

ASSIGNMENT FOR THE SESSION 2013-2014

Class: VIII

Subject : English

Assignment No.21

Section A (Reading)

1. Read the passage carefully:-

Since the lineage of investigative journalism is most directly traceable to the Progressive era of the early 1900's, it is not surprising that the President of the United States at that time was among the first to articulate its political dimension. Theodore Roosevelt called investigative reporters "muckrackers", after a character from John Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress" who humbly cleaned "the filth of the floor." Despite the misgivings implied by the comparison, Roosevelt saw the muckrackers as "often indispensable to the well-being of society".

There are in the body politic, economic and social, many and grave evils, and there is urgent necessity for the sternest war upon them. There should be relentless exposure of and attack upon every man, whether politician or businessman.

Roosevelt recognized the value-laden character of investigative journalism. He perceived correctly that investigative reporters are committed to unearthing wrongdoing. For these journalists, disclosures of morally outrageous conduct maximize the opportunity for the forces of "good" to recognize and do battle with the forces of "evil".

So, the current folklore surrounding investigative reporting closely resembles the American ideal of popular democracy. Vigilant journalists bring wrongdoing to public attention. An informed citizenry responds by demanding reforms from their elected representatives. Policymakers respond in turn by taking corrective action. Partly a product of its muckracking roots; this idealized perspective is also an outgrowth of the commonly perceived effects of exposes published in the year 1970's. The most celebrated of these exposes were the news stories that linked top White House officials to Watergate crimes. These stories were widely held responsible for the public's loss of confidence in the Nixon administration, ultimately forcing the President's resignation.

On the basis of reading the above passage answer the following questions:-

- a) The passage suggests that Roosevelt's choice of name for investigative reporters reflects his belief that_____.
- b) The term 'folklore' and 'idealized perspective' suggest that the author of the passage would agree with _____.
- c) The author of the passage refers to the report on the "Watergate crimes" primarily as an example of _____.
- d) The phrase 'unearthing wrong doing' would imply _____.
- e) The brand of journalism discussed in the paragraph is based on the assumption that _____.

Section B (Writing)

- 2. Draft a poster on the occasion of 'Women's Day' furnishing with the slogans in about 50 words.
- 3. You are Pravin / Prabha. You are sad to think that a number of children are made to labour at 'dabhas' and other eateries and are badly treated. Express your feelings in a diary entry in about 50-60 words.

4. Recently you celebrated your Grandfather's retirement in a big and grand way. All your aunts and uncles were witness to this grand celebration but one of your cousins could not come. Write an Email to him giving him all the details of the happenings in about 120-150 words.

Section C (Grammar)

5. Read the given conversation and complete the passage that follows:

Ravi : Where were you yesterday evening?

Vinay : There is an exhibition of rare paintings at the Art Gallery. I had gone there.

Ravi : How well are you prepared for the entrance exam next week?

Vinay : I have been preparing for the whole week.

Ravi asked Vinay where he a)_____ evening. Vinay replied that b)_____ at the Art Gallery and he had gone there. Ravi wanted to know c)_____ for the entrance exam next week. Vinay explained that he d)_____.

6. Edit the following passage:-

Folk tale offer lot of advice.	a)_____
Much of them deliver the message	b)_____
Quite clear. There is a story about	c)_____
Birbal not being allowed to attending	d)_____
The King's free lunch. The reasons was	e)_____
That he is not dressed properly.	f)_____

Section D (Literature)

7. Answer the following question:

- a) Comment on the contrast between a 'clear stream' and a 'dreary desert'. What does each of them stand for?
- b) Did Albert go on the stage that night? How can you tell that?
- c) Did the photograph get damaged by accident or was Datta's carelessness? How did he convince the customer?
- d) The world is a stage and we are merely the players. Justify.
- e) 'One more chance' suggests that there had been a chance earlier. When did Jimmy get that chance?
- f) 'Life is not led with fear but with confidence'. The freedom strugglers have proved it. Should we be behind or set the trend?

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