

Mock Test Series Batch-1(Online)
CSS-2024 (Jan 2024)
English Précis & Composition Test-3
Total Marks: 50

Test-3

Q.1. Make a precis of the following passage; also suggest a suitable title. (15+5 = 20)

While the media plays a crucial role in informing and educating society, there are instances where its influence can contribute to the creation of a confused or disoriented public. One key factor is the proliferation of misinformation and disinformation. In the age of rapid information dissemination, sensationalism and the prioritization of click-worthy content over accuracy can lead to the spread of false or misleading information. Social media platforms, in particular, can amplify misinformation, creating an environment where rumors, conspiracy theories, and unverified claims thrive. As a result, the public may find it challenging to distinguish between credible information and falsehoods, contributing to confusion. Media's role in framing issues can shape public perception in a way that oversimplifies complex matters or perpetuates binary narratives. Nuanced and multifaceted issues may be reduced to polarized viewpoints, leading to a lack of understanding and an oversimplified worldview. This oversimplification can contribute to confusion, as individuals may struggle to comprehend the intricacies of complex topics when presented in a black-and-white manner.

One aspect of the modern day necessity of 24/7 news cycle is the constant bombardment of information that contributes to information overload, making it difficult for individuals to process and make sense of the vast amount of content. This overload can lead to cognitive fatigue, reducing people's ability to critically analyze information and contributing to a sense of confusion. Another aspect that is generally overlooked is its role in shaping cultural narratives and societal norms which can create conflicting messages. Advertisements, entertainment, and news content may convey contradictory values, leading to confusion about societal expectations and individual identity. The portrayal of unrealistic standards, conflicting role models, and divergent cultural messages can contribute to a sense of disorientation and uncertainty. In some cases, media outlets may prioritize sensationalism and divisive content for increased viewership or readership. This focus on creating controversy and capturing attention can contribute to a polarized society where extreme viewpoints are highlighted, overshadowing nuanced discussions and contributing to societal confusion. This is when the role of media remains unchecked. Personal interest over societal interest compromises the pure existence of a society and the result is, then, an obvious chaos.

Q.2. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. (20)

Sportsmanship can be conceptualized as an enduring and relatively stable characteristic or disposition such that individuals differ in the way they are generally expected to behave in sports situations. In general, sportsmanship refers to virtues such as fairness, self-control, courage, and persistence, and has been associated with interpersonal concepts of treating others and being treated fairly, maintaining self-control if dealing with others, and respect for both authority and opponents. Sportsmanship is also looked at as being the way one reacts to a sport/game/player.

The four elements of sportsmanship are often shown being good form, the will to win, equity and fairness. All four elements are critical and a balance must be found among all four for true sportsmanship to be illustrated. These elements may also cause conflict, as a person may desire to win more than play in equity and fairness and thus resulting in a clash within the aspects of sportsmanship. This will cause problems as the person believes they are being a good sportsman, but they are defeating the purpose of this idea as they are ignoring two key components of being sportsman like. When athletes become too self-centered, the idea of sportsmanship is dismissed.

Today's sporting culture, in particular the base of elite sport, places great importance on the idea of competition and winning and thus sportsmanship takes a back seat as a result. In most, if not all sports, sportsmen at the elite level make the standards on sportsmanship and no matter whether they like it or not, they are seen as leaders and role models in society. Since every sport is rule driven, the most common offence of bad sportsmanship is the act of cheating or breaking the rules to gain an unfair advantage. A competitor who exhibits poor sportsmanship after losing a game or contest is often called a "sore loser", while a competitor who exhibits poor sportsmanship after winning is typically called a "bad winner". Sore loser behavior includes blaming others for the loss, not accepting responsibility for personal actions that contributed to the defeat, reacting to the loss in an immature or improper fashion, making excuses for the defeat, and citing unfavorable conditions or other petty issues as reasons for the defeat. A bad winner acts in a shallow fashion after his or her victory, such as by gloating about his or her win, rubbing the win in the face(s) of the opponent(s), and lowering the opponent(s)'s self-esteem by constantly reminding the opponent(s) of "poor" performance in comparison (even if the opponent(s) competed well). Not showing respect to the other team is considered to being a bad sportsman and could lead to demoralizing effects; as Leslie Howe describes: "If a pitcher in baseball decides to pitch not to his maximum ability suggest that the batter is not at an adequate level, [it] could lead to the batter to have low self-confidence or worth.

Questions:

- Q1. How is sportsmanship conceptualized in the passage, and what virtues does it encompass?
- Q2. What are the four elements of sportsmanship mentioned in the passage, and why is it emphasized that a balance must be found among them?
- Q3. According to the passage, how can the desire to win sometimes conflict with the elements of equity and fairness in sportsmanship?
- Q4. What are some behaviors associated with being a "sore loser" and a "bad winner," as described in the passage? How do these behaviors impact the perception of sportsmanship?

Q3. Choose the word that is most OPPOSITE in meaning to the Capitalized word. (10)

(Write on Answer Sheet)

1. Awry (a) Odd (b) Prime (c) Whole (d) Even
2. Brittle (a) abominable (b) Pliable (c) Frail (d) Fragile
3. Castigate (a) Secure (b) Reward (c) Punish (d) Censure
4. Decrepit (a) Sturdy (b) Blister (c) Scholastic (d) Holistic
5. Composure (a) Undermine (b) Entomb (c) Fissure (d) Unrest
6. Deify (a) extol (b) eulogize (c) immortalize (d) humiliate
7. Concurrence (a) Discord (b) occurrence (c) cult (d) Unanimity
8. Accomplice (a) Comrade (b) foe (c) Courier (d) associate
9. Wanton (a) Lewd (b) wayward (c) libertine (d) decent
10. Vicissitude (a) fluctuation (b) variation (c) Stagnation (d) revolution
