
Analysis of Answers for GP Paper 2 Comprehension Exercise #21 (‘Fear’)

1. The author supports his idea by **making reference to** our forefathers who had these intrinsic fears as well. **With** severe weather challenges and constant stress to outsmart animals that jeopardized their lives, **fear made them** more aware of the existence of these dangers and allowed them to be prepared and react appropriately, thus increasing their ability to live longer. **Even today**, people feel intimidated when they look at fierce-looking animals even if they are in protected areas.

**Useful points to take note of:*

2. Religious leaders used people’s fear of being punished forever in the afterlife to regulate our actions by creating random social orders that seemed fixed and unquestionable. This in turn enriched the religious leaders’ wealth as people had to exchange money in order to gain spiritual favour.

**Useful points to take note of:*

3. This is because for followers who did not possess education and instead held on to supernatural beliefs to guide their lives, they could not make rational judgements about their rules being set for them and had to obey those in authority, reinforcing their fears of being punished.

**Useful points to take note of:*

4. The first contrast is that **fears in the past** took the form of exact and clear risks, **whereas today**, fear is a vague and imprecise sentiment. The second contrast is that **fears in the past** were viewed as unimportant and pathetic, but today, they are seen as significant and worthy of medical attention.

**Useful points to take note of:*

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5. The author used brackets to **provide additional information that** the modern view of fear actually has a **positive effect** of allowing males to share authentically about their inner struggles, **thus providing an alternative perspective** that contrasts with the largely negative view of fear today.

**Useful points to take note of:*

6. The word 'miraculously' suggests that people expect something to be achieved without any effort, and by using this word to describe fearful events, the author is implying that people's expectations of the government to resolve highly difficult problems with ease are unrealistic.

**Useful points to take note of:*

7. The author uses the word 'your' to directly address the reader and highlight the point that threats can come from the people around us, **thus magnifying** the scary idea of hidden dangers in our midst at a personal level.

**Useful points to take note of:*

8. The author uses the three dots to illustrate that the list of quiet fears in everyday life is endless, thus demonstrating how pervasive our modern sense of fear is such that it can take almost any form.

**Useful points to take note of:*

9. The material in lines 84-88 show that humanity is able to acquire knowledge from the threats encountered, as well as from obstacles and failures. Humanity has also created methods to recognize, analyze, select and execute various choices for minimizing risks that bring about fear.

**Useful points to take note of:*

10. Summary Question (ANSWERS)

#	Points from the Passage	Paraphrased Points
1	We give our governments the legal right to control every single aspect of our lives and behaviour. <u>OR</u> By empowering governments with the greatest abilities...	We allow the authorities / the state to manipulate / regulate / dominate our conduct / actions totally / completely / wholly
2	We allow ourselves to be watched anonymously by closed circuit television and...	We let ourselves to be monitored / tracked / observed
3	permit our Internet activities to be filtered and screened...	And our online behaviour to be censored / blocked
4	all in the name of security.	For the sake of public safety / order / protection
5	Nobody questions the government's monopoly over surveillance, data collection or even the use of force.	No one challenges the authorities' dominance / control over these actions These are all done without public resistance
6	Capitalising on this, business-minded opportunists transform and package our elusive general anxieties about life into tangible fears...	Entrepreneurs take advantage of our vague fears / worries by presenting / depicting them as concrete / material / real
7	Exultantly line their pockets by selling a growing range of products and services...	And make money / profits by offering an increasing variety of merchandise / goods
8	as people pay more to fear less.	Knowing that people are willing to spend / consume more to reduce their anxieties
9	Shrewd entrepreneurs are also extremely talented at harnessing our proclivity for anxiety in situations...	Businessmen use their acumen / craftiness to utilize / manipulate our tendency / inclination to feel scared / frightened / worried
10	where our fears bear little relationship to actual experience...	When our worries are actually not reflective of reality
11	to promote 'innovative' products that tackle our 'problems in life'.	In order to market / advertise / sell creative items / goods that manage our perceived / supposed issues in life

12	[...the market for personal security gizmos is booming.]	Especially those relating / pertaining to personal safety
13	this burgeoning fear economy has turned us into passive subjects...	The growing fear market has made us resigned / helpless
14	who can only respond by mindlessly and obsessively consuming products...	Thinking that we can only react by unthinkingly / compulsively / blindly buying things
15	to ease our deep insecurities.	To relieve / reduce our internal anxieties
16	Fear is also so deeply embedded into our cultural lexicon that we are reminded of it even in lighter moments...	Fear has become so entrenched / rooted in our popular culture
17	enjoyment of repulsed yet transfixed viewers OR captivation with experiencing fear	That it is used for pleasure / delight / entertainment
18	sustains one of the most profitable industries.	And ensures that the show / entertainment business remains lucrative / flourish / thrive
19	for people to truly enjoy a scary situation, and experience a flood of adrenaline, endorphins, and dopamine...	Scientific / Biological factors are also used to let people feel thrilled / excited / exhilarated while being artificially frightened
20	it must happen in a completely protected space.	In totally safe / secure environments / contexts

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