

PRÉCIS

Central Superior Services Examination (CSS) 1972

Passage.

Up to a point the Second German War resembled the first. Each began with a German bid for power which almost succeeded in spite of the opposition of France and Great Britain. In each the United States came to the rescue after year of neutrality. Each ended with a German defeat. But the differences were easier to see than the resemblances. The powers were differently grouped: Italy and Japan were on the German side, Russia was neutral until the Germans attacked across what had been, to begin with, Poland and Baltic States. The second war lasted even longer than the other. It pressed harder on the civilian population. After a period of restraint, perhaps, intended to conciliate American opinion, both sides dropped bombs from the air, without respect for the nature of the targets, wherever the officers concerned expected to cause the greatest effect. In Great Britain 60,000 civilians were killed. Though the Island was not invaded, the population was more directly involved than it was in any former war. Children and others were evacuated from towns into the country. Food supplies ran so short that, at the worst, even potatoes were rationed. Of all the states opposed to Germany, Great Britain was the only one which fought throughout the war. The resources of the nation were concentrated in the war effort more completely than those of any other nation on either side. Labour for women as well as men, became compulsory. Nevertheless, once the war reached its full severity in the west, eight months after it was declared, there was less disunion between classes and interests than in any other five years within living memory. Fighting spread all over the world. The Pacific was as vital a theatre as Europe. Scientists, especially Physicists, made revolutionary discoveries during the war, not only in the fields of weapons and defense against them, but in supply, transport, and control in action. Strange to say the fight services suffered fewer casualties than in 1914-18: 300,000 of the armed forces and 35,000 of the navy were killed. There was nothing like the trench warfare of former war, though there was almost every other sort of warfare, from mechanized war of movement in the North African desert to hand to hand jungle fighting in Burma. Both sides experimented and built up stocks for gas warfare and biological warfare, but neither side used them. (George Clark: English History: a survey)

V.U.I

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Final Draft

Indent the paragraph

WWII Changing Dynamics. (Title with Marker)

The 2nd German war, somewhat mirroring the first, began with Germany's nearly victorious power bid, despite French and British opposition. US intervention, following a year of neutrality in both wars, ultimately led to German defeat. However, differences were evident in alliances of powers; Russia remained neutral until German attack. The prolonged WWII troubled the common masses as both sides ~~turned to~~ eventually and indiscriminately turned to aerial bombings, ^{and} targetted areas for maximum impact. Vulnerable groups endured ~~the~~ unprecedented hardships, and ^G great Britain ~~&~~ faced ~~with~~ food insecurity as the only nation ~~engage~~ to fight against Germany continuously, concentrating all its resources on the war effort. Despite the war's severity in the west, the war less division among classes and interests than previous years. The war extended worldwide, with significant scientific breakthroughs, fewer casualties, and various combat scenarios. Both sides ~~stockpiled~~ ^{Idea is generally ok. Try to write simple sentences. Avoid cutting.} gas and biological weapons but refrained from their use.

You are allowed to submit only one question in one pdf. The remaining questions may be submitted in separate pdfs.

Q.2. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. (20)

Erwin Rommel was one of Germany's most respected military leaders in World War 2. His campaigns of 1939 and especially the successful attack on Western Europe in 1940, led to Hitler appointing him commander of the Afrika Corps in 1941. In fact, It was in the deserts of North Africa that Rommel found real success where he became known as the Desert Fox. He was the only German military personality revered by both his supporters and opponents. The nickname 'Desert Fox' was well deserved. Rommel was highly respected even by the British General Auchinleck (Rommel's opposite until his sacking by Churchill) who sent a memo to his senior commanders in North Africa to state that it was their responsibility to ensure that their men thought less of Rommel as a 'super military leader' and more of him as a normal German commander. At the end of his memo, he wrote "**PS, I'm not jealous of Rommel.**"

Rommel knew that his options at the vital battles at El Alamein, Africa, were limited. Montgomery, who succeeded the dismissed Auchinleck, had the advantage of Bletchley Park, feeding him the battle plan Rommel was going to use. Rommel was also seriously starved of the fuel he needed for his attack on Montgomery's 'Desert Rats'. The second battle at El Alamein was a very fluid battle but the sheer weight of supplies that Montgomery had access to - amongst other equipment were 300 new Sherman tanks - meant defeat for Rommel. The defeat of the Afrika Corps was the first major setback for Hitler and the Wehrmacht. Hitler ordered Rommel to fight to the last man and the last bullet. Rommel had far too much respect for his men to obey this command and retreated. The Germans left North Africa in May 1943. Despite this refusal to obey Hitler's command, Rommel did not lose favour with Hitler. Exasperated to see Germany as a war mongering nation, some top military commanders made a futile attempt, the July 1944 Bomb Plot, to get rid of Hitler. Unfortunately, Rommel was implicated in against Hitler and the Gestapo concluded a 'deal' with Rommel: commit suicide if he wanted to avoid humiliating show trial and punishment to his family for his indiscretions. Rommel chose to commit suicide and he was given a state funeral. With the loss of such a military genius, Germany was not too far losing the war for herself.

War historians often argue as to what impact Rommel would have had on the Allies drive to Germany after D-Day. One thing was clear that the sheer odds against the Wehrmacht and Luftwaffe post-June 1944 were such that this famous commander would have been unable to hinder the Allies progress. Victory or defeat, Rommel raised his stature in either case. It is for this reason Churchill paid tribute to him in the words that he (Rommel) was deserving "our respect because, although a loyal soldier, he came to hate Hitler and his works, and took part in the conspiracy to rescue Germany by displacing the maniac and tyrant. For this, he paid the forfeit of his life. In the somber wars of democracy, there is little place for chivalry."

Questions

1. Why was Erwin Rommel called a Desert Fox? (4)
2. Why did General Auchinleck mention at the end of his memo that he was not jealous of Rommel? (4)
3. Why was it difficult for Rommel to confront the allies at El Alamein? (4)
4. How far the writer has justified to present the magnificent persona of Rommel in the given text? (4)
5. What impact Rommel might have made if he had not committed suicide? (4)

1) Why was Erwin Rommel called a Desert Fox?

Ans: Erwin Rommel was Germany's most respectful military leader in World War 2, so Hitler appointed him as the commander of the Afrika Corps. He found the actual success in deserts of North Africa. That was why, he became to be known as the "Desert Fox", and he was the only German military personality who was praised by even the opponents.

Q:2

Ans: British General Auchinleck, who was Rommel's opponent, respected him a lot. He sent a memo to his senior commanders in North Africa which clearly showed his fright for Rommel. In that memo, he advised their men to thought of Rommel as normal German Commander. At the end of this memo, he tried to hide his jealousy by writing that he was not jealous of Rommel.

3) It was difficult for Rommel to confront the Allies at El-Alamein as he knew that he had limited options. His British counterpart, Montgomery, had Bletchley Park who was spying on him. Rommel also ran out of the fuel he needed to attack on his opponent's 'Desert Rat'. The second battle was very fluid but the ~~am~~ quantity of supplies his enemy had access to meant defeat for Rommel.

4) Afrika Corps were defeated which was a major setback for Hitler, and he ordered Rommel to fight to the last man and the last bullet but he refused to obey Hitler's command and retreated as he had far too much respect for his men. Even after this, he still enjoyed favour with Hitler.

~~3) Roman~~

3) Rommel had not committed suicide, he might come forward to limelight as a traitor as evidenced from Churchill's ~~tribute~~ statement that he started to hate Hitler and his works.



CSS-2002

There is indeed, something inexpressibly pleasing in the annual renovation of the world and the new display of the treasures of nature. The darkness and cold of winter with the naked deformity of every object, on which we turn our eyes, make us rejoice at the succeeding season, as well for what we have escaped, as for what we may enjoy. Every budding flower, which a warm situation brings early to our view, is considered by us a messenger to notify the approach of more joyous days.

pleasure
happy

The spring ^{offer}affords to a mind free from the disturbance of cares or passions almost everything that our present state makes us capable of enjoying. The Variegated Verdure of the fields and woods, the succession of grateful Odours, the Voice of pleasure pouring out its notes on every side, with the gladness apparently conceived by every animal from the growth of its food and the clemency of the weather, throw over the whole earth an air of gaiety, significantly expressed by Smile of nature. (Samuel John Son)

process
of work

multi
coloured

light wasted
God is abundance
many

Questions

(a) Give meanings of the under lines expressions in the passage in your own words. (10)

(b) Say how an early budding flower becomes a messenger of happy days? (3)

An early budding flower becomes a messenger of happy days as it notifies the approach of more joyous days and warm situation of spring. It makes us happy for what we have escaped and what we may enjoy.

(c) Who, according to the writer can make the best of the spring season? (3)

According to the writer, a carefree individual which is also free from apprehensions or passions so as to be able to cherish the moments of pleasure, make the best of the spring season.

d) Why are all animals glad at the approach of spring? (3)

Every animal apparently conceives gladness because of the growth of abundance of food brought about by the mercy of spring that spreads gaiety all over the earth.

(e) Suggest a title for the passage. (1)

The pleasant signs of spring.

CSS-2001

Poetry is the language of imagination and the passions. It relates to whatever gives immediate pleasure or pain to human mind. It comes home to the bosoms and business of men: for nothing but what comes home to them in the most general and intelligible shape can be a subject of poetry. Poetry is the universal language which the heart holds with nature and itself. He who has a contempt for poetry cannot have much respect for himself or for anything else. Whatever there is a sense of beauty, or power, or harmony, as in the motion of the waves of the sea, in the growth of a flower, there is a poetry in its birth. If history is a grave study, poetry may be said to be graver, its materials lie deeper, and are spread wider. History treats, for the most part, cumbersome and unwieldy masses of things, the empty cases in which the affairs of the world are packed, under the heads of intrigue or war, in different states, and from century to century but there is no thought or feeling that can have entered into the mind of man which he would be eager to communicate to others, or they would listen to with delight, that is not a fit subject for poetry. It is not a branch of authorship: it is "the stuff of which our life is made". The rest is mere oblivion, a dead letter, for all that is worth remembering in life is the poetry of it. Fear is Poetry, hope is poetry, love is poetry; hatred is poetry. Poetry is that fine particle within us that expands, refines, raises our whole being; without "man's life is poor as beasts". In fact, man is a poetical animal. The child is a poet when he first plays hide and seek, or repeats the story of Jack the Giant Killer, the shepherd - boy is a poet when he first crowns his mistress with a garland of flowers; the countryman when he stops he stops to look at the rainbow; the miser when he hugs his gold; the courtier when he builds his hope upon a smile; the vain, the ambitious the proud, the choleric man, the hero and the coward, the beggar and the king, all live in a world of their own making; and the poet does no more than describe what all others think and act. Hazlitt

Questions

(a) In what sense is poetry the language of the imagination and the passion?

Poetry is the language of the imagination and passion as it is related to the sources of immediate pleasure or pain for human mind. It touches upon the subjects close to human heart and day business but to be considered as subject of it must be generally understandable by wider audience.

b) How is poetry the Universal Language of the heart?



There are several reasons that makes poetry a universal language of heart: it goes along with nature and heart, those who disrespect poetry, disrespect everything else, and poetry exists in every thing related to nature since its birth.

(c) What is the difference between history and poetry?

The main difference between history and poetry lies in the gravity of their study. Poetry may be said to be greater in study than history as its materials are deeper and wider. Whereas, history deals with complex world affairs but one can not communicate them readily with others and it is not a suitable subject for poetry.

(d) Explain the phrase: "Man is a poetical animal".

There are various factors that make man a poetic animal. Poetry ~~is~~ is a sum of the stuff of which man's life is made of, either it's fears, hope, love or hatred. Poetry is like cell - the basic unit of life - that ~~contributes~~ expands ~~and~~ refines and raises our whole being without which man's life is poor than as beasts.

(e) What are some of the actions which Hazlitt calls poetry and its does poet?

According to Hazlitt, a child is a poet when he first plays hide and seek or repeats the story, the shepherd boy is a poet when he first crowns his mistress, the country is poet when he stops to look at the rainbow, the miser when he hugs his gold and the choleric man when he builds his hope.



PRÉCIS

Central Superior Services Examination (CSS) 1973

Passage.

As a kind of foot-note I should comment that there are those who doubt whether it is within the power of science to ensure over a prolonged period freedom from destitution and famine for mankind. The argument is the old one of Malthus that in the race between increasing population and increasing production, population must eventually win. Those of us who decline to accept this pessimistic view recognize the difficulty of the practical problem of meeting the needs of an ever-expanding population. We have, however, greater faith in human resourcefulness. We note that it is not only in the technology of production and medicine that the present generation differs greatly from the one before. A similar rapid change is likewise occurring in the thinking of masses of people. This change is brought about partly by experience with technology by more widespread education. Here lies a new realm in which dramatic advance is being made. The hope for the longer future lies in a growing understanding of the conditions for the good life of man in a world of science and technology, and the acceptance of a morality that is consistent with these conditions. With the widespread thought now being given to such problems by persons whose thinking is schooled to rely on reason and tested fact. It is evident that advance from this angle will also appear. Youth may, for example, consider the remarks as an effort to see in truer perspective the type of ideals that are appropriate to the age of science. Many are those who are now sharing to this exploration of human values. The great question is whether such understanding of human goals and the corresponding development of morals can be achieved before the forces seen by Malthus, and emphasized so forcefully by recent writers, overwhelm the efforts of the pioneers in this new and critical field. I do not believe that this is inevitable. I am confident of man's ability to meet and solve this ethical problem that is so vital to the success of his effort to achieve physical and spiritual freedom. It is relevant that as I analyse the reasons for my faith in man's eventual ability to meet this critical problem. I find that prominent in my mind is the confidence that God who made us holds for us an increasing density, to be achieved through our own efforts in the world setting that he supplies. This observation is significant in the present setting because it is my strong impression that most of those who have the firm faith in man's advancement likewise have a religious basis for their faith. If this impression is valid its consequence is clear. It means that it is men and women of religious faith on whom we must primarily rely to work strongly toward achieving a favourable world society. It means also that those of religious faith because of their faith have a better chance of survival, a fact that has a bearing on the attitude that may be expected in the society of the future.

I am unable to attempt the précis of this one.. Please guide me on this one!