



VALUE-BASED QUESTIONS

Q1. Patriotism is in political life what faith is in religion. John F Kennedy said, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country". Those who sacrifice their comfort for the welfare of the state get recognition. Write an article on the topic 'Patriotism'. You can take ideas from the following hints:

"They thought, amongst themselves, that Gandhi was totally a stranger, and yet he was prepared to go to prison for the sake of the peasants; if they, on the other hand, being not only residents of the adjoining districts but also those who claimed to have served these peasants, should go home, it would be shameful desertion."

Ans:

Patriotism

Breathes there the man with soul so dead,
who never to himself hath said,
this is my own native land! —Scott

Patriotism implies love for one's nation. A patriot is ready to sacrifice his comfort for the service of his nation. It was for his country's sake that Sardar Bhagat Singh kissed the gallows. It was for the love for their land that Shivaji, Rana Pratap and Guru Govind Singh suffered untold hardships. True patriots respect other nations and religions but don't allow anyone to insult their nation. A great philosopher said, "It is not gold that makes a nation great. It is the sacrifice and martyrdom of patriots that raises a nation to the heights of glory." India is a land where patriots are in abundance. It got its freedom only because of the efforts of its patriots. Patriotism is a religion and an ideal. It is an ideology that guides the people of a nation. It is a feeling and a bond that unites the people of various sects, beliefs and backgrounds together. A patriot must not be narrow minded. He should develop an international progressive outlook. It would be pertinent to quote the words of Seneca here "No one loves his country for its size or eminence, but because it is his own."

Q2. Undoubtedly, only a socially just country has the right to exist. In the modern world justice is a concept. Muscle is the reality. Corruption has become the way of the world. The destitute are exploited ruthlessly. People feel that 'to make a living, craftiness is better than learnedness'. Write an article on the topic mentioned above taking ideas from the given lines:

"Gandhi protested against the delay. He read a statement pleading guilty... when the court reconvened, the judge said he would not deliver the judgement for several days."

Ans:

Corruption in Contemporary India

Corruption has engulfed all the educated, skilled and semi-skilled workers. Corruption means dishonesty and illegal behavior especially of the people in authority. A person resorts to corruption because of his poverty, lack of moral strength and other psychological and financial problems. Moreover, the path of righteousness is full of thorns. Some of the youngsters are misguided by the friends to multiply their benefits within a short span of time. One should always remember that corruption starts from the top. If the head of the family is corrupt, the other

members will also imitate his actions. Our politicians and bureaucrats are corrupt and unscrupulous. They don't have any moral authority. Such corrupt politicians and bureaucrats should be punished and the honest persons should be rewarded if we intend to create a congenial atmosphere in our country. The system of justice is outdated and obsolete. It is said that 'justice delayed is justice denied'. People do not get justice in the court of law. If corruption is not checked, the poor will be exploited without any inhibition.

Q3. Obstacles determine the quality of life. Hermits feel convinced that 'sweet are the uses of adversity'. Problems are opportunities. Elucidate the saying taking ideas from the given lines: "Events justified Gandhi's position. Within a few years the British planters abandoned their estates, which reverted to the peasants. Indigo sharecropping disappeared."

Ans:

Sweet are the Uses of Adversity

The Bible proclaims that 'Man is born unto trouble, as the sparks fly upward'. Adversity is the first path that leads towards the truth. Emerson opines that 'every calamity is a spur and valuable hint'. But one cannot forget the truth that 'there is no wind that always blows a storm'. Problems are only opportunities in work clothes. Every individual aspires to attain phenomenal success in this era of consumerism. No one can refuse to accept the fact that material pleasures and prosperity bring happiness. But one cannot dare to ignore the significance of trying circumstances. One wishes to be away from the situations which can be troublesome and irksome. But one must not despair in those situations and should face the music of life. Prosperity makes a person lazy and ease loving. Adversity, on the other hand, though trying and full of hardships, has a chastening effect. One's character and personality become dynamic and vibrant if one fights bravely against the odd circumstances. It will not be wrong if we say that "as gold shines in fire, man shines in adversity."

"If you are distressed by anything external, the pain is not due to the thing itself, but to your own estimate of it; and this you have the power to revoke at any moment" —Marcus Aurelius

Q4. Education sets the tone of a nation. Joseph Addison has rightly said, "What sculpture to a block of marble, education is to the soul". But the quality of education is deteriorating gradually. Discuss the defects of our education system in your own words. Do remember the following expressions:

"Gandhi never contented himself with large political or economic solutions. He saw the cultural and social backwardness in the Champaran villages... He appealed for teachers."

Ans:

Defects of our Education System

"Education is the ability to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or your self-confidence". Education does not mean teaching people to know what they do not know; it means teaching them to behave as they do not behave, says John Ruskin. The prime objective of our education system is to develop a child's over all personality. It should train not only the mind, but also the body and soul. Unfortunately, our present education system fails to achieve these objectives. The present education system does not make a child creative. It makes him a crammer. A child/pupil has to mug up nearly 200–300 pages a year to pass his examination. Students are not given any practical training. They never go to laboratories to verify the theories. Moreover, the present admission system has become the laughing stock of society. The school authorities have a provision for those tiny tots who seek admission

to pre-nursery. This is the height of absurdity. We need not the people who can only read and write. Our nation requires engineers, scientists, technicians and doctors. Vocational education is the need of the hour but not at the cost of values. An educated man should not have only bookish knowledge. He must have the knowledge of practical things. Maria Montessori conceived that 'The first idea that the child must acquire in order to be actively disciplined is that of the difference between good and evil; and the task of the educator lies in seeing that the child does not confound good with immobility, and evil with activity.

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