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## Writing Skills Test

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

- (i) The need for economic reforms in Pakistan
- (ii) Impact of growing popularity of e-stores on conventional shopping centres
- (iii) Younger generation is more practical than the older generation
- (iv) Role of indoor and outdoor games in developing a healthy society

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)**

*(Word count also carries mark)*

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

Modern art has always had a bad press in certain newspapers and amongst certain sectors of the public. In the public mind, it seems, art is divided into two broad categories. The first is 'classic' art, which includes representational painting, drawing and sculpture; the second is 'modern' art, also known as abstract or non-representational. According to a survey conducted by Charlie Moore, one of Britain's most influential artistic commentators, British popular taste runs decidedly in favour of the former. He found that the men or women in the street have a distrust of cubism, abstracts, sculptures made of bricks and all types of so-called 'found' art. Everyone does not believe in primary colours, abstraction and geometry in nature. The most common comment is that such-and-such a painting is "something a child could have done".

Lewis Williams, director of the Beaconsfield Galleries in Hampshire which specialises in modern painting, agrees. "Our great museums and galleries specialise in work which is designed to appeal to the lowest common denominator. It may be representational, it may be 'realistic' in one sense, but a lot of it wouldn't make it into the great European galleries. Britain has had two or three major world painters in the last 1000 years, so we make up the space with a lot of second-rate material".

Emily Cope, who runs the Osborne Art House, believes different. "In Britain, we have artistic influences from all over the world. There's the Irish, Welsh, and Scottish influences, as well as Caribbean, African and European. We also have strong links with the Far East, in particular the Indian subcontinent. All these influences come to bear in creating a British artistic outlook. There is tendency to say that British people only want garish pictures of clowns crying or ships sailing into battle, and that anything new or different is misunderstood. That's not my experience at all. The British public is poorly educated in art, but that is not the same as being uninterested in it". Cope points to Britain's long tradition of visionary artists such as William Blake, the London engraver and poet who died in 1827. Artists like Blake tended to be one-offs rather than members of a school, and their work is diverse and often word-based so it is difficult to export.

**(10)**

Q.3 Alpha Foods (AF) is a leading manufacturer of variety of biscuits and potato chips. At present it has agreement with two transport companies Beta Cargo (BC) and Gama Transport (GT) for supply of its products throughout the country.

Osama, CEO of AF, has received a complaint from Fahim, owner of BC, for unfair treatment. Fahim alleged that Shahbaz, Manager Operations of AF, is a close relative of owner of GT and therefore favoured GT while assigning supply jobs. He also alleged that Shahbaz makes use of his influence to delay the processing of BC's invoices while GT's invoices are cleared on priority.

On behalf of Osama, respond to Fahim's complaint assuring him about thorough investigation of his complaint and likely action(s) upon completion of the investigation.

AF is situated at 169 Peoples Colony, Faisalabad while BC's office is located at 343 Raiwind Road, Lahore.

**(15)**

**(THE END)**