

Q.3. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. Use your own language. **(20)**

In the height of the Enlightenment, men influenced by the new political theories of the era launched two of the largest revolutions in history. These two conflicts, on two separate continents, were both initially successful in forming new forms of government. And yet, the two conflicts, though merely a decade apart, had radically different conclusions. How do two wars inspired by more or less the same ideals end up so completely different? Why was the American Revolution largely a success and the French Revolution largely a failure?

Historians have pointed to myriad reasons—far too various to be listed here. However, the most frequently cited are worth mentioning. For one, the American Revolution was far removed from the Old World; that is, since it was on a different continent, other European nations did not attempt to interfere with it. However, in the French Revolution, there were immediate cries for war from neighboring nations. Early on, for instance, the ousted king attempted to flee to neighboring Austria and the army waiting there. The newly formed French Republic also warred with Belgium, and a conflict with Britain loomed. Thus, the French had the burden not only of winning a revolution but also defending it from outside. The Americans simply had to win a revolution.

Secondly, the American Revolution seemed to have a better chance for success from the get-go, due to the fact that Americans already saw themselves as something other than British subjects. Thus, there was already a uniquely American character, so, there was not as loud a cry to preserve the British way of life. In France, several thousands of people still supported the king, largely because the king was seen as an essential part of French life. And when the king was first ousted and then killed, some believed that character itself was corrupted. Remember, the Americans did not oust a king or kill him—they merely separated from him.

Finally, there is a general agreement that the French were not as unified as the Americans, who, for the most part, put aside their political differences until after they had already formed a new nation. The French, despite their Tennis Court Oath, could not do so. Infighting led to inner turmoil, civil war, and eventually the Reign of Terror, in which political dissidents were executed in large numbers. Additionally, the French people themselves were not unified. The nation had so much stratification that it was impossible to unite all of them—the workers, the peasants, the middle-class, the nobles, the clergy—into one cause. And the attempts to do so under a new religion, the Divine Cult of Reason, certainly did not help. The Americans, remember, never attempted to change the society at large; rather, they merely attempted to change the government.

- (1) Why and how did the Reign of Terror happen?
- (2) In what ways does the author suggest that the American Revolution was easier to complete than the French Revolution?
- (3) Of the challenges mentioned facing the French revolutionaries, which do you think had the greatest impact on their inability to complete a successful revolution? Why?
- (4) Of the strengths mentioned aiding the American revolutionaries, which do you think had the greatest impact on their ability to complete a successful revolution? Why?

Q.4. Write a comprehensive note (250 – 300 words) on any ONE of the following:

(20)

Day: Sunday

Date: 26 / 01

Comprehension # 2014

— (Q#1) —

Q Why and how did the Reign of Terror happen?

In French revolution, all the factions of the society were divided in their opinion and were not united under one cause. This dissent among the members of society led to inner conflicts and the civil war started. People with varied political aspirations were executed in large number. All these circumstances led to the reign of terror among the French.

— (Q#2) —

Q In what ways does the author suggest that the American Revolution was easier to complete than the French Revolution?

According to the author, the American revolution was easier to complete as they only had to change the government and not the whole society. They were fighting for their cause on entirely a separate continent free from British influence and were united ~~to~~ ~~the~~

under one cause is to win the revolution.
They just had to ^{oust} oust the government to win
and had not to worry about defending
themselves against foreign forces or internal
dissent.

— (Q#3) —

Of the challenges mentioned facing the French
revolutionaries, which do you ...? Why?

Of all the challenges mentioned, the internal
dissent and turmoil that divided the French
and led to civil war and reign of terror
~~was~~ ^{had} the greatest impact on their inability to
complete a successful revolution.

— (Q#4) —

Of the strengths mentioned ...? Why??

The thing that had the greatest impact on the
American revolutionaries to complete their
revolution successfully was their unification
and devoted commitment to one single cause
to ~~oust~~ ^{oust} or change the government. Their
homogeneous understanding and devotion led
them to victory.

Q.3. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. Use your own language. **(20)**

The civilization of China - as every one knows, is based upon the teaching of Confucius who flourished five hundred years before Christ. Like the Greeks and Romans, he did not think of human society as naturally progressive; on the contrary, he believed that in remote antiquity rulers had been wise and the people had been happy to a degree which the degenerate present could admire but hardly achieve. This, of course, was a delusion. But the practical result was the Confucius, like other teachers of antiquity, aimed at creating a stable society, maintaining a certain level of excellence, but not always striving after new successes. In this he was more successful than any other man who ever lived. His personality has been stamped on Chinese Civilization from his day to our own. During his life time, the Chinese occupied only a small part of present day China, and were divided into a number of warring states. During the next three hundred years they established themselves throughout what is now China proper, and founded an empire exceeding in territory and population any other that existed until the last fifty years. In spite of barbarian invasions, and occasional longer or shorter periods of Chaos and Civil War, the Confucian system survived bringing with it art and literature and a civilised way of life. A system which has had this extra ordinary power of survival must have great merits, and certainly deserves our respect and consideration. It is not a religion, as we understand the word, because it is not associated with the super natural or with mystical beliefs. It is purely ethical system, but its ethics, unlike those of Christianity, are not too exalted for ordinary men to practise. In essence what Confucius teaches is something is very like the old-fashioned ideal of a 'gentleman' as it existed in the eighteenth century. One of his sayings will illustrate this: 'The true gentleman is never contentious.....he courteously salutes his opponents before taking up his position,.....so that even when competing he remains a true gentleman'.

Questions:

- (1) Why do you think the author calls Confucius' belief about the progress of human society as a delusion? **(04)**
- (2) How did Confucius' thought affect China to develop into a stable and 'Proper' China? **(04)**
- (3) Why does the author think that Confucian system deserves respect and admiration? **(04)**
- (4) Why does the author call Confucian system a purely ethical system and not a religion? **(04)**
- (5) Briefly argue whether you agree or disagree to Confucius' ideal of a gentleman. **(04)**

Q.4. Write a paragraph in not more than 100 words on any ONE of the following. **(10)**

Day: Monday

You are allowed to submit only one question in one pdf. The remaining questions may be submitted in separate pdfs.

Comprehension # 2019

Q#1

Q Why do you think the author calls Confucius' belief about the progress of human society as a delusion?

The author calls Confucius' belief about the progress of human society as a delusion because he did not consider the human society as naturally progressive. He aimed to create the stable society and did not try to go after new innovations. He believed that people rulers were wise and subjects were happy in their present state in which there is certainty and stability.

Q#2

How did the Confucius' thought ... China?

Confucius thought affected the small and divided nation of Chinese to survive the periods of peril and civil war by maintaining stability. By maintaining a certain degree of excellence they developed into a stable and proper China and achieved what no other nation did.

Why does the author think that Confucian system deserves respect and admiration?

The Confucian system survived and helped the divided and riot-stricken nation of Chinese to develop into a stable and proper country. Due to its extra-ordinary ability and power ^{of} survival, the author thinks that this system deserves respect and admiration.

~~Q#4~~

Why does the author call Confucian system a purely ethical system and not religion?

The author calls Confucian system a purely ethical system because it is not related to supernatural and mystical beliefs like religion. He believes in the ethics and these are not too difficult to be practised by a common man.

~~Q#5~~

Yes, I agree with Confucius' ideal of a gentleman because I also believe that a true gentleman is always courteous in all situations. He is courteous and generous whether he has the upper hand or not. A true gentleman always respects others and maintains his dignity.

inopportune. The socialist calculation is probably erroneous; for experience has shown that it is aspiration, not desperation, that makes revolutions.

Q.3. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. Use your own language. (5x4 = 20)

Human Beings feel afraid of death just as children feel afraid of darkness; and just as children's fear of darkness is increased by the stories which they have heard about ghosts and thieves, human beings' fear of death is increased by the stories which they have heard about the agony of the dying man. If a human being regards death as a kind of punishment for the sins he has committed and if he looks upon death as a means of making an entry into another world, he is certainly taking a religious and sacred view of death. But if a human being looks upon death as a law of nature and then feels afraid of it, his attitude is one of cowardice. However, even in religious meditation about death there is something a mixture of folly and superstition. Monks have written books in which they have described the painful experience which they underwent by inflicting physical tortures upon themselves as a form of self-purification. Such books may lead one to think that, if the pain of even a finger being squeezed or pressed is unbearable, the pains of death must be indescribably agonizing. Such books thus increase a Man's fear of death.

ENGLISH (Précis & Composition)

Seneca, a Roman Philosopher, expressed the view that the circumstances and ceremonies of death frighten people more than death itself would do. A dying man is heard uttering groans; his body is seen undergoing convulsions; his face appears to be absolutely bloodless and pale; at his death his friends begin to weep and his relations put on mourning clothes; various rituals are performed. All these facts make death appear more horrible than it would be otherwise.

Questions:

- (1) What is the difference between human beings' fear of death and children's fear of darkness?
- (2) What is a religious and sacred view of death?
- (3) What are the painful experiences described by the Monks in their books?
- (4) What are the views of Seneca about death?
- (5) What are the facts that make death appear more horrible than it would be otherwise?

O.4. Write a comprehensive note (250 – 300 words) on any **ONE** of the following: **(20)**

Comprehension #2012

~~(Q#1)~~

The difference between human being's fear of death and children's fear of darkness is that the former's fear is the result of the stories which they have heard about the pain and suffering of the dying man. Whereas the latter's fear is increased by the stories which they have heard about ghosts and thieves.

~~(Q#2)~~

If a person considers death as a phase of transitioning from one life to another or from one world to another and regards death as a punishment due to the sins he has committed throughout the life, then this is the religious and sacred view of death.

~~(Q#3)~~

Monks described painful experiences in their books through which they acquired self-purification. Monks did physical tortures on themselves like squeezing or pressing a finger to purify

their souls and minds.

~~Q#4~~

According to Seneca, circumstances and rituals or ceremonies of death make it more frightening than the death itself. The painful groans, uncontrolled body convulsions, ^{and} yellowish face of the dying person make it appear horrible. Alongside with the weeping of friends and relatives dressed in ~~dark~~ mourning clothes make it appear more frightening.

~~Q#5~~

The circumstances of the dying person and the ceremonies of death make it appear more horrible than it would be otherwise. The painful groans, body convulsions and bloodless face of the dying person inflict a frightening image of death along with the weeping of friends and relatives dressed in mourning clothes.

Q.3. Read the following passage and answers the questions that follow. (20)

And still it moves. The words of Galileo, murmured when the tortures of the **Inquisition** had driven him to recant the Truth he knew, apply in a new way to our world today. Sometimes, in the knowledge of all that has been discovered, all that has been done to make life on **the planet** happier and more worthy, we may be tempted to settle down to enjoy our heritage. That would, indeed, be the betrayal of our trust.

These men and women of the past have given everything --- comfort, time, treasure, peace of mind and body, life itself --- that we might live as we do. The challenge to each one of us is to carry on their work for the sake of future generations.

The adventurous human mind must not **falter**. Still must we question the old truths and work for the new ones. Still must we risk scorn, **cynicism**, neglect, loneliness, poverty, persecution, if need be. We must shut our ears to the easy voice which tells us that ‘human nature will never alter’ as an excuse for doing nothing to make life more worthy.

Thus will the course of the history of mankind go onward, and the world we know move into a new splendour for **those who are yet to be**.

Questions:

- (i) What made Galileo recant the Truth he knew?
- (ii) What is the heritage being alluded to in the first paragraph?
- (iii) What does the ‘betrayal of our trust’ imply?
- (iv) Why do we need to question the old truths and work for the new ones?
- (v) Explain the words or expressions as highlighted/underlined in the passage.

O.4. Write a comprehensive note (250 – 300 words) on any **ONE** of the following: (20)

Day: Sunday

Date: 30 / Nov / 2025

(Comprehension # 2010)

(Q#1)

Q What made Galileo recant the Truth he knew?

The Galileo recant the truth he knew due to the harsh investigation. He renounced his belief under the pressure of torture. Therefore, he was forced to recant the truth he knew.

(Q#2)

2. What is the heritage being alluded to in the first paragraph?

The first paragraph indirectly refers past discoveries and inventions as the heritage.

The discoveries that gave insights into human life and made it pleasant and worth living.

The inventions that made life extremely comfortable. All these are being referred as heritage of humanity.

(Q#3)

3. What does the 'betrayal of our trust' imply?

It implies that humans must not settle

down with their contemporary inventions and discoveries. They must move forward and strive for a better future for the next generation. Our ancestors did the same and we must carry it on. If we settle down and stop striving, it would be betrayal of our trust. Therefore, betrayal of our trust means failing to continue the work of previous generations.

~~Q4~~

4. Why do we need to question the old truths and work for the new ones?

We need to question the old truths and work for the new ones because this is the way through which humans can overcome the shortcomings of past and work towards a better future.

This allows humans to work consistently for the future generations. This process allows for innovation, and ~~also~~ encourages humans to reject outdated beliefs.

Day: _____

Date: ____/____/20____

Therefore, it is necessary to avoid stagnation and complacency with past achievements.

—(Qus)—

Meanings of words.

1. Inquisition

I should just give the meanings only? or there is need to connect them with the context in passage

* It refers to the harsh process of investigation that often involves torture

2. The Planet

* The indirect reference to the place where humans live.

or

* The heavenly body that orbit around the star (like the sun), and has cleared its orbit of other debris is called a planet.

3. Falter

* To hesitate in action, or weaken in resolve.

4. Cynicism

* Pessimist views about someone or something. It can also refer to distrust and skepticism.

5. Those who are yet to be

* In the paragraph, it ~~refer~~ refers to the future generations.