

GENERAL ENGLISH

Time Allowed : Three Hours

Maximum Marks : 100

INSTRUCTIONS

Candidates should attempt ALL questions unless otherwise directed.

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

Answers must be written only in ENGLISH.

Candidates are requested to write clear, legible and concise answers and to adhere to word limits wherever indicated. Failure to adhere to word limits will be penalized.

Précis question must be attempted only on the special précis sheet(s) provided. These précis sheets must be attached securely to the answer book by the candidate.

Whenever a question is being attempted, all its parts/sub-parts must be completed before moving on to the next question.

1. Write an essay on any *one* of the following in not less than 800 words : 30
- (a) The Effect of Advertisements on Mass Consumerism
 - (b) Disaster Management : The need of the hour
 - (c) Are Indian Soaps on TV socially relevant ?
 - (d) The vulnerability of our frontiers
 - (e) Economy versus the environment debate

2. Make a précis of each of the following *two* passages in about one-third of the original length, using your own words.

(Note : The précis must be written only on the special sheets provided for the purpose, writing one word in each block. The sheets should be fastened securely inside the answer book.) 20+10=30

- (a) In the United States they have opened their first rehabilitation centre for Internet Addicts. De-addiction camps in China were in the news recently for the death of a teenager because of the brutal methods used to cure "Internet Addiction" (IA). Our country must seriously think about such centres that help de-addict compulsive Internet-users, both young and old.

IA for now is a catch-all term that not only stands for addiction to specific activities such as gambling or gaming but also refers to longer hours devoted to the computer network at the expense of other activities. Though the Internet is only a medium of communication and information transmission and retrieval (like the printed book or television), "addiction" is being used in this case with concern because of a fundamental dialectic : 'quantity becomes quality.'

A whole new world is just a click away with the Internet. It is a medium just like books and television, but the amount of interaction it makes possible with others, sometimes replacing the need for real-world interaction, makes it vastly different. Educators, neuroscientists, and those others having public health concerns in all developing and developed countries have woken up to this reality. According to expert neuropsychiatric opinion, IA is somewhere between Obsessive Compulsive Disorder and addiction due to substance abuse. Substance abuse-led addiction focuses on gratification which this form of attachment provides, though there is no chemical ingestion. At the same time, the behavioural modifications are similar to those with Obsessive Compulsive Disorder. It is almost like the 'rush' gamblers get out of a purely gratification-oriented repetitive action.

- (b) The greatest fact in the story of man on Earth is not his material achievements, the empires he has built and broken, but the growth of his soul from age to age in its search for truth and goodness. Those who take part in this adventure of the soul secure an enduring place in the history of human culture. Time has discredited heroes as easily as it has forgotten everyone else; but the saints remain. The greatness of Gandhi is more in his holy living than in his heroic struggles, in his insistence on the creative power of the soul and its life-giving quality at a time when the destructive forces seem to be in the ascendant. Gandhi is known to

the world as the one man more than any other who is mainly responsible for the mighty upheaval of the Indian nation which has shaken and loosened its chains. Politicians are not generally reputed to take religion seriously, for the values to which they are committed, such as the political control of one people by another, the economic exploitation of the poorer and weaker human beings, are so clearly inconsistent with the values of religion that the latter could not be taken too seriously or interpreted too accurately. But for Gandhi, all life is of one piece. "To see the universal and all-pervading Spirit of Truth face to face one must be able to love the meanest of creation as oneself. And a man who aspires after that cannot afford to keep out of any field of life."

3. Write a paragraph in about 200 words on any *one* of the following phrases/expressions : 10
- (a) Waste not, want not
 - (b) Health is wealth
 - (c) The pen is mightier than the sword
 - (d) We will reap tomorrow what we sow today
4. Use the following words in sentences so as to bring out their meaning clearly. Do not change the form of the word. No credit will be given for a vague or ambiguous sentence. 2×5=10
- (a) Inflammatory
 - (b) Zenith
 - (c) Utopia
 - (d) Exodus
 - (e) Dissenter

5. Make the directed changes in the following sentences without changing their meaning. 2×5=10

- (a) My father said, "Wait till I have finished all that I have to say." (Change into indirect speech)
- (b) I think that she has been caught in the traffic. (Use the modal auxiliary 'must')
- (c) This is one of his more readable books. (Use the superlative degree)
- (d) If it rains, the college will close. (Use the past tense)
- (e) Road accidents injure many people everyday. (Change into passive voice)

6. Correct the following sentences without changing their meaning. Do not make unnecessary changes in the original sentence. 1×10=10

- (a) Nobody likes to be cheated, isn't it ?
- (b) Choose only such friends whom you can trust.
- (c) He is a MA in Geology.
- (d) They had left yesterday.
- (e) We are looking forward to see you soon.
- (f) One of the file is lost.
- (g) If he came early, you could have met him.
- (h) It was so cold that the water freezed.
- (i) Are there some more papers left to be signed ?
- (j) We will be going to the church for Sunday Mass.