
PART-II

Q.2. Write a précis of the following passage in about 120 words and also suggest a suitable title: (20)

On the question of freedom in education there are at present three main schools of the night, deriving partly from differences as to ends and partly from differences in psychological theory. There are those who say that children should be completely free, however bad they may be; there are those who say they should be completely subject to authority, however good they may be; and there are those who say they should be free, but in spite of freedom they should be always good. This last party is larger than it has any logical right to be; children, like adults, will not all be virtuous if they are all free. The belief that liberty will ensure moral perfection is a relic of Rousseauism, and would not survive a study of animals and babies. Those who hold this belief think that education should have no positive purpose, but should merely offer an environment suitable for spontaneous development. I cannot agree with this school, which seems to me too individualistic, and unduly indifferent to the importance of knowledge. We live in communities which require co-operation, and it would be utopian to expect all the necessary co-operation to result from spontaneous impulse. The existence of a large population on a limited area is only possible owing to source and technique; education must, therefore, hand on the necessary minimum of these. The educators who allow most freedom are men whose success depends upon a degree of benevolence, self-control, and trained intelligence which can hardly be generated where every impulse is left unchecked; their merits, therefore, are not likely to be perpetuated if their methods are undiluted. Education, viewed from a social standpoint, must be something more positive than a mere opportunity for growth. It must, of course, provide this, but it must also provide a mental and moral equipment which children cannot acquire entirely for themselves.

Main Purpose of Education: Socialism

There are three major schools of thought for the freedom in education based on the psychological theory. First belief is that the children should enjoy complete freedom. Second one is that they should be kept under surveillance. And the third one is that they should be free. All the three beliefs have their own pros and cons but the last one is largely accepted. Because this school of thought is committed on the moral development of children which is hardly achievable. The demerit of this belief is that it ensure the individualistic growth of children despite the fact that humans are the social animals. Therefore, the main purpose of education should be the social development of children along with the mental and moral growth of children.