

READING COMPREHENSION BASED GENERAL ENGLISH PRACTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS PDF WITH EXPLANATION

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DIRECTIONS:

Read the following passages carefully and answer the questions given below them. Certain words are given in bold to help you to locate them while answering some of the questions.

PASSAGE

The happy man is the man who lives objectively, who has free affections and wide interests, who secures his happiness through these interests and affections and through the fact that they in turn make him an object of interest and affection to many others. To be the recipient of affection is a potent cause of happiness, but the man who demands affection is not the man upon whom it is bestowed. The man who receives affection is, speaking broadly, the man who gives it. But it is useless to attempt to give it as a calculation, in the way in which one might lend money at interest, for a calculated affection is not genuine and is not felt to be so by the recipient. What then can a man do who is unhappy because he is encased in self? So long as he continues to think about the causes of his unhappiness, he continues to be self-centered and therefore does not get outside it. It must be by genuine interest, not by simulated interests adopted merely as a medicine. Although this difficulty is real, there is nevertheless much that he can do if he has rightly diagnosed his trouble. If for example, his trouble is due to a sense of sin, conscious or unconscious, he can first persuade his conscious mind that he has no reason to feel sinful, and then proceed, to plant this rational conviction in his unconscious mind, concerning himself meanwhile with some more or less neutral activity. If he succeeds in **dispelling** the sense of sin, it is possible that genuine objective interests will arise spontaneously. If his trouble is self-pity, he can deal with it in the same manner after first persuading himself that there is nothing extraordinarily unfortunate in his circumstances. If fear is his trouble, let him practise exercises designed to give courage. Courage has been recognized from time immemorial as an important virtue, and a great part of the training of boys and young men has been devoted to producing a type of character capable of fearlessness in battle. But moral courage and intellectual courage have been much less studied. They also, however, have their technique. Admit to yourself every day at least one painful truth, you will find it quite useful. Teach yourself to feel that life would still be worth living even if you were not, as of course you are, immeasurably superior to all your friends in virtue and in intelligence. Exercises of this sort prolonged through several years will at last enable you to admit facts without **flinching** and will, in so doing, free you from the empire of fear over a very large field.

Q1. According to the passage, calculated affection

a) turns into permanent affection over a period of time

- b) leads to self-pity
 - c) makes other person to love you
 - d) appears to be false and fabricated
 - e) gives a feeling of courage
-

Q2. Who according to the passage is the happy man?

- a) Who is free from worldly passions
 - b) Who has externally centred passions
 - c) Who has free affection and wide interests
 - d) Who is encased in self
 - e) None of these
-

Q3. Which of the following statements is **NOT TRUE** in the context of the passage?

- a) Unhappy man is encased in self.
 - b) A man who suffers from the sense of sin must tell himself that he has no reason to be sinful.
 - c) Courage has been recognised as an important virtue.
 - d) The happy man has wide interests.
 - e) Issue of intellectual courage has been extensively studied.
-

Q4. Which of the following virtues, according to the passage, has been recognised for long as an important virtue?

- a) Courage
- b) Self-consciousness
- c) Sacrifice
- d) Patriotism
- e) None of these

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Q5. Which of the following words is **SIMILAR** in meaning of the word 'bestowed' as used in the passage?

- a) Trusted
- b) Withdrawn
- c) Accommodated
- d) Conferred
- e) Directed

Q6. Which of the following, according to the passage, has not been studied much?

- a) How to get absorbed in other interests
- b) Moral and intellectual courage
- c) The state of mind of an unhappy man
- d) Feeling of guilt and self-pity
- e) None of these

Q7. What should a man do who is suffering from the feeling of self-pity?

- a) He should seek affection from others.
- b) He should develop a feeling of fearlessness.
- c) He should persuade himself that everything is alright in his circumstances.
- d) He should control his passions and emotions.
- e) He should consult an expert to diagnose his trouble.

Q8. What happens to a man who demands affection?

- a) He becomes a victim of a vicious circle.
 - b) He takes affection for granted from others.
 - c) He tends to take a calculated risk.
 - d) His feelings are reciprocated by others.
 - e) None of these
-

Q9. If a man is suffering from a sense of sin,

- a) he should consciously realize that he has no reason to feel sinful
 - b) he should develop a fearless character
 - c) he should admit his sin at once
 - d) he should invite opinion of others
 - e) he should develop an internal focus of control
-

Q10. Which of the following statements is **TRUE** in the context of the passage?

- a) Any virtue has a dark side also.
 - b) One feels happy if one receives affection.
 - c) The happy man lives subjectively.
 - d) All passions stem from unhappiness.
 - e) Any affection is always genuine.
-

Q11. Which of the following statements is **SIMILAR** in meaning to the word '**flinching**' as used in the passage?

- a) explaining
 - b) providing
 - c) convincing
 - d) wincing
 - e) debating
-

Q12. How can one get out of the vicious circle mentioned in the passage?

- a) Being true to others and one's internal circumstances
- b) Admitting to oneself that others could be right
- c) By inculcating the habit of self-absorption
- d) By practising skills of concentration
- e) None of these

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Q13. Which of the following words is **OPPOSITE** in the meaning of the word '**dispelling**' as used in the passage?

- a) projecting
- b) scattering
- c) accumulating
- d) giving
- e) receiving

Q14. What according to the passage is the real cause of happiness?

- a) Affection received from others
- b) Calculated risk taken
- c) Critical analysis of the happy state of mind
- d) Material rewards and incentives received
- e) None of these

Q15. What happens when you think about the cause of your unhappiness?

- a) You try to practice exercise designed to give coverage.

- b) You remain a self-centered person.
- c) You realize that life can be lived in different ways.
- d) You try to introspect and look critically at yourself.
- e) None of these

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Answers to the above questions :

Q1. Answer: (c)

Q2. Answer: (c)

Q3. Answer: (e)

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Q4. Answer: (a)

Q5. Answer: (d)

The meaning of the word 'bestow' as mentioned in the passage is 'to present something as a gift to somebody'. Hence the words 'bestowed' and 'conferred' are synonymous.

Q6. Answer: (b)

Q7. Answer: (c)

Q8. Answer: (a)

Q9. Answer: (a)

Q10. Answer: (b)

Q11. Answer: (d)

The meaning of the word 'flinch' as mentioned in the passage is 'to make a sudden automatic movement because of pain, fear or shock'.

Out of the given words, the meaning of the word 'wince' is 'to show pain, distress or embarrassment by a slight movement of the muscles in the face'. Hence the word 'flinching' and 'wincing' are synonymous.

Q12. Answer: (a)

Q13. Answer: (c)

The meaning of the word 'dispel' as mentioned in the passage is 'to make something go away'.

Hence the word 'dispelling' and 'accumulating' are antonymous.

Q14. Answer: (a)

Q15. Answer: (b)

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