

CSS 1989

Q.1 Write a Précis of the following and suggest a suitable title: (20+5=25)

"THE GREATEST civilization before ours was the Greek. They, too, lived in a dangerous world. They were a little civilized people, surrounded by barbarous and always threatened by the greatest Asian power Persia. In the end they succumbed, but the reason they did was not the enemies outside were too strong, but that their spiritual strength had given way. While they had it, they kept Greece unconquered. Basic to all Greek achievements was freedom. The Athenians were the only free people in the world. In the great empires of antiquity, Egypt, Babylon, Abyssinia and Persia splendid though they were with riches and immense power, freedom was unknown. The idea it was born in Greece and with it Greece was able to prevail against all the manpower and wealth arrayed against her. At Marathon and at Salamis overwhelming numbers of Persians were defeated by small Greek forces. It was proved there that one free man was superior to many submissively obedient subjects of a tyrant. And Athens, where freedom was the dearest possession, was the leader in those amazing victories.

Greece rose to the very height, not because she was big, she was very small; not because she was rich, she was very poor, not even because she was wonderfully gifted. So doubtless were others in the great empires of the ancient world who have gone their leaving little for us. She rose because there was in the Greeks the greatest spirit that moves in humanity, the spirit that sets men free."

Precis 1989:-

Greece was the Greatest civilization, as they were the men of morality but surrounded by strong Persian empire. Finally, they were defeated. Not because of mighty opponents but their spiritual power got weakening. Their achievement was the freedom which they attained before the defeat, which was not even attained by the greatest powers of that time. But the Athenians achieved. In competitions, small groups of Greece defeated large number of Persians due to spirit of freedom. Freedom was the greatest possession, due to which the Greeks touched the apex of progression. (76 words)

Title:

- Principle of Greek Civilization ⁱⁿ Spirit of freedom
- Spirit of freedom in Greeks