

## COMPREHENSION EXERCISE 2

**Q.2. Read the following passage carefully and answer any two of the Questions that follow in your own words: (20)**

During the last few decades medicine has undoubtedly advanced by huge strides in consequence of innumerable discoveries and inventions. But have we actually become healthier as a result of this progress? Admittedly, tuberculosis or cholera is today a much rarer cause of death in many countries. On the other hand, various other no less dangerous diseases have appeared, which we term other "time diseases". They include not only certain impairments of the heart and circulatory system, of the skeletal structure and internal organs, but also an increased psychic instability, the addiction to all manner of drugs etc., and states of nervous shock and exhaustion.

According to Bodamer, "Man's hysterical and vain attempt to overtax and do violence to his nature in order to adjust it to the technical world leads to a dangerous threat to health." In other words, our organs can no longer cope with the noise, the bustle and all the inevitable concomitants of our modern civilization. A man's body is simply not a machine to be used as he thinks fit, and as long as he likes. It is something living, a part of the image of God in which we were created. That is why the body has a rhythm of its own, a rhythm that can make itself heard.

The most deep-seated of all the diseases of our time is that man no longer takes God into account, that he has lost confidence in God's dominion over the world, that he considers the visible as the ultimate, the only reality, but man without God suffers from his fate because he cannot accept it from the hand of God. He suffers from the world because he senses its disordered state without being able to put it right. He begins to suffer from his work because it exhausts him without satisfying him. He begins to suffer from his fellowmen because they are not his neighbours, to whom God would have him turn, but because he lets them get on his nerves and make him ill. And he suffers from himself. It is only because our time is no longer centered in God that its structure is increasingly becoming what critics of our civilization call "pathological" dominated by the fear of life as well as by the lust for life, ending in the splitting of personality. (CSS 1984)

### Questions:

1. How does the expression "time diseased" indicate that these various ailments have something fundamental in common? Explain.
2. Why does modern man suffer from his time? It is not because he has not adapted his body sufficiently to the demands of the machine? It is not rather because he has surrendered his soul to time and its powers?
3. What cure would you suggest to combat these ills?
4. Explain the last sentence fully.

Some

1) Such ailments are called "time diseased" because in addition to causing harm to vital organs they also affect the neuropsychological abilities of a man. As man has become slave of time, so all those diseases of time affect the psyche of man drastically.

2) Modern man has ~~sub~~ surrendered to time and lost his belief in God. He perceives everything wrong towards him from God. He is not satisfied with his work, irritated with everyone in his surroundings. It is all because he has surrendered himself to the power of time and becomes its slave.

3) It is important for man to spend some time with nature and start believing in

God, as he is the ultimate power. Man's all sufferings are due to his slavery to time and all the worldly things. So, he should quit the slavery of this material world and come under the slavery of god.

4) Due to man's time centered around this world, he has a fear of life and he runs after the materialistic things of this world. That is why, critics called it 'diseased', as, this is a temporary world after which he is running. All this is due to his abandonment <sup>of</sup> ~~from~~ God.

Mistakes identified. Answers need to be more crisp.

Try to limit answers to 5-7 lines.