

6. Make a précis of the following passage and suggest a suitable title.

(20 Marks)

There has existed throughout the history of mankind a strange, albeit, an ironic relationship between the past and the future. The people who just eulogize their past without critical analysis and seek to recreate a utopian past almost invariably do not succeed, while those who view the past realistically, comprehensively and critically are able to draw on the past in useful, meaningful and lasting ways. They learn lessons from the history and apply those lessons for better future. Such people have confidence in their future, and they approach the past with seriousness and critical reverence. They study the past realistically, try to comprehend the values, aesthetics, and traits which invested an earlier civilization its grandeur or caused it to decline. They preserve its remains, and enshrine relevant and enriching images and events of the past in their memories both collectively and individually. They attempt to adopt the values and traits which led earlier people rise, and shun the reasons and mistakes that precipitated their downward journeys. In sharp contrast to them, people and governments with an uncertain sense of the future manifest deeply skewed and subjective relationships to their history. They eschew lived history, shut out its lessons, shun critical inquiries into the past, neglect its remains but, at the same time, invent at their own imagined and utopian past-always shining, splendid and glorious. As a matter of fact, they are never able to benefit from their past. They study history, but learn nothing from history.

(15 Marks)

Translate the following passage into English.

DATE: 02-09-25

DAY: Tuesday

## ↳ Precis: PMS Punjab 2019

**History: A roadmap to success or failure?**

The realms of past and future are interconnected. Success does not follow those who glorify their past. In sharp contrast, success follows those who critically evaluate their past, learn and apply it in future. These rightful owners of success analyze past civilizations, learn from their success and abrogate the reasons of their downfall. Contrarily, those who are not optimistic about their future, <sup>live</sup> lives in delusion and glories of their past. Their illusions contradict the reality and <sup>do</sup> not ensure a splendid future.

**word count:** 82/247

Idea is ok. Subject verb disagreement found.

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

**(20)**

The New Year is the time for resolution. Mentally, at least most of us could compile formidable lists of 'do's and 'don'ts'. The same old favorites recur year in and year out with the children, do a thousand and one job about the house, be nice to people we don't like, drive carefully, and take the dog for a walk every day. Past experience has taught us that certain accomplishments are beyond attainment. If we remain deep rooted liars, it is only because we have so often experienced the frustration that results from failure.

Most of us fail in our efforts at self-improvement because our schemes are too ambitious and we never have time to carry them out. We also make the fundamental error of announcing our resolution to everybody so that we look even more foolish when we slip back into our bad old ways. Aware of these pitfalls, this year I attempted to keep my resolution to myself. I limited myself to two modest ambitions, to do physical exercise every morning and to read more in the evening. An overnight party on New Year's Eve provided me with a good excuse for not carrying out either of these new resolutions on the first day of the year, but on the second, I applied myself assiduously to the task.

The daily exercise lasted only eleven minutes and I proposed to do them early in the morning before anyone had got up. The self-discipline required to drag myself out of bed eleven minutes earlier than usual was considerable. Nevertheless, I managed to creep down into the living room for two days before anyone found me out. After jumping about in the carpet and twisted the human frame into uncomfortable positions. I sat down at the breakfast table in an exhausted condition. It was this that betrayed me. The next morning the whole family trooped into watch the performance. That was really unsettling but I fended off the taunts and jibes of the family good humoredly and soon everybody got used to the idea. However, my enthusiasm waned, the time I spent at exercises gradually diminished. Little by little the eleven minutes fell to zero. By January 10th I was back to where I had started from. I argued that if I spent less time exhausting myself at exercises in the morning. I would keep my mind fresh for reading when I got home from work. Resisting the hypnotizing effect of television, I sat in my room for a few evenings with my eyes glued to a book. One night, however, feeling cold and lonely, I went downstairs and sat in front of the television pretending to read. That proved to be my undoing, for I soon got back to the old bad habit of dozing off in front of the screen. I still haven't given up my resolution to do more reading. In fact, I have just bought a book entitled 'How to Read a Thousand Words a Minute'. Perhaps it will solve my problem, but I just have not had time to read it.

**Questions:** 1. Why most of us fail in our efforts for self-improvement? **(5)**

2. Why is it a basic mistake to announce our resolution to everybody? **(5)**

3. Why did the writer not carry out his resolution on New Year's Day? **(5)**

4. Find out the words in the above passage which convey the similar meaning to the following:

(1) intimidating (2) peril (3) dwindle (4) repel (5) barb **(5)**

## ↳ Comprehension: CSS 2017

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

### 1. Most of us fail in our efforts

Most of us fail in our efforts for self-improvement because we set higher goals. We often feel ambitious while setting resolutions. But by the time, our motivation fades and we deviate from our goals for self-improvement.

### 2. Mistake to announce our resolution

When we announce our big resolutions to everybody and fail doing so, this pitfall draws a procrastinated picture of us to others. We are assumed as man of words, not of actions. That is why it's a big mistake to announce our resolutions to others.

### 3. Writer did not carry out his resolution

Due to an overnight party, writer found it fortunate to not carry his eight of these resolution on new year's day.

#### 4. Similar words

intimidating → Formidable

peril → pitfall

dwindle → wane

Repel → fend off

barb → jibes