



FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FOR RECRUITMENT TO POSTS IN BS-17 UNDER THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, 2015

Roll Number

ENGLISH (Precis & Composition)

TIME ALLOWED: THREE HOURS	(PART-I MCQs):	MARKS: 20
PART-I(MCQs) : MAXIMUM 30 MINUTES	(PART-II):	MARKS: 80
NOTE:(i) Part-II is to be attempted on the separate Answer Book. (ii) Attempt ALL questions from PART-II . (iii) Candidate must write Q. No. in the Answer Book in accordance with Q. No. in the Q. Paper . (iv) All the parts(if any) of each question must be attempted at One Place instead of at different places. (v) No Page/Space be left blank between the answers. All the blank pages of Answer Book must be crossed. (vi) Extra attempt of any question or any part of the attempted question will not be considered.		

PART-II

Q. 2. Make a précis of the following text and suggest a suitable title. **(20)**

In studying the breakdowns of civilizations, the writer has subscribed to the conclusion – no new discovery! – that war has proved to have been the proximate cause of the breakdown of every civilization which is known for certain to have broken down, in so far as it has been possible to analyze the nature of these breakdowns and to account for their occurrence. Like other evils, war has an insidious way of appearing not intolerable until it has secured such a stranglehold upon the lives of its addicts that they no longer have the power to escape from its grip when its deadliness has become manifest. In the early stages of a civilization's growth, the cost of wars in suffering and destruction might seem to be exceeded by the benefits accruing from the winning of wealth and power and the cultivation of the "military virtues"; and, in this phase of history, states have often found themselves able to indulge in war with one another with something like impunity even for the defeated party. War does not begin to reveal its malignity till the war-making society has begun to increase its economic ability to exploit physical nature and its political ability to organize manpower; but, as soon as this happens, the god of war to which the growing society has long since been dedicated proves himself a Moloch by devouring an ever larger share of the increasing fruits of man's industry and intelligence in the process of taking an ever larger toll of life and happiness; and, when the society's growth in efficiency reaches a point at which it becomes capable of mobilizing a lethal quantum of its energies and resources for military use, then war reveals itself as being a cancer which is bound to prove fatal to its victim unless he can cut it out and cast it from him, since its malignant tissues have now learnt to grow faster than the healthy tissues on which they feed.

In the past, when this danger-point in the history of the relations between war and civilization has been reached and recognized, serious efforts have sometimes been made to get rid of war in time to save society, and these endeavours have been apt to take one or other of two alternative directions. Salvation cannot, of course, be sought anywhere except in the working of the consciences of individual human beings; but individuals have a choice between trying to achieve their aims through direct action as private citizens and trying to achieve them through indirect action as citizens of states. A personal refusal to lend himself in any way to any war waged by his state for any purpose and in any circumstances is a line of attack against the institution of war that is likely to appeal to an ardent and self-sacrificing nature; by comparison, the alternative peace strategy of seeking to persuade and accustom governments to combine in jointly resisting aggression when it comes and in trying to remove its stimuli before hand may seem a circuitous and unheroic line of attack on the problem. Yet experience up to date indicates unmistakably, in the present writer's opinion, that the second of these two hard roads is by far the more promising.

Q.3. Read the following text carefully and answer the questions below: **(20)**

Experience has quite definitely shown that some reasons for holding a belief are much more likely to be justified by the event than others. It might naturally be supposed, for instance, that the best of all reasons for a belief was a strong conviction of certainty accompanying the belief. Experience, however, shows that this is not so, and that as a matter of fact, conviction by itself is more likely to mislead than it is to guarantee truth. On the other hand, lack of assurance and persistent hesitation to come to any belief whatever are an equally poor guarantee that the few beliefs which are arrived at are sound. Experience also shows that assertion, however long continued, although it is unfortunately with many people an effective enough means of inducing belief, is not in any way a ground for holding it.

The method which has proved effective, as a matter of actual fact, in providing a firm foundation for belief wherever it has been capable of application, is what is usually called the scientific method. I firmly believe that the scientific method, although slow and never claiming to lead to complete truth, is the only method which in the long run will give satisfactory foundations for beliefs. It consists in demanding facts as the only basis for conclusions, and in consistently and continuously testing any conclusions which may have been reached, against the test of new facts and, wherever possible, by the crucial test of experiment. It consists also in full publication of the evidence on which conclusions are

based, so that other workers may be assisted in new researchers, or enabled to develop their own interpretations and arrive at possibly very different conclusions.

There are, however, all sorts of occasions on which the scientific method is not applicable. That method involves slow testing, frequent suspension of judgment, restricted conclusions. The exigencies of everyday life, on the other hand, often make it necessary to act on a hasty balancing of admittedly incomplete evidence, to take immediate action, and to draw conclusions in advance of the evidence. It is also true that such action will always be necessary, and necessary in respect of ever larger issues; and this in spite of the fact that one of the most important trends of civilization is to remove sphere after sphere of life out of the domain of such intuitive judgment into the domain of rigid calculation based on science. It is here that belief plays its most important role. When we cannot be certain, we must proceed in part by faith—faith not only in the validity of our own capacity of making judgments, but also in the existence of certain other realities, pre-eminently moral and spiritual realities. It has been said that faith consists in acting always on the nobler hypothesis; and though this definition is a trifle rhetorical, it embodies a seed of real truth.

Answer briefly in your own words the following questions:

1. Give the meaning of the underlined phrases as they are used in the passage. (04)
2. What justification does the author claim for his belief in the scientific method? (04)
3. Do you gather from the passage that conclusions reached by the scientific method should be considered final? Give reasons for your answer. (04)
4. In what circumstances, according to the author, is it necessary to abandon the scientific method? (04)
5. How does the basis of “intuitive judgment” differ from that of scientific decision? (04)

Q.4. Write a comprehensive note (250 – 300 words) on any **ONE** of the following topics: (20)

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| (i) Education should be for life, not for livelihood | (ii) The art of being tactful |
| (iii) Human nature is seen at its best adversity | (iv) Spare the rod and spoil the child |

Q.5. (a) Use only **Five** of the following in sentences which illustrate their meaning (Extra attempt shall not be considered). (05)

- (i) Itching palm (ii) The primrose path (iii) Break one’s fall (iv) Wash one’s hands of
(v) To become reconcile to (vi) To militate against (vii) To be cognizant of (viii) Wages of sin

(b) Explain the difference between the following word pairs by defining each word. (Do only Five) (05)

- (i) Plaintiff, plaintive (ii) valet, varlet (iii) monitor, mentor (iv) complacent, complaisant
(v) penitence, penance (vi) crevice, crevasse (vii) beneficent, beneficial

Q.6. (a) Correct only **Five** of the following sentences: (05)

- (i) Have either of you seen my pen?
- (ii) On attempting to restore the picture to its original condition, almost irreparable change was discovered.
- (iii) The child is the prettiest of the two.
- (iv) I was annoyed arriving late, also his rather insolent manner put me out of temper.
- (v) He is anxious not only to acquire knowledge, but also eager to display it.
- (vi) If he was here now, we should have no difficulty.
- (vii) Due to unforeseen environments, we shall have to leave early.
- (viii) People have and still do disagree on this matter.

(b) Rewrite **One** of the following passages, converting what is in direct speech into indirect, and what is in indirect speech into direct. (05)

- (i) Just as we came in sight of the valley Jamil met us,--“yes, the valley is all very fine, but do you know there is nothing to eat?”

“Nonsense; we can eat anything here.”

“Well, the brown bread’s two months old, and there’s nothing else but potatoes.”

“There must be milk anyhow.”

“Yes, there was milk”, he supposed.

- (ii) Miss Andleeb said she thought English food was lovely, and that she was preparing a questionnaire to be circulated to the students of the university, with a view to finding out their eating preferences.

“But the students won’t fill up questionnaires,” said Miriam.

“Won’t fill up questionnaire?” cried Miss Andleeb, taken aback.

“No”, said Miriam, “they won’t. As a nation we are not, questionnaire-conscious.”

“Well, that’s too bad,” said Miss Andaleeb.
