

Q1 – write an article of about 250 words on the topic :Global warming.

Global Warming

The retention of extra heat by the Earth is known as Global warming. It is basically an increase in the amount of greenhouse gases in the air that results in more heat being trapped in the atmosphere. The greenhouse gases include carbon dioxide, methane, water vapour and ozone. This leads to an overall rise in the surface temperature of the Earth.

The temperature of the Earth has increased by about 1-2 degree Fahrenheit in the last 100 years and is continuing to increase further. The warming has led to the decrease of cold nights and increase in warm/summer days. Melting glaciers is also a result of global warming.

The amount of carbon dioxide in air has been increasing at an alarming rate. The main cause of this increase being burning of fossil fuels and deforestation. Production, distribution and combustion of fossil fuel also results in the emission of methane gas. As responsible citizens of the Earth, we must take measures to curb the problem of global warming and save the environment. Use of renewable sources of energy, like solar energy should be promoted. Solar heater, solar cooker, solar coolers are some devices that run on the energy captured from the Sun. Farmers should be encouraged to use natural fertilizers that provide better yields and are environment friendly.

Children in school should participate in 'plant a tree' campaigns. Afforestation is an easy and simple step towards saving our environment. Air pollution should be checked, probably by making catalytic converters compulsory for all vehicles. If the above measures are followed and every individual pledges to keep the environment clean, problems like global warming can be under control. Let us all pledge to GO GREEN

Q2 - Write an article of about 250 words on the topic "The Fearless Indian Army"(Nov 2019)

The Fearless Indian Army The Indian army is undoubtedly one of the finest armies in the world. Since prehistoric to modern times the Indian soldiers are one of the bravest, fighting both for homeland as well as for ensuing peace even on foreign lands such as peace keeping force in Sri Lanka.

Our soldiers never surrendered before enemies. Their motto has always been 'do or die'. During Indo-china war of October – November, 1962 and later on in the Indo-Pak war of September 1965, one Indian Soldier killed many soldiers of enemy armies on various fronts. During the World war II the Indian soldiers proved their mettle on the foreign land of Europe, Africa and the Korea on various missions. The Indian army has proved their superiority whenever the neighboring country Pakistan challenged us. The Kargil war In 1999 was triggered by the spring and summer incursion of Pakistan backed armed forces into territory on the Indian side of the LOC around Kargil in State of Jammu & Kashmir.

The Indian forces were prepared for a major high altitude offensive against Pakistani posts along the border in the Kashmir region. India had to move five infantry divisions, five independent brigades and 44 battalions of paramilitary troops to Kashmir. The total Indian army troop strength in the region reached

to 7,30,000. The build-up included the deployment of around 60 frontline aircraft. The Indian army campaign to repel the intrusion left 524 Indian soldiers dead and 1,363 wounded, as per the data released by then Indian defence minister Shri George Fernandez on December 01, 1999.

Q3 - Write an article of about 250 words on the topic, "The Importance of water conservation". (Nov 2019)

The Importance of Water Conservation

-By (Writer's name)

Water is one of the three basic resources for the survival of human kind besides air and food. More than 90 percent of human body is composed of water. Though water is abundantly available on our planet, with 2/3rd of earth covered by water, still fresh, clean water is a limited resource. Rivers, fresh water lakes, waterfalls, natural springs, ground water and rain are the natural resources of fresh water.

With indiscriminate rise in human population worldwide, the pressure on these natural resources has increased manifold. In many developing countries, due to incessant industrialization leading to exponential rise in migration to big cities/townships, contamination of ground water and rivers has not only led to scarcity of pure drinking water but also emerged as a serious health hazard. Over reliance on ground water and rivers for construction/infrastructure development projects in urban areas and little or no awareness about water conservation has led to fast depletion of these natural resources.

It is about time we realized the importance of clean water as water tables are fast declining, rivers and lakes are drying or being polluted/contaminated especially in thickly populated urban areas such as New Delhi, Hyderabad and Bangalore. According to a study these urban areas will have little or no ground water left that will lead to a drought like situation in a few years time. As progressive citizens, we must take immediate measures to not only restrict our water consumption but also devise innovative conservation methods to provide sustainable sources of clean drinking water. While Rain water harvesting and reducing water consumption are effective methods of water conservation in urban areas, construction of small dams to provide huge water reservoirs holds the key to effective water conservation in rural areas.

Q4 - Write an article of about 250 words on the topic, "The Pros and cons of online education in India". (Nov 2020)

The Pros and Cons of online education in India

By S. Kumar

Online education in India, though not a new concept in higher education has become an inevitable reality for learners across the board at all levels including school colleges and universities. The recent paradigm shift in knowledge delivery from a physical classroom to a virtual one due to the sudden onslaught of COVID-19 pandemic has raised many a debate about the efficacy of online learning and credibility of courses offered.

There are many advantages of online learning, foremost is the flexibility and convenience of time and place. One can pursue course contents anytime, anywhere just using their smart devices. Short term courses can be pursued by enthusiastic learners ranging from enhancing their skills in communication, team dynamics and leadership to learning new languages, IT programming, online accounting software solutions and many others. These courses are much more cost effective as compared to regular classroom courses thus economically viable to a large spectrum of learners.

Such courses inculcate discipline, responsibility, commitment and focus. Before signing up for one, accreditation, relevance and contents of these courses must be duly verified and checked. Since there is little or no one-on-one interaction with the teachers, it may lead to learning gaps. With hardly any stipulation or protocol, most learners may lose interest or focus, may quit the course before completion or defer the end term exam, defeating the purpose of joining. Online learning poses many constraints for young school children.

They are not able to develop many skills that they would in a physical classroom such as interaction with peers and following instructions. Practical experiments which are integral to the senior school curriculum are difficult to demonstrate and explain. Therefore, online education is an effective mode of learning for mature and conscientious learners only.

Q5 - Write an article of about 250 words on the topic. "The Pleasures of reading".(Jan 2021)

The Pleasures of Reading

By: XYZ

Ever since humankind invented the printed word, reading has been a learning exercise for some, pastime for many others. Undoubtedly, reading whets our quest for knowledge, our imagination and evokes a spectrum of emotions, thus offering instant gratification and pleasure.

Few can deny the joy of reading the daily newspaper while enjoying a cup of tea in the mornings, an ultimate start to a great day. It's a daily ritual we would not like to miss for anything. Who doesn't get glued to the highpoint or climax of a novel. It transcends us into a surreal world, away from the harsh realities where we slip into our favorite character etched out straight from the novel and become a part of the narrative, going through the whole gamut of emotions from respect to affection, pain to joy, despair to hope, failure to success and fulfillment. It induces heightened feelings of fear, suspense and adventure raising the adrenaline rush. The sheer delight of reading a piece of poetry laden with eloquence, rhythm and soul stirring emotions makes us feel high. While reading informative articles, journals and technical books develop our intellectual capability by enriching our knowledge and enhancing our analytical skills and critical thinking, creative and descriptive pieces enhance our vocabulary, expression and creative writing skills.

On the lighter note, reading satire and comic pieces tickle our ribs and relieves stress. Reading makes us aware of our emotional self and sensitizes us to appreciate feelings of others. It enlightens our mind and soul and makes us a better human being. We must inculcate the habit of reading everyday.

Q6 – write an article on Sports in India in the present time.(MTP)

Answer Hints:

1. Sports being now considered as a career option
2. Government spending on sports has increased considerably
3. Promising youngsters are being sponsored by the centre/state government for specialized training programmes.
4. Sports related infrastructure, academies and coaching facilities being provided at the school /college level
5. International exposure being provided to young achievers to nurture their talent and enhance their capabilities.
6. Special quota for sportspersons in academics and jobs
7. Sportspersons considered as role models, social change makers, influencers
8. Sportspersons bag plum advertising assignments
9. They are respected by all in the civic society as achievers.

Q7 – Write an article in 250 – 300 words on the topic Impact of working from home on career.

Answer Hints:

1. Briefly discuss what people enjoy vis a vis challenges they face (especially women) about working from home.
2. No limit on work assignments/ no timings
3. Health issues due to lack of movement/confinement such as cervical pain, backache etc.
4. Struggle with social isolation and its impact
5. Cases of depression and anxiety across country
6. Professional relationship with colleagues/networking is effected
7. Chances of learning are reduced
8. Chance to be able to maintain work-life balance is zero
9. Out of sight, out of mind issues! – you might miss the opportunity because your senior doesn't remember you.
10. End with working in office is not easy but neither is working from home.

Q8 – Discuss the Pros and Cons of Demonetization.

Hints:

- What is demonetisation?
- What was the aim behind implementing it?
- What were the immediate causes?
- What are the expected long term effects of this new policy?
- How well has it been accepted in the public?
- Expected pros and cons, in the student's personal opinion.

Q9 – Do we need a dress code in office.

Hints:

- Need for a discipline
- Need to follow a protocol
- Need to be independent
- Moral policing
- Relates to the work profile
- Free society, 21 st century

