

I Degree English - Semester - II

- A. An imp lived in the bottle
3. What could the buyer of the bottle get?
- A. The imp would be at his command and he would get all that he desires -love, fame, money, houses-all are his at word uttered
4. What was the one thing the imp could not do?
- A. He can't prolong life
5. What would happen if a man died before he sold the bottle?
- A. If a man dies before he sells it, he must burn in hell forever.

Passage-11

Help Age India is a charitable organization that reaches out to poor, elderly persons across the country. It provides shelter and medical care to thousands of destitute old people. It also provides livelihood support through income generation schemes, whereby old people are helped to start a small business and made self-reliant. During 2005-06 Help Age India was involved in implementing relief and rehabilitation work in direct response to three emergencies, the Kashmir earthquake, Tsunami tidal wave and completing the post Gujarat earthquake rehabilitation work.

Seventy year old Palabhai Amra of Kakarava Village, Gujarat, is a beneficiary of Help Age, India. After the earthquake in Gujarat he was helped by the organization to make a new beginning. He was provided with a cobbler's cabin, polish and brushes, apart from a few slippers to sell. Palabhai is happy that he is no longer a burden on his son. He says that he found a sense of purpose in life.

Questions and Answers:

1. How does Help Age India help thousands of destitute old people?
- A. It provides shelter and medical care to thousands of destitute old people
2. How does Help Age India provide livelihood support to old people?
- A. It provides livelihood support through income generation schemes
3. Mention two natural calamities to which Help Age responded?
- A. Kashmir earthquake and Tsunami tidal wave
4. How was Palabhai Amra helped to make a new beginning?
- A. He was provided with a cobbler's cabin, polish and brushes, apart from a few slippers to sell.
5. From this passage we realize that (Choose the best answer)
- i) Old people are nothing but a burden to their families
- ii) Old people can be productive and self-reliant
- iii) Old people dislike being helped by charitable organizations
- A. Old people can be productive and self-reliant

Passage-12

When you speak and write, no law says that you have to use big words. Short words are as good as long ones, and short. And words like sun, grass and home are best of all. A lot of small words, more than you might think, can meet your needs with a strength, grace and charm that large words lack.

If a long word says just what you want, do not fear to use it. But know that our tongue is rich in crisp, brisk, swift, short words. Make them the spine and the heart of what you speak and write. Like fast friends, they will not let you down.

The above paragraphs are composed entirely of words of one syllable. In fact, one study shows that 11 words account for 25% of all spoken English and all 11 are monosyllabic. In order of frequency

(from most frequent to least frequent) are I, you, the, a, to, is, it, that, of, and in.

For centuries the finest poets and orators have recognized the power of small words. When asked to explain Britain's wartime policy Prime Minister Winston Churchill responded with these monosyllables: "It is to wage war by sea, land and air, with all our might and with all the strength that God can give us". You don't have to be a great author or statesman to tap the energy and eloquence of small words. So use them wherever you can.

Questions and Answers:

1. In terms of phonetics what is remarkable about first two paragraphs?
A. Short words are as good as long ones.
2. How many words account for 25% of all spoken English?
A. 11 words account for 25% of all spoken English and 11 are monosyllabic
3. Which is the word most frequently used in English?
A. The letter 't'
4. What have the poets and orators recognized over the centuries?
A. The power of small words
5. Winston Churchill's statement is quoted in this passage because (Choose the best answer)
 - i) He was the Prime Minister of Britain
 - ii) He was explaining war time policy
 - iii) He could make effective use of monosyllables
- A. He could make effective use of monosyllables

Passage-13

In India an atmosphere of total non-discrimination prevailed in the school. We were never made aware of the barriers of social status. A boy was punished because he had done something wrong; not because his skin was dark or because his parents practiced a certain religion.

I have been far more aware of the colour of my skin that I speak in a certain way, was born in a certain part of the world, here in London, than I was at school. Yet there is no obvious reason why this should be so. The people with whom I mix in this country are no more diverse or foreign than were my fellow students.

Most of the masters at school were fair-skinned; there were only three Bengali teachers. There were English boys, Middle Eastern Jews, Jamaicans, Chinese, Nepalese, even an odd American. Nationalism was not fostered. We did not consider ourselves as representatives of different categories. If I had been writing this book at school, I would never refer to a classmate as a Jew or a Hindu or a Black. The labels were totally foreign to us at the time. We identified ourselves more as members of the school than by our parents or the pigments of our skins.

Questions and Answers:

1. What kind of atmosphere prevailed in the school?
A. In India an atmosphere of total non-discrimination prevailed in the school
2. Why was punishment given?
A. Punishment was given if they had done something wrong
3. To which nationalities did the students belong?
A. The students belonged to Middle East, Jamaica, China, Nepal and Odd America
4. How did the narrator and his classmates identify themselves?
A. They identified themselves as members of school than by their parents or the pigments of their

skins

5. The narrator points out that..... (Choose the best answer)
- i) Though the students came from different backgrounds there was no discrimination
 - ii) Because the students came from different backgrounds there was discrimination
 - iii) The students came from similar back-grounds, so they were often punished
- A. Though the students came from different backgrounds there was no discrimination

Passage-14

The way people research and learn in the internet Age is vastly different from what it was only a decade ago. Earlier people did their research in libraries. When information was difficult to get, an authoritative encyclopedia was valuable because it saved you time and money. But in the Internet age, you should research a topic not by getting the final word from a single source but by using several sources. You can do this because the Net makes it easy.

Wikipedia is a free Internet encyclopedia. Though there are other greatly reputed online encyclopedias such as encyclopedia Britannica and Encarta Reference Library, Wikipedia has swiftly overtaken these in terms of usage. Wikipedia has 5, 76,000 articles in English and 12 million more in nearly 160 other languages. In comparison, Encyclopedia Britannica has 1, 20,000 articles in its online resources and the Encarta has 75,000 articles.

Jimmy Wales, the founder of Wikipedia, began the project with a simple yet revolutionary idea. He wished to create an 'open' encyclopedia that anyone could contribute to. The first article was written in January 2001. 10,000 articles were added within nine months. That number grew tenfold by 2003 and tenfold yet again the next year. Despite such rapid growth Wikipedia has remained a nearly all-volunteer outfit financed mostly by donations. More than 50,000 people have written or edited articles so far.

Questions and Answers:

1. How should you reach a topic in the internet age?
- A. In the internet age, one should research a topic not by getting the final word from a single source but by using several sources
2. What is Wikipedia?
- A. Wikipedia is a free Internet encyclopedia
3. How is Wikipedia revolutionary?
- A. It became an 'open' encyclopedia that anyone could contribute to
4. How many people have written or edited articles in wikipedia so far?
- A. 50,000 people have written or edited articles so far.
5. Which of the following statements is correct?
- i) Wikipedia grew multifold by 2004
 - ii) Wikipedia is a set of books which you can buy at a book-store
 - iii) Like Encyclopedia Britannica, Wikipedia is available both as a book and on the internet
- A. Like Encyclopedia Britannica, Wikipedia is available both as a book and on the internet.