to food production
vi. Replacing traditional farming entirely
vii. Digital inequality in agriculture
viii. A combined approach for future food security
ix. The decline of international food trade

6. Paragraph A _____
7. Paragraph B _____
8. Paragraph D _____
9. Paragraph F _____
10. Paragraph G _____

Questions 11–15
Choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.

11. According to the passage, one limitation of precision agriculture is that it
A. reduces crop yields.
B. requires significant investment and technical knowledge.
C. cannot monitor soil conditions.
D. is unsuitable for large farms.

12. Supporters of regenerative agriculture believe it can
A. eliminate the need for fertilisers.
B. increase food prices permanently.
C. improve soil quality while helping reduce atmospheric carbon.
D. replace all conventional farming methods immediately.

13. The writer suggests that technological innovation alone is insufficient because
A. farmers are unwilling to use modern equipment.
B. agricultural markets are already efficient.
C. food security also depends on policy and education.
D. climate change is no longer a serious concern.

14. What concern do some experts express regarding artificial intelligence in agriculture?
A. It always produces inaccurate predictions.
B. It may increase inequalities among farmers.
C. It discourages scientific research.
D. It reduces consumer demand for agricultural products.

15. Which statement best reflects the writer's overall viewpoint?
A. Traditional farming should be abandoned completely.
B. Consumer demand alone will ensure sustainable agriculture.
C. Sustainable agriculture requires integrating multiple approaches and stakeholders.

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D. Future agriculture will depend entirely on artificial intelligence.

2. *Apply* the appropriate grammatical rules to complete the following tasks. (10 Marks) [CLO1] [PLO1] [Level 3]

A. Fill in the blanks with the correct prepositions. (0.5 × 6 = 3 Marks)

Option Box:

to | of | on | with | in | from | for | at | about | into

1. The students are accustomed _____ using modern laboratory equipment.
2. Bangladesh is rich _____ agricultural resources.
3. The researcher insisted _____ repeating the experiment.
4. This machine is essential _____ improving crop productivity.
5. The scientist is expert _____ operating advanced laboratory equipment.
6. The farmers should adhere _____ sustainable farming practices.

B. Complete the following sentences. (0.5 × 8 = 4 Marks)

1. Whenever I visit the agricultural research farm, _____
2. The students work hard so that _____
3. If the farmers adopt modern technology, _____
4. It is high time we _____.
5. Unless you follow the laboratory instructions, _____
6. The researcher collected samples with a view to _____.
7. The weather was too unpredictable _____.
8. You had better _____ before conducting the experiment.

C. Fill in the blanks with appropriate articles (a, an, the or Ø). (0.5 × 6 = 3 Marks)

1. _____ agriculture plays an important role in Bangladesh's economy.
2. The university has _____ agricultural research laboratory.
3. We visited _____ experimental farm established by the department.
4. Rice is _____ staple food of Bangladesh.
5. He wants to become _____ agricultural scientist.
6. They discussed _____ importance of sustainable farming during the seminar.

3. *Compose* an application requesting permission from the Head of your department to organise a workshop on **modern agricultural technologies. (5 Marks) [CLO3] [PLO3] [Level 6]**

4. *Develop* an essay on "Should the Use of Artificial Intelligence in Higher Education Be Encouraged?" **(10 Marks) [CLO3] [PLO3] [Level 6]**

[Your essay should include a clear introduction, well-organised arguments supported by relevant examples, and a logical conclusion.]