

## English Comprehension Test-2

Time Allowed: 40Minutes

Note:

1. Assignment must be handwritten.
2. Upload it in "Quiz/Assignment" section, otherwise it will not be checked.

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**Q. Read the following text carefully and answers the questions below: (20)**

Human beings are afraid of death just as children feel afraid of darkness. The fear of darkness of kids increased by the stories of the heard ghosts and thieves. In the same way, the fear of human being is increased by the stories which they heard about the agony of dying man. If a human being regards death as a kind of punishment for his 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 of cowardice. However, even in religious meditations about death there is sometimes a mixture of folly and superstition. Monks have written books in which they have described the painful experiences which they underwent by inflicting physical tortures upon themselves as a form of self-purification. Thus, one may think that the pains of death must be indescribably agonizing. Such books and such thoughts increase a man's fear of death.

Seneca, the Roman Philosopher is of 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 such 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?

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## Answers

- ① The difference between human beings' fear of death and children's fear of ~~kindness~~ darkness is that the stories of ghosts and thieves increase the fear of darkness of kids, while the sufferings of dying <sup>men</sup> increase human beings' fear of death.
- ② A religious and sacred view of death is one's perspective about death. In this view, one considers death ~~as~~ a punishment of <sup>one's</sup> ~~his~~ sins and regards death as an entry into new world.
- ③ The monks describe painful experiences in their books in the form of physical tortures for the purpose of self-purification.
- ④ Seneca is of the view that death itself is not frightening. The thing which most frightens the people are the rituals and situations of death.
- ⑤ The facts that make death appear more horrible than it would be otherwise are painful sound of dying man, involuntary movements of body, pale face and the weeping and mourning sounds of friends and relatives.

There should be at least 2 sentences in your answers. Answers should be 5-7 lines long. Use your own vocabulary as much as possible, without borrowing phrases from the original passage.