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Subject : English  
Times: 1.30 Hours (N.B.: Marks are shown in the right margin.) Full Marks: 50  
1. Read the passage and answer the questions A and B : 5

In Bangladesh folk music has great variety, with songs being composed on the culture, festivals, views of the natural beauty, rivers and rural and riverine life. These songs are also about social inequality and poverty, about the material world and the supernatural. Mystical songs have been composed using the metaphors of rivers and boats. Since the country is basically riverine, the Bhatiyali forms an important genre of folk music. Folk music is formed and develops according to the environment. Differences in the natural environment are reflected in the people of the different regions. The dialects too vary across the different regions. Bangladeshi folk music therefore varies from region to region. Thus there are the northern Bhatiyali, the eastern Bhatiyali and the southwestern Baul songs.

The culture and the lifestyle of the different tribes have also influenced folk music. Tribes like the Santal, Orao, Hajong, Chakma, Manupai, Tripura, Mamo etc. have interacted with ethnic Bengali culture and lifestyle over the years. The interaction has been clearly reflected in the richness of folk music.

Folk songs may be sung individually or in chorus. Folk songs sung individually include Baul Bhatiyali, Moulviali and Marfati, while songs sung in chorus include kulgana, Loto, Akrop and Chankhata. Some songs are regional in character, but others are common to both Bangladesh and West Bengal. Similarly, some songs belong distinctively to one religious community, Hindu or Muslim, others cross religious boundaries. Some songs belong exclusively to men, others to women, while some are sung by both men and women. Thus only women compose and sing Biragan and Meroi Git but both men and women participate in the 'hol-beating' songs that are sung while beating down and firming rooftops.

A. Choose the correct answer from the alternatives. 1×5=5

- The word "Chorus" refers to —  
(i) performed by several people (ii) performed by an individual  
(iii) a musical instrument (iv) religious song
- The word "material" stands for —  
(i) metal (ii) munition (iii) invisible (iv) ebb
- Tribal community influenced folk music —  
(i) by introducing new theories (ii) by their culture and lifestyle  
(iii) by writing songs about stars (iv) by their mythology
- Bhatiyali songs are eminent in this country because, this country is —  
(i) a developing country (ii) famous for various rivers  
(iii) a home to famous singers (iv) criss-crossed by several rivers
- The word "riverine" stands for — (i) urban (ii) other  
(iii) bank of a river (iv) river-like (iii) dwelling beside a river

B. Read the above text and make a flow chart showing the characteristics of Bangladeshi folk music. (One is done for you) 2×5 = 10

1. Characterized with great variety	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
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