

Q. 3. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

(20)

The third great defect of our civilization is that it does not know what to do with its knowledge. Science has given us powers fit for the gods, yet we use them like small children. For example, we do not know how to manage our machines. Machines were made to be man's servants; yet he has grown so dependent on them that they are in a fair way to become his master. Already most men spend most of their lives looking after and waiting upon machines. And the machines are very stern masters. They must be fed with coal, and given petrol to drink, and oil to wash with, and they must be kept at the right temperature. And if they do not get their meals when they expect them, they grow sulky and refuse to work, or burst with rage, and blow up, and spread ruin and destruction all around them. So we have to wait upon them very attentively and do all that we can to keep them in a good temper. Already we find it difficult either to work or play without the machines, and a time may come when they will rule us altogether, just as we rule the animals.

And this brings me to the point at which I asked, "What do we do with all the time which the machines have saved for us, and the new energy they have given us?" On the whole, it must be admitted, we do very little. For the most part we use our time and energy to make more and better machines; but more and better machines will only give us still more time and still more energy, and what are we to do with them? The answer, I think, is that we should try to become more civilized. For the machines themselves, and the power which the machines have given us, are not civilization but aids to civilization. But you will remember that we agreed at the beginning that being civilized meant making and linking beautiful things. Thinking freely, and living rightly and maintaining justice equally between man and man. Man has a better chance today to do these things than he ever had before; he has more time, more energy, less to fear and less to fight against. If he will give his time and energy which his machines have won for him to making more beautiful things, to finding out more and more about the universe, to removing the causes of quarrels between nations, to discovering how to prevent poverty, then I think our civilization would undoubtedly be the greater, as it would be the most lasting that there has ever been.

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QUESTION NO: 1

Instead of making machines our servants the author says they have become our masters. In what sense has this come about?

Machines have today become our masters in a sense that humans have become over dependant on them providing them constant care, maintenance and surveillance. Machines were a meant to be a power and service towards mankind but mismanagement on man's part lead machines to take over the human race.

Much like ^{demands of a stern} masters, machines require fuel to run and right temperature and environment to stay and function smoothly. Also machines, if don't get the necessary care react up like masters and refuse to respond. These requirements ^{of machines,} ~~of machines,~~ constant attention of man.

Additionally daily life of man has become over reliant on machines and their use is inevitable now. In this way machines appear to have become our masters.

QUESTION NO: 2

The use of machines has brought us more leisure and energy. But the author says that this has been a curse rather than a blessing. Why?

According to the ~~writer~~ ^{author}, machines have brought us leisure time and energy but man has been unsuccessful yet to utilize that time and energy responsibly and meaningfully. Man ^{is} utilizing the time obtained by use of machines in research for new and better machines which ^{would} further save time. This vicious cycle of machines saving time and man inventing more machines in that time

proves to be not a blessing rather a curse because humans failed to get civilized making good use of that time.

QUESTION NO: 3

What exactly is the meaning of 'civilization'? Do you agree with author's view?

Civilization literally means complex human societies having their own culture, linguistics, archeology and traditions. There have been many great civilizations remnants of which still exist like Mesopotamian, Egyptian, Indus valley and Gandhara civilizations etc. But civilization is a much broader term encompassing some abstract elements as well like civilizations are always marked by ^{ethical} social norms, mindfulness and morals which are necessary for a human society. Without these, a civilization would be a mere network of humans and their practices spread over a millenia.

Yes, I agree with the author on his views on mankind's inability to make good use of time bestowed by machines and technology, the vicious cycle of machine invention and provision of time, and use of this time to develop good morals and a civilized society.

QUESTION NO: 4

'Making more beautiful things' - What does this expression mean? Make a list of the beautiful things that you would like to make and how you would make them?

The expression 'Making more beautiful things' means the legitimate use of power, time and energy provided by usage of machines. These beautiful things include the promotion and development of positive values and morals like free thinking, upholding of justice, solving international

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disputes and improving the socioeconomic of societies.

I would like to add on to the good things suggested by author. These would be as follows.

1. Ensuring and promoting equality.
2. Promoting tolerance.
3. Spreading kindness.

I would work on these beautiful things by utilizing the time saved by the usage of machines and practising these values myself whenever I get a chance to.

QUESTION NO: 5

Mention some plans you may have to prevent poverty in the world. Who would receive your most particular attention, and why?

My first plan to prevent poverty is just allocation of resources. Society today faces the dilemma of trickling effect of resources according to which, those at the top enjoy the most resources and whatever left is trickled down to the poor. I would ensure and work upon the poor that they receive their due and legitimate share. My second plan would be to provide more opportunities of employment to the poverty struck class. This can be done by focusing on the economic uplift of society and employment would start seeking its seekers on its own. My prime focus would be on rule of law and equality in allocation of resources because even if a great many resources and jobs are there, they are scavenged upon by the wealthy class in the absence of surveillance.