

English (Precis & Composition)

Pt. II

Q2: Make a precis of the following passage and suggest a suitable title.

Title: A Green Path to Extinction

Disguised as planetary salvation, the Green Revolution, with its popular rhetoric, is driving the planet towards extinction. The entire lifecycle of Renewable energy technology, from production to decomposition, is ecologically extractive and environmentally damaging, resulting in barren, poisoned and uninhabitable lands. Besides an enormous consumption of rare-earth metals and minerals, the battery production process of Electric vehicles emits relatively higher levels of carbon, while wind-turbine blades use non-recyclable composites. Assembly and maintenance depend on fossil-fuels, while the eventual decomposition creates toxic waste. However, marketing tactics have green-washed these facts, and a cycle of exploitation and pollution continues under the guise of progress. Clean technology, instead of healing the planet, is destroying it whilst under a 'green label'.

original words = 349

precis words = 118

Q3: Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

3(1) Rivals of Timothy Dexter, envious of his success, suggested he ship coal to Newcastle to cause him to fail. Newcastle, a city in England, had a huge supply of coal, which ~~would~~ entailed that Timothy's shipment would not turn over and cause losses. ~~However, as the ship reached England,~~ ~~due to a miners' strike, local production had ceased~~

creating a supply shortage. Dexter's entire cargo sold for a massive profit, and to the utter disbelief of his rivals, a ^{joke} jest turned into an unthinkable victory.

3(2) As Dexter's bond-to-fail coal shipment reached England, due to a miners strike, local production had ceased creating a supply shortage. Consequently, Dexter's entire cargo sold for a profit, and to the utter disbelief of his rivals, an assured jest turned into an unthinkable victory for Timothy Dexter.

3(3) The author implies that the relationship between luck and intelligence in Timothy Dexter's success lies in his being underestimated. Despite little formal education, Dexter was full of confidence and it can be implied that this confidence turned the face of luck in his direction. Hence even apparently foolish ventures would turn out profit, due to a certain 'stroke of luck'.

3(4) Timothy's repeated success in converting sure-loses into massive profits is a case in point of unconventional and hands-on approach to business education. While sticking to "the book" and carrying out plans using conventional knowledge can ensure loss minimization, however, truly innovative and 'out of the box' ideas require one to challenge the conventional norms, and to have confidence in one's wisdom.

3(5) From the reaction of Dexter's rivals to this achievement, it can be inferred that human beings assume a strategic, well-thought out, consequential plan to be 'genius'. While a plan that apparently relies on luck or confidence is perceived to be 'foolish'.

Similarly, the human aversion to risk-taking implies that a risky venture is foolish, while if the gains at the end ~~can~~ ^{can} be predicted and ensured to a degree, then that plan is hailed as genius. An importance to the end, rather than the means, can be inferred from this perception-dichotomy.

Q4: Correct any 5 of the following:

- (i) We accepted their offer on the grounds that something is better than nothing.
- (iii) The bag was so heavy that I could hardly lift.
- (iv) She advised me to never point my finger at anyone.
- (vi) Neither of the two applicants had suitable qualifications.
- (vii) Absan doesn't want to study, nor does he want to work.

Q5(A) Punctuate the following passage:

- The prisoner looked through the narrow window and said, "They call this justice, yet I have never been heard."

The guard replied softly, "Orders are orders, sir. Freedom isn't decided here."

A journalist outside shouted, "The Minister claimed 'none 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."

Q5(B) Rewrite the following sentences (5) after filling in the blanks with appropriate prepositions:

- (i) Tehmina applied to a bank for a loan
- (ii) She died of starvation
- (iv) We saw a movie at the theatre
- (vii) We all sat at the dinner table
- (viii) I pushed through the crowd

Q6 = Use only 5 of the following in your sentences to bring out their meanings.

- (i) Having showed up to school in her casual outfit instead of the school uniform, Rahima felt like a fish out of water
- (v) Knowing that the discussion regarding inheritance is a live wire, all the relatives steered clear of the topic and instead talked about sports, a less contentious topic.
- (viii) After missing the entrance exam application, the boy lamented and wished to put back the clock for a chance to reapply
- (vi) The child, sensing the tense atmosphere at the dinner tables, sat on pins and needles in trying to figure out a right topic to broach.
- (vii) The department head's laconic speech was hard to understand for anyone unfamiliar with the context and superfluous details.

Q7 = Translate the following into English, keeping in view the idiomatic / figurative expression.

- If an urdu professor claims that he is well-versed in the works of Ghalib and that he can discuss in depth the literary facets of these works, then, undoubtedly, he has a great command over his academic knowledge; however, if he is asked to produce a single verse

like that of Ghalib's, then he will turn helpless. Because imagination and creation are two different worlds. Imagination is the result of logic, while creation results from spiritualism and revelation. The lofty status endowed on Ghalib was not merely based on his personal or his hard work, rather it ~~was~~ the manifestation of an uncommon intelligence, empathy and divine blessing. This is the reason why, even after centuries, his verses still touch hearts, just as they did back in his time.