

PRÉCIS
Central Superior Services Examination (CSS) 1971

Passage

The essence of poetry is that it deals with events which concern a large number of people and can be grasped not as immediate personal experience but as matter known largely from hearsay and presented in simplified and often abstract forms. It is thus the antithesis of all poetry which deals with the special, individual activity of the self and tries to present this as specially and as individually as it can. The poet who deals with public themes may himself be affected, even deeply, by contemporary events at some point in his own being, but to see them in their breadth and depth he must rely largely on what he hears from other men and from mass instruments of communication. From the start his impulse to write about them is different from any impulse to write about his own affairs. It may be just as strong and just as compelling, but it is not of the same kind. He has to give his own version of something which millions of others may share with him, and however individual he may wish to be, he cannot avoid relying to a large extent on much that he knows only from second hand.

Fundamentally this may not matter, for after all what else did Shakespeare do: but the Political poet does not construct an imaginary past, he attempts to grasp and interpret a vast present. Between him and his subject there is a gap which he can never completely cross, and all his attempts to make events part of himself must be to some extent hampered by recalcitrant elements in them, which he does not understand or cannot assimilate or find irrelevant to his creative task. In such poetry selection which is indispensable to all art, has to be made from an unusually large field of possibilities and guided by an exacting sense of what really matters and what does not. On one side he may try to include too much and lose himself in issues where he is not imaginatively at home, on the other side he may see some huge event merely from a private angle which need not mean much to others. Political poetry oscillates between these extremes, and its history in our time has been largely attempts to make the best of one or the other of them or to see what compromises can be made between them.

Precis 1971

- Title:- Political Poetry: finding midpoint
- 2) Balancing 'I' and 'Us' in poetry
 - 3) Key to balance in poetry
 - 4) Struggle of a political poet

Precis:-

The beauty of poetry is that it artistically encapsulates the events which are relatable to many. It is opposite to the poetry which centralizes the self.

The poet who narrates public theme, though he himself might be afflicted is driven to rely on the public's version. Though his impulse is not weak compared to the one's who is writing about his own affairs but it is different still. It doesn't matter because this is what Shakespeare did. Political poet doesn't talk imagination or past but tries to include the present and he can't take 'him' and his version out of what he is trying to describe.

Political poet attempts to balance
Losing ^{omitting} himself out of events he is
trying to describe and focusing
too much on his private version.

(122 words).



Remarks by Examiner

In main précis

	Yes	No
1. Main idea is picked	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Main aspect(s) of an idea is/are covered	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Written in student's own language structure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Cohesion/rhythm/organization needs improvement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Spelling(s) mistakes are found	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Need for improvement in grammar	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Is length per Requirement?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

In Title

	Yes	No
Title matches with précis/main idea	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Language of title is weak/incorrect	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Length of title as per standard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Marks

Précis: _____/15

Title: _____/5

Marks
