

निबन्ध, सारलेखन और अर्थग्रहण

ESSAY, PRÉCIS WRITING AND COMPREHENSION

निर्धारित समय : दो घंटे

Time Allowed : Two Hours

अधिकतम अंक : 100

Maximum Marks : 100

प्रश्न-पत्र सम्बन्धी विशेष अनुदेश

प्रश्नों के उत्तर देने से पहले निम्नलिखित प्रत्येक अनुदेश को कृपया ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ें।

सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।

प्रश्न संख्या 1 अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी दोनों भाषाओं में छपा है।

प्रश्न संख्या 1 का उत्तर उस प्राधिकृत माध्यम (अंग्रेजी या हिन्दी) में लिखा जाना चाहिए, जिसका उल्लेख प्रवेश-पत्र में किया गया है और इस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका के मुखपृष्ठ पर निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। प्राधिकृत माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिखे गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।

प्रश्न संख्या 2, 3 एवं 4 अंग्रेजी भाषा में छपे हैं।

प्रश्न संख्या 2, 3 एवं 4 के उत्तर अंग्रेजी में लिखे जाने चाहिए।

किसी भी प्रश्न के सभी भागों/उपभागों के उत्तर साथ-साथ लिखना आवश्यक है।

प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अधिकतम अंक उसके सामने दिखाए गए हैं।

जहाँ भी प्रश्नों में शब्द-सीमा विनिर्दिष्ट है, उसका पालन करना आवश्यक है।

प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गए पृष्ठ या पृष्ठ के भागों को सफाई से काट देना चाहिए।

आप किसी भी उत्तर में अपना परिचय प्रकट न कीजिए।

Question Paper Specific Instructions

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions.

All questions are compulsory.

Question No. 1 is printed both in English and in Hindi.

Answer to Question No. 1 should be written in the medium (English or Hindi) as authorized in the Admission Certificate and this medium must be stated clearly on the cover of the QCA Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in a medium other than the authorized one.

Questions No. 2, 3 and 4 are printed in English only.

Answer to Questions No. 2, 3 and 4 must be written in English only.

All parts/sub-parts of a question shall be written together.

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.

Any page or portion of the page left blank in the QCA Booklet must be clearly struck off.

You must not disclose your identity in any of your answers.

Q1. निम्नलिखित विषयों में से किसी एक पर लगभग 500 शब्दों में निबंध लिखिए :

Write an essay in about 500 words on any one of the following topics :

40

(a) भारतीय अंतरिक्ष अन्वेषण

Indian Space Exploration

(b) सीमाएँ और सरहदें

Borders and Boundaries

(c) उद्यमिता और स्व-रोज़गार

Entrepreneurship and Self-Employment

(d) क्या हमें रक्षा सेवाओं में लैंगिक हिस्सेदारी की आवश्यकता है ?

Do we need gender equity in the defence services ?

(e) हजारों कदमों की एक यात्रा एक कदम से शुरू होती है

A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step

Q2. Write a précis of the following passage by reducing it to one-third of its length. Failure to adhere to the word limit may result in deduction of marks. Do not suggest any title. The précis must be written only in the space provided for it :

20

Culture consists of various units called 'culture traits'. Culture traits, according to Linton are 'the individual acts and objects, which constitute the overt expression of a culture'. Exchange of rings in marriage, rules of kicking the ball in football game, red cloth, flowers and incensed sticks in religious rites etc., are examples of culture-traits. These units, themselves, hold no significance. They become significant and meaningful only in relationship with other units. For example the spark plug holds significance so long as it is placed

at the proper place in an engine, ring and vermilion only in marriage and a whistle only during a match on the field. An organisation or institution consists of more than one such cultural unit or trait and the configuration of these simple units is called a 'culture complex'. For example, family, marriage, religion, education, games and automobiles are a few examples of a large number of culture-complexes of human society. The interrelations between different parts of culture make an arrangement. Ruth Benedict also recognises this fact by saying that culture constitutes a pattern, which varies from society to society. Therefore, different societies have their different and distinct culture-patterns. For example, the institution of family in India is perceived quite differently from how it is perceived in Great Britain, today. Indian family is traditionally regarded as 'joint', whereas the family in Great Britain is nuclear in nature. A society is characterized by its culture-pattern.

Cultures vary from society to society and each culture has its specific values and norms. The norms are the rules of behaviour approved by society and the values refer to what ought and what ought not to be done. In some cultures, individualism is the predominant value in society, whereas in others, the collective approach of resolving a problem or meeting obligations is appreciated. In one culture, hospitality has a high social value, whereas in some others, it may not be so. In some societies, polygamy is an accepted form of marriage, whereas in many others, it is not viewed as proper.

Norms and values undergo change over time. Certain external conditions in the contemporary society have given impetus to this change. These conditions are industrialization, urbanization, global network of television and computer, all of which have expanded enormously in the last few decades. Values related to interpersonal relationships in the family have changed and consequently, modes of behaviour of people have also changed. For example, in Indian joint family, the authority of the eldest male member has eroded in favouring one who makes effective economic contribution to the family budget.

Change in culture is a slow but a continuous process. But this process is accelerated by two conditions : (a) When a group of people comes in contact with other cultures, it borrows culture-traits from them. As a result, the borrowed traits either add to the culture of the borrower or replace or modify certain traits which it already has. The more the people have contact with other cultures, the more they would borrow from other cultures, modifying their own culture-complexes. (b) The culture undergoes change not only because it borrows traits from other cultures, but also by way of the process of *spread* of culture-traits. This process is called 'diffusion'. Diffusion takes place not only by contact but also by indirect means of communication. The advancement in information, technology and transportation system, has made contact easy and quick, making the process of diffusion quite fast.

There are three aspects of the environment the individual lives in : the geographical, the social and the cultural. Culture is that part of the environment which has been created by human beings. It consists of the whole gamut of material and non-material objects that have been shaped and created; and that satisfy physiological, social, economic and psychological needs.

(634 words)

Q3. Read the following passage and write clear and precise answers to the questions that follow, in your own words : **4×5=20**

The concept of biosphere was first suggested by an Austrian geologist, Eduard Suess long before. The idea, which failed to gain much significance at his time, later became not only necessary to understand but also to recognise its validity. In fact, biosphere is a thin shell that not only encapsulates the earth and encompasses lithosphere, hydrosphere and atmosphere, but also supports life. This portion of earth harbours all ecosystems and sustains all forms of life including human beings. Till now, more than 3,50,000 species of plants and 11 million species of animals have been identified and described. All life sustaining resources such as air, water, soil, food, energy etc. are procured and cycled in this region and gaseous, liquid and solid waste products are discharged into it. There occurs a continuous interaction among living organisms and in between them and their physical environment. Thus, this region affords sustenance to various life forms.

Biosphere, the fourth realm of the environment, supports micro-organisms, plants and animals including man. The living organisms are inseparable and interrelated and none lives alone. They interact with one another and with their physical environment and affect the structure and function of a living community. The interaction of an organism with others, arises on account of the organism's primary necessities, such as food, reproduction, protection etc. The interacting organisms in a community cause changes in the physical environment and make the conditions favourable for a new set of organisms. Such modification of community into a new one is termed as succession. Any unit in which there exists interaction between various organisms and their physico-chemical environment is referred to as ecosystem. The major ecosystems of the world are called biomes.

The upper limit of the biosphere is determined by availability of oxygen, moisture, suitable temperature and air pressure. Decrease in these factors, with increase in height, delimits upper limit of the biosphere. Bacteria have crossed this limit of about few hundred meters for most of the living organisms and are found up to 15 km or so. The lower limit of biosphere is determined by availability of required amount of oxygen and light which can sustain life. Over the land, it is up to the depth of the deepest roots of trees or the depth up to which the burrowing organisms can live whereas, in oceans, the limit extends up to a great depth of 9 km.

Appearance of free oxygen on our planet is traced back to 2.9 – 3.0 billion years ago with the onset of cyanobacteria which could split water molecules to obtain hydrogen atoms and evolve oxygen. It was the most significant step in the organic evolution. Some 450 million years ago, enough oxygen could accumulate and paved a comfortable way for the development of aerobic forms of life which breathe oxygen. The organic enrichment of the earth's surface resulted in the formation of soils and dense strands of vegetation to harbour animal life.

Answer the following questions in your own words :

- (a) What does biosphere encompass ?
- (b) How does biosphere afford sustenance to various life forms ?
- (c) What constitutes the part of an ecosystem ?
- (d) What characterises the upper and lower limit of the biosphere ?
- (e) Make sentences with the following words used in the passage to bring out their meaning :
 - (i) Sustains
 - (ii) Procured
 - (iii) Traced back
 - (iv) Enrichment

Q4. Read the following passage and write clear and precise answers to the questions that follow, in your own words :

4×5=20

We live in the era of the specialization of knowledge, thanks to the prodigious development of science and technology and to the consequent fragmentation of knowledge into innumerable parcels and compartments. This cultural trend is, if anything, likely to be accentuated in years to come. To be sure, specialization brings many benefits. It allows for deeper exploration and greater experimentation; it is the very engine of progress. Yet it also has negative consequences, for it eliminates those common intellectual and cultural traits that permit men and women to co-exist, to communicate, to feel a sense of solidarity. Specialization leads to a lack of social understanding, to the division of human beings into ghettos of technicians and specialists. The specialization of knowledge requires specialized languages and increasingly arcane codes, as information becomes more and more specific and compartmentalized. This is the particularism and the division against which an old proverb warned us : do not focus too much on the branch or the leaf, lest you forget that they are part of a tree, or too much on the tree, lest you forget that it is part of a forest.

In our time, science and technology cannot play an integrating role, precisely because of the infinite richness of knowledge and the speed of its evolution, which have led to specialization and its obscurities. But literature has been, and will continue to be, as long as it exists, one of the common denominators of human experience through which human beings may recognize themselves and converse with each other, no matter how different their professions, their life plans, their geographical and cultural locations, their personal circumstances. It has enabled individuals, in all the particularities of their lives, to transcend history: as readers of Cervantes, Shakespeare, Dante and Tolstoy, we understand each other across space and time, and we feel ourselves to be members of the same species because, in the works that these writers created, we learn what we share as human beings, what remains common in all of us under the broad range of differences that separate us. Nothing better protects a human being against the stupidity of prejudice, racism, religious or political sectarianism, and exclusivist nationalism than this truth that invariably appears in great literature: that men and women of all nations and places are essentially equal, and that only injustice sows among them discrimination, fear, and exploitation.

Nothing teaches us better than literature to see, in ethnic and cultural differences, the richness of the human patrimony, and to prize those differences as a manifestation of humanity's multi-faceted creativity. Reading good literature is an experience of pleasure, of course; but it is also an experience of learning what and how we are, in our human integrity and our human imperfection, with our actions, our dreams, and our ghosts, alone and in relationships that link us to others, in our public image and in the secret recesses of our consciousness.

Answer the following questions in your own words :

- (a) What are the benefits of specialization of knowledge ?
- (b) What has led to the specialization of knowledge ?
- (c) Enumerate the disadvantages of specialization of knowledge.
- (d) How does literature enrich human experience ?
- (e) What according to the passage makes us better human beings ?