

(Reading comprehension - 2018.)

Question no: 1

The author says that instead of making machines our servants, they have become our masters because machines can not run independently and we have to spend a great amount of time into looking after them. This includes keeping them well-maintained and fully functioning through sources of energy like coal, petrol, oil at optimum temperatures to avoid breaking down of the machines. Ultimately, the author suggests that these machines will take over the humans and treat them like we treat animals. Therefore.

Question no: 2

The author says that the leisure and energy brought to us by machines has been a curse rather than a blessing because humans lack the knowledge of utilizing that leisure and energy for other productive things. Instead, they invest their time and energy into the production of new and improved machines which again can only provide more time and energy. Hence, humans get stuck in this endless cycle without trying to comprehend that this will make them more trapped.

Question no: 3

The meaning of civilization is a society characterized by its advanced development and organization, with technological,

Date: _____

Day: **M T W T F S S**

Social and economic improvements as well. Yes, I agree with the author's view in the passage regarding civilization as he portrays it as the end of conflicts between states by understanding the reason behind conflicts, eradicating poverty, ensuring justice and overall making efforts to make this world a peaceful and beautiful place to live in. And that according to me is the true essence of civilization.

Question no: 4

The expression "making more beautiful things" means focusing on the creation of an environment where there is no competition, toxicity, injustice, fear or lack of freedom. All in all, uniting humans through using the leisure and energy provided by machines effectively.

Following is the list of beautiful things I would like to make:

- investment in research and development to uncover the hidden elements of the universe.
- eradicating poverty.
- ensuring equality irrespective of cast, creed or race.
- provision of rights to everyone.
- prevention of wars and conflicts.

I would make this list attainable by making sure that the civilization in the world is aware of its true meaning and acts in accordance to its essence. It is only then ^{that} these seemingly unrealistic things can be achieved in this world.

Question no: 5

In order to prevent poverty in the world, I would first of all make sure that there is no elite capture of resources. Secondly, I would emphasize on the importance of the trickle down effect whether that takes place through donations, charity or any other means so that people of the bottom tier can rise up. Thirdly, prevention of poverty requires equal resource distribution among the people and that is the reason that the 'elites' or the most affluent class would receive my most particular attention. As a policy maker, I would make sure that everyone is treated equally with equal income generating opportunities and access to resources to eliminate poverty and make this world a better place.

2016- Reading Comprehension

Question no: 1

Most of us fail in our efforts for self-improvement because we set unrealistic goals that are too ambitious to be carried out. We make these decisions in the spur of the moment instead of taking a step back and conducting a need based analysis of what improvements we could actually bring about in our lives if we set attainable targets. This would ensure that we can actually carve out time in our daily routine for our schemes for self-improvement and prevent failure.

Question no: 2

It is definitely a basic mistake to announce our resolution to everybody because we ourselves do not know whether we will be able to stick to our resolution or not. However, people expect us to accomplish our ambitious goals since they are aware of our promises to better ourselves in the next year. If we are not able to keep up with our resolution, it makes us appear stupid in front of others who are eager to criticize rather than encourage. Therefore, we should work in silence until the achievement of our goal.

Question no: 3

The writer did not carry out his resolution on New Year's Day because there was a party he attended on New Year's Eve which continued onto the next day. This gave the writer an opportunity to convince himself that it is better to start fresh and work on the resolution from the second day. Therefore, he began his ambition of physical exercise every morning and reading in the evening on the second day of the New Year instead of the first.

Question no: 4

(i) intimidating - formidable

(ii) peril - undoing

(iii) repel - fended off.

(iv) barb - taunt

(v) dwindle - waned/diminished.