

Sl. No. 4558

A-HFP-J-HF

GENERAL ENGLISH

Time Allowed : Two Hours

Maximum Marks : 100

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 only in ENGLISH.

Précis question must be attempted only on the special précis sheet provided.

1. Write an essay of about 400 words on any one of the following topics : 30
- (a) Exploring water on the Moon
 - (b) Road rage and its manifestations
 - (c) Spiritual tourism and India
 - (d) Should plastic bags be banned completely in the country?
 - (e) Making rural India an equal partner in economic growth

2. Make a précis of the following passage in about one-third of its original length. Write the précis, as far as possible, in your own words. Use the special sheet provided for this purpose and fasten it securely inside the answer-book. Marks will be deducted if the précis is not written on the special sheet. State the number of words used by you at the end of the précis and suggest a suitable title :

25

To fight is a radical instinct. If men have nothing else to fight over, they will fight over words, fancies or women, or they will fight because they dislike each other's looks, or because they have met walking in opposite directions. To knock a thing down, especially if it is cocked at an arrogant angle, is a deep delight to the blood. To fight for a reason and in a calculating spirit is something; even a coward might screw up to such a reasonable conflict. The joy and glory of fighting lie in an unmanly glee to breed the next generation. Internecine war, foreign and civil, brought about the greatest set-back which the life of reason has ever suffered; it exterminated the Greek and the Italian aristocracies. Instead of being descended from heroes, modern nations are descended from slaves; and it is not their bodies only that show it. After a long peace, if the conditions of life are propitious, we observe a people's energies bursting their barriers; they become aggressive on the strength they have

stored up in their remote and unchecked development. It is the un mutilated race, fresh from the struggle with nature (in which the best survive, while in war it is often the best that perish), that descends victoriously into the arena of nations and conquers disciplined armies at the first blow, becomes the military aristocracy of the next epoch and is itself ultimately sapped and decimated by luxury and battle, and merged at last into the ignoble conglomerate beneath. Then, perhaps, in some other virgin country a genuine humanity is again found, capable of victory because unbled by war. To call war in its pure spontaneity and consequent generosity : you are not fighting for gain, but for sport and victory. Victory, no doubt, has its fruits for the victor. If fighting were not a possible means of livelihood, the bellicose instinct could never have established itself in any long-lived race. A few men can live on plunder, just as there is room in the world for some beasts of prey; other men are reduced to living on industry, just as there are diligent bees, ants and herbivorous kine. But victory need have no good fruits for the people whose army is victorious; that it sometimes does so is an ulterior and blessed circumstance hardly to be reckoned upon.

Since barbarianism has its pleasures, it naturally has its apologists. There are panegyrist of war who say that without a periodical bleeding a race decays and loses its manhood. Experience is directly opposed

to this shameless assertion. It is war that wastes a nation's wealth, chokes its industries, kills its flower, narrows its sympathies, condemns it to be governed by adventurers, and leaves the puny deformed; the soil of courage and virtue is like calling debauchery the soil of love. (450 words)

3. In your answer to (a) or (b) given below, sign yourself as X. Disclosure of your identity in any manner will be penalised appropriately.

(a) Write a letter to your friend, suggesting him some books to read during the summer vacation. Give reasons for the books suggested by you. 10

Or

(b) As Secretary of your local Residents' Welfare Association, write to the municipal authorities offering to take up the development and maintenance of a disused public park in the locality. 10

4. (a) Distinguish between the following pairs of words by using each word in a sentence such that its meaning is clearly brought out : $2 \times 5 = 10$
- (i) raise, raze
 - (ii) alter, altar
 - (iii) casual, causal
 - (iv) eminent, imminent
 - (v) human, humane

(b) Correct the following sentences : $1 \times 5 = 5$

- (i) The childs have been ill from three months.
- (ii) Please listen his advise.
- (iii) Columbuss has discovered America.
- (iv) My cousin sister returned from Hydrabad yesterday.
- (v) The middle-age man took part in the recent marathan race.

5. (a) Make meaningful sentences using each of the following words : $1 \times 5 = 5$

- (i) Statute
- (ii) Stationary
- (iii) Presumptuous
- (iv) Posthumous
- (v) Inflammatory

(b) Write *one word* for each of the following expressions : $1 \times 5 = 5$

- (i) One who is present everywhere
- (ii) A building for housing antique objects
- (iii) Habit of walking in one's sleep
- (iv) Scientific study of birds
- (v) Doing a thing without being compelled to do so

- (c) Use each of the following phrases/expressions in a sentence of your own, such that the meaning of the phrase/expression is clearly brought out :

1×10=10

- (i) a dead loss
- (ii) a silver lining
- (iii) dig your own grave
- (iv) zero hour
- (v) fly-by-night operator
- (vi) in a soup
- (vii) blow hot, blow cold
- (viii) with a pinch of salt
- (ix) have your cake and eat it too
- (x) flash in the pan

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