

Question 2: Write a precis of the following passage and suggest a suitable title. (10)

Two things that have been wanting urgent attention are human relationships and our earth, wronged and wounded beyond proportions. When nothing worked, Covid-19 pandemic, apparently, did the trick.

Entangled in your daily web of stories, you could never find time to just sit back for a while, unwind, and realise what you were really missing out on. But this is your time. Talk to your children, listen to their innocent complaints, be a spectator of their little jealousies, and take pleasure in addressing their problems forthwith. In the rush of everyday life, you must have ignored the catches in your spouse's voice and the dimpled smile on the face of your youngest. This is your time.

In his recent 2020 book, *Pandemic!: COVID-19 Shakes the World*, Slavoj Zizek rightly observes: "So there is a hope that corporeal distancing will even strengthen the intensity of our link with others. It is only now, when I have to avoid many of those who are close to me, that I fully experience their presence, their importance to me."

A little too estranged to ourselves, neither the poets nor social scientists have been able to convince us to get out of our crazy go-getting profiles and stop this heady chase of money,

power, and comfort. Each one of us has been scared lest we should fall short of reaching the goals for us. Only now have we slowed down.

Never in recent human history have sports galas, musical concerts, congregational gatherings, international travel, teaching and learning in educational institutions, political caucuses, yeas and nays of international diplomacy, the noise of who-will-attack-whom, trade relations, goodwill UN missions, the vanity of human wishes and their good-natured revelry been brought to such a halt. Thank this new pathogen for jolting us out of our stupor and re-humanizing us by bringing us face to face with our personal realities. It has suddenly brought back to us the painful realisation that we might suddenly die without having the chance to say goodbye to our dear ones. As the toll goes up every day, we are getting more conscious of our vulnerability and, ironically, allocating more time to our families.

Precis

Covid-19 a Blessing in Disguise

Covid-19 emerged to make the world realize the most significant yet negligent aspects of human life: human relationships and the earth. Humans had been so busy in their daily course of life that they failed to provide attention to their families and home affairs. But covid-19 bridged the gap between them. It also reduced the lust for chasing power and money which was also tried since so long by poets and social scientists.

It has also minimised the social gatherings and ~~so~~ grouping and acquainted man with his ~~so~~ personal realities. ~~Man has~~

Today man has become more realistic about his weaknesses and familial relationships.

Total words = 322

Precis = 102