



PASSAGE - 3

1. Since its invention a little over 130 years ago. The interview has become a commonplace of journalism. Today, almost everybody who is literate will have read an interview at some point in their lives, while from the other point of view, several thousand celebrities have been interviewed over the years, some of them repeatedly. So it is hardly surprising that opinions of the interview - of its functions, methods and merits - vary considerably. Some might make very extravagant claims for it as being, in its highest form, a source of truth, and, in its practice, an art. Others, Usually celebrates who see themselves as its victims, might despise the interview as an unwarranted intrusion into their lives, or feel that it somehow diminishes them, just as in some primitive cultures it is believed that if one takes a photographic portrait of somebody then one is stealing that person's soul.
2. V.S Naipaul 'feels that some people are wounded by interviews and lose a part of themselves', Lewis Carroll, the creator of Alice in wonderland, was said to have had 'a just horror of the interviewer' and he never consented to be interviewed- it was his horror of being lionized which made him thus repel would be acquaintances, interviewers, and persistent petitioners for his autograph and he would afterwards relate the stories of his success in silencing all such people with much satisfaction and amusement. Rudyard Kipling expressed an even more condemnatory attitude towards the interviewer. His wife, Caroline, writes in her diary for 14 October 1892 that their day was 'wrecked by two reporters from Boston. She reports her husband as saying to the reporters, "why do I refuse to be interviewed? Because it is immoral! It is a crime, just as much of a crime as much merits punishment. It is cowardly and vile. No respectable man would ask it, much less give it," yet Kipling had himself perpetrated such an 'assault' on Mark Twain only a few years before. H.G Wells in an interview in 1894 referred to 'the interviewing ordeal', but was fairly frequent interviewee and forty years later found himself interviewing Joseph Stalin.
3. Saul Bellow, who has consented to be interviewed on several occasions, nevertheless once described interviews as being like thumbprints on his windpipe. Yet despite the drawbacks of the interview, it is supremely serviceable medium of communication. "These days more than at any other time, our most vivid impressions of our contemporaries are through interviews," Denis Brian has written. "Almost everything of moment reaches us through one man asking questions of another. Because of this, the interviewer holds a position of unprecedented power and influence."

QUESTIONS:

- I. On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer each of the questions given below by choosing the correct option:
 - a) The positive opinion regarding interview is
 - i. An intrusion
 - ii. Source of truth
 - iii. Information in complex form



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- iv. Both first and third
- b) Negative opinion on interview is.....
 - i. An art
 - ii. Honest information
 - iii. An ordeal
 - iv. Development of personality
- c) The creator of 'Alice in Wonderland' is
 - i. G. H. Wells
 - ii. Kipling
 - iii. Denis Brian
 - iv. Lewis Carroll
- d) Kipling refused to be interviewed because according to him it is
 - i. A crime
 - ii. An assault
 - iii. Immoral
 - iv. All the three above.
- II. Answer the following questions briefly:
 - e) What do you understand by 'thumbprints on his wind pipe'?
 - f) What are the major view points on people on interviews?
 - g) How are the celebrities a victim of interviews?
 - h) What is one of the advantages of interviews?
 - i) Give two extravagant views / claims about interviews expressed by people.
 - j) In the present time, how do we get to know about our contemporaries?
 - k) Find words from the passage which means the same as each of the following: -
 - i. Lessens the authority, dignity or reputation (Para - 1)
 - ii. Refusing to give up (Para - 2)