

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions given under each of them.

The main interest of the Indian artist, it will be noticed, is the human form. It was an unending source of creative joy to him. The teeming array of figures in Indian art is itself something phenomenal, something indisputably worldly. The figures of men and women are depicted from every possible angle; they are caught in a thousand attitudes in the course of rhythmic movements both instinctive as well as studied. Such variegated and lovely patterns made by the body when swayed by the playful forces of emotion and deliberation can hardly be found in the art of any country. The abundance of female figures in Indian art of all periods displaying the varied charms of womanhood is another striking trait that hardly fits in with other worldly intentions and the religious bias which have been attributed to Indian art.

Questions:

- (a) (i) Is the main interest of the Indian artist in the human form? Why?
(ii) How are the figures of men and women depicted in Indian art?
(iii) What can hardly be found in the art of any country?
(iv) Write the striking characteristic of Indian art.
(v) Write a suitable title of the passage.
- (b) **Write any three synonyms of the following words:**
- (i) Phenomenal
(ii) Variegated
(iii) Varied
(iv) Trait.

(c) Write any two antonyms of the following words:

- (i) Creative
- (ii) Indisputable
- (iii) Possible
- (iv) Abundance.

Answers:

(a) (i) Yes, the main interest of the Indian artist is in the human form because it has been a source of unending creative joy to him.

(ii) The figures of men and women are depicted in Indian art from every possible angle.

(iii) Various postures and movements of dance during performance by men and women with playful forces of their emotion can hardly be found in the art of any country.

(iv) The abundance of female figures of all periods having the varied forms of womanhood is the most striking characteristic of Indian art.

(v) "Indian Art" is a suitable title of the passage.

- (b) (i) Phenomenal - Very remarkable
(ii) Variegated - Marked with different coloured patches
(iii) Varied - Of many different types
(iv) Trait - Chief feature

- (c) (i) Creative – Destructive
- (ii) Indisputable – Disputable
- (iii) Possible - Impossible
- (iv) Abundance – Shortage.

2) Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given at the end:

India was in my blood and there was much in her that instinctively thrilled me. And yet I approached her almost as an alien critic, full of dislike for the present as well as for many of the relics of the past that I saw. To some extent I came to her via the West, and looked at her as a friendly westerner might have done, I was eager and anxious to change her outlook and appearance and give her the grab of modernity. And yet doubts arose within me. Did I know? - I who presumed to scrap much of her past heritage? There was a great deal that had to be scrapped that must be scrapped; but surely India could not have been what she undoubtedly was, and could not have continued a cultured existence for thousands of years, if she had not possessed something very vital and enduring.

- Jawaharlal Nehru.

Questions :

- (a) (i) What made India a great country?
(ii) “India was in my blood”, Examine this statement.
(iii) What kind of appearance did the writer want to give India?
(iv) Did the writer ever think of destroying the great cultural heritage of India?
(v) Who is the writer of the passage?

(b) Give the meaning of the following words/ expressions (any five):

- (i) instinctively
(ii) thrilled
(iii) via the West
(iv) garb of modernity
(v) heritage
(vi) cultured existence.

Answers:

- (a) (i) It was the culture of India that made her a great country.
(ii) This statement “India was in my blood” expresses the feeling of the writer who was born and brought up in India that excited him always.
(iii) The writer wanted to change the outlook and appearance of India and to give her the garb of modernity.

(iv) No, the writer never thought of destroying the great cultural heritage of India.

(v) Jawaharlal Nehru is the writer of the passage.

(b) Word/expression – Meaning

(i) Instinctively – Naturally

(ii) Thrilled – excited

(iii) Via the West – from the point of view of a westerner,

(iv) Garb of modernity – Making her modern in her outlook and appearance

(v) Heritage – Inheritance

(vi) Cultural existence – Civilized life.