

Class:- 12
Time:- 2 Hours
Name of the student :

Subject: English
Total : 50 Marks
Roll: Sec:

Reading Section (12 Marks)

1. Read the passage carefully and answer the following questions: (12)

Whenever low self-esteem and depression raise their ugly heads in us, it is a good idea to boost ourselves, 'I am born to be successful, I am a great achiever, for I have great potential.' This would produce temporary results, but in the long run, such positive thinking alone would not suffice. You need something more.

It is similar to the advice to chant '*Rama Rama*', every time a bad thought arises in our minds. Positive thinking is also based on the same philosophy. When we are tormented by temptations, repeatedly chanting the names of gods would certainly help to drive away these temptations. But, the temptations may arise again, later. Should one chant '*Rama Rama*' again to control such thoughts?

Say for example, the whole house is stinking due to a dead rat. We do not have the time or patience to go hunting for the dead rat and throw it out. So, we light incense sticks to camouflage the bad smell. For a while, the fragrance may drown out the foul smell. But, once the incense burns out, the same rotten smell would again pervade the atmosphere.

Positive thinking is similar to this. But there is a better and more lasting alternative to positive thinking known as Authentic Thinking.

Let us assume that you are in deep trouble. Instead of wallowing in self-pity one can adopt positive thinking, and affirm to oneself, 'No, I am really happy!' and try to thrust this thinking into one's mind. This would create conflict in the mind. It would not help resolve the trouble. Instead, try to view your thinking from a distance....similar to a bird's eye view. Get some perspective. Without labeling your thoughts as 'good' or 'bad', without showing any aversion to your thoughts, take an impartial stand and notice your thoughts. This is called seeing things through a bird's eyes. Whether the thoughts are sad, tempting or happy; without identifying them with you, when you view them from a distance, a clear understanding will crystallize within you.

Once this mental state is attained, sadness and happiness will appear as two sides of the same coin. Happiness is an experience. Similarly, sadness is also another experience. For people who do not have peace of mind and clarity, even happiness will appear as an experience of sadness!

Just as happiness is one kind of taste, sorrow is another taste. We have to accept the philosophy that just as sweetness could be enjoyable like in chocolates, cakes etc. bitterness also can be enjoyable like in bitter gourd. Every taste has its own flavour. This is similar to situations also. We assume that only happiness is desirable and all other feelings are not; we close the doors of our thinking to most of our feelings.

A. One can overcome the temptations by _____. (1)

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|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| a) Chanting names of gods | b) Chanting one's forefather's names |
| c) Keeping quiet | d) Dancing |

B. The alternative to positive thinking is _____. (1)

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|------------------|------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| a) Peace of mind | b) Clarity | c) Authentic thinking | d) Critical thinking |
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C. People who experience sadness do not have _____. (1)

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|------------------------------|----------------------|
| a) Peace of mind and clarity | b) Discipline |
| c) Own perspective | d) None of the above |

D. Bitterness can be enjoyed if one _____. (1)

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| a) Hates it | b) Denies it | c) Likes it | d) All of the above |
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E. When does an individual feel himself in trouble? (1)

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| a) When one feels surprised | b) When one feels dejected and depressed |
| c) When one feels elated | d) When one feels aloof |

F. A person should try to view his thinking from a _____. (1)

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| a) Eyes | b) Thought | c) Angle | d) Distance |
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G. Every taste has its own _____. (1)

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| a) Stand | b) Flavour | c) Kind | d) All of the above |
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- H. ____ are the two sides of the same coin.** (1)
 a) Life and death b) Day and night
 c) Surprise and shock d) Sadness and happiness
- I. What is the temporary solution to depression?** (1)
 a) Boosting ourselves by appreciating our skills
 b) Becoming more confused towards the problem
 c) Accepting the situation and problem
 d) None of the above
- J. How do we close the doors of our thinking?** (1)
 a) By not thinking b) By thinking too much
 c) By accepting our mistakes c) By assuming only happiness is desirable
- K. Find out a word from the passage which means same to 'conceal'. (para 3)** (1)
- L. Find out a word from the passage which means opposite to 'vagueness'. (para 6)** (1)

Writing Section (10 Marks)

- 2.** Suman/Suraj has cleared the Pre-medical/Pre-dental entrance examination. The family is elated at the achievement and they decide to have a get-together for all friends. Draft an informal invitation for the get-together. Do not exceed 50 words. **(4)**
- 3.** Easy Call Centre at Rana Pratap Marg in New Delhi needs some call executives for its UK shift. Write a job application to apply for the post. The prerequisites for the job are- graduation in any stream (at least), English proficiency. Write the letter in 125-150 words giving your bio data. Sign yourself as Arjun/Srishti of 17/2 Saket Road, New Delhi. **(6)**

Literature Section (28 Marks)

- 4. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:** **(1X4=4)**

*And such too is the grandeur of the dooms
 We have imagined for the mighty dead;
 All lovely tales that we have heard or read;
 An endless fountain of immortal drink,
 Pouring unto us from heaven's brink.*

- a) What is the thing of beauty mentioned in the above lines?
 b) Who are the 'mighty dead'? How do we know about them?
 c) What is the effect of the immortal drink on us?
 d) Write the words from the extract which mean "stories" and "magnificence".
- 5. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words:** **(2X6=12)**
 a) What is common between Zitkala-Sa and Bama?
 b) Why does the poet refer to the roadside stand as pathetic?
 c) What was unique and distinctive about Umberto Eco's academic writing style?
 d) Why did the Tiger King suddenly decide to marry? Whom did he wish to marry?
 e) 'The battle of Champaran is won.' When and why did Gandhiji exclaim this?
 f) Discuss the significance of the make-up room in the chapter "Poets and Pancakes".
- 6. Answer the following questions in 120-150 words:** **(6+6=12)**
 a) What impression do you form about Umberto Eco as a scholar and writer on the basis of 'The Interview'?

OR

Give an account of Gandhiji's efforts to secure justice for the poor Indigo sharecroppers of Champaran.

- b) What activities did Bama witness on her way back from school? Elaborate.

OR

The astrologer's prediction about the death of the Tiger King came to be true. Do you agree with this statement? Why or why not? Give reasons in support of your answer.