

**DELHI PUBLIC SCHOOL
BOKARO STEEL CITY**

ASSIGNMENT FOR THE SESSION 2014-2015

Class: XII

Subject : English

Assignment No. 2

- I. Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions given below:
Knowing your individual distinguishing values
1. What are the five values that best describe or define who you are and what you stand for? Choose any word or phrase to describe each value. Jot them down. Think of who you are when no one else's looking, how deep your roots go and how high your aspirations extend. What words first come to your mind and how? What words would you want others to think when they think of you?
2. At first, you may be inclined to list words favoured by your organization or church. Or words that are popular. But simply by asking this question about your individual distinguishing values, you start by what I call an internal conversation. A sorting out process begins. How deep can you get? I doubt that productive will be one of your words. Or punctual. Or controlling. Or superior. I have watched the surprise on the faces of people from all walks of life when completing this simple exercise.
3. Now take a moment to read the words aloud. Do they sound like a true and distinctive reflection of who you are? If not, find other words that are closer. When you're finished, copy these words on a three by five card. Carry the card with you to keep assessing these values whenever you have a spare moment here and there. Are there any other words that give a clearer glimpse into your unique spirit and deepest commitments?
4. I remember an executive who sat in stunned silence at his table long after other members of his group at a leadership workshop had left. When I walked over to talk with him, "I can't believe it", he said.
5. "You can't believe what?", I asked. "I can't believe that a long time ago I lost these values. I climbed all the way to the top of this organization and my value words today- the ones that ring true in my heart - have nothing at all to do with what we do in this organization or the official value words we post on the wall for our employees. On the surface everything feels fine, but I don't fit in. No wonder it has been such a strain for me to be here".
6. Within a year he changed jobs and moved with his family from a major city, big house and large income to a small place in the countryside that is miles from the nearest town. He recently returned from doing humanitarian aid work in Eastern Europe. He's designing a one of-a-kind business school course based on what he learnt. He's happier than he's felt in a long-time. People ask whether they should specify current or future values. My answer is it doesn't matter. The simple exercise is designed to spark a direct and soul searching dialogue that links your heart and mind; the outer you talking with the inner you. If you choose words that describe you as you are now then a voice in you will probably say, "*Yes, but you could be more*". If you select words that are inspirational -that represent more of what you wish to be than what you are today - a voice inside you will likely say "*Yes, but you will have to work hard to begin living these words*".
7. Clarity of individual values is the gateway to commitment and initiative. In one study, researchers asked people about the connection between values and their commitment to doing exceptional work. When group or organizational values were unclear and the person was also unclear about his or her own values, the average commitment score was 4.9 on a scale from 1-7. When group values were clear but the individual's personal values were unclear, the commitment score was fractionally lower.
8. The second highest commitment score came when individuals had clarity on personal values but lacked clarity on group values. Here, the average commitment score was 6.12 out of 7. Keeping the clarity high on personal values and adding clarity on group values - an alignment with these values - the commitment score went to the highest measure of all, 6.26 out of 7. In this vital respect, knowing your individual values matters even more than shared group values.

1.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage answer the questions that follow:

- a) What is the first thing one must do to know oneself?
- b) What is meant by '*internal conversation*'?
- c) Why is it important to list down your qualities on a card?
- d) Why did the executive sit in stunned silence?
- e) Why does it not make a difference if one specifies current or future values?
- f) Why is it more important to be aware of one's individual values?

1.2 Find words from the passage which mean the same as:

- a) unique (para2)
- b) bewildered (para4)
- c) charitable (para6)
- d) access (para 7)

2) Read the passage given below and answers the questions that follow:

Spiders are noted for web building, yet many kinds never use their talents in this way. Instead of building silken traps they hunt their prey, stalking and leaping on their victims or hiding or pouncing on them.

Webs vary in style from the irregular cobweb that neat housewives constantly dust away, to the beautiful silken orbs that we so often find in a garden. There are four general types besides the irregular mesh and the orb, we find the funnel webs and the sheet webs. Until they reach full growth male as well as female spiders spin silk and construct webs. However after their last molt the males no longer engage in spinning but often linger on or near the webs of their mates. Messy as an irregular mesh web may appear, it is nevertheless built on a definite plan and is very efficient. The central maze is a widespread trap. Within this maybe a densely woven sheet, combining such materials such as leaves and grains of sand with the silk thus serving as a shelter for the little builder. Anchoring the maze firmly to supports are long lines, which have small knobs of sticky silk near their base. When a small insect brushes against a sticky line it is snared and as it struggles the line breaks and tethers the victim. The common house spider and other members of the family prepare webs of this type. The sheet web has been developed on a platform like plan, with the webbing closely woven on a horizontal plane. A '*platform*' results and on this insects jump, fly or drop, often being stopped in their flight by lines which the spider has crisscrossed above the platform. After building the platform or sheet, the spider clings to its underside. At times it constructs another sheet below so that it is sandwiched between two silken barriers. When victims land on the top sheet it pulls them through the silk. Sheet webs are built to last a long time. Even more permanent than these sheet webs is the handiwork of the funnel web spiders.

Outside the retreat in which it lives, a member of this family starts to spin its webbing until a smooth runway is created. If this is on the ground it suggests a sheet and if suspended from vegetation, a tiny hammock. In any case it looks like a good landing field to insects. However after alighting they find themselves bogged down in a soft trap, and the spinner, which has been waiting at the mouth of its funnel retreat, quickly attacks them. As one of these spiders grows to adulthood, and as long as it remains active, it continues to add to its structure.

Gradually a thin small mesh becomes a large thick blanket. In Autumn these webs are at their peak, and especially when covered with dew, maybe seen spreading over acres of grasslands like dainty fairy woven carpeting. (490 words)

a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary.

b) Write a summary of the above passage in 80 words and suggest a title.

- 3. The school Community Service department is organizing a 3-week Literacy Camp in the forthcoming summer vacation for the neighbourhood slum children. Design a poster inviting students to volunteer as student teachers. The camp will be held in the school premises and the curriculum will include basic language skills followed by art and craft activities. You are Rahul/Ragini, Secretary of the Community Service Club.
- 4. You are Mahesh/Mita Bhatt, Sports Prefect, Dayalbagh Public School, Patiala. Write a letter to Oberoi Sports Company, New Delhi placing an order for sports equipment. Please specify name of manufacturer, brand and quantity. Remember to ask for the institutional discount.
- 5. To train our youth to compete in the International sports arena, the government needs to build stadium and provide competent coaches in various games and sports. You are

Shiven/Shahini. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily emphasizing on the need to upgrade and expand the existing infrastructure facilities.

- 6) Rearrange the following sentences meaningfully to make complete sense:
- Smouldering wreckage sprayed over a one sq. km. area scorched hundreds of tea bushes.
 - Minutes later, around 7.30 am, it reportedly plunged into a mesh of power cables, 15 km. from the base, turned into an immense fireball and exploded.
 - A MIG 21U fighter trainer crashed in poor light in north Bengal Thursday morning, killing both trainee pilots on board.
 - A fire tender belonging to the tea estate put out the flames.
 - The aircraft had taken off on a routine sortie from the Bagdogra base on Thursday morning.
- 7) You are Raghav/Shivani. You have just appeared for the class 10th board exam. You are confused about the subject stream you would like to opt for and discuss the issue with the school counsellor. Using the input given below construct a dialogue between the two of you. Make 5 sets of exchanges. The first one has been done for you.
- **Raghav:** Goodmorning Ma'am, May I come in?
 - **Counsellor:** Goodmorning. Please come in.
 - Need help in deciding academic stream
 - Your choice?
 - Parents want science, engineering
 - Your ambition?
 - Confused, good marks in science but not interested
 - Take an aptitude test
 - Help in what way
 - Identify interests and strengths
 - Date, venue
 - School, tomorrow afternoon
- 8) The following passage has 10 errors. Identify the errors in each line and write them along with the corrections. The first one has been done for you:
- | | | | |
|--|--------|---|---------|
| I ignore her and leaned back against the ignore | ignore | / | ignored |
| a) wall, setting my bags down in the ground. | _____ | | _____ |
| b) I watched a group of women in its early | _____ | | _____ |
| c) twenties walk past. They are clearly | _____ | | _____ |
| d) affluence, each dressed in a different coloured sari | _____ | | _____ |
| e) so that iris petal, blossom pink or glossy jade | _____ | | _____ |
| f) all shimmered together and make me blink. | _____ | | _____ |
| g) Another women was walking just behind them | _____ | | _____ |
| h) already adorned in a brightly yellow gold | _____ | | _____ |
| i) necklace studded from rubies, and her | _____ | | _____ |
| j) husband trailed miserably behind, clutched his wallet and looking dismally outwitted. | | | |
- 9) Holistic Healthcare is conducting a survey amongst school children on eating junk food and the consequent rising obesity. Frame 10 questions as part of the questionnaire based on the inputs given below:
- eating habits - junk food - school canteen - exercise - academic pressure - school curriculum - fitness centers - sports facilities - health problems*

-----X-----