

Q. Read the following text carefully and answers the questions below: (20)

Human beings are afraid of death just as children feel afraid of darkness. The fear of darkness of kids increased by the stories of the heard ghosts and thieves. In the same way, the fear of human being is increased by the stories which they heard about the agony of dying man. If a human being regards death as a kind of punishment for his sins he has committed and if he looks upon death as a means of making an entry into another world, he is certainly taking a religious and sacred view of death. But if a human being looks upon death as a law of nature and then feels afraid of it, his attitude is of cowardice. However, even in religious meditations about death there is sometimes a mixture of folly and superstition. Monks have written books in which they have described the painful experiences which they underwent by inflicting physical tortures upon themselves as a form of self-purification. Thus, one may think that the pains of death must be indescribably agonizing. Such books and such thoughts increase a man's fear of death.

Seneca, the Roman Philosopher is of the view that the circumstances and ceremonies of death frighten people more than death itself would do. A dyeing man is heard uttering groans; his body is seen undergoing convulsions; his face appears to be absolutely bloodless and pale; at his death his friends begin to weep and his relations put on mourning clothes; various rituals are performed. All such facts make death appear more horrible than it would be otherwise.

Questions:

1. What is the difference between human beings' fear of death and children's fear of darkness?
2. What is a religious and sacred view of death?
3. What are the painful experiences described by the Monks in their books?
4. What are the views of Seneca about death?
5. What are the facts that make death appear more horrible than it would be otherwise?

Reading Comprehension

1) What is the difference between human being's fear of death and children's fear of darkness?

The difference between human being's fear of death and children's fear of darkness is that children's fear grows by hearing stories of ghostly spirits and thieves. On the other hand, human's fear increases by hearing agonizing tales of a dying man's pain.

2) What is a religious and sacred view of death?

The religious and sacred view of death has two aspects. Firstly, it considers death as punishment for the sin committed by a person. Secondly, it regards death as a gateway to the hereafter.

3) What are the painful experiences described by Monks in their books?

Monks have described painful experiences of self-infliction in their books. They would physically torment themselves for the purpose of self-purification. These accounts make people believe that death must be a painful process.

4) What are the views of Seneca about death?

Seneca was a Roman philosopher who expressed his views

about the fear of death. According to him, the circumstances and ceremonies of death frighten people more than death itself would.

As a result, man's fear of death is increased.

5) What are the facts that make appear death more horrible than it would be otherwise?

There are several facts that make death appear more horrible.

These include dying man's groans, his bloodless face, lamentation of his family and friends, and post-death rituals. All these facts paint death as a horrific event, than it would be otherwise.

Correction of Errors

His knowledge of languages and International Relations aid him in his work.

His knowledge of languages and International Relations aids him in his work.

The ambassador, with his family and staff, invite you to a reception at the embassy on Tuesday afternoon.
The ambassador, with his family and staff, invites you to a reception at the embassy on Tuesday afternoon.

This year, he will sit in the CSS examination.

This year, he will sit in the CSS examination.

When he came back from vacation, Aslam and I plan to look for another apartment.

When he comes back from vacation, Aslam and I plan to look for another apartment.

If some of you make a noise, they shall be punished.

If any of you make a noise, they will be punished.

He came to me to enquire what is the salary attached to the appointment.

He came to me to inquire what is the salary attached to the appointment.

I am too tired that I do not hunt words and idioms in my English book.

I am too tired to hunt words and idioms in my English book.

The Chief Executive will let us know whether or not he can attend the meeting.

The Chief Executive will let us know whether he can attend the meeting or not.