UDAAN 2025

Reading Comprehension

(Reading Section)

English – B | Lecture – 01

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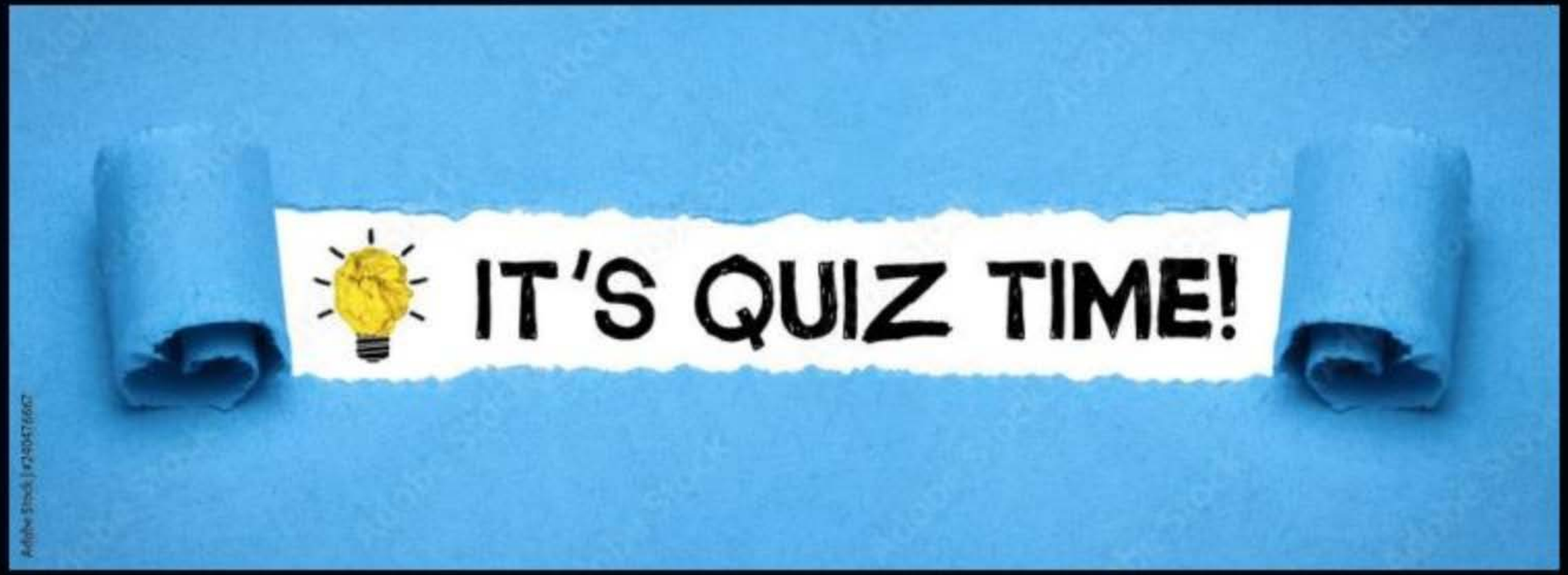
Topics *to be covered*

1. Warm-up Game
2. Reading Comprehension
3. Exercise and Quiz

Recap *of previous Lecture*

1. Warm-up Game
2. Poetry: A Tiger In The Zoo
3. NCERT Exercise and Quiz


IT'S QUIZ TIME!

Instruction: Unjumble as many words as possible!

Theme: Natural Disasters

1. o d f o l

a large amount of water covering an area that is usually dry

2. r o d g h u t

a long period when there is little or no rain

3. s a t u n i m

a very large ocean wave caused by an earthquake under the sea

4. l i z b z r a d

a severe snowstorm with strong winds

1. f l o o d

a large amount of water covering an area that is usually dry

2. d r o u g h t

a long period when there is little or no rain

3. t s u n a m i

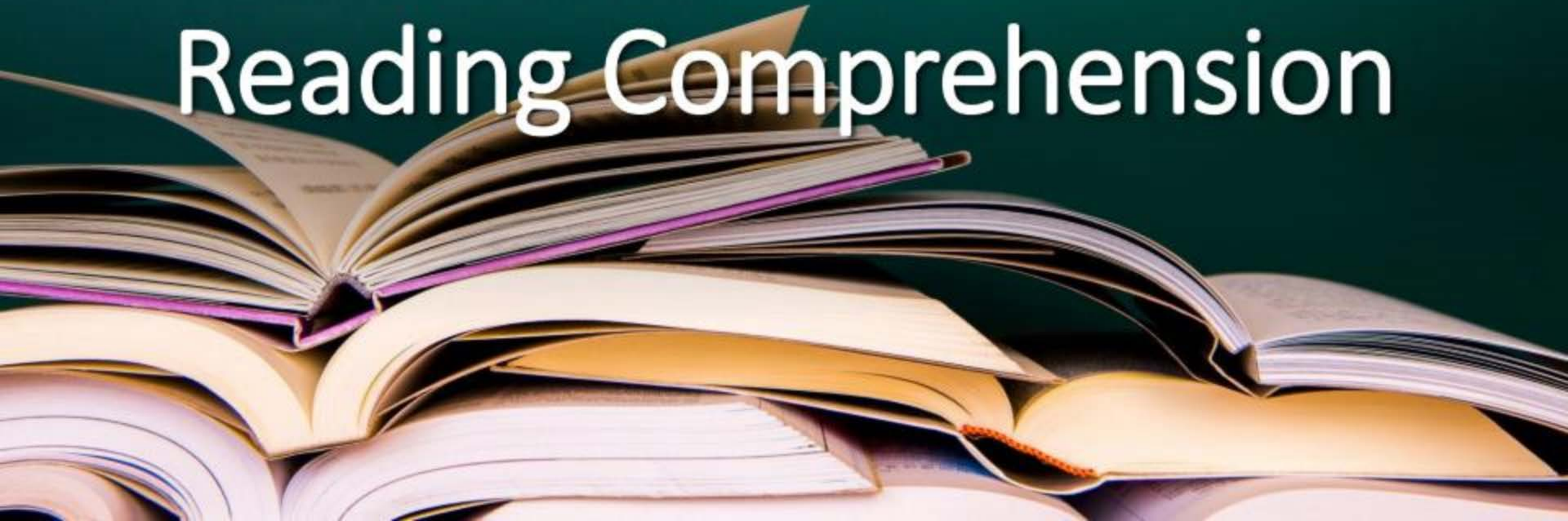
a very large ocean wave that is caused by an earthquake under the sea

4. b l i z z a r d

a severe snowstorm with strong winds

Problem? Y
N

Reading Comprehension



Topic : What is Comprehension?

Comprehend
↓
to understand

RC → ability to understand by reading

Topic : Tips

- Read the passage carefully.
- Analyze question types: Familiarize yourself with different question types, such as factual, inferential, vocabulary-based, and opinion-based questions.
- Manage your time.
- Improve vocabulary.
- Eliminate method: If you're unsure about an answer, use the process of elimination.

3hr 15 min

RC → 45 min

Writing & Grammar → 1 hr.

Literature → 1hr - 1hr 15 min

Proof-Reading - 15 min

Topic : Types of Passages

Unseen Passages

- **Factual Passages** — 10
  - Case-based (200-250 Words)
  - Data
- **Discursive Passages** — 10
  - (400-450 Words)

Topic : Passage

Read the following passage carefully.

Noori: Not manager, we're supposed to call him 'team leader'.

Samanta: Oh, why's that?

Noori: He wants an informal atmosphere, so, we're to call him Jim, not to address him as Mr. Perkins. Oh, and he's changed my job title. I'm not a 'secretary' anymore; I'm a 'personal assistant'.

Samanta: Have you been promoted?

Noori: Oh, no- it's the same job with a different name. He's got a thing about positive words. We mustn't use the word 'problem' but say 'positive challenge' instead. Nothing must be called a 'failure', it's just an 'improvement opportunity'. You know what – he got angry when I mentioned that the company made a loss last year. We're supposed to say 'negative growth' instead.

Samanta: He sounds mad. What happened to your old boss?

Noori: He had a 'career change opportunity'.

Samanta: What does that mean? He got a better job?

Noori: No, he was fired! Ha-ha.

Topic : Question

#Q. The company has been doing _____ recently. loss

(A) Really well

(B) Badly

(C) Excellent profits

(D) Hardly well

Topic : Question

Inference based question

#Q. According to the new manager, who/what should be referred to as a challenge?

(A) Career change opportunity

(B) Lack of profit

(C) Lack of success

(D) A difficult situation

Topic : Question

loss

#Q. According to the new manager, who/what is now known as negative growth?

(A) Career change opportunity

(B) Lack of profit

(C) Lack of success

(D) A difficult situation

Topic : Question

Similar

#Q. Find a synonym of the word 'casual' from the passage.

(A) Unofficial

(B) Informal

(C) Address

(D) Opportunity

Topic : Unseen Passage

Read the following passage carefully.

I must say that, beyond occasionally exposing me to laughter, my constitutional shyness has been of no great disadvantage to me. In fact, I can see that, on the contrary, it has been all to my advantage. My hesitancy in speech, which was once an annoyance, is now a pleasure. Its greatest pleasure has been that it has taught me the economy of words. I have naturally formed the habit of restraining my thoughts.

innate, natural

And I can now, give myself the certificate that a thoughtless word hardly ever escapes of my tongue or pen. I do not recollect ever having had to regret anything in my speech or writing. I have thus been spared many a mishap and waste of time. Experience has taught me that silence is part of the spiritual discipline of a votary of truth. Proneness to exaggerate, to suppress or modify the truth, wittingly or unwittingly, is a natural weakness of man and silence is necessary in order to surmount it. A man of few words will rarely be thoughtless in his speech; he will measure every word.

to Save

monk

Topic : MCQs

#Q. The expression, "my constitutional shyness" in the given passage would mean _____

(A) Shyness mentioned in Article 1 in the Indian Constitution

(B) Shyness prescribed as a mark of our democracy in the preamble of our Constitution.

(C) The innate and natural shyness in the author

(D) A shyness that the author pretends to derive some evil advantages in life.

Topic : MCQs

#Q. What natural weakness of man is mentioned in the passage?

A. Overthinking

B. Proneness to exaggerate

C. Fear of public speaking

D. Laziness in writing

Topic : MCQs

#Q. According to the passage, the author's shyness has helped him avoid:

A. Making friends easily

B. Regretting his speech or writing

C. Participating in public events

D. Expressing his thoughts

Topic : Question

#Q. The author as a matured individual believes that his shy nature brought him _____

(A) Great advantage in life

(B) Unmatched joy and enchantment in life

(C) Disadvantage while performing rituals

(D) Media coverage

Topic : Question

#Q. **From the options given below, select the one which will appropriately answer the following question:**

The author due to his shy nature _____

(A) Would aggressively attack any and every crowd around him

(B) Worked hard to hide his stammer

(C) Naturally formed the habit of restraining his thoughts

(D) Became an ascetic.

Topic : Question

#Q. Choose the word that is most similar in meaning to "hesitancy" as used in the passage.

A Confidence

B Doubt

C Certainty

D Clarity

Topic : Question

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

There was a young student-archer who reached such proficiency in his art that he could shoot an arrow into a tree and then cleave that arrow into two with the next shot. He began to boast that he was a greater archer than his Guru.

One day his guru, about seventy years old, asked the youth to accompany him on a trip across the hills. The journey was uneventful until they came to a deep Chasm.

A single log spanned the chasm. The guru walked down to the centre of the log, unshouldered his bow and took an arrow shot it into a tree on the other side. His next shot cleaved the first arrow into two.

"Now it's your turn" he said. The youth stepped onto the log slowly and carefully. But his heart was in his mouth. He knew that if he lost his footing he would plunge to his death. His hands trembled as he strung an arrow into his bow. He could not focus on the target. When he shot the arrow, it missed the tree altogether. Whimpering, he turned around. "Help me" he shouted to his guru, "I'll fall". The old man walked up to him, took his hand and led him to safety, neither of them said a word.

On the return journey the boy had realized that to be a master of his art, was not enough. To know, how to control the bow, he had to learn how to control his mind too.

Topic : Question

#Q. How old was the guru? - 70

Topic : Question

#Q. What spanned the chasm?

log

Topic : Question

#Q. What was the quality of young archer?

Topic : Question

#Q. When was the young archer afraid?

Topic : Question

#Q. Who missed the target? – Young Archer

Topic : Question

#Q. Who helped the young archer and how?

Guru

Topic : Question

#Q. When did the young archer shout?

Topic : Question

#Q. Write the similar word of the following from the passage:

"Gulf" —— Chasm

Topic : Unseen Passage

Read the following passage carefully.

Recently a particular brand of noodles was found to contain inadmissible levels of harmful substances in it. But there is something else as important as the controversy about harmful substances. It is that instant noodles are not healthy for anybody, with or without lead and MSG. So, we should have a simplified classification system and scale for junk versus healthy food.

Eating refined starch that is processed, dried and kept for months with the help of chemical preservatives is unlikely to be good for us. Its advertisements may be emotionally moving, the brand ambassador highly credible and the soupy noodles may taste good. But it is still not good for you.

Of course, the noodles won't kill you. Our diet today has plenty of other unhealthy things as well. For instance, almost all Indian sweets are unhealthy, as are many of our gravy 'delicacies'. We have given up health benefits of food in favour of cost, convenience or taste. Such compromises are acceptable only up to an extent. However, if done in excess, they can lead to major health problems such as obesity, heart disease and diabetes.

How does one limit unhealthy food then? The problem comes when 'junk' is marketed as 'healthy'. Our advertising standards for food are extraordinarily lax. Junk food manufacturers not only hide the nature of their food but also position their products as 'healthy' alternatives. Armed with advertisements of smiling mothers feeding bright-looking kids, we find junk being marketed as emotional nectar. Food, be it for nourishment or pleasure, has positive associations for us.

Any food is good, and the kind of food doesn't seem to matter. Perhaps this has developed from a time when India was poor, and food was scarce. When we worked twelve hours a day in the fields, we could eat and burn as many calories as we wanted. However, times have changed. Physical labour is reducing, and we don't burn calories as easily. Hence, we need to monitor our food intake carefully. If a big part of our diet has to come from packaged food, we need to understand and label it accordingly.

This will increase awareness about what we are eating and, over sometime, incentivize us as well as manufacturers to move towards healthier foods. A healthy society will lead to lower healthcare costs, improved productivity at work and a better quality of life for citizens.

Topic : Question

#Q. The problem with advertisements of junk food is that –

1. they market junk food as healthy
2. they are only half correct
3. they show smiling mothers
4. they have misleading taglines

(A) Only 1

(B) Both 1 and 2

(C) Both 3 and 4

(D) Only 4

Topic : Question

#Q. The problem with advertisements of junk food is that –

1. they market junk food as healthy
2. they are only half correct
3. they show smiling mothers
4. they have misleading taglines

(A) Only 1

(B) Both 1 and 2

(C) Both 3 and 4

(D) Only 4

Ans. (A) - The problem with advertisements of junk food is that they market junk food as healthy.

Topic : Question

#Q. Our attitude towards food has its roots in the time when India -

A. was a golden bird

B. was poor and food was scarce

C. when agriculture was predominant

D. was a British colony

Topic : Question

#Q. Our attitude towards food has its roots in the time when India -

(A) was a golden bird

(B) was poor and food was scarce

(C) when agriculture was predominant

(D) was a British colony

Ans. (B) - Our attitude towards food has its root in the time when India was poor, and food was scarce.

Topic : Question

#Q. Which of the following statements is incorrect?

(A) All junk food are unhealthy.

(B) All instant noodles are unhealthy.

(C) Only the junk food in our diet is unhealthy.

(D) We compromise with food for its taste or convenience.

Topic : Question

#Q. Which of the following statements is incorrect?

(A) All junk food are unhealthy.

(B) All instant noodles are unhealthy.

(C) Only the junk food in our diet is unhealthy.

(D) We compromise with food for its taste or convenience.

Ans. (C) - The statement given in option (C) is incorrect.

Topic : Question

#Q. Why is it important to monitor our daily calories intake?

A. Because physical labour has reduced.

B. Because physical labour has increased.

C. Because it is good for health.

D. None of the above

Topic : Question

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(A) Because physical labour has reduced.

(B) Because physical labour has increased.

(C) Because it is good for health.

(D) None of the above

Ans. (A) - It is important to monitor our daily calories intake because physical labour has reduced.

Topic : Question

#Q. Pick the correct meaning of the word 'instant' as used in the passage.

(A) happening immediately

(B) an extremely short period of time

(C) a particular point in time

(D) dried and can be prepared very quickly by adding hot water

Topic : Question

#Q. Pick the correct meaning of the word 'instant' as used in the passage.

(A) happening immediately

(B) an extremely short period of time

(C) a particular point in time

(D) dried and can be prepared very quickly by adding hot water

Ans. (D) - Instant means happening or coming immediately. So, option (D) is its correct answer.

Topic : Passage-05

H.W

Read the following passage carefully.

Philosophy of Education is a label applied to the study of the purpose, process, nature and ideals of education. It can be considered a branch of both philosophy and education. Education can be defined as the teaching and learning of specific skills and the imparting of knowledge, judgement and wisdom, and is something broader than the societal institution of education we often speak of.

Many educationalists consider it a weak and woolly field, too far removed from the practical applications of the real world to be useful. But philosophers dating back to Plato and the Ancient Greeks have given the area much thought and emphasis, and there is little doubt that their work has helped shape the practice of education over the millennia.

Plato is the earliest important educational thinker, and education is an essential element in "The Republic" (his most important work on philosophy and political theory, written around 360 B.C.).

In it, he advocates some rather extreme methods removing children from their mothers, care and raising them as wards of the state, and differentiating children suitable to the various castes, the highest receiving the most education, so that they could act as guardians of the city and care for the less able. He believed that education should be holistic, including facts, skills, physical discipline, music and art.

Plato believed that talent and intelligence is not distributed genetically and thus is be found in children born to all classes, although his proposed system of selective public education for an educated minority of the population does not really follow a democratic model.

Aristotle considered human nature, habit and reason to be equally important forces to be cultivated in education, the ultimate aim of which should be to produce good and virtuous citizens.

He proposed that teachers lead their students systematically and that repetition be used as a key tool to develop good habits, unlike Socrates emphasis on questioning his listeners to bring out their own ideas. He emphasised the balancing of the theoretical and practical aspects of subjects taught, among which he explicitly mentions reading, writing, mathematics, music, physical education, literature, history and a wide range of sciences, as well as play, which he also considered important.

During the Medieval period, the idea of perennialism was first formulated by St. Thomas Aquinas in his work 'De Magistro'. Perennialism holds that one should teach those things deemed to be of everlasting importance to all people everywhere, namely principles and reasoning, not just facts (which are apt to change over time) and that one should teach first about people, not machines or techniques. It was originally religious in nature, and it was only much later that a theory of secular perennialism developed.

During the Renaissance, the French skeptic Michel de Montaigne (1533-1592) was one of the first to critically look at education. Unusually for his time, Montaigne was willing to question the conventional wisdom of the period, calling into question the whole edifice of the educational system and the implicit assumption that university-educated philosophers were necessarily wiser than uneducated farm workers, for example.

Topic : Question

#Q. What is the difference between the approaches of Socrates and Aristotle?

A. Aristotle felt the need for repetition to develop good habits in students; Socrates felt that students need to be constantly questioned.

B. Aristotle felt the need for rote-learning; Socrates emphasised on dialogic learning.

C. There was no difference.

D. Aristotle emphasised on the importance of paying attention to human nature; Socrates emphasized upon science.

Topic : Question

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(B) Aristotle felt the need for rote-learning; Socrates emphasised on dialogic learning.

(C) There was no difference.

(D) Aristotle emphasised on the importance of paying attention to human nature; Socrates emphasized upon science.

Ans. (A) - Aristotle felt the need for repetition to develop good habits in students; and Socrates felt that students need to be constantly questioned. Hence, option (A) is its correct answer.

Topic : Question

#Q. Why do educationists consider philosophy a 'weak and woolly' field?

A. It is not practically applicable.

B. Its theoretical concepts are easily understood.

C. It is irrelevant for education.

D. None of the above

Topic : Question

#Q. Why do educationists consider philosophy a 'weak and woolly' field?

(A) It is not practically applicable.

(B) Its theoretical concepts are easily understood.

(C) It is irrelevant for education.

(D) None of the above

Ans. (B) - Educationists consider the philosophy a 'weak and woolly' field because its theoretical concepts are easily understood.

Topic : Question

#Q. What do you understand by the term 'perennialism', in the context of the given comprehension passage?

A. It refers to something which is of ceaseless importance.

B. It refers to something which is quite unnecessary.

C. It refers to something which is abstract and theoretical.

D. It refers to something which existed in the past and no longer exists now.

Topic : Question

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(B) It refers to something which is quite unnecessary.

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(D) It refers to something which existed in the past and no longer exists now.

Ans. (C) - Perennialism refers to something which is abstract and theoretical.

Topic : Question

#Q. Were Plato's beliefs about education democratic?

A. He believed that only the rich have the right to acquire education.

B. Yes

C. He believed that only a select few are meant to attend schools.

D. He believed that all pupils are not talented.

Topic : Question

#Q. Were Plato's beliefs about education democratic?

(A) He believed that only the rich have the right to acquire education.

(B) Yes

(C) He believed that only a select few are meant to attend schools.

(D) He believed that all pupils are not talented.

Ans. (D) - He believed that all pupils are not talented.

Topic : Question

#Q. Why did Aquinas propose a model of education which did not lay much emphasis on facts?

A. Facts are not important.

B. Facts do not lead to holistic education.

C. Facts change with the changing times.

D. Facts are frozen in time.

Topic : Question

#Q. Why did Aquinas propose a model of education which did not lay much emphasis on facts?

(A) Facts are not important.

(B) Facts do not lead to holistic education.

(C) Facts change with the changing times.

(D) Facts are frozen in time.

Ans. (C) - Acquinas propose a model of education because facts change with the changing times.

Topic : Passage-03

Read the following passage carefully.

The modern youth are more intelligent and hardworking than the previous generations. They have more facilities for education, and they do utilise them. But they lack proper direction. In the absence of proper guidance, young boys and girls go on increasing their academic qualifications.

Some of them secure high percentage of marks whereas most of them get average or below average marks. Since the number of aspirants for a job is much higher than the number of vacancies, most of the young boys and girls do not get any employment. This causes the problem of the educated unemployment and depression among the youth.

The problem of the educated unemployed can be solved partly through proper guidance and counseling and partly through grooming. Young students often disregard the advice of their parents and go on imitating their peers. This sets in the chain of the blind leading the blind. Uneducated or semi-educated parents think of academic qualification as achievement. Young students must seek the advice of the school counselors and select a course of study that suits their aptitude.

Instead of pursuit of academic excellence, they must go in for proficiency in technical field of information including technology, computers, biotechnology, biochemistry and consumer services. In this way, their youthful energy will get directed in the proper channel and they may get fruitful employment or become competent enough to launch their own project and give employment to others.

Topic : Question

#Q. What is the positive aspect of today's generation?

A. They are more intelligent and hardworking

B. They are more into fashion and time pass

C. They have the power to work less and get more

D. The youth now knows what they have to do

Topic : Question

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A. They are more intelligent and hardworking

B. They are more into fashion and time pass

C. They have the power to work less and get more

D. The youth now knows what they have to do

Ans. (A) - Today's generation are more intelligent and hardworking.

Topic : Question

#Q. Academic qualification is seen as an achievement, which adds to the problem due to -

(A) uneducated or semi-educated parents

(B) increase in the urge of getting higher remunerations

(C) lack of focus and attention

(D) disillusionment and depression

Topic : Question

#Q. Academic qualification is seen as an achievement, which adds to the problem due to -

(A) uneducated or semi-educated parents

(B) increase in the urge of getting higher remunerations

(C) lack of focus and attention

(D) disillusionment and depression

Ans. (B) - Academic qualification is seen as an achievement, which adds to the problem due to increase in the urge of getting higher remunerations.

Topic : Question

#Q. Frustration, irritation, anger, indiscipline, arrogance, disillusionment and depression are all the result of -

A growing modernization

B educated unemployment

C aspirations not meeting goals

D lack of grooming and counseling

Topic : Question

#Q. Frustration, irritation, anger, indiscipline, arrogance, disillusionment and depression are all the result of -

(A) growing modernization

(B) educated unemployment

(C) aspirations not meeting goals

(D) lack of grooming and counseling

Ans. (B) - Frustration, irritation, anger, indiscipline, arrogance, disillusionment and depression are all the result of educated unemployment.

Topic : Question

#Q. Suggest a suitable title for this extract.

A. Educated Unemployed

B. Education - a Revolution

C. Fight for Power

D. Professionalism

Topic : Question

#Q. Suggest a suitable title for this extract.

(A) Educated Unemployed

(B) Education - a Revolution

(C) Fight for Power

(D) Professionalism

Ans. (A) - The suitable title for the given passage is Educated Unemployed.

Topic : Question

#Q. The synonym for 'aptitude' is -

A ignorance

B negligence

C prudence

D excellence

Topic : Question

#Q. The synonym for 'aptitude' is -

(A) ignorance

(B) negligence

(C) prudence

(D) excellence

Ans. (D) - Aptitude means a natural ability to do something. So, 'excellence' is its synonym.

Topic : Question

#Q. Identify the correct statement.

A. Young students must seek the advice of the school counselors to select a course.

B. Young students must take a course which their friends are opting for.

C. Young students must take a course as suggested by their parents.

D. Young students get the employment easily.

Topic : Question

#Q. Identify the correct statement.

(A) Young students must seek the advice of the school counselors to select a course.

(B) Young students must take a course which their friends are opting for.

(C) Young students must take a course as suggested by their parents.

(D) Young students get the employment easily.

Ans. (A) - The statement given in option (A) is correct.

Topic : Question

#Q. Opposite word for 'proficiency' is -

(A) incompetence

(B) skill

(C) expertise

(D) formula

Topic : Question

#Q. Opposite word for 'proficiency' is -

(A) incompetence

(B) skill

(C) expertise

(D) formula

Ans. (A) - Proficiency means great skill, ability and experience. So, 'incompetence' is its opposite.

THANK YOU