

Limits of Freedom in Education

There are three doctrines addressing the question of freedom in education. One is absolute freedom; second is absolute authority; and third is conditional freedom promoting virtue. The third philosophy is dominant. It suggests that education should merely provide conditions appropriate for spontaneous development. However, the author critiques it, saying it neglects knowledge's role. They argue that spontaneous development alone cannot ensure cooperative or moral growth. Education should also promote technology. It should ensure freedom. Nevertheless, it should also offer moral development which children cannot achieve independently.

84/310 words

DATE



FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION - 2023 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)

MAXIMUM MARKS = 20

PART-II

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 passage and suggest a suitable title: (20)

On the question of freedom in education there are at present three main schools of thought, 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 guided. 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 science 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.