

**Q2. Read the following passage and answer the questions given at the end, in YOUR OWN WORDS. (20)**

We look before and after, wrote Shelley, and pine for what is not. It is said that this is what distinguishes us from the animals and that they, unlike us, live always for and in <sup>①</sup> the movement and have neither hopes nor regrets. Whether it is so or not I do not know yet it is undoubtedly one of our distinguishing mental attributes: we are actually conscious of our life in time and not merely of our life at the moment of experiencing it. <sup>②</sup> And as a result we find many grounds for melancholy and foreboding. Some of us prostrate ourselves on the road way in Trafalgar Square or in front of the American Embassy because we are fearful that our lives, or more disinterestedly those of our descendants will be cut short by nuclear war. If only as "squirrels or butterflies are supposed to do, we could let the future look after itself and be content to enjoy the pleasures of the morning breakfast, the brisk walk to the office through autumnal mist or winter fog, the mid-day sunshine that sometimes floods through windows, the warm, peaceful winter evenings by the fireside at home. Yet all occasions for contentment are so often spoiled for us, to a greater or lesser degree by our individual temperaments, by this strange human capacity for foreboding and regret - regret for things which we cannot undo and foreboding for things which may never happen at all. Indeed were it not for the fact that over breaking through our human obsessions with the tragedy of time, so enabling us to enjoy at any rate some fleeting moments untroubled by vain yearning or apprehension, our life would not be intolerable at all. As it is, we contrive, everyone of us, to spoil it to a remarkable degree.

### Questions

1. What is the difference between our life and the life of an animal? (3)
2. What is the result of human anxiety? (3)
3. How does the writer compare man to the butterflies and squirrels? (3)
4. How does anxiety about future disturb our daily life? (3)
5. How can we make our life tolerable? (3)
6. Explain the underlined words/phrases in the passage. (5 )

**Q3. Write a comprehensive note (250-300 words) on ONE of the following: (20)**

1. One may smile and smile, and be a villain.
2. Gather ye rosebuds while ye may.
3. No sensible man ever made an apology.
4. Our thoughts are ours, their ends none of our own.



## Comprehension:

Living in present instead of past or future

Q1: The major difference between the life of human and the life of animals is consciousness of humans.

They hope for the good and regret on the loss. It depends upon their thinking capabilities. On the other hand, animals never hope and regret, for the attainment and on the loss of goods.

Q2: The result of human anxiety is pessimistic view and predictions of success. They live in between desperation and introspection. Both suppress the pleasure. Therefore, they remain in struggle for happiness because vanity and contemplation are opposite of it.

Q3: According to the writer, man is fearful regarding his life.



therefore prostrate. Additionally, the next generation will be intimidatingly by nuclear war. Conversely, butterflies and squirrels could enjoy the blessings of nature if they are supposed to do the same task of humans.

Q4: Anxiety results into regret and prediction. Both stifle the content of life. Therefore, humans live in mourning and desperation.

Q5: Contriving things according to the requirement of time. Additionally, less yearning for the attainment of success and abatement of apprehensions regarding the loss of things would make the life of humans tolerable.

Q6: There are no words in the passage, which are underlined.