

Q.3: Make a Précis of the following passage and give it a suitable title: (30)

I know that some people say the idea of a Law of Nature or decent behavior known to all men is unsound, because different civilizations and different ages have had quite different moralities. But they haven't. They have only had slightly different moralities. Just think what a quite different morality would mean. Think of a country where people were admired for running away in a battle, or where a man felt proud for double crossing all the people who had been kindest to him. You might just as well try to imagine a country where two and two made five. Men have differed as regards what people you ought to be unselfish to—whether it was only your own family, or your fellow countrymen, or everyone. But they have always agreed that you ought not to put yourself first. Selfishness has never been admired. We believe in the Law of Nature. If we don't believe in decent behavior, why should we be so anxious to make excuses for not having behaved decently? The truth is, we believe in decency so much—we feel the Rule of Law pressing on us so—that we can't bear to face the fact that we are breaking it, and consequently we try to shift the responsibility. For you notice that it is only for our bad behavior that we find all these explanations. We put our bad temper down to being tired or worried or hungry; we put our good temper down to ourselves.

Q.4: Translate the following passage into idiomatic English. (20)

Intrinsic human belief in decency

Human beings often insist that natural laws regarding civility are variable depending upon time and circumstances. However, this is not true. Ideals like bravery, loyalty and selflessness have always been praised. There have been very minute differences in terms of who deserves the most of these ideals. Furthermore, the author believes that there is a deep-rooted, intrinsic belief in decency that is common to all the people as everyone feels ashamed of and tries to justify their impolite behaviour by blaming something else like exhaustion or stress.

Total no. of words = 251

Shortened to = 87 words