

Class 12
21-7-2014

First Unit Test in ENGLISH

Time : 1 hr.
M. Marks : 20

General Instructions:

1. This paper is divided into three sections: A, B, & C. All sections are compulsory.
2. Read the instructions very carefully before answering the paper.
3. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION - A (Reading)

1. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

One of the most pervasive myths in our culture today is that we are entitled to a great life - that somehow, somewhere, someone (certainly not us) is responsible for filling our lives with continual happiness, exciting career options, nurturing family time, and blissful personal relationships simply because we exist.

But the real truth is that there is only one person responsible for the quality of the life you live. That person is you.

If you want to be successful, you have to take 100% responsibility for everything that you experience in your life. This includes the level of your achievements, the results you produce, the quality of your relationships, the state of your health and physical fitness, your income, your debts, your feelings - everything!

This is not easy.

In fact, most of us have been conditioned to blame something outside of ourselves for the parts of our life we don't like. We blame our parents, our bosses, our friends, the media, our co-workers, our clients, our spouse, the weather, the economy, our astrological chart, our lack of money - anyone or anything we can pin the blame on. We never want to look at where the real problem is - ourselves.

There is a wonderful story told about a man who is out walking one night and comes upon another man down on his knees looking for something under a street lamp. The passerby inquires as to what the other man is looking for. He answers that he is looking for his lost key. The passerby offers to help and gets down on his knees and helps him search for the key. After an hour of fruitless searching, he says, "We've looked everywhere for it and we haven't found it. Are you sure that you lost it here?"

The other man replies, "No, I lost it in my house, but there is more light out here under the streetlamp."

It is time to stop looking outside yourself for the answers to why you haven't created the life and results you want, for it is you who creates the quality of the life you lead and the results you produce.

You - no one else!

To achieve major success in life - to achieve those things that are most important to you - you must assume 100% responsibility for your life. Nothing less will do. That means giving up all your excuses, all your victim stories, all the reasons why you can't and why you haven't up until now, and all your blaming of outside circumstances. You have to give them all up forever.

You have to take the position that you have always had the power to make it different, to get it right, to produce the desired result. For whatever reason - ignorance, lack of awareness, fear, needing to be right, the need to feel safe - you chose not to exercise that power. Who knows why? It doesn't matter. The past is the past. All that matters now is that from this point forward you choose - that's right, it's a choice - you choose to act as if (that's all that's required - to act as if) you are 100% responsible for everything that does or doesn't happen to you.

If something doesn't turn out as planned, you will ask yourself, "How did I create that? What was I thinking? What were my beliefs? What did I say or not say? What did I do or not do to create that result? How did I get the other person to act that way? What do I need to do differently next time to get the result I want?"

Every outcome you experience in life (whether it is success or failure, wealth or poverty, health or illness, intimacy or estrangement, joy or frustration) is the result of how you have responded to an earlier event or events in your life.

An excerpt from Jack Canfield's "How To Get From Where You Are To Where You Want To Be"

- 1.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage make notes on it, using recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. Supply a suitable title. (3 marks)
- 1.2 Write a summary of the passage in about 80 words. (2 marks)

SECTION - B (Writing)

2. You are the Head Prefect of DAV Public School, Shalimar Garden. Draft a notice informing students about a trekking holiday that your school is organizing. Give all necessary details in not more than 50 words, asking all those keen to join, to give their names. (3 marks)

SECTION - C (Literature)

3. Read the following extract and answer the questions given below:

*Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering through her wool
Find even the ivory needle hard to pull
The heavy weight of uncle's wedding band
Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand.*

- a) Why are Aunt Jennifer's fingers fluttering? (2 marks)
- b) Explain the symbol of the wedding band as used in the poem. (1 mark)
- c) What do the words 'Sits heavily upon' imply? (1 mark)
4. Answer the following questions in about 30 to 40 words only: (2x4 = 8 marks)
- a) Explain how Gandhi's politics came to be intertwined with the day-to-day life of the people.
- b) Who was Professor Malkani? In what way was the help rendered by him extraordinary?
- c) Why do you think Dr. Sadao endorsed the General's plan of sending assassins to murder the prisoner of war?
- d) Why did the servants leave Dr. Sadao's house en masse?

-X-X-X-X-X-X-