

Question 2

(Suggested time—40 minutes. This question counts as one-third of the total essay section score.)

In the following passage from *The Spectator* (March 4, 1712), the English satirist Joseph Addison creates a character who keeps a diary. Read the passage carefully. Then, in a well-organized essay, analyze how the language of the passage characterizes the diarist and his society and how the characterization serves Addison's satiric purpose. You may wish to consider such elements as selection of detail, repetition, and tone.

- MONDAY, *eight o'clock*.—I put on my clothes and walked into the parlour.
- Nine o'clock, ditto*.—Tied my knee-strings and washed my hands.
- Hours ten, eleven, and twelve*.—Smoked three pipes of Virginia. Read the *Supplement and Daily Courant*. Things go ill in the North. Mr. Nisby's opinion thereupon.
- One o'clock in the afternoon*.—Chid Ralph for mislaying my tobacco-box.
- Two o'clock*.—Sat down to dinner. *Mem.*: Too many plums and no suet.
- From three to four*.—Took my afternoon's nap.
- From four to six*.—Walked into the fields.
- Wind S.S.E.
- From six to ten*.—At the club. Mr. Nisby's opinion about the peace.
- Ten o'clock*.—Went to bed, slept sound.
- TUESDAY (*being holiday*), *eight o'clock*.—Rose as usual.
- Nine o'clock*.—Washed hands and face, shaved, put on my double-soled shoes.
- Ten, eleven, twelve*.—Took a walk to Islington.
- One*.—Took a pot of Mother Cob's mild.
- Between two and three*.—Returned; dined on a knuckle of veal and bacon. *Mem.*: Sprouts wanting.
- Three*.—Nap as usual.
- From four to six*.—Coffee-house. Read the news. A dish of twist.¹ Grand Vizier² strangled.
- From six to ten*.—At the club. Mr. Nisby's account of the great Turk.
- Ten*.—Dream of the Grand Vizier. Broken sleep.
- WEDNESDAY, *eight o'clock*.—Tongue of my shoe-buckle broke. Hands, but not face.
- Nine*.—Paid off the butcher's bill. *Mem.*: To be allowed for the last leg of mutton.
- Ten, eleven*.—At the Coffee-house. More work in the North. Stranger in a black wig asked me how stocks went.
- From twelve to one*.—Walked in the fields. Wind to the south.
- From one to two*.—Smoked a pipe and a half.
- Two*.—Dined as usual. Stomach good.
- Three*.—Nap broke by the falling of a pewter dish.
- Mem.*: Cookmaid in love, and grown careless.
- From four to six*.—At the coffee-house. Advice from Smyrna, that the Grand Vizier was first of all strangled and afterwards beheaded.
- Six o'clock in the evening*.—Was half-an-hour in the club before anybody else came. Mr. Nisby of opinion, that the Grand Vizier was not strangled the sixth instant.
- Ten at night*.—Went to bed. Slept without waking till nine next morning.
- THURSDAY, *nine o'clock*.—Stayed within till two o'clock for Sir Timothy; who did not bring me my annuity according to his promise.
- Two in the afternoon*.—Sat down to dinner. Loss of appetite. Small-beer sour. Beef overcorned.
- Three*.—Could not take my nap.
- Four and five*.—Gave Ralph a box on the ear. Turned off my cookmaid. Sent a message to Sir Timothy. *Mem.*: did not go to the club to-night. Went to bed at nine o'clock.
- FRIDAY.—Passed the morning in meditation upon Sir Timothy, who was with me a quarter before twelve.
- Twelve o'clock*.—Bought a new head to my cane and tongue to my buckle. Drank a glass of purl³ to recover appetite.
- Two and three*.—Dined and slept well.
- From four to six*.—Went to the coffee-house. Met Mr. Nisby there. Smoked several pipes. Mr. Nisby of opinion that laced coffee⁴ is bad for the head.
- Six o'clock*.—At the club as steward. Sat late.
- Twelve o'clock*.—Went to bed, dreamt that I drank small-beer with the Grand Vizier.
- SATURDAY.—Waked at eleven; walked in the fields; wind N.E.
- Twelve*.—Caught in a shower.
- One in the afternoon*.—Returned home, and dried myself.
- Two*.—Mr. Nisby dined with me. First course marrow-bones, second ox-cheek, with a bottle of Brooke's and Hellier.
- Three o'clock*.—Overslept myself.
- Six*.—Went to the club. Like to have fallen into a gutter. Grand Vizier certainly dead, &c.

¹ A beverage

² Chief administrative officer of the Ottoman Empire

³ A liquor

⁴ Coffee containing spirits

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