

**SECTION - A (READING)**

Read the following passage carefully and answer the following questions:

(12)

1. (A list of articles lost by railway travellers and now on sale at a great London station has been published, and many people who read it have been astonished at the absent-mindedness of their fellows.) If statistical records were available on the subject, however, I doubt whether it would be found that absent-mindedness is common. It is the efficiency rather than the inefficiency of human memory that compels my wonder.

2. Modern man remembers even (telephone numbers). He remembers the (address of his friends). He remembers the (dates of birth-days). He remembers (appointments for lunch and dinner). His memory is crowded with the names of actors and actresses and cricketers and footballers and murderers. He can tell you what the weather was like in a long-past year, and the name of the provincial hotel at which he had a vile meal during the summer. In his ordinary life, again, he remembers almost everything that he is expected to remember. How many men in all London forget a single item of their clothing when dressing in the morning? Not one in a hundred. Perhaps not one in ten thousand. How many of them forget to shut the front door when leaving the house? Scarcely more. And so it goes on through the day, almost everybody remembering to do the right thing at the right moment till it is time to go to bed, and then the ordinary man seldom forgets to turn off the lights before going upstairs.

3. There are, it must be admitted, some matters in regard to which the memory works with less than its usual perfection. It is only a very methodical man, I imagine, who can always remember to take the medicine, his doctor has prescribed for him. This is the more surprising because medicine should be one of the easiest things to remember. As a rule, it is supposed to be taken before, during or after meals, and the meal itself should be a reminder of it. The fact remains, however, that few of us remember to take our medicine regularly.

4. (Certain psychologists tell us that we forget things because we wish to forget them, and it may be that it is because of their dislike for pills and medicines that many people fail to remember them at the appointed hours.) This does not explain, however, how it is that a lifelong taker of medicines like myself is as forgetful of them as those who take them most unwillingly. The very idea of a new and widely advertised cure-all delights me. Yet, even if I have the stuff in my pockets, I forget about it as soon as the hour approaches at which I ought to swallow it. Chemists make their fortunes out of the medicines people forget to take.)

5. (The commonest form of forgetfulness, I suppose, occurs in posting letters.) It is so common that I am always reluctant to trust a departing visitor to post an important letter. So little did I rely on his memory that I make him promise before handing the letter to him. As for myself, if anyone asks me to carry the letter in my hand, I am always past the first letter box before I remember that I ought to have posted it. Weary of holding it in my hand, I then put it for safety into one of my pockets and forget all about it. After that, it stays there till a long chain of circumstances leads to a number of embarrassing questions being asked, and I am compelled to produce the letter from my pocket. This, it might be thought, must be due to lack of interest in other people's letters; but that cannot be the explanation, for I even forget to post some of the few letters that I myself remember to write.

4 In trains and taxis I can remember almost anything except books and walking-sticks, and I can often remember even books. Walking-sticks I find it quite impossible to keep. I have an old-fashioned taste for them, and I buy them frequently, but no sooner do I pay a visit to a friend's house or go on a journey in a train, than another stick is on its way into the world of the lost. I dare not carry an umbrella for fear of losing it. To go through life without ever having lost an umbrella-has anybody ever achieved this?

A1.1 On the basis of your reading the passage answer the following questions:

(2x5=10)

1. Why are people astonished at the absent-mindedness of their fellows?
2. Make a list of at least four things which a modern man remembers?
3. Why do some people not remember to take medicines?
4. How do chemists make their fortune?
5. What is the commonest form of forgetfulness?

A1.2. Find words from the passage which have the same meaning as the following:

(2)

1. wealth (para 4)
2. at short intervals (para 6)

A2. Read the passage given below:

(8)

1. Leadership does not exist without followership. A leader has to be accepted by the group which the former is supposed to lead. To gain acceptability the leader should cause an emotive impact on the group members.

2. The characters exhibited by leaders make them dear to their followers. A leader is one who effectively inspires employees to achieve worthwhile things. What character of the leader motivates the followers? It is neither pomp and show nor flattery or sanctioning more incentives. Pomp and show creates a sense of awe and the leader is deified rather than emulated. Flattery is unrealistic, and cannot serve as a long-term motivational tool. A leader's style should be one that can be emulated by all irrespective of cadre, class and calibre. Simplicity in one's day-to-day conduct is the only thing that can be adopted by all. When the leader is simple, he is counted as one belonging to the group of which he is the leader. That's enough to motivate the people. Motivation is the innate quality that enables an individual or group, to contribute unlimitedly with limited means. It is the proud prerogative of enlightened human beings.

3. A leader needs to assume the role of a guide; quintessential to fulfilling the role is knowledge and ability. Technical and administrative knowledge of the guide in balanced quantity and of the right kind are essential. The technical knowledge is too vast to acquire by a leader. At best he is either Jack of all or 'Master of few'. But he has to master the human relations aspect of administration in all detail. And when the leader is good at this, his guidance is sought and accepted, then he fulfils the role of a guide. The leader is a negotiator within and outside the organisation. The leader shapes people and moulds character. To achieve this the leader should maintain equanimity.

4. Equanimity is keeping oneself poised and balanced at all times. A leader is simply great, if he can mould his followers with this frame of mind. He does this by his own example.

A2.1 Make notes on the above passage using recognisable abbreviations.

(5)

A2.2 Make a summary of the above passage in 80 words.

(3)

SECTION B (WRITING) *the new commandment* 5

B1. You are a staff reporter of The Times of India. You visited the national book fair organised by the National Publishers Association, New Delhi. Draft your report in 100 words. (4)

B2. You are Shruti/Shiraj staying at R.K.Puram, Secunderabad. Your locality being away from the main city, the poor bus services adversely affect the life of residents. Write a letter to the Editor, Deccan Chronicle, highlighting the problems faced and also giving a few possible solutions. (8)

B3. Technology has brought about a revolution in all the walks of life. Write an article in 200 words on how people are becoming dependent on gadgets. (8)

SECTION C (GRAMMAR)

C1. Correct the following sentences: (3)

1. The teacher took a test in English.
2. Guard from that vice.
3. Wanted a stool for a lady with three legs.

C2. Do as directed: (3)

1. Geetika has learnt her lesson. (Rewrite as a question)
2. She (read) a book since 8 'o' clock. (Use the correct form of the verb in the bracket)
3. Five killed in a road accident. (Rewrite as a statement)

C3. Rearrange to form meaningful sentences: (4)

1. of its residents/becomes a/it reflects/a house/the personality/home when
2. has to look/no rules, how our there are as such/home
3. thing is/inhabiting/them/should/enjoy/the important/that we
4. about/houses are/our/lives/personal statement

SECTION D (LITERATURE)

D1. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow: (4)

And who art thou? Said I to the soft-falling shower,  
Which strange to tell, gave me an answer, as here translated:  
I am the poem of the Earth, said the voice of the rain,  
Eternal I rise impalpable out of the land and the bottomless sea,

1. Who is 'thou' in this extract? (1)
2. Why is it 'strange' to tell? (1)
3. Explain the last line. (2)

D2. Answer the following questions in about 30 words each: (3x2=6)

1. In the poem 'The Laburnum Top', Ted Hughes makes a point that life itself is a process of exchange of energy and surprising transformation. Elucidate.
2. How does the poem 'A Photograph' reflect on the superiority of nature over human life?
3. How does the rain descend and with what effect?

D3. Answer any five questions in about 30 words each: (2x5=10)

1. What is 'resurrection' according to Christian dogma?
2. Explain the importance of the Middle Void.
3. What could have been the cause of Khuswant Singh's grandmother's falling ill?
4. Why did Ray Johnson describe Akhenaten as 'wacky'?
5. What is figurative painting?
6. What was the impact of the children's behaviour on the narrator in 'We're not afraid to die.....'?

D4. Answer any two questions in about 40 words each:

1. "Every family has a crazy streak in it somewhere". Why does the narrator say this?
2. How did the narrator's doubts about Mrs. Dorling come true?
3. What is so special about the village Hosahalli, according to the narrator?

(2x3=6)

D5. Who were Yuri and Elsa? What was their role in Albert's life? (Word limit-80)

(4)

OR

Ranga's views on marriage were modern, yet he followed the old custom of 'arranged marriage'.  
Comment

D6. What do you come to know about the style of the burial of the kings of the ancient Egypt?  
(Word limit-150)

(10)

OR

How does the story 'We're not afraid to die.....' suggest that optimism helps to endure 'the direst stress'?