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FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
SECTION OFFICERS PROMOTIONAL EXAMINATION - 2016

Roll No.

ENGLISH (PRECIS & COMPOSITION)

TIME ALLOWED: THREE HOURS

MAXIMUM MARKS: 100

- NOTE:**(i) Attempt **ALL** questions.
(ii) All the parts (if any) of each Question must be attempted at one place instead of at different places.
(iii) Candidate must write **Q. No.** in the **Answer Book** in accordance with **Q. No.** in the **Q. Paper**.
(iv) No Page/Space be left blank between the answers. All the blank pages of Answer Book must be crossed.
(v) Extra attempt of any question or any part of the attempted question will not be considered.
(vi) Leave some blank space and draw two horizontal lines (====) at the end of each answer.

Q. 1. Make a précis of the following text and suggest a suitable title:

(30)

The main danger in the international situation today is the unending, almost ruinous arms-race between the great powers which unless it is controlled and eventually stopped by positive acts of statesmanship might lead to war and untold destruction. As Bertrand Russell said recently in addressing words to ordinary men and women "we are all in peril, in deadly peril, ourselves; our children, our grandchildren, unless we are successful; for, if we fail, we shall have none. In comparison with this peril, all other questions are insignificant. What will it matter who was right and who was wrong when no human beings survived?" There is hardly any sensible person in any part of the world who does not realize the disastrous consequences of a nuclear war. But it is tragic that when there is such unanimity about the imperative necessity of eliminating war and resolving disputes by peaceful means, a white gulf divides the powers and prevents a meeting of minds. The result is that neither side is prepared to make any agreement or arrive at any arrangement which would, in its views substantially alter the balance of power based on nuclear weapons and missiles and military bases. This wide chasm is due to distrust and suspicion and fear. It is this distrust that should be reduced, this acerbity that has to be diminished if the risks of a nuclear holocaust are to be eliminated. For, under the impetus of this mutual distrust and fear which both cause and are caused by the arms race, the objectives of diplomatic negotiations and differences between nations are lost, while bombs, war heads, rockets and missiles tend to become ends in themselves.

Q. 2. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

(3 marks each) (15)

Planting a garden is a lot like having a family. Both require a great deal of work, especially as they grow and as the seasons change. As summer days lengthen, your plants become dependent on you for sustenance, much like you children depend on you for food and drink. Like a thirsty child asking for a drink of water, your plants do the same. Their bent, **wilted** "body" language, translated, issues a demand much the way your child requests milk or juice. When their collective thirsts are quenched, you see the way they both thrive in your care. The fussy child becomes satisfied, and the plant reaches toward the sun in a showy display. You might also find that you have to clean the space around your plants much like you would pick up toys and clothes that have been thrown helter-skelter in your toddler's room. Similarly, plants shed spent petals, roses need to be pruned, and weeds need to be pulled. To keep children healthy, parents protect their children against disease with medicine, and gardeners do the same with insect repellent. To nourish them, parents give children vitamins, and gardeners use fertilizer, as both promote healthy growth. As children grow and become adults, they need less and less care. However, here's where the similarity ends. While plants die and become dormant during winter, children still maintain a vital role in the family unit.

- The mode of discussion the author adopts in this paragraph is:
(A) Contrastive (B) Comparative (C) Analytical (D) Both (A) & (B)
- In how many ways does the writer identify the gardeners with parents?
(A) 3 (B) 4 (C) 5 (D) 6
- What makes the responsibility of gardeners different from that of parents?
(A) Effort (B) Time (C) Interest (D) Status
- The bold and underlined word i.e. 'Wilted' in the passage means:
(A) Immature (B) Very attractive (C) Not firm (D) Very strong
- The sentence 'While plants die and become dormant during winter, children still maintain a vital role in the family unit.' is a:
(A) Fact (B) Hypothesis (C) Opinion (D) Suggestion

