



Writing Skills Test

Q.1 Write an essay of approximately 350 words on any one of the following topics:

- (i) Decline of sports in Pakistan
 - (ii) Inclusion of Pakistan Stock Exchange in MSCI emerging markets
 - (iii) War is a strange game in which the only winning move is – not to play
 - (iv) Importance of early childhood education
- (Note: word count carries marks)*

Your essay will be assessed on the following criteria:

- Introduction and conclusion.
- Quality of text, use of idioms and phrases.
- Language, vocabulary, organization and logical presentation of ideas.

(15)

Q.2 Write a précis of 120-125 words of the following passage (*Word count carries marks*).

Philosophy of space and time

Philosophers have discussed the nature of time since at least the time of ancient Greece. For example, Parmenides presented the view that time is an illusion. Centuries later, Newton supported the idea of absolute time, while his contemporary Leibniz maintained that time is only a relation between events and it cannot be expressed independently. The latter approach eventually gave rise to the spacetime of relativity.

Time Travel

Time travel is the concept of movement between certain points in time, analogous to movement between different points in space, typically using a hypothetical device known as a time machine, in the form of a vehicle or of a portal connecting distant points in time. Time travel is a recognized concept in philosophy and fiction, but traveling to an arbitrary point in time has a very limited support in theoretical physics, and usually only connected with quantum mechanics or wormholes, also known as Einstein-Rosen bridges. In a more narrow sense, one-way time travel into of the future via time dilation is well-understood phenomenon within the frameworks of special relativity and general relativity, but advancing a large amount of time is not possible with current technology.

Backward Time Travel

Many in the scientific community believe that backward time travel is highly unlikely. Any theory that would allow time travel would introduce potential problems of causality. The classic example of a problem involving causality is the “grandfather paradox”: what if one were to go back in time and kill one’s own grandfather before one’s father was conceived? Some theories, most notably special and general relativity, suggest that suitable geometries of spacetime or specific types of motion in space might allow time travel into the past and future if these geometries or motions were possible. In technical papers, physicists discuss the possibility of closed time-like curves, which are world lines that form closed loops in the spacetime, allowing objects to return to their own past. There are known to be solutions to the equations of general relativity that describe spacetimes which contain closed time-like curves, such as Godel spacetime, but the physical plausibility of these solutions is uncertain.

(Total word count = 347) (10)

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Q.3 A heavy duty printer installed at Sandesa Couriers Limited (SCL) went out of order. The repair cost of the printer quoted by the authorized support vendor is more than its written down value. The IT head of SCL had therefore advised Nasir, procurement manager of SCL, to coordinate with Candle Limited (CL), authorised sales retailer of heavy duty printers and get quotation for similar or a better printer. He also advised Nasir to check:

- the possible reduction in price in case SCL trades-out the old printer
- if CL could provide a backup printer until the new printer is received

On behalf of Nasir, write a letter to CL's sales manager as advised by the IT head.

CL's office is situated at 101 Fortune Avenue, Islamabad. Assume other necessary details. **(15)**

(THE END)