

Practice Activity # 1

Q1. Make a précis of the given passage, also give a suitable heading (CSS 2002)

The official name of our species is homo sapiens; but there are many anthropologists who prefer to think of man as homo Faber- the smith, the maker of tools It would be possible. I think, to reconcile these two definitions in a third. If man is a knower and an efficient doer, it is only because he is also a talker In order to be Faber and Sapiens, Homo must first be loquax, the loquacious one. Without language we should merely be hairless chimpanzees. Indeed we should be something much worse. Possessed of a high IQ but no language, we should be like the Yahoos of Gulliver's Travels- Creatures too clever to be guided by instinct, too Self-centered to live in a state of animal grace, and therefore condemned forever, frustrated and malignant, between contented apehood and aspiring humanity. It was language that made possible the accumulation of knowledge and the broadcasting of information. It was language that permitted the expression of religious insight, the formulation of ethical ideals, the codification to laws. It was language, in a word, that turned us into human beings and gave birth to civilization.



Human beings are known as homosapiens, but man can also be a homo faber, because of his language. Without language, man is a hairless chimpanzee, ignorant and forever condemned or even worse. It was language that made learning possible and facilitated transferring of knowledge. It was indeed language, that allowed understanding of religious ideals and formation of ethics. In a nutshell, language gave birth to a civilized human being.

Words: 65 words

184/3 = 61

Title: "Language: A blessing for mankind"

Make a précis of the following in your own English. (Credit will be given to your own words, not just copying from the question paper). Also suggest a suitable title. (10)

English education and English language have done immense goods to our country, in spite of their glaring drawbacks. The notions of democracy and self-government are the born of English education. Those who fought and died for our freedom were nursed in the cradle of English thought and culture. The West has made contribution to the East. The history of Europe has fired the hearts of our leaders. Our struggle for freedom has been inspired by the struggles for freedom in England, America and France. If our leaders were ignorant of English and if they had not studied this language, how could they have been inspired by these heroic struggles for freedom in other lands? English, therefore, did us great good in the past and if properly studied will do immense good in future. English is spoken throughout the world. For international contact, our commerce and trade, for the development of our practical ideas, for the scientific studies, English is indispensable "English is very rich in literature," our own literature has been made richer by this foreign language. It will really be a fatal day if we altogether forget Shakespeare, Milton, Keats and Shaw. in order to be up to date with modern education and to be an integral part of international community, we must not take learning English Language for granted.

(Précis)

" English : A powerful language "

Despite all the cons, English language and English education have been a bliss to mankind. Concepts like democracy and self-government are derived from English education. English culture and English language had a great impact on the tiresome struggle of our ancestors for freedom. Understanding its importance will be fruitful in future as well. Being an international language, its importance is undeniable. Furthermore, the rich English literature has added to the beauty of our own literature. Thus, one must not undermine the importance of English language.

Words : 83

$$\boxed{219/3 = 73}$$