

## ***Read the passages carefully and answer the following:***

### **Passage 1:**

The cinema is the cheapest source of entertainment today. Millions of people see movies and enjoy them. It is a good pastime in all the places – big or small. The cinema industry has made rapid progress after independence. In the beginning there were silent, and black and white movies. Now we are dazzled by the colours in every movie.

Big posters are seen on the walls of cities and towns for advertisements. They also announce the coming movies in the city. There is always a rush before the booking windows. So the tickets are often sold in the black market or at a premium. On the one hand the cinema is a source of entertainment. On the other it is also a source of knowledge and information. Films satisfy all the sections of people and their different tastes. There are religious movies and historical movies. They recreate the past, the old culture and lifestyle. Social films spread awareness about social evils of dowry, casteism and communal feelings. Some films expose the corruption in high places among the policemen and the citizens.

### **Questions:**

1. **Answer the following questions briefly:**
  - (a) Why is cinema so much popular?
  - (b) How can you say that the cinema industry has made rapid progress after independence?
  - (c) Why are tickets often sold in the black market?
  - (d) Mention two advantages of cinema.
  - (e) What is the main purpose of making social films?
2. **Find words from the above passage which mean the opposite to:**
  - (a) costliest
  - (b) slow
  - (c) present
  - (d) hide.

### **Passage 2:**

Do you know that around 270 eucalyptus trees or 460 bamboo plants are saved when we produce one tonne of hand-made paper? It is ecofriendly hand-made paper that also checks pollution of water, land and air. Large quantities of polluting chemicals are used by paper mills.

Hand-made paper is the best form of recycled paper. It has a fine surface for writing. It is also strong enough for making drawings.

Paper manufacturing is a very old tradition. It was invented in China nearly two thousand years back. Indians used the leaves of palm trees for writing. Papyrus is a kind of paper made from a reed of the same name. It grew on the banks of the River Nile, and was used in Egypt.

The hand-made paper industry flourished in India during the Mughal period. But it died with the setting up of paper mills in the 18th and 19th centuries. Mahatma Gandhi revived it during the freedom movement. Today it is a fast growing industry.

### Questions:

1. **Answer the following questions briefly:**
  - (a) Why is hand-made paper becoming more and more popular?
  - (b) Mention two features of hand-made paper.
  - (c) What did Indians use for writing when there was no paper?
  - (d) What is papyrus?
  - (e) Why did the hand-made paper industry die in India in the 18th and 19th centuries?
2. **Find words from the above passage that mean the same as:**
  - (a) control
  - (b) prospered
  - (c) bring back to life.

### Passage 3:

Conversation is a fine art. It is the art of exchanging thought. It is an art which anybody can cultivate or master. Not everybody can paint or play music, but almost everyone can talk. Thus it affords the greatest pleasure to the greatest number. 'To talk', says R.L. Sleverson, "is our chief business in the world. And talk is by far the most accessible of pleasures. It costs nothing in money, it is all profit. It completes our education, makes friends and can be enjoyed at any age. Conversation is indeed the most teachable of all the arts. All you need to do is to find a subject that interests you and your listeners.

Hobbies are for example, numberless hobbies to talk about. But the important thing is that you must talk about the other fellow's hobby rather than your own. Therein lies the secret of your popularity. There is nothing that pleases people so much as your interest in their interest.

It is just as important to know what subjects to avoid and what subjects to select for good conversation. If you don't want to be set down as a bore, avoid certain unpleasant topics. Avoid talking about yourself unless you are asked to do so. Sickness or death bores everybody. The only one who willingly listens to such talk is, the doctor, but he gets paid for it. You must also know not only what to say but also how to say it.

### Questions:

1. **Answer the following questions briefly:**
  - (a) How does the author define and explain the art of conversation?
  - (b) How is talking easier to learn than other fine arts?
  - (c) What are the subjects one can easily talk about?
  - (d) Which topics usually bore the listener?
  - (e) What should be avoided unless you are asked to do so?
2. **Find out words from the above passage similar in meaning to the following:**
  - (a) acquire or develop
  - (b) within reach
  - (c) make happy.