

Class 11
11-8-2016

Second Unit Test (First Term) in ENGLISH

Time : 1 hr.
M. Marks : 20

General instructions:

1. This paper is divided into three sections: A, B, and C. All sections are compulsory.
2. Separate instructions are given with each section and questions, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.
3. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION - A (READING)

1. Read the passage given below and then answer the questions which follow:

1. A lot of the worst atrocities in the world are being perpetrated in the name of religion. This is ironical because religion was meant to be a force for good. The problem stems from the fact that, sadly, religion often becomes a substitute for reason and questioning. This can be seen in the way people so often argue—this happens in almost all religious groups—about what some ancient text really meant, to justify their own current behavior. What these followers do not realize is that, since most religious texts were written by bold, independent thinkers who were ready to think for themselves and break with tradition, not to question such texts is to show disrespect to the founders of the religion.
2. Often, it is elementary logical mistakes that lead people to bigotry. The hallmark of India has been its openness, the fact that it welcomed diverse peoples and religions arriving at its shores, and it absorbed and enriched different ideas and cultures flowing into the nation. And here, I am almost paraphrasing the famous lines from Rabindranath Tagore's poetry in the *Gitanjali*. It is a sign of one's own self-confidence that one is willing to take the best of what others have to offer.
3. As Amartya Sen pointed out, one of India's great strengths is that it is an open nation. It questions, contests, challenges and then, at times, accepts and at times rejects. To engage in this manner is a sign of self-confidence; whereas silencing, banning and closing one's doors stems from a sense of inferiority. If a nation is to progress in these trying times, it is important for it to remain open even when it hurts, and to be inclusive even if it means we have to move aside a little to make space for others.
4. There is no doubt that there are happenings from around the world which are abhorrent. But it is an unreasoned reaction that would have us respond to groups or practices that we detest most by fashioning ourselves after those very groups. An eye must not be responded to with an eye, to echo Gandhiji's famous observation, which through repetition may sound trite, but remains as relevant today as it was in the time of the Mahatma.
5. At this juncture, what is vital is education, to impart to people the ability to think for themselves, to question, examine and cogitate over every received wisdom and keep those that pass one's own judgement. This does not guarantee success (there is no surefire recipe for that) but it creates minds that aid progress, science, discovery and innovation.

6. To end on a more practical note, India must invest more in education. The questioning, scientific mind is the fodder for development. India owes what success it has had to the large investments in higher education that it made at the time of its founding. It is true that the downside of this was that basic education and literacy, which should also have received attention, were neglected. At this time of global turbulence and challenge, India must invest more heavily in both basic and higher education. Religion is a private matter. People should be free to choose their religion and to not have a religion if they are so inclined. The mistake that we must not make is to treat religion as a substitute for thought and reason.

- Kasushik Basu (Chief Economist –The World Bank) THE WEEK

1.1 Answer the following questions:

- a) What, according to the author, is the hallmark of India? (1)
- b) What is the irony inherent in the worst atrocities in the world? (1)
- c) How has, Amartya Sen highlighted the self-confidence and diffidence of a person in an inter religious context? (1)
- d) What is the pivotal role education plays in an inter-religious ire? How? (1)
- e) Find words from the passage which mean the same as: (1)
 - a) repugnant (para 4)
 - b) upheaval (para 6)

SECTION - B (WRITING & GRAMMAR)

- 2. Design a poster for the upcoming 'Xavier Fair 2016' (3)
- 3. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the incorrect words and the correction against the correct blank number in your answer sheet. The first one has been done for you as an example (2)

Incorrect Correct

All Xaverians are expected to conduct themselves with (e.g) with as
 Gentlemen/ladies at all times and in all places. The whole-hearted
 corporation of the guardians is expected at all times in the formation a)___ __
 of the character of their children. As the child progresses from the
 junior to the senior classes, increasing opportunities will be given to
 shift from conforming to externally imposed order and self-imposed b)___ __
 discipline. The school insist on strict punctuality, regular attendance, c)___ __
 cleanliness in dress, general grooming and fidelity to study and work
 assignments. Xaverians should always remember that the school is
 judged from their conduct. d)___ __

- 4. Rearrange the following words/phrases to form meaningful sentences. (2)
 - a) formation of / aim of / persons / education / principled and / is the / for others / the / Jesuit / value-oriented
 - b) leaders / it aims / potential / and / to create / transforming / with / influencing / the society / for

SECTION - C (LITERATURE)

5. I descend to lave the drouhts, atomies, dust layers of
the globe,
And all that in them without me were seeds only, latent,
unborn.
- a) Who is the 'I', mentioned in the first line? (1)
 - b) What does the term 'latent' mean? (1)
 - c) Which action of the speaker and its impact are highlighted in these lines? (2)
6. Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words each: (2x2=4)
- a) In the story "We are Not Afraid to Die.....", both Jonathan and Suzanne reflect maturity that is quite unusual of the kids of their age. Justify.
 - b) What were the thoughts of the Captain after having reached Ile Amsterdam? What does it reflect about his personality?

-X-X-X-X-X-