

CIVIL SERVICES GURUKUL

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HCS MAINS 2024

HCS Mains English & English essay

Time: 3 hours Maximum Marks: 100

Question paper specific instructions

Note:

1. All questions are compulsory.
2. Number of marks carried by each question is indicated against the same.
3. Mention question number and the part number clearly before attempting the question.
4. the parts of the same question must be answered together and must not be interposed between answer to other questions.

Question 1. Make a precis of the following reducing it to one-third of its length and assign a suitable title: 20 marks

If we wish to maintain democracy, not merely in form, but also in fact, what must we do? The first thing, in my judgement, we must do is to hold fast to constitutional methods of achieving our social and economic objectives. It means we must abandon the bloody methods of revolution. It means that we must abandon the method of civil disobedience, non-cooperation and Sohyograh. When there was no way left for constitutional methods for achieving economic and social objectives, there was a great deal of justification for unconstitutional methods. These methods are nothing but the Grammar of Anarchy and the sooner they are abandoned, the better for us.

The second thing we must do is to observe the caution which John Stuart Mill has given to all who are interested in the maintenance of democracy, namely, not to lay their liberties at the feet of even a great man, or to trust him with powers which enable him to subvert their institutions. There is nothing wrong in being grateful to great men who have rendered lifelong services to the country. But there are limits to gratefulness. As has been well said by Irish patriot Daniel O'Connell, no man can be grateful at the cost of his honour, no woman can be grateful at the cost of her chastity and no nation can be grateful at the cost of its liberty. This caution is far more necessary in the case of India than in the case of any other country. For in India, Bhokti or what may be called the path of devotion or hero-worship plays a part in its politics unequalled in magnitude by the part it plays in politics of any other country in the world. Bhokti in religion

maybe a road to the salvation of the soul. But in politics Bhokti or hero-worship is a sure road to degradation and to eventual dictatorship.

The third thing we must do is not to be content with mere political democracy. We must make our political democracy a social democracy as well. Political democracy cannot last unless there lies at the base of it social democracy. What does social democracy mean? It means a way of life which recognises liberty, equality, and fraternity as the principles of life.

These principles of liberty, equality, and fraternity are not to be treated as separate items in a trinity. They form a union of trinity in the sense that to divorce one from the other is to defeat the very purpose of democracy. Liberty cannot be divorced from equality, equality cannot be divorced from liberty. Nor can liberty and equality be divorced from fraternity.

Without equality, liberty would produce the supremacy of the few over the many. Equality without liberty would kill individual initiative. Without fraternity, liberty and equality could not become a natural course of things. It would require a constable to enforce them.

(Approximately 486 Words)

Question 2. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. Do not reproduce sentences as it is found in the passage unless you are asked to.

Many senior citizens often tend to forget people whom they had known very well before, but are puzzled and embarrassed when they meet and are asked, "How are you?" They encounter events like, "Uncle, do you remember me, when I came to your house?" or, "Hello my friend, how long has it been since we met! How are you?" This kind of temporary blackout is common. Here I'm reminded of those humorous quotes: Sir Norman Wisdom. wrote, 'As we get older, three things happen. First is, your memory goes, and I can't remember the other two.' The American writer Mark Twain wrote, 'The older I get, the more clearly I remember things that never happened!'

In stark contrast to this are some very old persons who distinctly remember every person they interacted with and events in their lives. An excellent example was Dr. M S Swaminathan, the scientist who recently passed away at the age of 98. He had a remarkable memory of people and events.

Yet not every senior citizen is so gifted. So how can we deal with forgetfulness? Some useful tips are - to learn a new skill; follow a daily routine; plan new tasks, make to-do lists, and use memory tools such as calendars and notes; put your wallet or purse, keys, phone and glasses in the same place each day; stay involved in activities that help both the mind and the body; volunteer in your community to deal with memory loss- at a school or at your place of worship; spend time with family and friends; get enough sleep, generally 7-8 hours each night; exercise and eat well; prevent and control high blood pressure; avoid or limit drinking alcohol; consult a doctor if you feel depressed for weeks at a time. Personally, I have attempted to follow all these tips and I find them very useful.

What are the other ways in which we slow memory loss and keep our minds alert and active? These are days of computer video games. But then, crossword puzzles actually beat computer

video games in slowing memory loss. Personally, I find it very useful to attempt and solve crossword puzzles, unscramble five or six letter random combinations into meaningful words. So, my senior citizen friends, follow all the dozen tips above and solve whatever puzzles appeal to you in order to slow your memory loss.

Questions:

- a) Which phrase in the first paragraph suggests that memory loss doesn't necessarily mean complete loss of ability to remember anything or a permanent state? [1 mark]
- b) The writer says 'not many are so gifted.' To whom does the word 'so' here point to- Sir Norman Wisdom, Dr M S Swaminathan or Mark Twain? [1 mark]
- c) The writer believes that video games slowly cause memory loss. (TRUE/FALSE) [1 mark]
- d) The writer seems to be in favour of complete ban on use of alcoholic drinks. (TRUE/FALSE) [1 mark]
- e) Whose humorous words does the writer cite to convince us that even listing two or three points would be hard for the elders? [1 mark]
- f) Scientific/medical term for the loss of memory is - Amnesia/ Dementia/ Euthanasia/ Eurasia (Select the right word) [1 mark]
- g) Of the remarks that the writer cites, which one 'warns' us that even if you feel you do remember things, it could be unreliable? (Reproduce the sentence) [2 marks]
- h) Does the writer say that forgetfulness affects everybody without exception? Give reasons to prove your point. [2 marks]
- i) Which sentence in the passage gives you a hint that the writer prefers traditional games to ones with modern gadgets? (Underline the relevant word/words after reproducing the sentence from the passage) [2 marks]
- j) To which age group does the writer belong? Support your answer by citing the words from the passage. [2 marks]
- k) The writer talks about additional ways in excess of those dozen tips for dealing with forgetfulness. Which are they? [2 marks]
- l) Which are those dozen tips that the writer suggests to surmount the problem of forgetfulness? Make a full list of them. Write them one below the other and number them. [4 marks]

Question 3. Write an essay in about 300-400 words on any one of the following topics:[5 marks]

- a) Uniform Civil Codes -The needs and the challenges
- b) Extensive use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) -possible dangers
- c) India as a Developed Nation
- d) corruption in Government places- Measures to eradicate the evil

Question 4. Rewrite the following sentences as directed: [5 marks]

- a) I like reading novels more than watching TV. (Use ,prefer,to indicate your liking)
- b) The chief guest arrives at 4 o'clock... (Add a question tag)
- c) Pass on that water bottle. (Convert this into a polite request in question form)
- d) The officer had written a letter directly to the Managing Director. (Convert the sentence into Passive Voice)

- e) 'Are you coming here for the first time?' asked the lady her friend. (Convert it into Indirect Speech)

Question 5. Mention one-word substitutes to the following: [5 marks]

- a) Ricture of somebody or something stressing certain features drawn to amuse or to ridicule
- b) An imaginary name assumed by the writer for disguise
- c) paper or book written with hand (and not in print)
- d) Literary theft practised by borrowing words or ideas from other writers
- e) A hater of mankind

Question 6. Use the following idioms/phrases in sentences to bring out their meanings: [5 marks]

- a) in accordance with
- b) a fish out of water
- c) leave no stone unturned
- d) to throw some light on
- e) pay back in one's own coin

Question 7. Fill in the blanks with a suitable form of words provided below: [5 marks]

democracy, brave, interact, optimistic, unfortunate

- (a) _____ my grandparents were not alive to tell me stories while I was growing up. (b) Reading a good book is like _____ with a brilliant mind. (c) _____ alone is not enough. 'Discretion', they say, 'is the best part of valour.' (d) A healthy society functions on _____ values. (e) What we need in times of hardship is _____.

Question 8. Correct the following sentences: [5 marks]

- (a) He had left a large number of money when he died. (b) None of the brothers have shown any interest in saving the property. (c) Does your son go to the school, now that he is 6 years old? (d) I do not know who I can trust. (e) However fastly you run, you will not be able to overtake a train.

Question 9. Fill in the blanks with antonyms of the word underlined in the sentences below: [5 marks]

- (a) Sorry, I remember the arrival time of the flight, but not its _____. (b) While all my friends discouraged me, my parents _____ me to appear for the Civil Service Exam. (c) The ancestors of the family were always known for noble acts, but what this person has done is surely _____. (d) What with these reckless medical practitioners around, sometimes you feel _____ is worse than the disease.