

PRÉCIS

Central Superior Services Examination (CSS) 2014

Passage.

Probably the only protection for contemporary man is to discover how to use his intelligence in the service of love and kindness. The training of human intelligence must include the simultaneous development of the empathic capacity. Only in this way can intelligence be made an instrument of social morality and responsibility – and thereby increase the chances of survival. The need to produce human beings with trained morally sensitive intelligence is essentially a challenge to educators and educational institutions. Traditionally, the realm of social morality was left to religion and the churches as guardians or custodians. But their failure to fulfil this responsibility and their yielding to the seductive lures of the men of wealth and pomp and power are documented by history of the last two thousand years and have now resulted in the irrelevant “God Is Dead” theological rhetoric. The more pragmatic men of power have had no time or inclination to deal with the fundamental problems of social morality. For them simplistic Machiavellianism must remain the guiding principle of their decisions – power is morality, morality is power. This over-simplification increases the chances of nuclear devastation. We must therefore hope that educators and educational institutions have the capacity, the commitment and the time to in-still moral sensitivity as an integral part of the complex pattern of functional human intelligence. Some way must be found in the training of human beings to give them the assurance to love, the security to be kind, and the integrity required for a functional empathy.

Transformation of education has
always been a topic.

Integrating Intelligence with Morality

According to the author, intelligence and empathy must be integrated, and must be trained simultaneously for a better society. Religious institutions have failed in their duty of inculcating morality in their followers. This has led to overall moral degradation. The pragmatic people consider morality of no value, when compared with rationality. The writer thinks the notion that morality and logic are same is catastrophic. He expects from educational institutions to find a way for simultaneous training of logic and morality to avert such situation.

Total words = 235

precis = 82

CSS-2021

In its response to 9/11, America has shown itself to be not only a hyperpower but increasingly assertive and ready to use its dominance as a hyperpower. After declaring War on Terrorism, America has led two conventional wars, in Afghanistan and Iraq, demonstrating its overwhelmingly awesome military might. But these campaigns reveal something more: America's willingness to have recourse to arms as appropriate and legitimate means to secure its interests and bolster its security. It has set forth a new doctrine: the right of pre-emptive strike when it considers its security, and therefore its national interests, to be at risk. The essence of this doctrine is the real meaning of hyperpower.

Prime Minister Tony Blair has consistently argued that the only option in the face of hyperpower is to offer wise counsel. But increasingly this is a course that governments and people across the world have refused. The mobilisation for war against Iraq split the United Nations and provoked the largest anti-war demonstrations the world has ever seen. And through it all, America maintained its determination to wage war alone if necessary and not to be counselled by the concerns of supposedly allied governments when they faithfully represented the wishes of their electorates. Rather than engaging in debate, the American government expressed its exasperation. The influential new breed of neoconservative radio and television hosts went much further. They acted as ringmasters for outpourings of public scorn that saw French fries renamed 'freedom fries' and moves to boycott French and German produce across America. If one sound-bite can capture a mood, then perhaps it would be Fox News' Bill O'Reilly. At the height of the tension over a second Security Council resolution to legitimate war in Iraq, Mr O'Reilly told his viewers that the bottom line was security, the security of his family, and in that matter 'There's no moral equivalence between the US and Belgium'. It is, in effect, the ethos of hyperpower articulated and made manifest in the public domain of 24-hour talk. And America's willingness to prosecute war has raised innumerable questions about how it engages with other countries. Afghanistan has seen the removal of the Taliban. But there are no official statistics on the number of innocent civilians dead and injured to achieve that security objective. The people of Afghanistan have witnessed a descent into the chaos that preceded the arrival of the Taliban, a country administered not by a new era of democracy under the tutelage of the hyperpower, but merely by the return of the warlords. Beyond Kabul, much of the country remains too insecure for any meaningful efforts at reconstruction and there is enormous difficulty in bringing relief aid to the rural population.)

Questions

1. Why does the doctrine of power set by neo-imperial America deny space to counselling? (4)

The doctrine of power set by neo-imperial America provides no room for counselling as it may hinder its determination to wage

a war to ensure its security, and pastres involved in counselling present their electorate's interests instead of considering its issues.

2. What is the essence of 'moral equivalence' whereas War has no moral justification? (4)

Moral equivalence refers to the comparison of morality. ~~So~~ Belgium and USA are not morally equivalent, as Belgium has no outside threat, unlike USA. So, Belgium opposes war, while USA wages war for its security.

3. Why do countries occupied and under the tutelage of hyepower have no peace? (4)

Such countries do not enjoy complete sovereignty and freedom under the tutelage of hyepowers. Moreover, when^a hyepower sets them free their troubles increase because a^b fight breaks out among war lords to control the country.

4. Arguably Europe and hyperpower US are at cross purposes over the concept of war. Are they? Why?(4)

Yes, Europe and America are at cross purposes over the concept of war. This difference of opinion has emerge from public opinion. Americans are in favor of war for their security, but European public is against the war, as they ^{Europeans} consider it an act of aggression.

CSS-2022

Civil society refers to all of the places where individuals gather together to have conversation, pursue common interests and, occasionally, try to influence public opinion or public policy. In many respects, civil society is where people spend their time when they are not at work or at home. For example, a group of people gather at a local park every Thursday afternoon for a game of football. Most of them arrive well before the game begins and stay for some time after it ends. Some of them go out for dinner or a drink after the game. In the course of their meetings they talk about a wide range of topics, including football but also extending to include issues such as work, family, relationships, community events, racial issues and politics. This kind of solidarity can be found in a variety of other places in civil society - such as sports clubs, bowling leagues, reading groups and social movements - where individuals get together to associate on the basis of some shared interest fostering more effective forms of citizenship. Even though people may come together on the basis of an interest they all share in common, they eventually have to develop productive strategies for dealing with conflicts and differences that emerge within the association. Team mates in a bowling league discover, on certain issues, significant differences of opinion. And yet, because they value the association and look forward to participating in its activities, they do not respond to these differences by exiting the scene. Instead, they search for the ways of interacting that will not threaten the solidarity of the group. In the process, they learn to appreciate and to tolerate social differences, a valuable skill to have in an increasingly multicultural nation. They also develop a general sense of social trust and mutual obligation, which makes society function more efficiently (this is what political scientists and sociologists are talking about when they refer to the importance of social capital). Gathering together in an association, people begin to think about their shared private interest as a collective public interest, and they try to make sure that this public interest is safe and secured. For example, the group that gets together for a weekly football game begins to talk about the park as an important community resource; if they feel that the park is being mistreated or mismanaged, they will organize a 'save the park' campaign to try to influence their local politicians and other residents of the community. Recently, there has been growing concern that civil society is weaker than it used to be, because people are losing interest in joining associations. As citizens become increasingly disconnected from voluntary associations, they will experience less trust and less social connection, and as a result political institutions will function less efficiently. However, some scholars opine that many people are simply choosing to participate in different kinds of associations with fewer face-to-face meetings but supplemented with 'virtual' interactions facilitated by digital resources.

Questions

1. How does the author characterize the concept of civil society?(4)

According to author civil society refers to places where people gather in their

free time. When people are free they discuss different topics from sports to politics because of their mutual interests and concerns regarding those issues.

Why does civil society strive towards better socialization drive by tolerance?(4)

In a group difference of opinion may occur, but for participants association with each other is more valuable, so, members tolerate differences and interact with each other in such a manner that solidarity is not compromised.

What do you understand by the term 'Social Capital' used in this passage?(4)

Social interactions which make a society more efficient in its working are the social capital of that society. Social tolerance, mutual obligation and tolerance in case of difference of opinion are "social capital".

Why does a civil society assume the role of a public stake holder?(4)

As the association gets stronger, people begin to think about ^{issues of} mutual interest and ~~the~~ issues of public interest. With co-operation, and wish to resolve public issues civil society becomes a stake holder in issues related to general well-being of public.

5. What impact is feared by the weakening state of civil society? (4)

weakening state of civil society will result in, loss of public's interest in social and political issues which may lead to less efficient political system. In the end government will not be able to function

Marks Obtained

properly, owing to in-efficient government

	YES	NO
1. Idea was picked?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Language structure is appropriate?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Quality of organization and cohesion?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Grammatical structure?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Length as per requirement?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Response is Correct?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Overall quality of response?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Spelling(s) quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

CSS-2020

Globalization is viewed by its proponents as a process of cementing economic, cultural and political bonds between peoples of different countries of the world. One may regard it as a process by which they are welded into a single world society, to be termed as global society. It means internationalization of production and labour leading to integration of economies of developing and developed countries into global economy. To quote Rosabeth M. Kanter, "The world is becoming a global shopping mall in which ideas and products are available everywhere at the same time."

Globalization is a natural outcome of computer networking and electronic mass communication. (Information technology has made it possible for nations of the world to contact one another beyond their national borders.) Besides, globalization is also promoted through the growth and proliferation of multinational companies and corporations that operate as transporter networks. Anyhow the flow of capital technology and labour across the borders of countries has accentuated the process of globalization.

Deregulation, liberalism and privatization being assiduously pursued in the developing countries are some other manifestations of globalization. These countries are opening their economies to follow these trends. The size of the public sector is shrinking for the private sector to assume an increasingly important role in the economic development of the Third World countries. The downsizing of the public sector is in line with the spirit of market economy. This is suggested as a measure to cover up their fiscal deficit.

Questions

1. Define globalization. (4)

Globalization is a phenomenon, which has led to establishment of a global economy and society by integrating all the countries. It has strengthened economic, cultural and political ties among the citizens of different countries.

2. What is electronic mass communication? (4)

Electronic mass communication refers to communication using electronic means such as email, WhatsApp, Twitter etc., through which

communication can be done beyond borders and resulting in to globalization.

What does the term Third World denote? (4)

Third world countries are the countries facing fiscal deficits. Huge public sector appears to be the main cause of their ^{economic} troubles. Transformation of public sector ⁱⁿ to private sector seems to be the only viable solution for them.

What is privatization? (4)

Privatization is measure, that leads to improvement of economic conditions of a country. It results in to globalization. It is the transfer of ownership from government to private owners of assets, which may be causing ^{burden} economic

Explain 'liberalism' in the above context. (4)

Liberalism, in terms of economy refers to minimizing the interferences by government in economy. A country can have healthy and prosperous economy only by pursuing liberalism, along with deregulation and privatization.

CSS-2016

The New Year is the time for resolution. Mentally, at least most of us could compile formidable lists of 'do's and 'don't's'. The same old favorites recur year in and year out with the children, do a thousand and one job about the house, be nice to people we don't like, drive carefully, and take the dog for a walk every day. Past experience has taught us that certain accomplishments are beyond attainment. If we remain deep rooted liars, it is only because we have so often experienced the frustration that results from failure.

(Most of us fail in our efforts at self-improvement because our schemes are too ambitious and we never have time to carry them out. We also make the fundamental error of announcing our resolution to everybody so that we look even more foolish when we slip back into our bad old ways. Aware of these pitfalls, this year I attempted to keep my resolution to myself. I limited myself to two modest ambitions, to do physical exercise every morning and to read more in the evening. An overnight party on New Year's Eve provided me with a good excuse for not carrying out either of these new resolutions on the first day of the year, but on the second, I applied myself assiduously to the task.

The daily exercise lasted only eleven minutes and I proposed to do them early in the morning before anyone had got up. The self-discipline required to drag myself out of bed eleven minutes earlier than usual was considerable. Nevertheless, I managed to creep down into the living room for two days before anyone found me out. After jumping about in the carpet and twisted the human frame into uncomfortable positions. I sat down at the breakfast table in an exhausted condition. It was this that betrayed me. The next morning the whole family trooped into watch the performance. That was really unsettling but I fended off the taunts and jibes of the family good humoredly and soon everybody got used to the idea. However, my enthusiasm waned, the time I spent at exercises gradually diminished. Little by little the eleven minutes fell to zero. By January 10th I was back to where I had started from. I argued that if I spent less time exhausting myself at exercises in the morning, I would keep my mind fresh for reading when I got home from work. Resisting the hypnotizing effect of television, I sat in my room for a few evenings with my eyes glued to a book. One night, however, feeling cold and lonely, I went downstairs and sat in front of the television pretending to read. That proved to be my undoing, for I soon got back to the old bad habit of dozing off in front of the screen. I still haven't given up my resolution to do more reading. In fact, I have just bought a book entitled 'How to Read a Thousand Words a Minute'. Perhaps it will solve my problem, but I just have not had time to read it.

Questions

1. Why most of us fail in our efforts for self-improvement? (5)

According to writer we set for
our selves, goals which are very difficult

to achieve and we do not have enough time to fulfill those lofty ambitions.

2. Why is it a basic mistake to announce our resolution to everybody? (5)

According to writer one must not disclose his resolution, ~~so~~ to others as one may look stupid to others when he or she slips back in to old bad ways.

3. Why did the writer not carry out his resolution on New Year's Day? (5)

The writer did not carry out his resolution on new year's day as he attended an overnight party on new year's eve which provided him excuse to not fulfilling his resolution.

4. Find out the words in the above passage which convey the similar meaning to the following: (5)

(1) Intimidating — Formidable

(2) Peril — Pitfall

(3) Dwindle — ~~wane~~ Diminish

(4) Repe — Fulfill

(5) Barb — Jibe