

B.A.(Prog) II sem

AECC-English

COMPREHENSION PASSAGE

Q: Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below:

I have often thought it would be a blessing if each human being was stricken blind and deaf for a few days at some time during his adult life. Darkness would

make him more appreciative of sight, silence would teach him the joy of sound.

Now and then I have tested my seeing friends to discover what they see.

Recently I asked a friend, who had just returned from a long walk in the woods, what she has observed. "Nothing in particular," she replied. How was it possible

I asked myself to walk for an hour through the woods and see nothing worthy of

note. I, who cannot see find hundreds of things to interest me through mere touch. I feel the delicate symmetry of leaf. I pass my hands lovingly about the smooth skin of a silver birch or the rough, shaggy bark of a pine. In spring I touch the branches of trees hopefully in search of a bud, the first sign of awakening nature after her winter's sleep. Occasionally if I am fortunate & place my hand gently on a small tree and feel the happy quiver of a bird in full

song. At times my heart cries out with longing to see all these things. If I can get so much pleasure from mere touch, how much more beauty must be revealed by sight. And I have imagined what I should most like to see if I were given the use of my eyes, say, just for three days. I should divide the period into three parts. On the first day, I should want to see the people whose kindness and gentleness and companionship have made my life worth living. First, I would like to gaze upon the face of my dear teacher, Mr. Anne Sullivan Macy. She came to see me when I was a child. She opened the other world for me.

Questions:

- (a) What would make one's blindness more appreciative of sight?
- (b) What would silence teach one's deafness?
- (c) Where did her friend go ?
- (d) How could Helen Keller find hundreds of things ?
- (e) Whom would she like to see first if she was given sight ?
- (f) Give the noun form of 'observe' ?
- (g) The plural form of 'leaf' is ?
- (h) The verb form of 'thought' is ?
- (i) "It would be a blessing if each human being was stricken blind and deaf for a few days at some time during his adult life." says Helen. What makes her think so ?
- (j) Mention the things of interest that Helen found through the sense of touch?

(2) Read the following passage carefully and give the answer given below :

How does television affect our lives. It can be very helpful to people who carefully choose the shows that they watch. Television can increase our knowledge of the outside world, there are high quality programmes that helps us

to understand many fields of study, science, medicine, the arts and so on.

Moreover, television benefits very old people, who can't often leave the house as well as patients in hospitals. It also offers non- native speakers the advantage

of daily informal language practice. They can increase their vocabulary and practice listening. On the other hand, there are several serious disadvantages of

television. Of course, it provides us with a pleasant way to relax and spend our free time, but in some countries, people watch the 'blood tube' for an average of

six hours or more a day. Many children stare at a television screen for more hours each day than they do anything else including studying & sleeping. It's clear that the tube has a powerful influence on their lives and that its influence if

often negative.

Questions:

- A. Read the above passage carefully & supply a title.
- B. Prepare a summary of the above passage.