

unhappiness makes less sophisticated people suspicious of its genuineness; they think that the man who enjoys being miserable is not miserable.

Q.3. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

(5 x 4 = 20)

Knowledge is acquired when we succeed in fitting a new experience in the system of concepts based upon our old experiences. Understanding comes when we liberate ourselves from the old and so make possible a direct, unmediated contact with the new, the mystery, moment by moment, of our existence. The new is the given on every level of experience – given perceptions, given emotions and thoughts, given states of unstructured awareness, given relationships with things and persons. The old is our home-made system of ideas and word patterns. It is the stock of finished articles fabricated out of the given mystery by memory and analytical reasoning, by habit and automatic associations of accepted notions. Knowledge is primarily a knowledge of these finished articles. Understanding is primarily direct awareness of the raw material.

Knowledge is always in terms of concepts and can be passed on by means of words or other symbols. Understanding is not conceptual and therefore cannot be passed on. It is an immediate experience, and immediate experience can only be talked about (very inadequately), never shared. Nobody can actually feel another's pain or grief, another's love or joy, or hunger. And similarly no body can experience another's understanding of a given event or situation. There can, of course, be knowledge of such an understanding, and this knowledge may be passed on in speech or writing, or by means of other symbols. Such communicable knowledge is useful as a reminder that there have been specific understandings in the past, and that understanding is at all times possible. But we must always remember that knowledge of understanding is not the same thing as the understanding which is the raw material of that knowledge. It is as different from understanding as the doctor's prescription for penicillin is different from penicillin.

Questions:

- (i) How is knowledge different from understanding?
- (ii) Explain why understanding cannot be passed on.
- (iii) Is the knowledge of understanding possible? If it is, how may it be passed on?
- (iv) How does the author explain that knowledge of understanding is not the same thing as the understanding?
- (v) How far do you agree with the author in his definitions of knowledge and understanding? Give reasons for your answer.

Reading Comprehension.

1. The author in this passage has defined knowledge as something that exists in form of concept. This concept can be transferred or passed to another individual, but understanding is an immediate experience which is personalized and can not be passed or shared. Here the nature of understanding is subjective that varies person to person.

4. The author defines understanding as an immediate experience to the events or surroundings. Due to its subjective nature and absence of concept it cannot be passed on.

11. The knowledge of understanding is possible. This knowledge is useful as a reminder that there have been specific understandings in the pasts and that understanding is at all times possible. This knowledge of understanding may be passed through speech or writing, or by means of other symbols.

IV.

The most confusing ideas of "understanding" and "knowledge of understanding" are beautifully explained by author as; understanding that reflect something raw material of the knowledge is different from knowledge of understanding, that defines the understanding itself. Here, the author has used analogy of prescription to differentiate the two.

V.

The definitions of knowledge and understanding given by author are well placed and well structured. As far as knowledge is associated it is certainly true that, knowledge is a collective form of ideas reinforced by society in every age of time. They are passed from one generation to another with some modifications but the understanding of these ideas may vary person to person, and if the individual would have influence in the society, in that case he can promote the understanding of that idea as he perceived it. Every knowledge was once a raw information and understanding of someone. Therefore, I agree with the definition of knowledge, but disagree with the definition of understanding.