

English Comprehension Test 1

Q. Read the passage and answer the questions:

The New Year is time to read it.

QUESTIONS

1. Why most of us fail in our efforts for self-improvement?

Answer: Most of us fail in our efforts of self-improvement because of the two reasons. First, our new-year resolutions for self-improvement are too ideal to carry out in the actual available time. Second, we announce our resolutions publicly which in case of unfulfillment proposes us to the taunts of people. Hence, the efforts for self-improvement become futile because of these two reasons.

2. Why is it a basic mistake to announce our resolution to everybody?

Answer: It is a basic mistake to announce our resolution to everybody because if we fail to implement these resolutions in

our lives, people in our surroundings will humiliate us. This humiliation will further demotivate us in fulfilling our New Year's resolution. Therefore, announcing resolution to public is a fundamental fault in our efforts for self-improvement.

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

Answer: The writer did not carry out his resolution on New Year's Day because of an overnight New Year's party. That midnight party on New Year's Eve provided him an excuse to not carry out either of his two resolutions the next day. The two resolutions included early morning exercise and evening book reading on a daily basis. However, he did not fulfil anyone of these two resolutions on the first day of New Year.

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

- (a) intimidating: unsettling (c) dwindle: diminish
 (b) peril: pitfall (d) repel: betray (e) barb: jibes