GENERAL ENGLISH

Time Allowed: Three Hours    Maximum Marks: 300

INSTRUCTIONS

Candidates should attempt ALL questions.

The number of marks carried by each question is indicated at the end of the question.

Answers must be written in ENGLISH only.

Note: You must not disclose your identity in any of your answers in any way.

1. Write an essay in about 800 to 1000 words on any one of the following topics: 100

   (a) Should euthanasia be legalized?

   (b) Generalists versus specialists in the decision-making process

   (c) Should IPL-2 have been held outside India?

   (d) The vanishing tiger of the Indian forests

   (e) Consumer-rights awareness in India
2. Make out a detailed complaint to the appropriate regulatory authority regarding overbilling by your cellular phone service provider.

Or

As the Secretary of your local Youth Club, prepare a report to be read out by you at the Club’s anniversary day celebrations.

(Important Note: While attempting the question above, please do not identify yourself in any manner through your name, address, telephone number, etc.)

3. Attempt a précis of the following passage in your own words using not less than 200 and not more than 250 words. Suggest a suitable title and mention the exact number of words used in your précis. The précis must be written only in the special précis sheet provided:

“Unfortunately, in the new society we are building the individual human being is subjected to the levelling impact of standardized emotions. The human being is treated as a means and not an end in itself. Our differences are flattened out, our attitudes become uniform. In the name of a questionable future and distant good, we are asked to subordinate to it our impulses and emotions. We forget that the individual’s welfare is the end of the State.

When we call ourselves a democracy, we mean that the State exists for promoting the
good of its members. Our real good consists in the development of our inward resources. Many of us, however, live on the surface of life, echo the sentiments which are put into our heads by the radio or the film or the newspaper. It is our duty to think for ourselves, reflect on the data supplied to us. The study of great classics gives us a proper sense of perspective. The classical spirit is a refusal to acquiesce in the immediate, a refusal to be the slaves of current fashions and tastes, a refusal to be content with the easy and the obvious. It is a determination to seek the highest even if it is difficult and remote. In this country we have always laid stress on silent thinking and meditation. We are mostly extroverts.

We are living through one of the great revolutionary periods in human history. The revolutionary efforts spread over several centuries in other parts of the world, are concentrated in a short span of time in our country. We are facing a many-sided challenge, political and economic, social and cultural. Education is the means by which the youth is trained to serve the cause of drastic social and economic changes. Nations become back numbers if they do not reckon with the developments of the age.

Any satisfactory system of education should aim at a balanced growth of the individual and insist on both knowledge and wisdom, \textit{jnanam vijnanasahitam}. It should not only train the intellect but bring grace into the
heart of man. Wisdom is more easily gained through the study of literature, philosophy, religion. They interpret the higher laws of the universe. If we do not have a general philosophy or attitude of life, our minds will be confused and we will suffer from greed, pusillanimity, anxiety and defeatism. Mental slums are more dangerous to mankind than material slums.

If this country has survived all the changes and chances it has passed through, it is because of certain habits of mind and conviction which our people, whatever their race or religion may be, share and would not surrender.

There is an intimate connection between the mind of man and the moving spirit of the universe. We can realize it through the practice of self-control and the exercise of compassion. These principles have remained the framework into which were fitted lessons from the different religions that have found place in this country. Our history is not modern. It is like a great river with its source back in silence. Many ages, many races, many religions have worked at it. It is all in our bloodstream. The more Indian culture changes, the more it remains the same. The power of the Indian spirit has sustained us through difficult times. It will sustain us in the future if we believe in ourselves. It is the intangibles that give a nation its character and its vitality. They may seem unimportant or even irrelevant under the pressure of daily
life. Our capacity for survival in spite of perils from outside matched only by our own internal feuds and dissensions is due to our persistent adherence to this spirit. If our young men are to live more abundantly, they should enter more fully into the experience and ideals of the race, they should be inspired in their minds and hearts by the great ideas enshrined in our culture.”

4. Use each pair of words in the question below in a sentence of your own such that the difference between the two words is brought out clearly. The example just below is solved for you:

3 × 10 = 30

“mist, fog
While initially a light mist did not much affect flight operations, the heavy fog that came down later brought visibility down considerably and grounded all flights.”

(a) flora, fauna
(b) cerebral, muscular
(c) instinctive, conscious
(d) harmony, discord
(e) accelerate, cruise
(f) spontaneous, artificial
(g) holistic, partial
(h) nadir, zenith
(i) jagged, smooth
(j) static, dynamic
5. Use each of the following expressions to create a sentence of your own such that the meaning of the expression is clearly brought out:

(a) To turn turtle
(b) To throw in the towel
(c) Icing on the cake
(d) Once in a blue moon
(e) Iron fist in a velvet glove
(f) To pull one’s leg
(g) To pour oil over troubled waters
(h) To make both ends meet
(i) Better late than never
(j) To turn over a new leaf

6. Rewrite the following sentences after correcting all grammatical and spelling errors:

(a) In an university setting, students are excepted to learn by rote.
(b) A job interview is an ocassion that calls for formality dressing.
(c) The main characters of television serial today are mother-in-laws.
(d) Much people has come for the function.
(e) Parallell processing improves the speed for computation.
(f) Being a Saturday, the office is open only half day.
(g) Until you exercise regularly, you cannot keep good health.

(h) "Why not we go home early tomorrow?"

(i) The elections that we held recently proved that Indian democracy very strong.

(j) The global recession has affected the economy of the country.

7. Write the plural form for each of the following singular words: 

(a) Sheep

(b) Goose

(c) Stimulus

(d) Thesis

(e) Series

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