

ASSIGNMENT FOR THE SESSION 2014-2015

Class: VIII

Subject : English

Assignment No. 2

1. Read carefully the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:-

For the purpose of educating them; our purpose is to make them fit for life. As soon as we realise this fact, we will understand that it is very important to choose the system of education which will really prepare children for life. It is not enough first to choose the system of education one finds or to continue with one's system of education; without examining it to see whether it, in fact, is suitable or not. In many modern countries, it has for sometime been fashionable to think that, by making education free for all, whether rich or poor, clever or stupid - one can solve all the problems of society and build a perfect nation. But we can already see that free education; for all is not enough. We find in such countries a far larger number of people, with university degrees than there are jobs for them to fill. Because of their degrees, they refuse to do what they think low work, and infact work with the hands which is thought to be dirty - and shameful in such countries. But we have only to think a moment to understand that the work of a completely uneducated farmer is far more important than that of a professor; we can live without education but we die if we have no food. In countries where there are no servants because everyone is ashamed of doing such work, the professors have to waste much of their time doing manual housework. Infact when we say that all for us must be educated to fit us for life, it means that we must be educated in such a way that, firstly each of us can do whatever job is suited to his brain, aptitude and ability. Secondly, that we can realise that all jobs are necessary to society, and that it is very bad to be ashamed of one's works, or to scorn someone else. Only such a type of education can be called valuable to society.

Questions:

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| i) | What should we keep in mind when we choose a system of education? | 1 |
| ii) | Why do people refuse to do what they think low work? | 2 |
| iii) | What is the definition of free education for modern countries? | |
| iv) | 'An uneducated farmer's work is more important than a professor's work'. Do you agree? | |
| v) | 'Education is valuable to society'. Frame a question on this statement. | |
| vi) | Choose a word from the passage which is a synonym to 'Contempt'. Education is not an end, but a means to an end. In other words, we do not educate children only Why/ why not? | 2 |
2. Write a postcard to your friend about the merriment you had in the play section of the mall you visited in about 45 – 50 words.
3. You are Samar /Smarika. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily - The Hindustan Times, Delhi, highlighting the problems of daily commuters during peak hours. Suggest some solutions to overcome the problems.
4. Rearrange the following words to form meaningful sentences.
- a) the/ Ranji/my/will/trophy/brother/be/playing/for/year/this
- b) cooks/around/mother/the/world/from/my/delicacies
- c) so/there/many/are/sites/cultural/heritage/of/India/in/importance

5. What shows that the hermit knew him to be the king in 'Three questions'? How did the hermit answer the three questions related to the enemy of the king who was hidden in the ambush?
6. The virtues like politeness, humbleness and modesty is taken to be inefficiency or poor intellect in today's time. Justify with reasoning.
7. "The appreciation is not the same as flattery" Explain.
8. Describe in your words 'the last class' conducted by Monsieur Hamel.

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