

CSS 1988

Q.2. Read the following passage and answer any two questions given at the end: (20)

Another intellectual defect of almost all teaching, except the highest grade of university tuition, is that it encourages docility and the belief that definite answers are known on questions which are legitimate matters of debate. I remember an occasion when a number of us were discussing which was the best of Shakespeare's plays. Most of us were concerned in advancing arguments for unconventional opinions but a clear young man, who from the elementary schools, had lately risen to the university, informed us, as a fact of which we were unaccountably ignorant, that Hamlet is the best of Shakespeare's plays. After this the subject was closed. Every clergyman in America knows why Rome fell; it was owing to the corruption of morals depicted by Juvenile and Petronius. The fact that morals became exemplary about two centuries before the fall of the western Empire is unknown or ignored. English children are taught one view of the French Revolution, French children are taught another; neither is true but in each case it would be highly imprudent to disagree with the teacher, and few fell any inclination to do so. Teacher ought to encourage intelligent disagreement on the part of their pupils, even urging them to read books have opinions opposed to that much education consists in the instilling of unfounded dogmas in place of spirit of inquiry. The result, not necessarily from any fault in the teacher, but from curriculum which demands too much apparent knowledge with a consequent need to haste and definitions.

Questions:

1. What is the main defect of teaching? Describe in your own words.
2. What are the causes of the instilling of unfounded dogmas in the mind of students?
3. Briefly describe the main points presented by the writer of this passage.

* Q1:- The major defect of teaching is to encourage docility, which means the quality of being quiet. Along with it, children are persuaded that absolute answers of every question are present, So they need not to question about reasoning. They should accept things as such, quietly. Children are kept destitute of developing intellectual skills, leading them to diminution of their mental growth. This all is due to not letting them ponder over the reasoning, and persuading them to keep quiet.*

Q2:- One of the causes of inculcating unfounded dogmas in the mind of students is ethnocentricity and patriotism. In history, different events happened and every nation has its own views about these events, but children are ^{not} being urged to read books and develop their own opinions. Rather they face strong disagreement from part of teachers, instead of spirit of inquiry.

③ Ans:-

The writer has presented major points about the flaws in teaching methods and curriculum. The students are encouraged to accept the things as they are and not let them question about the reasoning. Students face disagreement from teacher's side instead of spirit of inquiry. On the other hand, writer has also mentioned how patriotism and nationalism cause inculcation of unfounded dogmas. Teacher should encourage students to read books to develop their own opinions rather than following the curriculum blindly.
