

Prose 2nd Year (Intermediate)

1. How To Avoid Foolish Opinions (Bertrand Russell)

1. Annotate Any Two of the following in about 100 words each. [2×4=8Marks]

- If someone maintains that two and two are five or that Iceland is on the equator, you feel pity rather than anger...
- Persecution is used in theology, not in arithmetic because, in arithmetic, there is knowledge, but in theology, there is only opinion.
- I have frequently found myself growing less dogmatic and cocksure through realizing the possible reasonableness of a hypothetical opponent.
- Be very wary of opinions that flatter your self-esteem.

3. Answer Any Two of the following questions in about 100 words each. [2×4=8Marks]

- How can we prevent developing a dogmatic attitude as per Russell's suggestion?
- Travel is an excellent educator. Explain with reference to Russell's essay How to Avoid Foolish Opinions.
- According to Russell, what is the only way to tackle self-pride?
- What does Bertrand Russell say about a person getting angry about a difference of opinion?

Introduction: These lines are taken from the lesson "How to Avoid Foolish Opinions" written by "Bertrand Russell"

About the author: Bertrand Arthur William Russell was born in the United Kingdom. He was a Philosopher, logician, mathematician, historian, writer, Social critic, Political activist, and Nobel laureate. His writing is characterized by an extended knowledge of Science and Philosophy. He is the author of Principia Mathematica, The Problem of Philosophy, and many other influential works.

Context – The article "How to Avoid foolish Opinions" deals with various ways to avoid many mistakes man makes. If someone says two and two are five, we don't feel angry, But if we lack in arithmetic knowledge, we become angry. Anger cautions us to be careful. Where there is not much evidence about a particular issue, there is scope for differences in opinions. Theology leads to arguments whereas arithmetic doesn't give any chance for disputes. Travel

is an excellent educator. It teaches one, through many live examples, what cultures customs, crops climates, etc are!

Awareness of multiple types of beliefs through world journeys avoids foolish opinions. Russell found out that participating in an imaginary argument with a person holding opposite to yours is an effective technique.

Russell explains self-esteem is one major reason for differences in opinions. We have many instances where ideas flatter over Self-esteem. Both men and women strongly believe that they are better than the other sex.

Russell analyses that keep on expanding your knowledge on various issues that help you stay away from anger. A great thinker as Russell is, he suggests here a simple way to tackle self-pride. The method is to remember how short our life span is on a Small Planet.

Conclusion: Thus Russell gives us tips on how to avoid foolish opinions. The first is observation then, being ready to reconsider our opinions, the third is becoming aware of the fact, the fourth is ample use of psychological imagination and the fifth is keeping self-esteem within limits.

OR

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About the author: Bertrand Arthur William Russell was born in the United Kingdom. He was a Philosopher, mathematician, historian, writer, political activist, and Nobel laureate.

Context: The article How to Avoid foolish Opinions deals with various ways to avoid many mistakes a man makes.

Explanation: Russell, in his essay, How To Avoid Foolish Opinion says that there are many way to avoid being foolish. Making a keen observation where it can settle the bias is the first way. Next, to know what other people think one has to be aware of what they think. This can be done by going on vacation and talking to people with different ideas. The third is arguing with an imaginary character who has a different point of view. The fourth one is to deal with one's sense of selfworth which is the hardest, to overcome we must remember that we live for a short while on a small planet.

Conclusion: Thus Russell gives us tips on how to avoid foolish opinions

2. The Awakening of Women(K. M. Panikkar)

1. Annotate the following into about 100 words each [2×4=8Marks]

- Undoubtedly women in ancient India enjoyed a much higher status than their descendants in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.
- From the first days of his movement Gandhiji realized that there was a source of immense untapped power in the womanhood of India ...
- It was a matter of surprise to the outside world that independent India should have appointed women to the highest posts so freely, as members of the Cabinet...
- The contribution of women to modern India may therefore be said to have led to reintegration of social relationships.

3. Answer the following in about 100 words each [2×4=8Marks]

- Why were Indian women in the 19th century were the most backward of all women in the world?
- But when the moment was actually started, women were everywhere at the forefront. Elaborate.
- What is the true test of the changed position of women in India.
- Name some legislative reform mentioned in the essay, "The Awaken Of Women" that seek to establish the equality of women.

Introduction: These lines are taken from the lesson "The Awakening of Women" written by "K.M Pannikka".

About the author: Kavalam Madhava Panikkar was a statesman diplomat, journalist, historian, and writer. He was educated in Madras and at the University of Oxford. He was a prolific writer and published numerous articles in Malayalam and English.

Context: The Awakening of women is an interesting essay about the position of women in India over time. It shows the transformation of women's position in India. The role of the Gandhian movement in effecting this change is emphatically established.

Explanation: The article picturizes the position of women in India. It was with Gandhi's non-cooperation movement that women has come out from behind the 'purdah'. They were denied education. Child marriages were the order. Once married, women were subjected to many more restrictions. Early maternity, men's high mortality rates, and the resulting widowhood added to women's causes collectively condemned women to a pathetically low condition.

Later, the movement for emancipation by the Brahma Samaj and the freedom movement by Gandhiji brought considerable change in the position of women. Women actively participated with men in the freedom struggle.

Gandhi recognized the immense untapped power that women had. He thought that it could rightly be diverted to the work of his heart. rehabilitation of the villages. He strongly believed in the equality of women,

and he strongly believed in equality of women, and he wrote a good number of articles in his 'Harijan' supporting women's rights and privileges.

But by the beginning of the 20th century, the concept of education for women had gained momentum. Some of the women tasted the fruits of modern education and started seriously the work of women's upliftment.

Women got rid of the social bondages of customs and conservatism and came out during the Gandhian movement of Non-Cooperation. Women were seen everywhere at the forefront of the movement. They were Picketing before liquor shops, boycotting foreign cloth, and undertaking Civil- disobedience.

It impacted the administration in a positive way, that it brought many legislative reforms such as the equality of women, their right to independent property, freedom of marriage, education, and employment. The raising of the age of consent for marriage are some other important pieces of legislation.

Although they fought against the British equally with men, they couldn't get good posts and positions in independent India.

Conclusion: Thus the article deals with the status of women over various periods. Rights have been reinforced. Thus, women's contribution to modern India resulted in important development.

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Context: The Awakening of women is an interesting essay about the position of women in India over time. It shows the transformation of women's position in India. The role of the Gandhian movement in effecting this change is emphatically established.

Explanation: The article picturizes the position of women in India. The writer points out that women in ancient India had a good place in society. The 18th and 19th centuries witnessed a drastic fall in women's condition. An upward movement in their position started during the prolonged struggle for freedom. The Gandhian movement affected the most spectacular transformation in women's progress in the National Movement. Women's achievements and their role and contribution in various fields impacted legislation and administration in a positive way.

Although they fought against the British equally with men, they couldn't get good posts and positions in independent India.

Conclusion: Thus, women's contribution to modern India resulted in important development.

3. Solution to Plastic Pollution

1. Annotate the following in about 100 words each. [2×4=8Marks]

- He could easily be mistaken for a Sanskrit pundit if you heard him quote the holy text as a solution to any problem in the world.
- One day your test will become the convention.
- “But I think it my duty to serve my country first and therefore, I gave it free to the Indian Government.”
- The plastic instantly melts and coats the gravel without releasing toxic gases into the atmosphere.

3. Answer the following questions in about 100 words each. [2×4=8Marks]

- Describe the department of Dr. Vasudevan as the Professor of TCE.
- How did Dr. Vasudevan experiment with plastic waste and what has been the result?
- How did A.P.J Kalam encourage Dr. Vasudevan and what has been the outcome?
- List the advantages of plastic roads as described by Dr. Vasudevan.

Introduction: These lines are taken from the lesson “Solution to Plastic Pollution” it is an essay taken from the internet. The essay discusses Dr. R. Vasudevan’s research.

Dr. Rajagopalan Vasudevan was born in Tamil Nadu. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science and later obtained a Master of Science Degree. He received a Doctorate in science from the University of Madras. He joined the Thiagarajar College of Engineering as a member of the faculty.

Context: Dr. Vasudevan focused his research on the methods of recovery and reuse of plastic waste. This is how the idea of plastic roads was born.

Explanation: Dr. Vasudevan had been the Professor and Head of the Department of Chemistry at Thiagarajar College of Engineering. But his department exhibited that he was a Sanskrit Pandit. He always carried the Bhagavad Gita in his hands and quoted many Shlokas to his students while teaching. His thirst for research with chemicals and a mission for clean India made him find a solution to Plastic waste.

While on his work, Once Abdul Kalam visited the college. Kalam told Vasudevan, that one day his test would become the convention. His words proved Prophetic. Dr. Vasudevan laid the first road 60 feet long plastic road within the Campus.

Dr. Vasudevan’s ethics and commitment to his nation prevented him from migrating to other countries. He proudly announces that it is his duty to serve his country first and therefore, he gave to the Indian Government.

Dr. Vasudevan said waste plastic could be used as an excellent binder material to develop good roads. The gravel is heated to 170 degrees celsius and shredded plastic is sprayed over the hot stone aggregate. The plastic instantly melts and coats the gravel without releasing toxic gases into the atmosphere. Immediately bitumen heated to 160-degree celsius is mixed at 155-degree celsius and used for laying the road.

Dr. Vasudevan first tried out this technology to pave a road on his college campus. It yielded two benefits. It reused plastic waste and built durable roads. He has rightly been called 'Plastic Man of India'.

It serves the twin purpose of increasing the quality of roads and also solving the problems of plastic disposal. The benefits are many. They are (1)Low cost (using less bitumen)(2) Simple technology(3) Spot used waste plastic(4) Waterproof roads that last up to 60 years(5) Doubling of road Strength(6) Higher Toad Carrying capacity(7) Almost Zero maintenance and(8)A new surface without rutting, cracking or Potholes

Conclusion:-Thus with his persistent research in his laboratory, he showed the world a permanent solution as to how plastic waste can use in laying roads.

OR

Introduction: These lines are taken from the lesson "Solution to Plastic Pollution" it is essay taken from the internet. The essay discusses Dr. R. Vasudevan's research.

About The Author: Dr. Rajagopalan Vasudevan was born in Tamil Nadu. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science and later obtained a Master of Science Degree. He received a Doctorate in science from the University of Madras. He Joined the Thiagarajar College of Engineering as a member of the faculty.

Context: Dr. Vasudevan focused his research on the methods of recovery and reuse of plastic waste. This is how the idea of plastic roads was born. He devised an innovative way of disposing of plastic waste – by using it to build roads.

Explanation: Dr. Vasudevan is the Professor and Head, of the Department of Chemistry at Thiagarajar College of Engineering. Though he was a Professor his department exhibited that he was a Sanskrit pundit. He always carried the Bhagavad Gita in his hands and quoted many shlokas to his students while teaching. Once he presented to Kalam his project and its potential use as a coating over the pebbles for laying roads. Kalam said that one day his test would become the convention. Kalam's words proved prophetic. Dr. Vasudevan laid the first road 60 feet long plastic road within the campus. The gravel is heated to 170 degrees Celsius and shredded plastic is sprayed over the hot stone aggregate. The plastic instantly melts and coats the gravel without releasing toxic gases into the atmosphere. Immediately, bitumen heated to 160 degrees Celsius is mixed at 155 degrees Celsius and used for laying the road. He succeeded in presenting an efficient, an economical, and environmentally friendly solution to plastic waste. It yielded two benefits. It reused plastic waste and built durable roads. Thus, he has become popular as the Plastic Road Man.

Conclusion:-Thus with his persistent research in his laboratory, he showed the world a permanent solution as to how plastic waste can be used in laying roads.

4. The Religion Of The Forest (Rabindranath Tagore)

1. Annotate Any Two of the following in about 100 words each. [2×4=8Marks]

- The ideal of perfection preached by the forest-dwellers of ancient India runs through the heart of our classical literature and still dominates our minds.
- The view of this world that India has taken is summed up in one compound Sanskrit word, Sacchidananda.
- Nature stands on her own right, providing that she has her great function, to impart the peace of the eternal to human emotions.
- These poems contain the voice of warning against the gorgeous unreality of that age, which like a Himalayan avalanche, was slowly gliding down to an abyss of catastrophe.

3. Answer Any Two of the following questions in about 100 words each.

[2×4=8Marks]

- To make the spirit of the religion of the forest clear to readers, Tagore presents some sets of contrasts. Explain them.
- This aspect of truth cannot be ignored; it has to be known and mastered. What is that aspect of truth, according to Tagore?
- The hermitage shines out in all our ancient literature, as the place where the chasm between man and the rest of creation has been bridged. Explain this statement of Tagore.
- Explain how the old simplicity of Hindu life had broken up in Kalidasa's time.

Introduction: These lines are taken from the thought-provoking essay "The Religion Of The Forest" written by Rabindranath Tagore.

About the author: Rabindranath Tagore a polymath is fondly remembered as Gurudev and VishwaKavi. He was awarded the Nobel Prize for his Gitanjali. As a poet, dramatist, novelist, story writer, artist, educationist, social, dramatist, novelist, story writer, artist, educationist, social, political, and religious thinker, and philosopher, Tagore remains immortal.

Content: The essay "The Religion Of The Forest" is an extract from his original English composition "Creative Unity". The essay looks like a research paper.

Explanation: Ancient India provided serene surroundings to her wise sages in her lush green forest. They preached the ideal of perfection to the world the essence of that teaching is so Universal and long-lasting that it dominates our mind even today.

Indians were mostly forest dwellers. They picked up from nature the principle of peaceful coexistence. The Greeks and on the other hand, were mainly sea forces and their motto was confrontation and subjugation. Tagore explains, objectively, both the merits and demerits of each side, still, he guides the readers to choose well. When the world seen as alien to us, then its mechanical aspect becomes prominent in our minds. The machine also has its place in the world. Europe has done so and has reaped a rich harvest.

The view of ancient Indians about our life and universe is well summed up in the term 'Sacchi Danada' it tells that reality has three phases. The first phase is 'Sat' which states the fact that things exist and the fact that relates us to all things through the relationship of common existence.

The second phase is 'chit' which states that we know and this relates to all things through knowledge.

In Kalidas's Shakuntala, the hermitage overshadowed the magnificence of the king's Palace. While describing the Hermitage in "Kadambari" Bana tells us one could hear the groves, the verses, repeated by the parrots and the wildfowl enjoying their food. One could also see the Ducks coming up from the lake, the deer caressing the young hermit boys. All these things tell us that the hermitage was the place where the wide differences of the feeling of man and the rest of the creation has been bridged.

For Tagore, our relationship with the forest and nature is a relationship that allows us to experience our humanity. Realism is the value of this concept and living as per that ideal promotes peace and prosperity.

In Kalidas's time, the kings became self-seeking epicureans. It is evident from Kalidas's poem one should find enjoyment through renunciation, not through the greed of possession, future would be glorious when there would be the calm of self-control, purity, and renunciation in the atmosphere.

Conclusion: The essay serves as an example of both an expository and argumentative essay for learners to emulate.

(OR)

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About the author: Rabindranath Tagore is fondly remembered as Gurudev and VishwaKavi. He was awarded the Nobel Prize for his Gitanjali.

Context: The essay The Religion Of the Forest is an extract from his original English composition Creative Unity. The essay looks like a research paper.

Explanation: Tagore seeks to present the ideal of perfection as explained by the ancient Indian forest-dwellers. Ancient India provided calm surroundings to her wise sages in her green forests. They preached the ideal of perfection to the world. The view of ancient Indian about a life and universe is well summed up in the term. "Sacdhidanada". The first phase is "Sat" which states the things that exist. The second phase is "Chit" which states that we know and this relates to all, things through knowledge. The third phase is "Ananda" which is the fact that we enjoy and this unites as with all things through love. All through the Kalidas's poem there, runs the idea that the future would be glorious when there would be calm of self-control.

Conclusion: Thus living in harmony with nature is the religion of the forest.

5. Guilty (Horace J Gardiner and Bonneriere)

1. Annotate ANY TWO of the following in about 100 words each. [2×4=8Marks]

- a) Maybe the world needs good Watchmen as much as it does engineers
- b) He is a fine, good boy and a hard worker
- c) Ma, you're talking like someone in a fog, without any sense.
- d) You have put what you think is two and two together and made four out of it, haven't you?

3. Answer any two of the following questions in about 100 words each.

[2×4=8Marks]

- a) Describe the importance of Mrs. Moore's role in Guilty
- b) Ma Ryan puts what she thinks is two and two together and makes four out of it. Discuss the developments that lead (or, rather mislead) Ma Ryan into making this mistake.
- c) Sketch the character of Jim in the light of Ma Ryan's comments like it is the same! but how did it get into Jim's pocket?
- d) "Ma, you're talking like someone in a fog, without any sense." Are these words from Jim an order or exception? Explain.

Introduction: These lines are taken from the delightful and humorous one-act play Guilty written by Horace J. Gardiner and Bonneriere

About the Author: Horace J. Gardiner was born in the U.S.A not much is known to the world about him. People consider Horace J. Gardiner and Bonnevier Arnaud a single author, for the apparent reason of the Non-availability of any work by them individually.

Context: Guilty is a delightful one and play the play succeeds in delivering a clear social message.

Explanation: Jim Ryan is the central character of this one-act play. He is an engineering graduate. But he has been compelled to work as a night watchman, for want of a better job. Jim's mother Ma Ryan knows about her son well she has unflinching love towards her son, but what pleases her most is that Jim still keeps some of the bad company.

They highlight the dignity of labor. She says that she is very much afraid that the boy remains unemployed forever. She worries a lot that he would get discouraged, and depressed. One could do anything when it becomes difficult to survive. The neighboring woman Mrs. Moore says that the boy is not that sort and he won't do anything wrong. Ma Ryan, too, agrees Mrs. Moore always

One night, the neighbor Mrs. Moore calls on Ma Ryan and shows her in a news item in the newspaper. It is about a stolen Diamond robbery is committed at the Van Kings warehouse,

the previous night where Jim is working. The thieves have stolen the famous Van King's diamond pendant, coincidentally Ma Ryan has found a jewel wrapped in a kerchief in Jim's sweater. Mother doubts if it is the stolen diamond of Van King. She grows anxious, she fears that her son would be sent to Jail.

The next movement a police officer calls at their house, then Jim and a stranger turn up. Ma Ryan asked Jim to run away from home, then the stranger says that she guessed it wrongly it is indeed Mr. Jim, who somehow got the Diamond. Later, Jim clarifies that all her fears and untrue, and she is totally confused.

Conclusion: The play is full of gripping narrations and it delivers a clear social message.

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Explanation: Jim Ryan is a young engineering graduate. He works as a Nightwatchman at Van King Warehouse. Mrs More the neighbour, shows Jim's mother, Ma Ryan a newspaper report about a robbery at the Van King Warehouse. As Ma Ryan straightens up Jims room, she finds the robbed diamond pendant in the pocket of Jim's sweater. She starts worrying that her son is mixed up in the robbery. She puts two and two together. But very soon, she discovers her mistake. And all is well that ends well.

Conclusion: The play is full of gripping narrations and it delivers a clear social message.