GENERAL ENGLISH PAPER - I

Time Allowed : 3 hours Full Marks : 100

Attempt all questions.

1. Write an essay on any one of the following topics :-
   - Importance of animals in our life
   - Population Explosion
   - Assimilation: Threat to the nation
   - Value of Discipline in Life.

2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below:-

   Trees give shade for the benefit of others while they themselves stand in the sun and endure the scorching heat. They procure fruit from which others profit. The character of a good man is like that of trees. What is the use of this perishable body if it is not used for the benefit of mankind? Sandalwood—the more it is rubbed, the more scent does it emit. Sugar-cane—the more it is peeled and cut into pieces, the more juice does it produce. Gold—the more it is burnt, the more brightly does it shine. The men who are noble at heart do not lose their qualities even by losing their lives. What matters is that whether men praise them or not? What difference does it make whether riches abide with them or not? What does it signify whether they die at this moment or whether their lives are prolonged? Happen what may, those who tread in the right path will not set foot in any other. Life itself is unprofitable to a man who does not live for others. To live for a mere sake of living one’s life is to live the life of doves or crows. Those who lay down their lives for the sake of humanity will assuredly live for ever in a world of bliss.

QUESTIONS:
   (a) Why should we be grateful to trees? (2)
   (b) Why is a good man compared to gold? (2)
   (c) What lesson do the tree teach us? (2)
   (d) What should be the ideals of a good man? (2)
   (e) Whose life is unprofitable to himself or herself? (2)
   (f) Pick out from the passage the words which have the same meaning as the expressions given below: (5×1=5)
      (i) Mortal
      (ii) Certainly
      (iii) Lengthened
      (iv) Bear
      (v) gainful
3. Write a letter to the editor of a daily newspaper against the bad sanitary condition in your locality: 

4. Make sentences with *any five* of the following idioms and phrases :
   - (a) to be in a fix
   - (b) to be down with
   - (c) to be dead against
   - (d) by fits and starts
   - (e) a bone of contention
   - (f) all and sundry

5. Expand the idea contained in *any three* of the following :-
   - (a) Honesty is the best policy.
   - (b) As you sow so shall you reap.
   - (c) A friend in need is a friend indeed.
   - (d) A stitch in time saves nine
   - (e) A little learning is a dangerous thing.
   - (f) Health is wealth

6. Write a precis of the following passage and give it a suitable title :-

   A country is not built of rivers and rocks. The entire strength of nation is in its men. The country rises or sinks with its people. This demands sincere workers who work when other sleep. The sense of duty rules their minds and they strive sincerely to better the lot of the country. They do not rest till they achieved perfection in all fields.

   Students can play a very important role in building their nation. They may look minor but are capable of doing major works. They are future citizens of the country and have to work ceaselessly. No doubt, they are minors and they cannot choose their own men to form the government. However, they can enlighten people to use their right to vote in a proper manner. Very often students and their parents too feel that the main object of their life is to study and the task of nation – building is the botheration of elders. But they, too, can do a lot if they plan so.

   Each city should have youth forums to work and better the social economic condition of the people. Students during their free time should talk to people to make the best use of their leisure for some constructive purpose.

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