aglasem.com

FOR UPSC IES ISS EXAM PREPARATION

UPSC IES ISS 2023 Question Paper · General English

EXAM	YEAR	TYPE	SUBJECT
UPSC IES ISS	2023	Question Paper	General English

GENERAL ENGLISH

*Time Allowed : **Three** Hours*

*Maximum Marks : **100***

Question Paper Specific Instructions

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions.

***All** the questions are to be attempted.*

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

Word limit of the answers, if specified, should be adhered to.

You must not disclose your identity in any of your answers.

*Answers must be written in **ENGLISH** only.*

Q1. Write an essay on any *one* of the following topics in about 800 words : ***30***

(a) Nature Nurtures when Nurtured

(b) Prospects of Women Entrepreneurship in India

(c) Mental Healthcare for all

(d) Culture and Society feed each other

(e) Animal Rights vis-a-vis Human Rights

Q2. Write a précis of the following passage in your own words in about one-third of the original length : ***30***

The Earth is a home for a rich and diverse array of living organisms, whose genetic diversity and relationship with each other, constitute the planet's biodiversity. It includes species as well as varieties found within the same species, as also the enormous ecosystems and habitats : forests, grasslands, oceans and its depths, peats and peat bogs. Worldwide, an area of tropical forest equal to a football field, is disappearing every second. Forests are being cleared for agriculture, cattle ranching and for timber. They get submerged when dams are constructed. When forests are felled we deal a blow

aglasem.com For more Question Papers, Sample Papers, Notes & Syllabus visit aglasem.com

to biodiversity, the richness of life. Five great waves of extinction have decimated our planet's species in the remote past. The sixth wave, which we are witnessing, is largely man made. One-fourth of the Earth's total biological diversity, amounting to about 1·6 million species, which might be useful to mankind in one way or the other, is in the serious risk of existence and if we ignore the biodiversity crisis, we would lose these species in the next 25 years. If we respond with knowledge and technology, we might hold the loss to 10 percent, but even this amounts to millions of species.

It is a well-known fact the ecosystem is undergoing changes due to pollution, invasive species, over-exploitation by humans, climate change and many other reasons. Most of the people are beginning to recognize that biodiversity is not only for availing the benefits, but is also to be conserved in all its forms. The importance of species diversity conservation is usually justified by the direct use of the species by man, as food sources, fibre, fuel, new chemicals and raw materials. When a species is lost, it is lost for ever. Our ethics tell us that we should not deprive our future generations from the economic and aesthetic benefits that can be derived from biodiversity. It is our moral duty to look after our planet and pass it on to our future generations in good health. The decisions taken by us now, as an individual and as a society will determine the diversity of genes, species or ecosystems that remain in future. Top priority should be given to check destruction or degradation of habitats, because it is most responsible for the loss of biodiversity. More knowledge is required to conserve biodiversity in view of reduced space under increased pressure of human activities. Unless immediate actions are taken to protect the biodiversity, we will lose forever the opportunity of reaping its full potential benefit in the present and in future.

Conservation of biodiversity is concerned with the protection of genes and species and their number in population, ecosystems or habitats. It is important to conserve numerous varieties of plants and animals. Each variety within a species contains unique genes. The diversity of genes within a species increases its adaptability to pollution, diseases, stresses and other environmental changes. When varieties of plants and animals are destroyed the genetic diversity within the species is diminished. Biodiversity conservation refers to the efforts to maintain or enhance biodiversity involving protection, upliftment and scientific management at its optimum level in order to derive sustainable benefits for the present as well as for the future.

aglasem.com For more Question Papers, Sample Papers, Notes & Syllabus visit aglasem.com Page 2 of 4

Biodiversity conservation study is aimed at knowing how human activities affect the diversity of plants and animals and developing ways to protect it. Thus conservation of biodiversity, the Earth's biological heritage, is one of today's most pressing environmental issues. The challenge lies before individuals, organisations and government agencies for nations and the world as a whole to protect and enhance biological diversity, while continuing to meet people's need for natural resources. If these goals are not met, the future generations will live in a biologically impoverished world.

There are two approaches of biodiversity conservation namely *in situ* (on site) conservation, which tries to protect the species where they are, i.e., in their natural habitats and *ex situ* (off site) conservation, which attempts to protect and preserve a species in a place away from its natural habitat.

(673 words)

Q3. Write a paragraph in about 200 words on any *one* of the following expressions/statements : ***10***

(a) Nothing sustains a person like self-belief.

(b) Life is what you make it.

(c) A painting is a poem without words.

(d) Man is born free.

(e) Home is where the heart is.

Q4. Use the following words, each in a single sentence. Bring out the meaning clearly without changing the form of the word. No credit will be given for a vague or ambiguous sentence. ***2×5=10***

(a) Altercation

(b) Blatantly

(c) Cacophony

(d) Delirious

(e) Invigorate

aglasem.com For more Question Papers, Sample Papers, Notes & Syllabus visit aglasem.com Page 3 of 4

Q5. Use the following idioms and phrasal verbs in sentences, so as to bring out their meaning clearly : *2×5=10*

(a) a pinch of salt

(b) down the alley

(c) at an arm's length

(d) under the cloud

(e) in the eye of the storm

Q6. Correct the following sentences without changing their meaning. Do not make unnecessary changes in the original sentence : *1×10=10*

(a) It is a matter of gravest importance.

(b) He was hankering for success.

(c) Neither she comes nor she writes.

(d) Too many a roadblock can be very frustrative for drivers.

(e) The contents of the box was an enigma for everyone.

(f) We were happy to see acres and acres of expensive lush green fields.

(g) Even though this pen cost me dearly, it is value for money.

(h) Everyone must bide by the rules of the game.

(i) Your lack in clarity of thought can be detrimental to your welfare.

(j) He coaxed me to agree with his proposal.

aglasem.com For more Question Papers, Sample Papers, Notes & Syllabus visit aglasem.com