

खण्ड-A / Section-A

उम्मीदवारों को
इस भाग में
लिखना पना है।
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- Q.1 If you look into someone's face long enough, eventually you feel that you are looking into yourself.
यदि आप किसी के चेहरे को काफी देर तक देखते हैं, तो अंततः आपको महसूस होता है कि आप अपने भीतर ही देख रहे हैं।
- Q.2 We can easily forgive a child who is afraid of the dark; the real tragedy of life is when men are afraid of the light.
हम उस बच्चे को आसानी से क्षमा कर सकते हैं जो अंधेरे से डरता है; जीवन की वास्तविक त्रासदी तब होती है जब लोग रोशनी से डरते हैं।
- Q.3 It is the province of knowledge to speak and it is the privilege of wisdom to listen.
बोलना ज्ञान का क्षेत्र है और श्रवण करना बुद्धि का विशेषाधिकार है।
- Q.4 Drop the question what tomorrow may bring, and count as profit every day that fate allows you.
यह प्रश्न छोड़ दें कि कल क्या हो सकता है, और हर उस दिन को लाभ के रूप में गिनें जो भाग्य आपको अनुमति देता है।

④

Drop the question what tomorrow may
bring, and count as profit every day
that fate allows you.

She was 7 years old when

she received her first diary as a birth-
day gift and since then the diary
became her best friend, her companion
in the face of challenges and her
guide in difficult times.

Anne Frank and her family

were hiding in a secret safe house as they were Jews, as she writes in her diary, to avoid being sent to the concentration camps by Nazi Soldiers.

However, they all lived in a constant fear of being discovered and the consequences after that. They use to come by stories and news about their friends and neighbours being deported to Auschwitz and the horrifying life of the prisoners caged there.

Anne Frank, amidst all the uncertainty around her and amidst all the fear, violence and destruction caused by the war, deflected positivity and a lack of concern for tomorrow. Though a very girl for her age, she taught us the importance of living in present without thinking what

tomorrow might bring, when she said

"Until I have this beautiful city
over me, the wonderful sunset
and sunrise, the melodious chirping
and singing of birds and the bright
colorful flowers in the garden,
how can I be sad?"

She lived in the present. She
was not concerned about being discovered
and taken to the Auschwitz, but she
was concerned about mending her
relationships with her mother, spend-
ing quality time with her father and
expressing her feelings to Peter, the
boy she liked. She considered "today"
as a "gift" in her life by fate and
was focussed on utilising it in the
best way possible and ^{not} wasting the

thinking
day about tomorrow.

Questioning what the fate has in its treasure for you in the future will not allow you to get benefitted from what the fate has given you today.

However, it is human's basic nature to think about tomorrow and be worried for it. ~~They~~ ^{we} often fail to understand that, "the way we live our lives everyday, is the way we live our life in whole". If you live everyday worrying about future then your life will be spent in worrying; only. we must acknowledge that not everything is in our control. and must let the consequence of our decisions and actions on the "infinite".

will and mercy of universe."

Though we tend to wobble a lot but it is fascinating how we still believe that "tomorrow" exists, just like any other day. The confidence by which we set our alarm clocks in hope of waking up tomorrow amidst all the uncertainty of the existence of tomorrow is fascinating.

Examining the life of Mahatma Gandhi is relevant for us to understand the importance of "today". During the freedom struggle, we find different parallel movements for independence happening simultaneously in the country. They all, however,

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drastically differ from Gandhi's day-to-day constructive programs. The extremist militants like Godar party or the Hindustan Socialist Republican Association led by Lala Hardayal and Bhagat Singh ^{actively} ~~respectfully~~ were planning for a all India wide violent revolt to overthrow the mighty British empire. They were living in future and preparing for the future ignoring the then "present day" problems of the country.

On the other hand, Gandhiji was not worried about the future, he was more focussed on the betterment and improvement of the conditions of the society in the then present day. Through his constructive activities he was working for eradication of

Caste based discrimination, empowerment of women and the preservation of communal harmony.

Just like the Greek mythological character, "Sisyphus", ^{Gandhiji} he was rolling the stone upward to the hill little by little, and again and again Sisyphus was condemned by the gods forever that he will be rolling the rock upward to the hill. He was not questioning what tomorrow might bring, he was ^{doing} his duty today and that made him happy. As Albert Camus says, "One must imagine Sisyphus happy" as he is living each day to the point till his chest is full of content without any worry for tomorrow. Happiness has a very high inverse correlation ¹³ with overthinking.

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During COVID-19 pandemic, we all were locked inside our homes, all the schools, colleges and businesses were shut, the roads, parks and malls were calm and empty, the scene outside the four walls of our home was like the consequence of an Apocalypse. and the scene inside was different for different kinds of people.

Those who worried about future questioning its consequences lived in fear and anxiety, whereas, those who lived in present, lived in joy and happiness. Hence, overthinking about tomorrow has consequences on our mental health. It may cause anxiety, depression, and some may also face existential crisis.

Restricting ourselves to the business of today improves productivity.

It allows us to appreciate our shortcomings, to understand the meaning of our relationships, it allows us to embrace positivity around us.

A student who focuses on his studies without fear of the exam results will actually perform well in the examination. A soldier who focuses on the enemy target on the battlefield without worrying about tomorrow's uncertainty has a better chance of survival. This is also reinforced by the Hindu mythological scriptures.

The concept of "Nishkarma Karma" propounded in Bhagavadgita by Lord Krishna relates to, "not thinking or expecting the result while

performing an act. "It demands devo-
tion to work or an action" and not
devotion to the result. It reflects
implicitly the idea of not worrying
about tomorrow.

However, a complete ignorance
towards future is also foolishness.

"Ignorance is bliss" only if we live
in a cave, but as we don't, it is
also important for us to have a vision
about tomorrow.

Thinking is the special ability
of humans that makes us "Alphabeings"
"We think, therefore we exist".

However, this thinking shall be positive
and visionary and not worrisome and
filled on negativity.

We must have a visionary
thinking related to ¹⁶ our planet and the

impounding threat of climate change.
Kiribati Island is the first landmass
to be sunk due to rising sea levels.
However, the President of the country
is not worried about tomorrow. He
says that the Island is made by
god and the nature cannot sink it.
A complete ignorance towards future
is sheer foolishness.

Similarly, we must have a
visionary approach for our economy
by balancing the twin objectives of
growth and sustainability. We must
also have plan for emerging techno-
logies like AI and schematic web
and its potential threats. Our
thinking about tomorrow must be
focused on being prepared for the
worst consequences¹⁷ of our actions.

It is, however, important that ~~while~~ we do not completely ignore the blessings of today by the fate in preparing for tomorrow, ~~not~~ we must ~~not~~ be like 'Mohammed Shah Rangela' who foolishly ignored the threats of Nader Shah's invasion on Delhi and lived in present drinking and dancing.

It is important to balance the wheel of today and tomorrow, and be optimistic about future and live in the present just like Anne Frank did during the world war II. She lived her little infinity in the very few days she had. Kalidasa in abhijanasatnatrayam says, "If today is lived with content and satisfaction, then every yesterday is dream of happiness and every tomorrow is vision of future."

खण्ड-B / Section-B

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- Q.5 Truth, like a torch, the more it is shook, it shines.
सत्य, मशाल की तरह है, इसे जितना अधिक हिलाया जाता है, यह उतना ही चमकता है।
- Q.6 Art is I; science is We.
कला मैं है; विज्ञान हम है।
- Q.7 Only the dead have seen the end of the war.
केवल मृतकों ने ही युद्ध का अंत देखा है।
- Q.8 Act as if it were impossible to fail.
कार्य ऐसे करें जैसे कि विफल होना असंभव ही था।

Q.7 "Only the dead have seen the end of war"

Mariyam was a joyful girl who stayed amidst the hills in afghanistan. She was blessed with a very high intelligence and hence enjoyed attending school regularly. She was also fascinated about the beauty of valley where her home was located. The rushing rivers, and the tall waterfalls, different kinds of flowers, the animals specially deys and peacocks.

Mariyam had a keen interest in History, she loved visiting a nearby palace built by the Mughal emperor Akbar in 16th century.

She enjoyed spending time with her family, talking to her mother about what she learned in school, playing with her friends in the park, attending their birthdays and having sleepovers with cousins.

Mariyam's life as a 12th year old girl was filled with joy, love and curiosity. Everything was wonderful until one day she heard a huge explosion on the way to her school.

She rushed in fear, along with her parents to the site and found her school destroyed by the forces of Taliban. Her wonderful

school where she spent most of her time was now dust and broken bricks.

The invasion of Afghanistan by United States led to a violent clash between Taliban and US forces. In a matter of months there was wide spread destruction. The main targets by Taliban were schools, public parks, historical sites and heritage buildings.

Mariyam's school was destroyed, the palace built by Akbar which she used to admire was also brought down to grounds. She lost her close

friends, some of them died in explosions and some of them migrated to other states for safety.

Mariyam's family lacked

enough financial resources to afford migration. and hence were forced to stay risking safety of their lives.

However, the torments and horror of war reached her family very soon. Her parents were also killed by explosions while they were working in a nearby site. For Mariyam it was horrible. Through what kind of pain and suffering a 12 year girl is being forced to?

War made her life miserable. All her aspirations were broken. She was taken by an NGO to child care centre for support and rehabilitation. But, she couldn't survive due to poor quality and quantity food. Only death made her sufferings end and by death, the war also ended for Mariyam.

but for those who were during the war didn't end.

Wars fade away, but never end

The people who die as a consequence of war are the only ones who have seen the end of war, for them along with their lives, the war also ended.

But those who survived through the war, for them the war didn't end. It continues in many deadly manifestations. It is important to point out that, "wars are like a nuclear fission reaction, like a chain", in other words, one war leads to another and it continues forever.

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World war I was one of the most deadliest wars, millions of lives were lost. But, 1918 was not its end. It continued further in many forms. It only faded away.

The Great depression which had its origin in over production during the war caused misery & across the world. It affected those states that didn't even participate in the war. Thus continuing its impact beyond the end of violence.

Very soon, within a span of few years we saw that another war broke out deadly and more destructive. The world war II, which ended in literal sense, after the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Wars have long lasting impact and the worst among them is the "feasibility of another war". After the two deadly wars ~~the~~ the world has experienced continued spillover of wars and conflicts across the planet.

The Vietnam war, the Syrian war, the Israel and Palestine war and the Indian-Pakistan wars.

One war has led to another and this continues even today in form of the "Ukraine-Russia War".

Wars continue in many deadly manifestations

Apart from death and destruction there are many other invisible manifestations of wars. Poverty is

most important. The war in Ukraine has stopped the trade in food grains especially wheat this has increased hunger in African nations and pushed the people further into poverty in the continent.

We have seen the impact of usage of chemical weapons in the Syrian war. The future of those who were affected by these weapons is filled with trauma and despair. Though the war ended for those who died, but for those who live alike the survivors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, for them the war still continues in form of their destroyed aspirations, lost families and friends.

Wart effect the vulnerable population the most. Especially women in case of Afghanistan. we have seen how they are being denied basic rights and dignity. Being prevented from education, employment, sports and entertainment.

The cost of war hence is beyond violence and physical destruction. we must acknowledge this fact as soon as possible and try to prevent any further war in future.

Marjani's example shall act as guide and clearing to us. we must think about the widespread

consequences of war and its manifestations before entering one.

Ruth Shupert Elias, one of the survivors of World War II and the Holocaust reminds the world of her trauma. How she was forced to kill her own baby by injecting a dose of lethal morphine to free her of her sufferings.

There are different ways to live our lives. "Butterfly wings and grizzly bear claws both are the pathways of survival, but we must choose the one that is also non violent and peaceful."

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