

1. Make a precis of the given passage and give a suitable heading:(20) If then a practical end must be assigned to a University course, I say it is that of training good members of a society. Its aim is the art of social life, and its end is fitness for the world. It neither confines its views to particular professions on the one hand, nor creates heroes or inspires genius on the other. Works indeed of genius fall under no art; heroic minds come under no rule; a University is not a birthplace of poets or of immortal authors, of founders of schools, leaders of colonies, or conquerors of nations. It does not promise a generation of Aristotles or Newtons or Napoleons or Washingtons or Raphaels or Shakespeares though such miracles of nature it has before now contained within its precincts. Nor is it content on the other hand with forming the critic or the experimentalist, the economist or the engineer, through such too it includes within its scope. But a University training is the great ordinary means to a great ordinary end; it aims at raising the intellectual tone of society, at cultivating the public mind, at purifying the national taste, at supplying true principles to popular aspirations. It is the education which gives a man a clear conscious view of his own opinions and judgments, a truth in developing them, an eloquence in expressing them, and a force in urging them, it teaches him to see things as they are, to go right to the point, to disentangle a skein of thought, to detect what is sophistical and to discard what is irrelevant. It prepares him to fill any post with credit, and to master any subject with facility. (John H. Newman)

## Precis CSS 2003 paper

### The purpose of University Education

The goal of university education is to make the individuals fit for Society. This is done by inculcating the social rules for particular profession. Neither the agenda of university education is related to a particular profession, nor is the formation of heroes or intellectuals. Work of genius is not output of art. University is not a place of generating the distinguished personalities, but it produces only ordinary people. The purpose of it is uplifting intellectuals, nourishing their minds, aspire people, creating self consciousness and make people eloquent. It induces sense of discerning right from wrong. It arises yearning impulses in them.

Words: 100

Q. 2. Write a précis of the following and suggest a suitable title:

The fear of human beings when faced with the mysteries of life and their weakness by comparison with the vastness of nature created in them a need to communicate with the divine, with the superior powers which they believed regulated the universe and determined their own fates. Knowledge of wishes of the gods was always a sure guide for human behavior. In ancient Greece, the precise nature of these wishes was 'decoded' by the art of giving oracles, practiced by soothsayers who had the gift of understanding the signs or signals sent by the gods.

The soothsayers uttered their oracles by interpreting flashes of lightening, rolls of thunder or the flights of certain birds of prey (omens); alternatively, they might observe the direction in which the fire burned when a sacrifice was made, examine the entrails of animals which had just been sacrificed, or base judgments on the sacrificial beast's willingness to approach the altar. The interpretation of dreams was popular too, and so was palmistry. The most notable soothsayers of ancient Greece were Tiresias, Calchas, Helenus, Amphiaraus and Cassandra.

However, there were abundant instances in which the gods did not manifest themselves to the faithful in the forms of signs but spoke directly to an intermediate who for a short time was overcome by a 'divine mania' and transcended his own human essence. Here the prophet- or more usually the prophetic- entered a state of ecstasy, in which he or she delivered the message from the gods to the suppliants.

These practices for foreseeing the future were the basis on which the ancient Greek oracles operated. Each oracle was located within a properly-organized sanctuary and was directly associated with one or other of the gods. Apollo was the archetypal soothsayer for the Greeks, the god who was responsible for conveying to mortals the decisions pronounced by Zeus. The most important of all the oracles, that at the Delphi, delivered the messages with the intervention of Apollo, while the oldest that of Dodona, functioned with the assistance of Zeus.

## Precis

### Oracles: The Source of Communication

To resolve the mysteries of life, it became human need to communicate with divine powers to comprehend their wishes and seek guidance.

In ancient Greece, oracles were given power to interpret signals of gods. These signals were sent from gods by various methods like flashes of lightning, thunder, behavior of birds and animals. Oracles used to predict dreams by palmistry.

But sometimes, signals were not clear. Then oracles became voice of gods. After it, oracles used to deliver messages verbally in state of ecstasy. These oracles were organized in temples where they delivered messages sent to them directly from deity powers and some of them delivered through intermediary gods.

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