

## PART-II

**Q. 2.** Make a précis of the following text and suggest a suitable title.

(20)

In studying the breakdowns of civilizations, the writer has subscribed to the conclusion – no new discovery! – that war has proved to have been the proximate cause of the breakdown of every civilization which is known for certain to have broken down, in so far as it has been possible to analyze the nature of these breakdowns and to account for their occurrence. Like other evils, war has an insidious way of appearing not intolerable until it has secured such a stranglehold upon the lives of its addicts that they no longer have the power to escape from its grip when its deadliness has become manifest. In the early stages of a civilization's growth, the cost of wars in suffering and destruction might seem to be exceeded by the benefits accruing from the winning of wealth and power and the cultivation of the "military virtues"; and, in this phase of history, states have often found themselves able to indulge in war with one another with something like impunity even for the defeated party. War does not begin to reveal its malignity till the war-making society has begun to increase its economic ability to exploit physical nature and its political ability to organize manpower; but, as soon as this happens, the god of war to which the growing society has long since been dedicated proves himself a Moloch by devouring an ever larger share of the increasing fruits of man's industry and intelligence in the process of taking an ever larger toll of life and happiness; and, when the society's growth in efficiency reaches a point at which it becomes capable of mobilizing a lethal quantum of its energies and resources for military use, then war reveals itself as being a cancer which is bound to prove fatal to its victim unless he can cut it out and cast it from him, since its malignant tissues have now learnt to grow faster than the healthy tissues on which they feed.

In the past, when this danger-point in the history of the relations between war and civilization has been reached and recognized, serious efforts have sometimes been made to get rid of war in time to save society, and these endeavours have been apt to take one or other of two alternative directions. Salvation cannot, of course, be sought anywhere except in the working of the consciences of individual human beings; but individuals have a choice between trying to achieve their aims through direct action as private citizens and trying to achieve them through indirect action as citizens of states. A personal refusal to lend himself in any way to any war waged by his state for any purpose and in any circumstances is a line of attack against the institution of war that is likely to appeal to an ardent and self-sacrificing nature; by comparison, the alternative peace strategy of seeking to persuade and accustom governments to combine in jointly resisting aggression when it comes and in trying to remove its stimuli before hand may seem a circuitous and unheroic line of attack on the problem. Yet experience up to date indicates unmistakably, in the present writer's opinion, that the second of these two hard roads is by far the more promising.

**Q 3** Read the following text carefully and answer the questions below.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

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## DEVASTATING IMPACTS OF WARS ON CIVILIZATIONS AND ADOPTED APPROACHES TO SAVE THE SOCIETY FROM WARS

War has been proved to be a major cause of decline of civilizations. It is tolerated until it starts devouring its own propagators. In earlier civilizations, the destructions caused by wars were far greater than the outcomes it had for the winners. War does not show its real shape until all the economic resources and political efforts are not poured in it. When these efforts are put, it shows its real shape costing human lives and prosperity and it reaches a point of no return. Hence it becomes incurable. When the civilizations in history become vulnerable to war, serious efforts were taken mainly comprising direct and indirect approaches. In direct approach, citizen refuses to become part of any war set by the state. While in indirect approach, citizens representing the state impede the war by removing the causative agents of the war. The writer opined that indirect way has been proven to be more fruitful.

Given words = 520  
Prouse words = 160

**Q. 3. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given at the end.**

**(20)**

She was one of those pretty, charming women who are born, as if by an error of Fate, into a petty official's family. She had no dowry, no hopes, nor the slightest chance of being loved and married by a rich man—so she slipped into marriage with a minor civil servant. Unable to afford jewels, she dressed simply: But she was wretched, for women have neither caste nor breeding—in them beauty, grace, and charm replace pride of birth. Innate refinement, instinctive elegance, and wit give them their place on the only scale that counts and these make humble girls the peers of the grandest ladies. She suffered, feeling that every luxury should rightly have been hers. The poverty of her rooms—the shabby walls, the worn furniture, the ugly upholstery caused her pain. All these things that another woman of her class would not even have noticed, made her angry. The very sight of the little Breton girl who cleaned for her awoke rueful thoughts and the wildest dreams in her mind. She dreamt of rooms with Oriental hangings, lighted by tall, bronze torches, and with two huge footmen in knee breeches made drowsy by the heat from the stove, asleep in the wide armchairs. She dreamt of great drawing rooms upholstered in old silks, with fragile little tables holding priceless knickknacks, and of enchanting little sitting rooms designed for tea-time chats with famous, sought-after men whose attentions all women longed for. She sat down to dinner at her round table with its three-day-old cloth, and watched her husband lift the lid of the soup tureen and delightedly exclaim: "Ah, a good homemade beef stew! There's nothing better!" She visualized elegant dinners with gleaming silver and gorgeous china. She yearned for wall hangings peopled with knights and ladies and exotic birds in a fairy forest. She dreamt of eating the pink flesh of trout or the wings of grouse. She had no proper wardrobe, no jewels, nothing. And those were the only things that she loved—she felt she was made for them. She would have so loved to charm, to be envied, to be admired and sought after.

**Questions:**

**(4 marks each)**

1. Which word best describes the actual living conditions of the couple and why?
2. Which line best demonstrates the couple's true economic standing and why?
3. According to the passage, what can be stated about the marriage of this woman?
4. What can be inferred about the values of both husband and wife?
5. What is the main idea of the passage?



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Q1 Which word best describes the actual living conditions of the couple.

The word "beef" describes the actual living conditions of the couple. This is because it reveals the actual economic standards of the couple. Beef is usually consumed by the middle class or upper middle class families. The couple was neither living an elite life style nor it was living below the poverty line. Availability of beef and not the mutton reveals the middle class standards of the couple.

Q2 Which line best demonstrates the couple's true economic conditions and why?

The line, "she sat down to dinner at her round table with its three-day-old cloth and watch her husband lift the lid of the soup tureen", demonstrates the true economic conditions of the couple. This is because the items described reveal the financial standings of the couple. All the things

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described in this line, "dinning table, soup tureen and beef show that couple had the middle class luxuries available. This is because these items are not easily available to poor class while elite class enjoys much more luxurious life than <sup>the one</sup> demonstrated in these lines.

Q-3 According to the passage, what can be stated about the marriage of this woman?

According to the passage, the woman is not happy with her marriage. This is because the marriage cannot fulfill her dreams. She dreams of an elite life style but her husband, which is a minor civil servant cannot provide her the elite luxuries. This fact and her imaginations of elite life style make her uncomfortable with her marriage.

Q-4 What can be inferred about the values of both husband and wife?

According to the passage, the husband values the traditional and

cultural norms. This is revealed through his reaction to home made beef soup, while the woman wants elite lifestyle and elite value. She wants to be admired for her beauty and charm through a luxurious life style.

Q5 What is the main idea of the passage?

main idea of the passage is that all wishes of an individual cannot be fulfilled. If nature bless someone with a quality, it is not necessary that he/she will be having other blessings as well. ~~For example~~, This is demonstrated by a woman having beauty and elegance but did not had luxurious her beauty deserved.