

Section B [40 marks]

4. The questions in this section are all based on an invented language, called Babel. Read each group of examples carefully, paying particular attention to different forms of words, and working out what information they convey (just as in English there are differences between e.g. *cat* and *cats*, or *beckon* and *beckons* and *beckoned*). Word order in Babel is different from that of English, and is not entirely fixed; it is not a reliable guide to the meaning of sentences. Note also that Babel has nothing corresponding to English *the* and *a(n)*, so that e.g. **bats** may be translated as ‘the king’ or ‘a king’. You are advised to work through the questions in this section in the order in which they are given, as the later ones presuppose some information or vocabulary supplied in earlier examples.

- (a) **bats mug multi** ‘the king praises the servant’
bats mugans multi ‘the king praises the servants’
mugas bat kadonti ‘the servants hate the king’
mugs batans kadti ‘the servant hates kings’
totans bats lubti ‘the king likes children’

Give the meaning of : **mugs tot kadti**

batans totas lubonti

Translate into Babel : ‘the kings praise the servant’

- (b) **bats mugans nemolto** ‘the king did not praise the servants’
totas gav pelonto ‘the children chased the dog’
filans tots lubto ‘the child liked elephants’
filas gavans nelubonti ‘elephants do not like dogs’
mugs totans nikto ‘the servant washed the children’

Give the meaning of : **gavs fil nepelto**

batas mugans nemolonto

Translate into Babel : ‘the servants did not wash the child’

- (c) **bats palatte kipti** ‘the king is sleeping in the palace’
bataks filte hesto ‘the prince rode on an elephant’
mugas laukanste gortsoni ‘the servants are working in the fields’
parkanste miaulas loidonto ‘the cats played in the gardens’
batas batakas-tu palatanste bidonti ‘kings and princes live in palaces’

Give the meaning of : **miauls gavs-tu laukte kiponto**

totas filanste nehesonti

Translate into Babel : ‘the servant did not work in the garden’

- (d) **mipos bats kipti?** ‘is the king sleeping?’
mipos gavs sti parkte? ‘is the dog in the garden?’
ko soni mugas? ‘where are the servants?’
mipos woikanste filas bidonti? ‘do elephants live in houses?’
mipos miaul mugs nepelto? ‘didn’t the servant chase the cat?’

Give the meaning of : **mipos fils palatte nesto?**

ko bataks gortsti?

Translate into Babel : ‘were the dogs in the house?’

TURN OVER