

2/06/2024

Day: Sunday

PART-II

Q#2

Write a precis of the following passage.

The fear of human being..... with the assistance of Zeus.

Title: The power of forecasting of ancient diviners

Humans get phobic by life secrets and giant universe, which instilled in them desire to communicate with divine power. Injunctions of god show way to humans, which soothsayers comprehended in their speeches. Moreover, they interpreted natural events, inner parts of animals after sacrifice, dreams and lines of hands. Most of the times, instead of sending signs, gods interacted with them through a mediator, who was controlled by diviners temporarily. Then, they they delivered gods' message to pleaders. In this way ancient foretellers gave speeches on the basis of predicting the future.

Each speech of soothsayers was directly linked with god in their living place.

The ancient soothsayers of Greek were responsible for delivering the messages of their gods to hostile enemies.

Words in passage : 366

Words in Precis : 121

Q#3

Comprehension:

- 1- How does the author characterize the concept of civil society?

Answer:

Civil society includes all the locations where people come together to discuss common interests and social issues. It impacts the public opinion. After work, people gather at local places, such as parks, sport clubs, and bowling leagues, where they

share their opinions about social, political and other life issues. It perpetuates a sense of solidarity among citizens.

2- Why does civil society strive towards better socialization driven by tolerance?

Answer:

Civil society strives towards better socialization because they regard the association and cooperate in its activities. People in civil society groups and associations have dissenting opinions. However, they do not respond to differences as they have to participate on shared interests and common goals.

3- What do you understand by the term 'Social Capital' used in this passage?

Answer:

Social capital, in this passage, means all the community-groups organizations and associations that people form in a civil society. In

this way, they gather together and discuss their mutual problems and work on their solutions. It fosters tolerance among them as they form productive strategies to deal with differing opinions. Moreover, it promotes solidarity in civil society.

4- Why does a civil society assumes the role of a public stake holder?

Answer:

Civil Society assumes the role of a public stake holder to protest and resolve public interest. For example, if the park of society is not properly managed, then civil society can start the campaign to save the park. In this way, they strive to influence local politicians and other community members.

5- What impact is feared by the weakening state of civil society?

Answer:

The weakening state of civil society leads towards erosion of public trust and social connections. Resultantly, political institutions will become less responsive. Moreover, it will weaken the connection between public and government.



FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION – 2022 FOR RECRUITMENT TO
POSTS IN BS-17 UNDER THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
ENGLISH (PRECIS & COMPOSITION)

Roll Number

TIME ALLOWED: THREE HOURS PART-I(MCQS): MAXIMUM 30 MINUTES	PART-I (MCQS) PART-II	MAXIMUM MARKS = 20 MAXIMUM MARKS = 80
NOTE: (i) Part-II is to be attempted on the separate Answer Book. (ii) Attempt ALL questions from PART-II. (iii) All the parts (if any) of each Question must be attempted at one place instead of at different places. (iv) Write Q. No. in the Answer Book in accordance with Q. No. in the Q.Paper. (v) No Page/Space be left blank between the answers. All the blank pages of Answer Book must be crossed. (vi) Extra attempt of any question or any part of the question will not be considered.		

PART-II

Q. 2. Write a précis of the following and suggest a suitable title: (20)

The fear of human beings when faced with the mysteries of life and their weakness by comparison with the vastness of nature created in them a need to communicate with the divine, with the superior powers which they believed regulated the universe and determined their own fates. Knowledge of wishes of the gods was always a sure guide for human behavior. In ancient Greece, the precise nature of these wishes was 'decoded' by the art of giving oracles, practiced by soothsayers who had the gift of understanding the signs or signals sent by the gods.

The soothsayers uttered their oracles by interpreting flashes of lightening, rolls of thunder or the flights of certain birds of prey (omens); alternatively, they might observe the direction in which the fire burned when a sacrifice was made, examine the entrails of animals which had just been sacrificed, or base judgments on the sacrificial beast's willingness to approach the altar. The interpretation of dreams was popular too, and so was palmistry. The most notable soothsayers of ancient Greece were Tiresias, Calchas, Helenus, Amphiaraus and Cassandra.

However, there were abundant instances in which the gods did not manifest themselves to the faithful in the forms of signs but spoke directly to an intermediate who for a short time was overcome by a 'divine mania' and transcended his own human essence. Here the prophet- or more usually the prophetess- entered a state of ecstasy in which he or she delivered the message from the gods to the suppliants.

These practices for foreseeing the future were the basis on which the ancient Greek oracles operated. Each oracle was located within a properly-organized sanctuary and was directly associated with one or other of the gods. Apollo was the archetypal soothsayer for the Greeks, the god who was responsible for conveying to mortals the decisions pronounced by Zeus. The most important of all the oracles, that at the Delphi, delivered the messages with the intervention of Apollo, while the oldest that of Dodona, functioned with the assistance of Zeus.

Q. 3. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given at the end. (20)

Civil society refers to all of the places where individuals gather together to have conversations, 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 feel that the park is being mistreated or mismanaged, will organize a 'save the park' campaign to try to influence their local politicians and the 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 resources.