

Preliminary Writing Assignment:

To assess the level of research you have completed as well as to get a brief idea on your perspective on partition, we have set a couple of free response questions. Reply briefly and within the word limit.

If you are a **speaker**, you must answer **both** questions.

If you are an **artist of or a writer**, you may answer **any one** question.

1) “At the stroke of the midnight hour, when the world sleeps, India will awake to new life and freedom”

Nehru’s famous words capture the jubilation of independence, but were also subdued by the unfolding tragedy of partition. Imagine that you have to deliver the first address to your newly independent nation (it could be India or Pakistan). You would have to capture the essence of your country as well as the pain surrounding its birth. What message would you spread to your countrymen? And to the men across the border? And to the rapists, murderers and plunderers who have free reign in across the land? You may either write a speech or just elaborate the message you would like to spread. Mention the country you are addressing.

Up to 150 words

2) Necessary or not, partition was ultimately settled as a power play between leaders with expediency transcending rational decisions.

Do you agree or disagree with the statement, and to what extent? Why?

Up to 250 words

Please write your answers in a word document and send it in as an attachment to rememberingpartition@gmail.com by Thursday, October 21st at the latest.