



Writing Skills Test

Q.1 Write an essay of approximately 300 words on any one of the following topics:

- (i) The economic and social cost of illiteracy
- (ii) Fake news and social media
- (iii) Balancing the work-life equation
- (iv) Importance of women's education for the nation

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.

(Word count also carries mark)

(15)

Q.2 Write a précis of 125-135 words of the following passage. *(Word count carries mark)*

During the British rule in the subcontinent, its rulers constructed various magnificent buildings and towers in the main cities of the subcontinent. Merewether Memorial Tower and Empress Market are two such architectures in Karachi.

Merewether Memorial Tower was raised by public subscription as a memorial for Sir William L. Merewether, who served as Commissioner of Sindh from 1867 to 1877. It was designed by James Strachan, the Municipal Engineer, and its foundation stone was laid by the then Governor of Bombay, Sir James Fergusson in 1884. It was constructed in 1886 and was formally opened to the public in 1892 by the then Commissioner of Sindh, Sir Evan James. It is now located at the junction of M.A. Jinnah Road and I.I. Chundrigar Road which are amongst the busiest roads of Karachi. The Tower stands on a base of 44 square feet and has a height of 102 feet. James Strachan designed the tower in the Gothic Revival style which was very popular in Victorian England, to evoke the architecture of Medieval England. The structure is built in buff-colored stone and shows a heightened sensitivity to detailing and emphasis on carving and decoration. The architecture takes the form of an Eleanor cross. Eleanor crosses were a series of 12 monuments erected in England by King Edward – I between 1291 and 1294, in memory of his wife, Eleanor of Castile. Three of the original Eleanor Crosses still exist in England. Many similar Gothic style structures were built in England in the Victorian era and similar clock towers also exist in other cities of Pakistan.

The Empress Market was constructed between 1884 and 1889 and was named to commemorate Queen Victoria. It was constructed at a well-chosen site that was clearly visible from a great distance. The foundation stone of the Empress Market was also laid by the then Governor of Bombay, James Fergusson in 1884. It was designed by the same architect who designed the Merewether Memorial Tower. The building was arranged around a courtyard, 130 feet by 100 feet, with four galleries, each 46 feet wide. The galleries provided accommodation for 280 shops and stall keepers. At the time of its construction, it was one of only seven markets in Karachi. Presently, it is located in Saddar town of Karachi and still hosts hundreds of diversified shops.

(10)

- Q.3 On 30 November 2018, hackers managed to withdraw US dollars 50 million from the customers' accounts of a leading bank. The Central Bank (CB) of the country immediately issued security warning to all banks of the country and advised them to strengthen the controls and issue security advisory to their customers in this regard.

In view of the above, YEY Bank (YB) has decided to guide its customers to protect their personal information such as national identity card number, mother's maiden name, home address and telephone number besides their bank related information. Miscreants may attempt to obtain such information by pretending to be bank staff, representatives of cellular service providers, lucky draws or sometimes law enforcing agencies and in this regard, they may use phone calls, emails or fake websites. Customers' bank accounts could be compromised if their personal information and or bank account related information falls in the hands of miscreants.

The management of YB has advised its Customers Relationship Manager, Akbar Mughal, to write a letter to all customers for their guidance.

You are required to write a letter on behalf of Akbar Mughal to a customer Razia Sultana whose address is 99-C, Brave Town, Karachi. Assume that same letters would be written to all customers and your office is situated at 01 Banking Plaza, Banking Avenue, Karachi. (15)

(THE END)