

MCA (Revised)
Term-End Examination
December, 2008

MCS-015 : COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Time : 2 hours

Maximum Marks : 50

Note : *Attempt all questions.*

1. Read the following passage and answer the questions given below :

Where is Science taking us with regard to ethical and spiritual values ? We know what it is doing with regard to material things, for they are its daily business; but what is it doing with regard to non-material things ? If the answer is "nothing at all", that would be bad enough, but the actual answer is 'less than nothing'. Here Science is actually doing less than nothing. Its material teachings have been so overemphasised that many people are floundering and wondering whether after all man is but a machine animated by a force over which he has no control.

This is the age of machines. Machines are everywhere - in the fields, in the factory, at home,

in the street, in the city, in the country, everywhere. To fly, it is not necessary to have wings, there are machines. To swim under the sea, it is not necessary to have gills, there are machines. To kill our fellow beings in overwhelming numbers, there are machines. Petrol driven machines alone provide ten times more power than all human beings in the world. In the busiest countries, each individual has six hundred slaves in his machines. What are the consequences of this abnormal power ? Before the war, it looked as though it might be possible, for the first time in history, to provide food and clothing and shelter for the teeming population of the world, every man, woman and child. This would have been one of the greatest triumphs of Science. And yet we saw the world crammed full of food and people hungry. During the IInd World War, the larders were bare and millions starved. That was war, one would say. When the machines of peace once more hummed, did we see more and more food and less people hungry ? For that's the way of Science and machine age — it produces the goods, it makes the goods but ignores the consequences.

(a) Say whether the following statements are true or false :

- (i) According to the author, Science plays a positive role in promoting ethical and spiritual values.

(ii) The main business of Science is to promote materialism.

(iii) Machines have given unlimited power to man.

(b) What two other terms does the author use for 'non-material things' ? 1

(c) What does the author mean by "abnormal power" ? 1

(d) Mention at least three things in which machines are helpful to man. 1

(e) What negative role do machines play in man's life, as mentioned in the passage. 1

(f) After reading the passage do you think the author praises machines or he is critical of them. Give reasons for your answer. 3

2. Fill in the blanks choosing the most suitable phrasal verb from those given below : 5

(Make changes in the form of the verb where necessary. There are two extra phrasal verbs.)

carry through, break down, call off, carry away, give in, carry out

(a) The meeting _____ because the quorum was not complete.

(b) I _____ by emotion so I committed this mistake.

(c) If you don't have money you can't _____ the project in hand.

(d) The girl _____ when she found her mother ill.

(e) He could not withstand the pressure of his opponents so he _____ .

3. The Personnel Managers of four companies, A, B, C and D met for a group discussion regarding the emerging trends in new ways of interviewings. 10

Write down the text of the discussion.

4. You are the Chief Marketing Manager of an Automobile Manufacturing Company. Draft a letter to the Area Sales Managers asking them to attend a meeting at the Head Office and bring along, their sales figures for December 2008 and reason for increase or decrease compared with November 2008. 10

5. Write an application along with your Curriculum Vitae (C.V.) for the job of Finance Manager in a Publishing House. 10+5

Qualifications : Chartered Accountant, MBA,
with finance as major discipline.

Experience : at least 3 years.

Apply within seven days to Pearson Longman 71A
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