

English Précé and Comprehension

Q2:-

Title:

Paradox of Green Energy

Précé:

Renewable energy is widely hailed as the moral solution to environmental destruction, yet it hides a troubling contradiction. Technologies like solar panels, without turbines, and electric vehicles, praised for being clean, rely heavily on mining rare minerals such as cobalt and lithium - a process that devastates ecosystems and exploits poor regions. The production of electric vehicle batteries emits large amounts of carbon and creates recycling challenges, leading to mounting e-waste. Similarly, solar and wind technologies produce non-recyclable waste and still depend on fossil fuels for their operation and maintenance. This exposes the illusion of "zero emissions" as misleading. Ultimately, the problem lies in humanity's moral complacency: environmentalism has become a marketing tool rather than a true effort toward restraint and ecological balance. Renewable energy, instead of healing the planet, is merely harming it differently.

Q3:-

Comprehension:

Answer 1: Timothy Dexter's rivals advised him to ship coal to Newcastle because the city already had an abundant supply of coal. Their intention was to humiliate him and make him suffer financial loss by investing in a useless venture.

Answer 2: A miner's strike in England unexpectedly halted local coal production, causing a shortage. This allowed Dexter to sell his coal at a high price, turning what seemed like a foolish act into a great profit.

Answer 3: The author suggests that Dexter's success was a blend of luck and unconventional thinking. His achievements imply that fortune often favors boldness, and intelligence sometimes lies in seizing unexpected opportunities rather than following logic alone.

Answer 4: Dexter's repeated success shows that formal education and traditional business wisdom are not always necessary for success. His ability to profit from seemingly foolish ventures challenges the belief

that only educated or rational decisions lead to achievement.

Answer 5: The rivals' reactions reveal that society often misjudges unusual behaviour as foolishness, only to label it genius once it succeeds. This suggests that the difference between foolishness and genius often depends on the outcome, not the action itself.

Q4: Correction of Sentences:

(i) We accepted their offer on the ground that something is better than nothing.

We accepted their offer on the ground that something is better than nothing.

(ii) Use one capful to half bowl of water
Use one capful to half a bowl of water

(iii) The bag was so heavy that I couldn't hardly lift.

The bag was so heavy that I could hardly lift it.

(iv) She advised me to never point my finger to anyone.

She advised me never to point my finger at anyone.

(vi) None of the two applicants had suitable qualifications.

Neither of the two applicants had suitable qualifications.

(vii) Ahsan doesn't want to study, nor he wants a job.

Ahsan doesn't want to study, nor does he want a job.

Q 5(A) Punctuate :

The prisoner looked through the narrow window and said, "They call this justice, yet I have never been heard." A journalist outside shouted, "The minister claimed, 'No one is above the law,' but who decides what law means when truth is behind bars? The cell fell silent. The prisoner smiled faintly and whispered, "They can cage a man, but not his conviction."

(B) Prepositions.

(i) Tehmina applied to a bank for a loan.

(ii) She died of starvation.

(iii) Look to the left and you will see our destination.

- (iv) We saw a movie at the theatre.
(v) I rowed the boat across the lake.

Q6: Idioms

(i) A fish out of water:

When I moved to the new city, I felt like a fish out of water among complete strangers.

(ii) To give the devil his due:

Although I dislike his attitude, I must give the devil his due - he works very hard.

(iii) To play truant:

The students were punished for playing truant from school.

(vi) On pins and needles:

I was on pins and needles waiting for the exam results.

(viii) A laconic speech:

The president gave a laconic speech that was brief but full of meaning.

Q 7 Translation:-

If a professor of Urdu claims that he fully understands Ghalib's poetry and can eloquently discuss its artistic merits to captivate an audience, he is indeed displaying his scholarly ability. However, if he is asked to compose a single verse equal to Ghalib's, he will find himself helpless. The reason is that understanding and creation belong to two different realms. Understanding is the product of intellect, whereas creation is the outcome of intuition and divine inspiration. The rank and recognition Ghalib attained were not merely due to study or hard work, but were the reflection of his extraordinary genius, deep sensitivity and God-given grace. That is why, even after centuries, his verses continue to touch hearts just as profoundly as they did in his own time.
