

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)

## Assignment on reading comprehension:

(2018)

Q#1 - Instead of making machines our servants the author says they have become our masters. In what sense has this come about?

Ans - Machines have become our masters because they need proper take care. They must be fed with coal, given petrol to drink oil to wash and favourable temperature, they refuse to work or burst. In this sense the author says that they become our masters.

Q#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?

The use of machines has brought us more leisure and more energy but we use this time to make more and better machines and that will only give us still more time and more energy. We don't spend our time on making and thinking beautiful things. That's why the author says that this has been a curse rather than a blessing.

Q#3 - What exactly is the meaning of civilization? Do you agree with the author's view?

The meaning of civilization that making and linking beautiful things.

Yes, I completely agree with the author's view that there is freedom of thinking, living and maintaining justice that is fundamental right.



Q4. '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.

This expression means, freedom in thinking, living and maintaining justice equally between man and man. The list of the beautiful things that I would like to make are as follows: reduce poverty, educate the people, good behavior, provide shelter to homeless people etc. All these beautiful things. All this will happen when we select good leaders.

Q5. Mention some plans you may have to prevent poverty in the world. Who would receive your most particular attention, and why?

We may have to prevent poverty in the world by applying following strategies like:

1. Control population.
2. Build industries
3. Give employment
4. Educate the people
5. Improve the training of farmers.
6. Learn skills.

Organizations would receive this most particular attention because they work for needy people whose mission is to end these economic crises.



**Q2. Here is an excerpt from the autobiography of a short story writer. Read it carefully and answer the questions that follow.**

My father loved all instruments that would instruct and fascinate. His place to keep things was the drawer in the 'library table' where lying on top of his folder map was a telescope with brass extensions, to find the moon and the Big Dipper after supper in our front yard, and to keep appointments with eclipses. In the back of the drawer you could find a magnifying glass, a kaleidoscope and a gyroscope kept in black buckram box, which he would set dancing for us on a string pulled tight. He had also supplied himself with an assortment of puzzles composed of metal rings and intersecting links and keys chained together, impossible for the rest of us, however, patiently shown, to take apart, he had an almost childlike love of the ingenious. In time, a barometer was added to our dining room wall, but we didn't really need it. My father had the country boy's accurate knowledge of the weather and its skies. He went out and stood on our front steps first thing in the morning and took a good look at it and a sniff. He was a pretty good weather prophet. He told us children what to do if we were lost in a strange country. 'Look for where the sky is brightest along the horizon,' he said. 'That reflects the nearest river. Strike out for a river and you will find habitation'. Eventualities were much on his mind. In his care for us children he cautioned us to take measures against such things as being struck by lightning. He drew us all away from the windows during the severe electrical storms that are common where we live. My mother stood apart, scoffing at caution as a character failing. So I developed a strong meteorological sensibility. In years ahead when I wrote stories, atmosphere took its influential role from the start. Commotion in the weather and the inner feelings aroused by such a hovering disturbance emerged connected in dramatic form.

### Questions

- why did the writer's father spend time studying the skies ? (3)
- why the writer thinks that there was no need of a barometer? (3)
- what does the bright horizon meant for the writer's father ? (3)
- How did her father influence the writer in her later years ? (3)
- explain the underlined words and phrases in the passage. (8)



(2005)

a. Why did the writer's father spend time studying the skies?

The writer's father spend time studying the skies because he had childlike love from this. That's why he spend most of his time to searching and studying the astronomical objects.

b. Why the writer thinks that there was no need of a barometer?

The writer thinks that there was no need of a barometer because her father have accurate knowledge of the weather and the skies. His knowledge was really good about this.

c. What does the bright horizon meant for the writer's father?

According to her father the bright horizon meant the reflection of the nearest river. He always said to his children if they were lost follow the bright horizon then they will find habitation.

d. How did her father influence the writer in

In her last years when she wrote stories, atmosphere took influential role from the start. She starts from the astronomical knowledge that she gain from her father's, that gives the dramatic expression in her story.