

* Select the most appropriate options as answers and complete the following sentences : [10]

1. The main reason Dr. Kurien gives for preferring writing over telephone calls is that :

- (A) Writing conveys present concerns and views better
- (B) Writing is cheaper than phone calls
- (C) Writing can be treasured and re-read over the years
- (D) Writing is faster than talking

Ans. : (C) Writing can be treasured and re-read over the years

2. Dr. Kurien is writing this letter from :

- (A) Delhi
- (B) Mumbai
- (C) Bangalore
- (D) Anand, Gujarat

Ans. : (D) Anand, Gujarat

3. Dr. Kurien could have chosen _____ instead of dairy farming.

- (A) engineering
- (B) medicine
- (C) metallurgy
- (D) teaching

Ans. : (C) metallurgy

4. Dr. Kurien received _____ from the President in Delhi.

- (A) Padma Bhushan
- (B) Padma Shri
- (C) Padma Vibhushan
- (D) Bharat Ratna

Ans. : (C) Padma Vibhushan

5. The main theme of Dr. Kurien's advice about rewards is that :

- (A) True rewards come from a life well-spent
- (B) Government recognition matters most
- (C) Awards should be displayed prominently
- (D) Material rewards are most important

Ans.: (A) True rewards come from a life well-spent

6. What does Dr. Kurien mean by "abiding pleasure"?

- (A) Physical comfort
- (B) Lasting, enduring joy
- (C) Financial satisfaction
- (D) Temporary happiness

Ans. : (B) Lasting, enduring joy

7. Dr. Kurien started working with dairy farmers _____.

- (A) forty years ago
- (B) sixty years ago
- (C) fifty years ago
- (D) thirty years ago

Ans. : (C) fifty years ago

8. What does Dr. Kurien say about integrity?

- (A) It's optional for success
- (B) It's about being honest to yourself and others
- (C) It only matters in business
- (D) It's less important than achievements

Ans. : (B) It's about being honest to yourself and others

9. The phrase "jottings of mine" refers to _____ in the letter.

- (A) his official documents
- (B) his business notes
- (C) the written thoughts/musings
- (D) his diary entries

Ans. : (C) the written thoughts/musings

10. Dr. Kurien dedicates his musings to :

- (A) His grandson and millions of other children of that generation
- (B) The government of India
- (C) The dairy farmers he worked with
- (D) Only his grandson Siddharth

Ans.: (A) His grandson and millions of other children of that generation

*** Say whether the following sentences are true or false :** [5]

11. Dr. Kurien says about the medal he received that it belongs to his grandson as much as to him.

Ans. : True

12. Dr. Kurien states "service to our nation's farmers was not the career I had envisioned for myself," showing it was his original plan.

Ans. : False

13. According to Dr. Kurien, failure is not about not succeeding rather it is about not contributing.

Ans. : True

14. His wife supported his choice to live and work in Anand.

Ans. : True

15. According to him, happiness always depends on circumstances.

Ans. : False

*** Select the most appropriate words from the box and fill in the blanks in the text given below :** [5]

16. Dr. Kurien received the Padma Vibhushan award in _____.



Ans. : 1999

17. Writing becomes a possession that can be _____ and _____ over the years.

Ans. : treasured, re-read

18. V. Kurien chose to work for a small _____ of dairy farmers.

Ans. : cooperative

19. Integrity, according to V. Kurien, is about being honest to _____.

Ans. : oneself

20. Rewards that come to you through your own work are the only true rewards for a _____.

Ans. : life well-spent

*** Answer The Following Questions In One Sentence.**

[12]

21. What event does Dr. Kurien refer to when he mentions receiving the Padma Vibhushan?

Ans. : Dr. Kurien refers to the magnificent ceremony in Delhi in 1999 when he was honored with the Padma Vibhushan, India's second-highest civilian award.

22. How did Dr. Kurien's decision to join the cooperative in Anand affect his life?

Ans. : It gave his life meaning and direction, shaping his career in service to farmers and strengthening his resolve to work for the nation's progress.

23. What does Dr. Kurien say about choosing to lead one kind of life?

Ans. : Dr. Kurien says that choosing to lead one kind of life requires putting aside the desire to pursue other options. He chose service to farmers over ambition for a meaningful contribution.

24. What is the difference between a fact and an opinion?

Ans. : The difference between a fact and an opinion is that facts can be proven true or false while opinions are beliefs that vary between people.

25. What does Dr. Kurien say about happiness in relationships?

Ans. : Dr. Kurien says that happiness in relationships comes when we are strong enough to rejoice in another's happiness and wise enough to know there is enough for all.

26. What is the central message about living life to the fullest?

Ans. : Dr. Kurien states that to live life to the fullest, we must be "brave enough to love, strong enough to rejoice in another's happiness and wise enough to know that there is enough to go around for all."

27. According to Kurien, what is failure?

Ans. : According to Kurien, failure is not putting in your best effort and not contributing to the common good.

28. What noble task did Kurien mention after independence?

Ans. : The noble task Kurien mentioned after independence, was building a free India without hunger and poverty.

29. Who was the mentor of Kurien in Anand?

Ans. : The mentor of Kurien in Anand was Tribhuvandas Patel.

30. What did his grandson do with the medal during the ceremony?

Ans. : His grandson slipped the medal around his neck and asked if he could keep it.

31. Why does Kurien prefer writing over telephoning?

Ans. : Kurien prefers writing over telephoning because writing conveys present concerns and can be re-read later, giving lasting pleasure.

32. According to Kurien, how should one deal with comparisons in life?

Ans. : According to Dr. Kurien, comparisons often mislead, as others' lives only appear perfect. Instead of envying, we should look closely, cherish what we have, and find contentment in our own lives.

*** Answer the following questions.**

[18]

33. According to Dr. Kurien "life is a privilege and it is wrong to waste it". What is your opinion on this?

Ans. : I agree with Dr. Kurien's statement. Life is indeed a precious privilege and should not be wasted. Using it meaningfully through hard work, love, and service ensures that one lives a purposeful and fulfilling life.

34. Describe V. Kurien's vision for India after independence.

Ans. : Kurien envisioned an India where people could live in freedom, without hunger and poverty, with equal respect and love for one another. He hoped India would be counted among the foremost nations of the world. His work with dairy farmers was part of this vision, aiming to empower farmers and build a self-reliant nation.

35. What were the career options available to V. Kurien, and why did he reject them?

Ans. : V. Kurien could have pursued metallurgy and become a chief executive, joined the Indian Army and retired as a general, or moved to the US to become a successful NRI. But he rejected all these options because he felt he could make a more meaningful contribution to the development of the country by serving farmers in Anand.

36. What values did Kurien inherit, and how did they shape his life?

Ans. : Kurien inherited values of honesty, integrity, and service from his parents, elders, and mentor Tribhuvandas Patel. These values guided his work, made him emphasize personal integrity, and helped him dedicate his life to the upliftment of farmers.

37. What message does Kurien leave for his grandson and the younger generation?

Ans. : Kurien urges them to value life as a privilege, take responsibility, use talents wisely, and contribute to society. He stresses that failure is not about lack of success but lack of effort. He advises them to cherish what they have, seek happiness in helping others, and work tirelessly for the greater good of the country and humanity.

38. What lesson about failure did the writer share with Siddharth?

Ans. : The writer taught Siddharth that failure is not about lack of success but about not putting in one's best effort. True failure is when we do not contribute to the common good, however modestly. He encouraged Siddharth always to try sincerely and use his talents responsibly.

39. What value does Dr. Kurien consider the most important, and how does he explain it?

Ans. : Dr. Kurien considers personal integrity as the most important value. He explains it as being honest with oneself, which naturally leads to honesty with others.

40. How does Dr. Kurien describe the importance of writing letters in preserving memories and values for future generations?

Ans. : Dr. Kurien describes writing letters as being able to be treasured and re-read over the years, which conveys present concerns and gives lasting pleasure, thus preserving memories and values for future generations.

41. What challenge did Dr. Kurien and his wife give to Siddharth regarding the Padma Vibhushan medal?

Ans. : The challenge they gave was that the medal belongs to his grandson as much as to him, implying he should earn such recognition through contribution, not just possess the award.

* Answer the following questions.

[21]

42. Dr. Kurien's decision to work in Anand reveals his values and sense of duty. Explain.

Ans. : Dr. Kurien's decision to work in Anand reveals his values and sense of duty as he chooses to stay in Anand showing his integrity, humility, and service to the Nation, rather than pursue a career in metallurgy, the army, or abroad. He decided to work for farmers to serve the rural community, reflecting his selflessness,



patriotism, and belief in grass root development. It reveals his deep sense of responsibility, commitment to social justice, and empathy for farmers. He valued honesty to himself and contributing to the common good. He followed values from his parents, elders, and mentor Tribhuvandas Patel.

43. Why did Dr. Kurien write the letter to his grandson?

Ans. : Dr. Kurien wrote the letter to his grandson to share the wisdom of his life, experiences and to inspire him and his generation to live bravely. He wanted to convey important lessons about purpose, service, and the importance of making meaningful choices. The letter is a heartfelt attempt to pass on values such as hard work, integrity, and compassion. He hoped to inspire him to work for the larger good of the country and humanity which he believed to be the true rewards in life.

44. What message does Dr. Kurien want to convey about selfless service and its long-term impact on the society?

Ans. : Dr. Kurien wants to convey that selfless service has the power to bring about lasting transformation for generations. By dedicating his life to rural India, he demonstrated that helping others can create stronger communities, economic empowerment, and social justice. Working with integrity and responsibility, brings true rewards. His work proved that when individuals act with integrity and vision, the impact can resonate for generations. Recognition comes naturally when one works for others without selfish motives and such rewards are the only true rewards for a life well-spent.

45. How did the writer describe the values that guided his life and work?

Ans. : The writer describes the values that guided his life and work by emphasizing that his achievements were possible only because of values inherited from his parents and elders, and from his mentor, Tribhuvandas Patel. He stressed integrity, especially personal integrity, as the most important value. To him, integrity meant being honest with oneself, which naturally leads to honesty with others. These values shaped his decisions, helped him shoulder responsibilities with poise, and enabled him to work selflessly for the farmers of India.

46. What role does the writer's wife play in his journey?

Ans. : The writer acknowledges his wife's vital role in supporting his choice to live and work in Anand, despite the lack of comforts at that time. Her ardent support and strength enabled him to shoulder responsibilities with dignity. She stood firmly by him through hardships, giving him everlasting courage. Her choice to sacrifice comforts contributed equally to his achievements, proving that her partnership was integral part to his success in serving farmers and the nation.

47. How does Dr. Kurien advise Siddharth to live a meaningful life and contribute to the common good?

Ans. : Dr. Kurien advises Siddharth to value life as a privilege, take responsibility, use talents wisely, and contribute to society. He stresses that true failure is not lack of success but lack of effort and not contributing to the common good. He advises seeking happiness in helping others and working tirelessly for the greater good of the country and humanity.

48. What does Dr. Kurien say about happiness, comparisons, and cherishing what we have in life?

Ans. : Dr. Kurien says happiness in relationships comes from being strong enough to rejoice in another's happiness and wise enough to know there is enough for all. He states that comparisons often mislead as others' lives appear perfect. Instead of envying, one should look closely, cherish what they have, and find contentment in their own lives. To live life to the fullest, one must be brave enough to love, strong enough to rejoice in another's happiness, and wise enough to know there is enough to go around for all.

*** Read the following prose extract carefully and answer the questions given below: [20]**

In today's fast-paced world we have become so addicted to instant communication that we prefer to use a telephone. But speaking on the telephone only gives us an immediate but fleeting joy. Writing is different. Writing-even if it is a letter-not only conveys our present concerns and views of the events taking place around us but it becomes a possession that can be treasured and re-read over the years, with great, abiding pleasure.

49. Fill in the blank given below by selecting the correct option from the brackets. When the writer refers to a 'fast-paced world', he is speaking of a world where _____. (communication happens quickly but lacks depth/people have more time to write and reflect)

50. Select the option that applies correctly to both Assertion (A) and Reason (R).

(A) : Writing letters can be treasured and re-read over the years.

(R) : Speaking on the telephone provides long lasting joy.

(A) Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

(B) Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

(C) (A) is true, but (R) is false.

(D) Both (A) and (R) are false.

51. Identify whether the statement given below is true or false.

The writer feels that letter-writing is a class apart from other kinds of writing.

52. Which of the following is the most appropriate title for the given extract?

(A) The Rise of Instant Communication

(B) The Fleeting Delight of Phone Calls

(C) The Lasting Joy of Written Words

(D) Living in a Fast-paced World

- Ans. :** 1. communication happens quickly but lacks depth
2. (C) (A) is true, but (R) is false.
3. True
4. (C) The Lasting Joy of Written Words

Your grandmother too made an important choice. She knew, in those early days, life in Anand could not offer even the simple comforts that we take for granted today. However, she ardently supported my choice to live and work in Anand. That choice of your grandmother to stand by me has given me an everlasting strength, always ensuring that I shouldered my responsibilities with poise.

53. How can we say that the grandmother shared her husband's dedication to a greater cause?

54. Complete the following with the correct option from the two given in brackets. The fact that the writer (grandfather) praises his wife tells us that he _____ (truly values/quietly accepts) her role in his life.

55. Complete the following sentence with the correct option from those given below.

Based on the information in the extract, we can infer that the grandmother had all of the following traits EXCEPT

- (A) encouraging
- (B) understanding
- (C) comforting
- (D) thoughtful

56. Select the phrase that conveys- 'showed grace under pressure and carried out my duties with dignity and confidence'.

- Ans. :** 1. Because she willingly gave up the simple comforts of life and supported his decision to live and work in Anand.
2. truly values
3. (C) comforting
4. "shouldered my responsibilities with poise"

I started my working life soon after our country became independent. The noblest task in those days was to contribute in whatever way we could towards building in India of dreams - a nation where our people would not only hold their heads high in freedom but would be free from hunger and poverty. A nation where your people could live with equal respect and love for one another. A nation that would eventually be counted among the foremost nations of the world. It was then that I realised, in humility, that choosing to lead one kind of life means putting aside the desire to pursue other options. This transformation took place within me fifty years ago, when I agreed to work for a small cooperative of dairy farmers who were trying to gain control over their lives.

57. Find the synonym of the word "change" from the passage.

58. What was considered the noblest task after independence?
59. What did the writer realise in humility?
60. Why did the writer decide to work with the dairy farmers?

Ans. : 1. "transformation"

2. The noblest task after independence was to contribute towards building the nation.
3. The writer realised in humility that choosing one kind of life means putting aside other options.
4. He wanted to help them gain control over their lives as part of his contribution to building the nation.

Do you remember when you accompanied me at the magnificent ceremony in Delhi where our President awarded me the Padma Vibhushan in 1999? With great pride, you slipped the medal around your neck, looked at it in awe and asked me very innocently if you could keep it. Do you remember the answer your grandmother and I gave you? We told you that of course, this medal was yours as much as it was mine but that you should not be satisfied in merely keeping my award-the challenge before you was to earn your own reward for the work that you did in your lifetime.

61. Find the most appropriate antonym of the word 'cunningly' from the passage.
62. Who awarded the Padma Vibhushan to the writer?
63. What did the child ask after slipping the medal around the neck?
64. What message did the writer and the grandmother give to the child?

Ans. : 1. innocently

2. The President of India awarded the Padma Vibhushan to the writer.
3. The child asked after slipping the medal around the neck if he could keep it.
4. The writer and the grandmother told the child that the medal was his too, but encouraged him to earn his own reward in life.

I would like to dedicate these musings to you, Siddharth, and to the millions of other children of your generation in our country, in the hope that upon reading them you will be inspired enough to go bravely out into the world and work tirelessly in your chosen field for the larger good of the country, for the larger good of humanity. Remember, rewards that come to you then are the only true rewards for a life well-spent.

65. Find the synonym of 'boldly' from the passage.
66. To whom are the musings dedicated?
67. What does the writer hope the children will be inspired to do?
68. According to the writer, which rewards are called the only true rewards for a life well-spent?

Ans. : 1. 'bravely'

2. The musings are dedicated to Siddharth and millions of other children of his generation.



3. The writer hopes that the children will be inspired to go bravely out into the world and work tirelessly in their chosen field.

4. According to the writer, the only true rewards for a life well-spent are rewards that come from working for the larger good of the country and humanity.

