Bihar Judicial Service (Mains) 2014

General English · compulsory paper

Time: 3 hours · Full marks: 100

Marks are indicated against each question.

1. Write a précis of the following passage in about 80 words and add a suitable title to it: (15+5=20)

To tread the path of philosophy is to seek after truth and follow a way of life. Before a man sets out on the quest after truth, he must fulfil certain conditions. First, there must be discrimination between the real and the unreal. The statement means, not that a man must possess complete knowledge of absolute reality, which is attained only after long practice of meditation, but that he must unfailingly subject the nature of things to a rigid analysis by discriminating between what is true and what is false. The second condition is detachment from the selfish enjoyments of life. The aspirant must learn that the highest good is realized not through worldly pleasure, but through a continuous search for the infinite, the enduring joy. This ideal of renunciation must be realized by a gradual purification of the seeker's heart and mind. A third condition is that the student must acquire tranquillity of mind, self-control, patience, poise, burning faith in things of the spirit and self-surrender. These are called the six treasures of life. The thirst for release is the fourth condition. Deliverance from spiritual darkness, entrance upon the path of illumination comes only through annihilation of the false ego. When the ego dies, all troubles cease says Sri Ramakrishna, such a condition of being does not imply the loss of one's individuality but rather the attainment of a great individuality, for we can lose nothing that is real. Kalidasa, the great poet and dramatist, has beautifully expressed this truth. He says that the ideal of renunciation consists in owning the whole world disowning one's own self.

2. (a) Write a letter to your friend telling him what you intend to do after your examination. (20)

Or

Write a letter to the Editor of a newspaper expressing your views about street begging.
(Do not write your name; sign XYZ)

3. Read the passage given below and answer any four of the questions that follow: (5×4=20)

Since ancient times, man has been travelling from place to place. We have had some well-known travellers like Fa-Hien, Hsuan Tsang, Ibn Batuta, Marco Polo and others. Their accounts tell us about many new things and places they visited. The adventures of Sindbad are also well-known. In literary books, we have several travellers who may just be only mythical characters. Our ancestors started the system of pilgrimages. That was just a way of encouraging travelling. The purpose was not only religious but also recreational and even nationally cohesive. Then there were customs of visiting religious places on particular days or occasions or in the shape of fairs or melas. Some of them are still continuing, as for instance, the Kumbh Mela which is held every twelve years at Hardwar, Allahabad (Prayag) or some other place of religious importance. Bal Gangadhar Tilak started Ganesh Utsav to promote national integration. We have places of pilgrimage in all corners of our country like Dwarka in the west, Tirupati in the south, Puri in the east and Amarnath in the north.

Many people travel for sightseeing. They love to see the beauties of nature. Many go to Kashmir for its beauty. People visit Shimla in winter to see the snowfall. Some people visit certain places for adventure games. Others go just for business or trade. Indian coins have been found in South Asian Countries, in

Western Asia and even in Italy and other European countries. It means India had trade relations with these countries in the past. Now in the modern times, when means of travel have greatly developed, many people visit several countries for trade purposes. Travelling is a good means of increasing one's knowledge. Through the books, we can only imagine things, places and peoples. But when we actually visit particular places, we see things with our own eyes and meet different types of people and have face-to-face talk with them. Then we come to know the reality better which we cannot know even on the Internet, as that is to a great extent formal and superficial.

Through means of travel, we can express our viewpoint to others in person and we can also know about others' viewpoint. We can know about different customs, languages, dresses, food habits, and way of living. In olden times, religions such as Christianity and Buddhism were spread by missionaries and preachers. Now, students' tours go to different places to become bold, resourceful and more knowledgeable. Travelling at strange places brings in a person the spirit of adaptation, accommodation and toleration.

Questions:

(a) How does travelling improve our knowledge?

(b) What do people travel from one country to another?

(c) What is the national importance of the Ganesh Utsav?

(d) Why was the system of pilgrimages started?

(e) How does travelling to a particular place differ from mere reading about it in a book?

(f) How is travelling useful to students?

4. Translate one of the following passages into English: (10)

(1) एक बार किसी नवयुवक ने किसी दफ्तर में नौकरी के लिए अर्जी दी। वह उस दफ्तर के सुपरिन्टेन्डेन्ट के पास मिलने गया। सुपरिन्टेन्डेन्ट ने कहा कि कोई जगह खाली नहीं है। नवयुवक अत्यन्त निराश होकर वापिस लौटने लगा। जबकि वह दफ्तर से बाहर निकला तो उसने एक पिन दरवाजे के पास पड़ा देखा। उसने उसे उठाकर एक सुरक्षित स्थान पर रख दिया। अफसर यह सारी बात देख रहा था। वह इस नवयुवक के अच्छे व्यवहार से बड़ा प्रसन्न हुआ। उसे फौरन ही वापिस बुला लिया और अपने दफ्तर में नौकर रख लिया। नवयुवक बहुत ईमानदार एवं परिश्रमी निकला। उसके गुणों के कारण पहले से अधिक ऊँचे पद पर उसकी तरक्की हो गई।

(2) एक समय किसी गाँव में एक विधवा रहती थी। उसकी दो लड़कियाँ विमला और कमला थीं। विमला उसकी सगी लड़की थी और कमला सौतेली। विधवा की सगी लड़की सुस्त और मूर्ख थी, परन्तु सौतेली लड़की बड़ी चतुर और समझदार थी। उसकी सौतेली लड़की सदा अपने काम में संलग्न रहती थी और बहुत परिश्रम किया करती थी। वह कड़े से कड़ा काम प्रसन्नतापूर्वक करती थी। वह इतनी दयालु-हृदय और ईश्वर से डरने वाली थी कि वह दूसरे लोगों की सहायता भी करती थी और स्वयं अपने हाथों से उनका काम करती थी। इस कारण वह लोकप्रिय हो गई थी और पुरुष और स्त्रियाँ उसे प्रेम और स्नेह से देखते थे।

5. Choose one of the two words given within brackets following each sentence and fill in the blank within the sentence meaningfully (any five): (1×5=5)

(a) His _____ behaviour surprised everyone. (antic/antique)

(b) You can hear the sound of _____ bells. (bridal/bridle)

(c) I sent a letter of condolence on his father's _____. (disease/decease)

(d) Columbus wanted to _____ India. (invent/discover)

(e) A boy _____ while swimming in Kaylana Lake today. (drown/sink)

(f) The hall is completely _____ now. (vacant/empty)

6. Frame sentences with the following (any five): (2×5=10)

(a) A blessing in disguise

(b) A hard nut to crack

(c) To bring to book
(d) Bolt from the blue
(e) In cold blood
(f) Lion's share

7. Rewrite the following passage with correct punctuation marks, using capital letters where necessary: (5)

long long ago there lived in the land of jews a great king named solomon one night soon after coming to the throne he had a vision in which god asked him what would you like to have from me solomon bowing his head he said oh father you have made me lord and master over my people what more shall I ask of you you shall be the wisest of all my creatures said god.

8. Rewrite the following as directed (any five): (2×5=10)

(a) Why have you kept him waiting? (Change the voice)
(b) My wife said to me, "Whom have you invited to tea today?" (Change into indirect speech)
(c) The Professor and the Dean was not present in the meeting. (Correct the sentence)
(d) Friendship increases happiness. It diminishes misery. Cicero says so. He is a great Roman orator. (Combine into one single sentence)
(e) I have received this letter at 8 a.m. (Correct the sentence)
(f) She will marry on 21st of this month. (Use 'marriage' as a noun to rewrite the sentence without changing the meaning.)