

Class 10 - English Language and Literature
Discursive Passage Test 02

1. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

1. Nature is our mother, our first teacher. The greatest lesson that she teaches us is to maintain an equilibrium in life. We learn to maintain composure through our joys, sorrows and fears. In fact, there are a thousand lessons that nature can teach us, provided we look for them.
2. With time, a sapling grows into a fullgrown tree; something so tiny and delicate develops into a strong tree capable of supporting others. No matter how tall it grows, how much it may flourish, or how many animals and birds it may support, its roots are firmly buried from where it once rose. That's a lesson - to keep ourselves grounded, respect and embrace our roots, and give something back to those humble beginnings that nurtured us into who we are.
3. Then there is the message of peaceful coexistence. 'I am because we are.' Nature provides every creature a chance to exist. However, the existence of one creature or being depends on the existence of the other. The tiger eats the antelope; without the antelope, the tiger wouldn't survive. Likewise, without tigers, the overabundance of antelopes would cause them to starve to death.
4. I wonder if you have noticed that when birds or squirrels see a predator, they give out an alarm call to their fellow creatures. of the lurking danger. They put themselves in danger to save the lives of others. Many animals, like the salmon, usually die after they spawn, but this doesn't stop them. One life extinguished for the betterment of others is a small price to pay.
5. The snow melts in the warmth of spring to give birth to fresh green leaves. In autumn these leaves age into shades of gold only to be buried in the cold grave of winter. Change is inevitable; the sooner we embrace this, the better it is for us. We must also understand that even in pain there is growth. If you cut a hole in the tree, it will grow around it. No matter what may come in its way, a river will continue to flow. Similarly, no matter what grief may break your heart, nature teaches that life goes on.
6. Keep in mind life isn't about making lists and trying to be one step ahead of others. Life is to live. Take a break-stop being a workaholic, and smell the roses, do whatever makes you feel happy and most of all spend some time with nature to pick up invaluable lessons.
 7. According to the author, what is the greatest lesson being taught by nature?
 8. What does the phrase 'I am because we are' convey?
 9. List 1 quality that the birds and squirrels display when they warn others of possible danger.
 10. Select the option with the underlined words that can substitute the word lurking in ONE PHRASE (paragraph 4).
 - a. The policeman pulled up the person who was wandering aimlessly through the city.

- b. The thief knew that remaining hidden was the best strategy to avoid being caught.
 - c. The policeman was caught on camera while pouncing with force, to grab the fleeing culprit.
 - d. The thief was walking boldly into the house thinking it was devoid of residents.
11. A Portmanteau words like smog (smoke + fog), is a blend of words in which parts of multiple words are combined into a new word. From the options given below, select a Portmanteau word that appears in the para 6.
- a. coexistence
 - b. workaholic
 - c. full-grown
 - d. flourish
12. Select the qualities from paragraph 3, that the author wants us to imbibe. Being:
- 1. acceptive
 - 2. passionate
 - 3. emotional
 - 4. resilient
 - 5. perceptive,
- a. (2), (4) and (5)
 - b. (1), (3) and (4)
 - c. (1), (4) and (5)
 - d. (3), (4) and (5)
13. The 'change of season' in the passage is an example of the fact that nothing lasts forever. (True/false)
14. What does the writer advise in the paragraph 6?
15. Complete the given analogy correctly with a word from the passage.
Survive : vanished :: _____ : strong 1
16. It is good to be _____ but never over-indulge yourself into work.

2. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

1. In this jet age, everyone is interested in making easy money. Thanks to the advancement in science and technology. these days life has become easier and more comfortable than earlier with a lot of domestic gadgets as well as instantaneous food recipes available in the market. This has resulted in making the people develop a mind-set to have anything immediately without waiting for-even at the traffic signals.
2. Most of us want results quickly. We want to reach the top immediately and get worked up when things go wrong. Perseverance and patience are forgotten words. We get upset, frustrated and angry when a skill or activity requires us to put in a lot of effort and time. We get dejected and want to give it up. Things should be easy.
3. Life is too short and there is not enough time to do all the things we want to. We tend to compare with others and get upset when they seem to be doing well and start believing God is being too kind to them and not to us. And so, we give up. But such thinking serves no purpose. For it doesn't solve the problem.

4. Success, real success and happiness come to those who have a 'bread-making' attitude. I am taking for those who are willing to knead the dough, wait for hours for it to rise only to punch it down and knead some more, wait for another couple of hours for it to rise again, then bake it before it is ready to be eaten. Nothing is instantaneous. For every endeavor-whether in the area of career, academics, music, sports, relationships, physical fitness or even in spirituality-it is a long arduous journey.
5. We can get results only if we are willing to spend time, put in painstaking effort and have faith. If we don't accept this difficult but true fact of life, our lives will be far from being happy and fulfilling. For we may not make that extra effort which can change the course of life dramatically for our benefit.
6. However, if we just pause to analyse what we are doing, we will realise how much time we are wasting searching for such magical solutions which simply do not exist. We actually save time when we stop this futile search and accept the proven methods of treading the straight and narrow path however difficult it may seem initially.
 7. What has been credited in the passage for our easier and more comfortable life?
 8. According to the passage, choose the correct statement from the following:
 - a. Advancement in science and technology has resulted in the mind set to have things at their pace.
 - b. Advancement in science and technology has resulted in the mind set to have things instantly and fast.
 - c. Advancement in science and technology has resulted in the mind set to have things slowly and patiently.
 - d. Advancement in science and technology has resulted in a give-up attitude.
 9. List 1 way in which we can save our time as advised by the author.
(1) _____.
 10. Choose the prerequisites to get the desired results in life as per the passage:
 - a. With perseverance and painstaking efforts.
 - b. With utmost faith in mutual understanding.
 - c. With deviated mind and fluctuations.
 - d. By greasing the palms of others.
 11. Success, real success and happiness come to those who have a **bread-making attitude**. The **bread-making attitude** tells that:
 - a. We should be absolutely inactive.
 - b. It requires a skill in household chores.
 - c. We should remain idle in order to taste success.
 - d. We should be a man of patience in order to taste success.
 12. Nothing in life is instantaneous. The underlined word can be replaced by the word _____ in the passage.
 13. Select the best option from the following that can help us reach the top in life.
 - a. Perseverance and patience
 - b. Science and technology
 - c. Dejection and frustration
 - d. Analysis and magical solution

14. The author has stated the example of **bread-making attitude** to make us _____.
15. We can only get the desired results if we do not waste time trying for the same thing again and again. True/false.
16. Most of us want results quickly. This shows that we are _____.

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Solution

- 1.
- i. According to the author, the greatest lesson taught by nature is to maintain emotional equilibrium in our life by keeping composure through vivid emotions.
 - ii. The given phrase conveys that everyone is dependent on each other.
 - iii. The birds and squirrels display selfless assistance to others when they warn them of possible danger.
 - iv. (a) The thief knew that remaining hidden was the best strategy to avoid being caught
Explanation: The meaning of the term 'lurking' is hidden. Hence, (b) is the right answer.
 - v. (b) workaholic (work + alcoholic).
 - vi. (c) (1), (4) and (5).
Explanation: Paragraph 3 wants us to (1) accept the coexistence of creatures for benefit to oneself. It wants us to be (4) resilient and (5) perceptive of the fact. that a creature requires to be dependent on the other creature for its survival. Hence, (c) is the right answer.
 - vii. True
 - viii. In paragraph 6, the writer advise us to take a break from our busy schedule and live it to the fullest. He also advise us to spend some time with nature.
 - ix. Delicate
 - x. workaholic
- 2.
- i. Advancement in science and technology have made our lives easier and more comfortable.
 - ii. (b) Advancement in science and technology has resulted in the mind set to have things instantly and fast.
 - iii. We can save our time by stop searching for magical solutions to our problems.
 - iv. (a) With perseverance and painstaking efforts.
 - v. (d) The 'bread-making attitude' tells us that a person waits for achieving the true success, A baker waits for hours for the dough to rise, only to punch it again & then wait to bake it.
 - vi. immediate
 - vii. (a) Perseverance and patience.
 - viii. Patient

- ix. As per the passage, we can only get results when we put in the painstaking effort and have perseverance to keep trying for the same thing again and again.
- x. Impatient