



[This question paper contains 04 printed pages]

Himachal Pradesh Administrative Service Combined Competitive (Main /  
Written) Examination, 2020

ENGLISH (COMPULSORY)

Time allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 100

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions.

1. There are SEVEN questions and all questions are compulsory.
2. The number of marks carried by a question / part is indicated against it.
3. Answers must be written in ENGLISH only.
4. Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to and if answered in much longer or shorter than the prescribed length, marks will be deducted.
5. Write answers in legible handwriting.
6. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
7. Re-evaluation / Re-checking of Question-cum-Answer Book of the candidate is not allowed.

1. (a) Rewrite the following sentences after making necessary corrections, if any. Do not make unnecessary changes in the original sentences. (05)
  - (i) The earthquake is a natural phenomena and it is beyond human control.
  - (ii) He prefers staying at home rather than travelling.
  - (iii) One should always try to improve himself.
  - (iv) I ordered for a cup of coffee.
  - (v) If it will rain, he will not go.
- (b) Use the correct form of the verb given in the brackets. (05)
  - (i) He understood exactly what the teacher \_\_\_\_\_. (mean)
  - (ii) She heard somebody \_\_\_\_\_. (cry)
  - (iii) Your bus \_\_\_\_\_ (come). The driver is waiting for you.
  - (iv) At last you're here! I \_\_\_\_\_ (look) for you for over twenty minutes.
  - (v) They \_\_\_\_\_ (buy) a new house soon.
- (c) Change the voice. (05)
  - (i) He was called a villain.
  - (ii) All desire wealth and some acquire it.
  - (iii) Why should you suspect me?
  - (iv) Wordsworth's poems interest me.
  - (v) It is time to close the shops.

- (d) Change the following sentences into indirect speech. (05)
- (i) Mr.Dass said to the students, “Don’t make a noise.”
  - (ii) His sister said to me, “Why did you insult my brother?”
  - (iii) He said, “O that I were a king!”
  - (iv) The director said, “Diamond cuts diamond.”
  - (v) The saint said, “It gives me great pleasure to be here this evening.”
2. (a) Use each word in the given pairs in a different sentence in order to bring out the difference in meaning. You will make ten sentences in all. (No marks will be awarded for vague and ambiguous sentences). (10)
- (i) censor, sensor
  - (ii) exercise, exorcise
  - (iii) stationary, stationery
  - (iv) accomplish, accomplice
  - (v) dew, due
- (b) Use the following Idioms / Phrasal verbs in sentences of your own to bring out their meaning clearly. (10)
- (i) Pandora’s box
  - (ii) A cock and bull story
  - (iii) Hold water
  - (iv) Yeoman’s service
  - (v) Swan song
  - (vi) Put up with
  - (vii) Look down upon
  - (viii) Fall out
  - (ix) Run down
  - (x) Give way
3. Write a letter to the Additional Deputy Commissioner of your district in about 400 (four hundred) words complaining about the unorganized manner of parking of vehicles in the market areas and suggest some remedial steps that can be taken to overcome the problem. (10)

OR

- Imagine yourself Riya, a Software Engineer in RE Infotech, Noida. Write a letter to the HR Manager in about 400 (four hundred) words complaining about one of your colleagues’ inappropriate comments and gestures. Also, provide a few suggestions to create a women-friendly work environment. (10)
4. State Government, Himachal Pradesh imposed a ban on the use of plastic bags, bottles and cutlery. Despite the ban, the items are seen everywhere. Hon’ble Home Minister has asked the Director General of Police, Himachal Pradesh, to observe the actual situation, find out the possible causes and suggest the solutions thereof. Assuming yourself to be

the Director General of Police, Himachal Pradesh, prepare a report in about 300 (three hundred) words to be submitted to the Hon'ble Home Minister & Secretary (Home), Himachal Pradesh. (10)

OR

Chairperson, National Commission for Women is concerned about the increase in the number of cases of domestic violence in Northern India. She constituted a committee to study the cases and find out the possible reasons for the same. Assuming yourself to be a Chairperson of the Committee, prepare a report in about 300 (three hundred) words to be submitted to the Chairperson, National Commission for Women highlighting the real causes and possible measures to overcome the problem. (10)

5. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. (10)

Many people like to think of themselves as rational creatures who, even if they do occasionally give way to emotion, behave and decide on largely rational grounds. Sadly, there is little evidence that this is the case. Plato thought of the emotions and the intellect as two horses, one white and one black, drawing the same chariot. But Nietzsche in nineteenth century Germany realized that the intellect was little more than the emotions' servant. He compared the emotions to a very powerful, but blind, man. The intellect was weak, but could see; it rode on the blind giant's shoulders, and pointed out the way. But the intellect could not decide where the emotions wanted to go, it could only tell the emotions how to get there.

Most people think they are being guided only by reason. But reason is clever, and it can always find a reason for what the emotions make it do. Psychologists call this 'rationalization', and it is one of the human being's most powerfully developed faculties. But the picture is not all black. D.H. Lawrence, among many other writers, taught this wisdom of the emotions, and the wilful errors of the puny intellect.

Questions:

1. Why do many people think of themselves as rational beings? (02)
2. According to psychologists, what is rationalization? (02)
3. According to Nietzsche, what is the function of intellect? (02)
4. Who / What is referred to as the blind giant in the passage? (02)
5. Why does the writer think that reason is clever? (02)

6. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. (10)

The world is full of people-appallingly full, it has never been so full before, and they are all tumbling over each other. Most of these people one doesn't know and some of them one doesn't like; doesn't like the colour of their skins, say, or the shapes of their noses, or the way they blow them or don't blow them, or the way they talk, or their smell, or their clothes, or their fondness for jazz or their dislike of jazz, and so on. Well, what is one to do? There are two solutions. One of them is the Nazi solution. If you don't like people, kill them, banish them, segregate them, and then strut up and down proclaiming

that you are the salt of the earth. The other way is much less thrilling, but it is on the whole the way of the democracies, and I prefer it. If you don't like people, put up with them as well as you can. Don't try to love them: you can't, you'll only strain yourself. But try to tolerate them. On the basis of that tolerance a civilized future may be built. Certainly I can see no other foundation for the post-war world.

Questions:

1. According to the passage, what is the more thrilling way to deal with people that you don't like? (02)
  2. Out of the two solutions mentioned in the passage, which solution does the writer prefer? (02)
  3. According to the writer, what possible reasons can one find to dislike other people? (02)
  4. What can be the foundation of post-war world, according to the writer? (02)
  5. Find the words in the passage that mean the same as the following words: (02)
    - (a) Expel
    - (b) Shockingly
7. Make a précis of the following passage and give a suitable title. The précis should be written in your own language. (20)

The reason why talks are arranged for limited lengths of time is not only because people have other appointments, but because the average person's span of attention is limited. The simple fact is that about five to ten minutes is as long as most people can listen without a short day-dream. After a brief holiday to catch up with all the other thoughts floating round their head, people come back to the talk. But as time goes on these rests get longer and more frequent, and eventually it becomes impossible to listen any more. Research shows that this limit is around an hour, depending on the subject and the individual. That is why most talks and lectures are scheduled to last for an hour or less.

There are, then, physical reasons why talks are limited in length. The audience are simply unable to listen usefully beyond a certain limit. Research shows, too, that the span of memory is limited, as well as span of attention. The plain fact is that the audience will not remember what you said if you drone on for long after the appointed finishing time, so no good purpose is served. Trying to force in more information, when the limit has been reached, is a waste of time. I suppose few speakers realize this obvious fact; once a talk has run over time no one is listening. People are looking at their watches, gazing angrily out of the window, shuffling their notes, tapping their fingers, even trying to tiptoe out; the one thing they are not doing is listening. So the speaker continuing to talk long over his or her due time is an absurd figure. Nothing is listened to, and certainly nothing will be remembered. (290 words)

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