

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.

- Questions:**
1. Instead of making machines our servants the author says they have become our masters. In what sense has this come about? (4)
  2. The use of machines has brought us more leisure and more energy. But the author says that this has been a curse rather than a blessing. Why? (4)
  3. What exactly is the meaning of 'civilization'? Do you agree with the author's views? (4)
  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. (4)
  5. Mention some plans you may have to prevent poverty in the world. Who would receive your most particular attention, and why? (4)



① Ans According to the writer, machines have become our masters instead of servants because they need great care and attention. They require coal, oil and the right temperature to function properly. Otherwise, they become defected and may even blow up to cause greater destruction all around. For this reason, man has become their servant; who has to carefully tend to them all the time.

② Ans The extra time and energy that machines have brought us has been a curse rather than a blessing because man uses that leisure time to make more better and advanced machines, that could save more time. And that further extra time is used to make <sup>even</sup> more and more machines. Thus, man is caught in an endless cycle of making machines which proves it to be a curse rather than a blessing.

③ Ans According to the writer, civilization means making and linking beautiful things and I surely agree with the writer. The great advancement that man has made with the help of technology should be used for better purposes. It should make man civilized and not just ending up being a machine himself. Civilization will prosper if man works in order to benefit mankind; which is exactly what civilization is.

④ Ans Making more beautiful things refers to thinking freely and living in a rightful manner to maintain the social justice between human beings. (b) The <sup>beautiful</sup> things which I would like to make include the



following: spreading happiness, helping the needy, spreading awareness about self-love and also let my knowledge benefit others too. The only possible way of making all these beautiful things is determination and hardwork; only then I would be able to turn all these into reality one day.

Ans ⑤

Some of my plans to prevent poverty in the world may include: helping others as much as I can, spreading awareness about education and online jobs that can help the young generation become independent, providing free education to the poor class who cannot afford education and much more. My special attention would be on children and making them aware of the importance of education and becoming independent; so that they can learn the beauty of hardwork from an early age and strive for their future; which can help reduce the poverty rate.