

ENGLISH ASSIGNMENT

CLASS – XI

READING SECTION

Q1 Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

To make our life a meaningful one, we need to mind our thoughts, for our thoughts are the foundation, the inspiration and the motivating power of our deeds. We create our entire world by the way we think. Thoughts are the causes and the conditions are the effects.

Our circumstances and conditions are not dictated by the world outside; it is the world inside us that creates the outside. Self-awareness comes from the mind, which means soul. Mind is the sum total of the states of consciousness grouped under thought, will and feeling. Besides self-consciousness we have the power to choose and think.

Krishna says: “no man resteth a moment inactive.” Even when inactive on the bodily plane, we are all the time acting on the thought plane. Therefore if we observe ourselves, we can easily mould our thoughts. If our thoughts are pure and noble, naturally actions follow the same. If our thoughts are filled with jealousy, hatred and greed, our actions will be the same.

Karmically, however, thought or intent is more responsible and dynamic than an act. One may perform a charitable act, but if he does not think charitably and is doing the act just for the sake of gain and glory, it is his thoughts that will determine the result.

Theosophy teaches us that every thought, no matter how fleeting, leaves a seed in the mind of the thinker. These small seeds together go to make up a large thought seed and determine one’s general character. Our thoughts affect the whole body. Each thought once generated and sent out becomes independent of the brain and mind and will live upon its own energy depending upon its intensity.

Trying to keep a thought from our mind can produce the very state we are trying to avoid. We can alter our environment to create the mood. When, for instance, we are depressed, if we sit by ourselves trying to think cheerful thoughts, we often do not succeed. But if we mix with people who are cheerful we can bring about a change in our mood and thoughts. Every thought we think, every act we perform, creates in us an impression, like everything else, is subject to cyclic law and becomes repetitive in our mind. So, we alone have the choice to create our thoughts and develop the kind of impressions that make our actions more positive.

(a) On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions briefly.

- i) How can we make our lives meaningful and why?
- ii) Why does Krishna say, “no man resteth a moment inactive”?
- iii) How do our thoughts affect the whole body?
- iv) How can we change our mood when we are depressed?
- v) What determines the outcome of charitable actions?
- vi) From where does self-awareness come?
- vii) What do positive thoughts help us develop?

(b) On the basis of your reading of the passage, complete the statements given below by choosing the most appropriate option.

I. The mind is a sum total of _____.

- (a) the power to choose and think
- (b) consciousness and unconsciousness
- (c) thought, will and feeling
- (d) None of these

II. The synonym of 'foundation' used in paragraph 1 is _____.

- (e) basis
- (f) support
- (c) fundamental
- (d) reason

III. The antonym of 'glory' used in paragraph 3 is _____.

- (g) modesty
- (h) shame
- (c) distinction
- (d) sorrow

IV. In paragraph 4, the word means the same as 'happening in rotation' is _.

- (i) recurrent
- (j) rotary
- (k) repetitive
- (l) cyclic

V. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a way to improve thoughts?

- (a) Observing ourselves
- (b) Mixing with cheerful people
- (c) Developing positive impressions
- (d) Avoiding all human contact

WRITING SECTION

Q2 You are the General Manager of Tata Motors. You need a Chartered Accountant for your office. Draft an advertisement to be published in The Times of India, New Delhi, under the classified columns.

Q3 You are Kamal/Kamolika living at A-94, sector 18, Rohini, Delhi. You are a well-qualified classical musician. Draft an advertisement seeking a job to be published in a local daily in about 50 words.

Q4 You are Arunita/Arun of civil lines, Agra. You are a computer engineer seeking a job. Write a suitable advertisement in not more than 50 words stating your qualifications and experience a National Daily.