**Lesson 4**

Class Practice 1

4.1 Find a comprehension passage - set 10 questions (no summary) **\* PLEASE ALTER THE QUESTION AND THE PASSAGE.**

Class Practice 2 - Comprehension Skills

4.1.1 - how to read a comprehension passage. (5 points)

1. Find the main proposition of the passage
2. Derive the main ideas that link to the proposition
3. Extract the main phrase from the topic sentence
4. Understand how the idea is elaborated (Peel)

4.1.2 - When do you use present tense or past tense in answering comprehension questions? ( 3 points each)

i) Examine the tense used in the question (related to the time frame and issue)

ii) Elaborate how to state the root sentence

**4.1      Prepare the passage and answer.**

**The article below is about the global education crisis. Read it carefully and answer Questions 1   to 10 in the space below.**

Increasing access to education can improve the overall health and longevity of a society, grow economies, and even combat climate change. Yet in many developing countries, children’s access to education has been limited by numerous factors. The United Nations (UN) has proclaimed January 24, 2019 as the first-ever International Day of Education, to celebrate how education can lead to peace and development throughout the world. The UN believes that it is unacceptable for 262 million children and young people around the world to stay out of school and be deprived of their right to education.

Education is a basic human right and a public responsibility for all societies in every nation to provide for their children. It is the most powerful force for good in ensuring significant improvements in health, to stimulate economic growth, and to unlock the potential towards more sustainable societies. There is currently a US$39 billion gap in providing quality education to all children in the world by 2030. Developing countries are therefore encouraged to contribute 20 percent of their national budget to education and allocate 45 percent of this amount specifically to primary education for the overall benefit of everyone concerned.

Teacher effectiveness has been found to be the most important predictor of student learning. There is an insufficient number of teachers at the moment to achieve universal primary or secondary education, and many of the current teachers are untrained. There are 130 million children in schools who are not learning basic reading and mathematical skills. Globally, it is estimated that 69 million new teachers are required to achieve this universal requirement for primary and secondary education by 2030.

Children in many countries in sub-Saharan Africa are often squeezed into overcrowded classrooms. In Malawi, for instance, there are, on average, 130 children per classroom. Such classrooms in this region lack basic facilities like potable water and toilets. Outdated and worn-out textbooks are often shared by six students or more for each of these textbooks. Being denied access to school is common for the world’s 93 million children with disabilities. In some of the world’s poorest countries, up to 95 percent of children with disabilities are denied access to, or deprived of, their basic right to fundamental educational opportunities in school. A combination of discrimination, lack of training in inclusive teaching methods, and a lack of accessible schools, leaves this disadvantaged group uniquely vulnerable and highly susceptible to the whims and fancies of an uncaring society with its extremely harsh environment.

Keeping girls in school benefits them and their families, but poverty forces many families to choose which of their children to send to school. For many children around the world, a walk to school of up to three hours in each direction is not uncommon. This is just too much for most, if not all, of these many children to bear, particularly children living with a disability, those suffering from malnutrition or illness, or those who are required to work around the household, to help with the upkeep of the family home. Many children, especially girls, are also vulnerable to violence on their long and hazardous journeys to and from school. Education is the ultimate solution to their many problems, but what a painful price to pay for something so vital and yet, so difficult to attain.

Nearly 250 million children are living in countries affected by conflicts. Such conflicts prevent governments from functioning at even the most minimal level, with teachers and students often fleeing their homes, and hence, the continuity of learning is greatly disrupted. Moreover, the impact of hunger on education systems is gravely under-reported. Hunger is so widespread that it is often overlooked. It is also not traditionally associated with learning abilities, or in this context, learning disabilities.In reality, being severely malnourished can be the same as losing four levels of schooling at one shot. Malnutrition can affect a child’s cognitive abilities as well as that child’s focus, concentration and attention-span in school. For many of the poorest families, school remains too expensive and as such, these families remain locked in a vicious cycle of poverty that goes on for generations and is perpetuated through these trying circumstances. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights makes it clear that every child has the right to a free and to a basic level of education, so that poverty and the consequent lack of money should not be a barrier to schooling and its attendant possibilities.

Adapted from <https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/10-barriers-to-education-around-the-world-2/>

Refer to the passage, read it carefully and answer the following questions.

1. (i)  Identify a word in paragraph 1 that has a similar meaning to ‘counter’. (1)

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             (ii) What does the word ‘first-ever’ tell us about the International Day of Education? (2)

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1. (i)  ‘Yet in many developing countries, children’s access to education has been limited by numerous  factors.’

             Why does the writer use the word ‘yet’? (2)

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             (ii)  Which other word in the same paragraph reinforces his opinion on the matter? (1)

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3. (i) Identify **two** pieces of data that you can give to support the view that the extent of the education crisis is huge, with reference to paragraphs 2 and 3. (2)

      (ii)  With reference to paragraph 2, how would you explain that countries are aware of the importance of  education, especially primary education, and yet, no efforts are being made to improve the current situation as it pertains to negligence in this crucial area?

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4)  What are **two** outcomes for the “teacher effectiveness” factor to be the most important predictor of student  learning?

 (5)  (i)  What are **two** problems children in many countries in sub-Saharan Africa face in relation to education? (2)

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      (ii)  Children with disabilities are denied access to any form of education. What **two** specific reasons can you give for such a problem arising throughout the world?

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(6)   With reference to the sentence, “Also, the impact of hunger on education systems is gravely

       under-reported.”, what could be the reasons for this to be so?  (2)

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(7)  Explain, in your own words, what the writer means when he ends the paragraph with ‘poverty and lack of money should not be a barrier to schooling’? (2)

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