

FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

**COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FOR
RECRUITMENT TO POSTS IN BPS-17 UNDER
THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, 2004**

ENGLISH (Précis & Composition)

TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS.....Maximum Marks: 100

Q1. Make a precis of the given passage and suggest a suitable heading:

We're dealing with a very dramatic and very fundamental paradigm shift here. You may try" to lubricate your' social interactions with personality techniques and skills, but in the process, you may truncate the vital character base. You can't have the fruits without the roots. It's the principle of sequencing: Private victory precedes Public Victory. Self-mastery and self-discipline are the foundation of good relationship with others. Some people say that you have to like yourself before you can like others. I think' that idea has merit but if you don't know yourself, if you don't control yourself, if you don't have mastery over yourself, it's very hard to like yourself, except in some short-term, psych-up, superficial way. Real self-respect comes from dominion over*self from true independence. Independence is an achievement. Inter dependence is a choice only independent people can make. Unless we are willing to achieve real independence, it's foolish to try to develop human relations skills. We might try. We might even have some degree of success when the sun is shining. But when the difficult times come - and they will - We won't have the foundation to keep things together. The most important ingredient we put into any relationship is not what we say or what we do, but what we are. And if our words and our actions come from superficial human relations techniques (the Personality Ethic) rather than from our own inner core (the character Ethic), others will sense that duplicity. We simply won't be able to create and sustain the foundation necessary" for effective interdependence. The techniques and skills that really make a difference in human interaction are the ones that almost naturally flow from a truly independent character. So the place to begin building any relationship is inside ourselves, inside our Circle of Influence, our own character. As we become independent - Proactive, centered in correct principles, value driven and able to organize and execute around the priorities in our life with integrity - we then can choose to become interdependent - capable of building rich, enduring, highly productive relationships with other people.

Practice 5. Class 2004 paper

55 min

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— a (Q#1) —

Title:

Social Relations Based on Independent Character Development

According to the author, the foundation of good and healthy relationship is based on the development of character instead of some extensible personality skills. Author believes that self-discipline and self-love precedes everything else, and can be achieved through independent character development. Independence is achieved through effort whereas interdependence is a choice of independent people - to build healthy ~~and~~, productive and lasting relations.

Human relations are based on the independent and natural flow of inner character and not on superficial talks and actions. So, author firmly believes that humans should focus on their personal development and independent character to foster good social relations.

Passage Word Count = 351 Words

Review Word Count = 109 Words.

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 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. 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)

Comprehension

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(Q#1)

According to the author, our mental attributes set us apart from the animals. Animals live in the present ^{moment} and enjoy it. Whereas, human either lives in the remembrance of the past or contemplation about the future. We neither live in the moment nor enjoy it. This is the difference between our life and the life of an animal.

(Q#2)

The consequences of human anxiety are far reaching. According to the author, we live our life indulged in the sadness of past and the fear of future. As a result, we become frustrated and cannot even enjoy the present perfect moments of our life. In this way, our life become intolerable and difficult. Therefore, human anxiety is detrimental.

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(Q#3)

The writer beautifully compares man to the butterflies and squirrels. He says that just like butterflies and squirrels, human should also live in the present moment and leave all the worries about future aside. He says that we should enjoy all the little things of our lives from morning breakfast to the peaceful evenings.

(Q#4)

We can make our life tolerable by enjoying the ephemeral moments of the present. We can make it bearable by leaving behind the worries of the past and entrusting the fear of the future to the time ahead. In this way we can make our life peaceful.

(Q#5)

1. Pine for what is not:

To desire for something that is not present or available in the moment.

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Date _____

2- Distinguishing mental attributes:

Unique mental capabilities.

3- Grounds for melancholy and foreboding:

Reasons or causes for the gloom/sadness of the past and fear of future.

4- Occasions for contentment:

Opportunities for happiness and satisfaction.

5- Human Obsessions:

Things which completely occupy humans thoughts, reasoning, and actions.