

To tread the path of philosophy is to seek after truth and follow a way of life. Before a man sets out on the quest after truth, he must fulfil certain conditions. First, there must be discrimination between the real and the unreal. The statement means, not that a man must possess complete knowledge of absolute reality, which is attained only after long practice of meditation, but that

he must unflinchingly subject the nature of things to a rigid analysis by discriminating between what is transitory and what is abiding or between what is true and what is false. The second condition is detachment from the selfish enjoyments of life. The aspirant must learn that the highest good is realised not through worldly pleasure, but through a continuous search for the infinite, the enduring joy. This ideal of renunciation must be realised by a gradual purification of the seeker's heart and mind. A third condition is that the student must acquire tranquility of mind, self control, patience, peace, burning faith in things of the spirit and self surrender. These are called the six treasures of life. The thirst for release is the fourth condition. Deliverance from spiritual darkness, entrance upon the path of illumination comes only through annihilation of the false ego. When the ego dies, all troubles cease says Sri Ramakrishna. Such a condition of being does not imply the loss of one's individuality but rather the attainment of a great individuality. For we can lose nothing that is real. Kalidasa, the great poet and dramatist, has beautifully expressed this truth. He says that the ideal of renunciation consists in owning the whole world while disowning one's own self. (280 words)

Precise writing. (2)

Q. Make the precise of the following passage and suggest a suitable title.
To tread the path - - - -
- - - - - one's own self.

The path of philosophy implies a constant search of truth. For the quest of these truths, a man must have certain qualities. The seeker must be capable of distinguishing between real and non-real, temporary and lasting things. He must learn that the highest good is not realised through a world pleasure, but through a continuous search for the lasting joy. He must acquire peace of mind and do away with false ego. With ego's death, many troubles would fade away automatically. By disowning his own self, he can own the whole world.

Title: Philosophy: A search of Truth/
Philosophy: Selfless Attitude

Original words count: 280

Precise words count: 89

EXERCISE 1

There are still those devotees of sport who support the emphasis laid on school games and for whom sport is a kind of religion. To them the sporting spirit is the finest attitude with which to face life since its possessor is very conscious of his obligations to the community. Yet the truth about the religion of sport is that it does not deliver the goods; it fails to produce sportsmen. In actual fact, games have practically no effect on character, for a selfish man will play his games selfishly in spite of all that has been talked about the team-spirit while a chivalrous man will be chivalrous in his games. Games afford an opportunity for showing spirit within; they are a vehicle for virtue or for vice and it is for this that we should value them; not as some miraculous process for making a bad man good or a crooked man straight. If we support the system of compulsory games, let it be for the right reasons.

Precise writing. (3)

Q. Make the precise and suggest a suitable title.

There are still - - - - -

- - - - - the right reasons

Sol:

Sports is a kind of religion for some devotees who support compulsory games. They consider sports as a finest attitude with which to face life. Contrarily, sports fails to produce true sportsmanship and character building of a player. Player plays games according to their nature keeping aside the true spirit of a game. If we support compulsory games, let it be for the right reasons.

Title: Sports - A Religion/
Sports: Physical and Character Building

Original words count: 170

Precise words count: 62.

EXERCISE 1

We are living in an era of mighty transformation in all aspects of life. This increased tempo of change giving our age a revolutionary character is a striking one. In India we have to follow up political freedom by social, cultural and economic advance for which our universities have to send out for every walk of life intellectually competent and professionally skilled young men and women who have imbibed through their learning the real democratic spirit and breadth of vision for the release of creative forces, learnt toleration and mutual give and take and through constant self introspection, self restraint, and disciplined habits of mind can overcome narrow prejudices. Thus greater emphasis has to be laid on the building of the character of the students, moulding their personality and producing good and honest men and women who believe in self help and self-reliance. (180 words)

Precis Writing (4)

We are living - - - - -

- - - - - help and self-reliance.

Title: University and Its Role.

Our age can be rightly called the revolutionary age. For political freedom in India, Universities have to send out competent and professionally skilled young men and women to groom their students and to inculcate the real democratic spirit and tolerance in their students. These disciplines can overcome narrow prejudices and help students believe in self-dependency.

Total words count: 180

Precis words: 56

EXERCISE 2

If today I have a quarrel with another man, I do not get beaten merely because I am physically weaker and he can knock me down. I go to law, and the law will decide as fairly as it can between the two of us. Thus in disputes between man and man right has taken the place of might. Moreover the law protects me from robbery and violence. Nobody may come and break into my house, steal my goods, or run off with my children. Of course, there are burglars, but they are very rare, and the law punishes them whenever it catches them.

It is difficult for us to realize how much this safety means. Without safety those higher activities of mankind which make up civilization could not go on. The inventor could not invent, the scientist find out or the artist make beautiful things. Hence order and safety although they are not themselves civilization are things without which civilization would be impossible. They are necessary to our civilization as the air we breathe is to us and we have grown so used to them that we do not notice them any more than we notice the air.

Precis Writing (5)

If today I - - - - -
- - - - - notice the air.

Title: Importance of Law.

Today, law is the medium to decide innocent and offender through evidence. The ideology of "might is right" is no longer useful and is practically not applicable. Law provides protection and ensures the safety of every individual. It is difficult to realize the importance of safety. Without it, the civilization would not be feasible. Thus, order and civilization play an important role in the life of every individual.

Original words count: 200

Precis words count: 67.

EXERCISE 3

It is customary to say that in our machine age there is less room than formerly for the craftsman's joy and skilled work. I am not at all sure that this is true. The skilled workman now-a-days works, it is true, at quite different things from those that occupied the attention of the medieval guilds, but he is still very important and quite essential in the machine economy. There are those who make scientific instruments and delicate machines, there are designers, there are aeroplane mechanics, chauffeurs, and hosts of others who have a trade in which skill can be developed to almost any extent. The agricultural labour and the peasant in comparatively primitive communities is not, so far as I have been able to observe, nearly as happy as a chauffeur or an engine driver. It is true that the work of the peasant who cultivates his own land is varied, he ploughs, he sows, he reaps. But he is at the mercy of the elements and is very conscious of his dependence whereas the man who works a modern mechanism is conscious of power and acquires the sense that man is the master, not the slave, of natural forces. It is true, of course, that work is very uninteresting to the large body of mere machine minders who repeat some mechanical operation over and over again with the minimum of variation, but the more uninteresting the work

becomes, the more possible it is to get it performed by a machine. The ultimate goal of machine production is a system in which everything uninteresting is done by machine and human beings are reserved for the work involving variety and initiative.

Precis writing (6)

It is customary - - - -

- - - - - Variety and initiative

Title: Machine: A Helping Tool

It is common but wrongly assumed that there is less room for craftsman's in industrialised age. The skilled workers still works in different fields like agriculture, chauffeurs and also play their due role in machine's economy. On one hand, the work of a labour is difficult and time consuming while on the other hand, machines are helping humans by helping all the living tasks timely. The final goal of a machine is to help humans work involving variety and initiative and to perform uninteresting tasks well in time.

Original words count: 282

Precis words count: 88.

EXERCISE 4

Under the present system of mass education by classes, too much stress is laid on teaching and too little on active learning. The child is not encouraged to discover things on his own powers, thus losing intellectual independence and all capacity to judge for himself. The over-taught child is the father of the newspaper reading, advertisement believing, propaganda swallowing, demagogued man, the man who makes modern democracy the force it is. Moreover lessons in class leave him mainly unoccupied, and therefore bored. He has to be coerced into learning what does not interest him, and the information acquired mechanically and reluctantly by dint of

brute repetition is rapidly forgotten. Quite naturally the child being bored and unoccupied, is also mischievous. A strict external discipline becomes necessary unless there is to be chaos, pandemonium. The child learns to obey not to control himself. He loses moral as well as intellectual independence.

Such are the main defects in the current system of mass education. Many others could be mentioned, but they are defects in detail and can be classified under one or other of the three main categories of defects—sacrifice of the individual to the system, psychologically unsound methods of teaching and irrational methods of imposing discipline. We need a new system of universal education of the same kind as that which has proved itself so successful in the training of defectives and infants but modified so as to be suitable for other boys and girls. We need a system of individual education. (262 words)

Precis writing (7)

Under the present — — — —

— — — — individual education

Title: Present / Current Mass-Educational System

The author opines that present mass educational system lays a lot of stress on teaching and little stress on active learning. The current educational system is promoting rote learning. The lectures in class rooms are boring. At the end of the day, these annoying lectures left children without learning anything. So, the child loses moral as well as self-independence. A new universal educational system with some practical modifications can be helpful in training mentally defective children as well as other boys and girls.

Original words count: 262

Precis words count: 83.

EXERCISE 1

For all industrial development we need power and the ultimate restriction on power is the fuel from which it is extracted. Is there enough fuel to satisfy our ever-growing hunger for power? For conventional fuels such as wood, coal, oil, the answer is quite clearly No. The world's known stock of oil is only sufficient to last sixty years at the present rate of consumption and the rate of consumption keeps going up and up. We are burning too much wood already, and the earth's known fuel-wood forests would be consumed soon. Coal is still in fair supply, but in some areas—notably England—it is becoming increasingly difficult to mine it, and therefore uneconomical.

Besides fuel as a source of power, there is the device for harnessing energy from rapidly flowing water. Few sources of water power remain untapped, and the power they yield meets only a fraction of our total need. Moreover, it is not very dependable, because water storing in reservoirs depends on rains which are sometimes freakish.

Conventional fuels release energy by combustion; but fission makes use of another kind of fuel, remarkable for its concentration of power. All fissionable material is extracted or manufactured from two elements uranium and thorium, and the world has plentiful stock of them. But even so they will not last for ever. There is proba-

bly enough to last for several centuries. Fission in the techniques known up till now converts only one-tenth of one per cent of its fuel into energy. Complete conversion of fissionable fuels into energy is known at present at laboratory level only. If it can be harnessed into a practical power device, one pound of fissionable fuel would be equivalent to three billion pounds of coal. Now the scientists' quest is to find out some more efficient process for using these fuels outside the laboratory on industrial scale. But after even fissionable material is gone, what then? There is no reason to despair. The sun is continually pouring solar energy on earth: we have only to gather and harness it. Those who think that man will one day be left without any source of power are not far-sighted enough. (362 words)

Precis Writing (8)

For all industrial development - - -

- - - - - far-sighted enough.

Title: Power and Man's Needs.

Power, which is extracted from fuel, is essential for all industrial developments. The fear expressed is that conventional type of fuels are not going to last for a long time. Fortunately, we have enough stock of Uranium and Thorium and all fissionable materials, which is a great source of energy, is extracted from these elements.

The scientists are busy finding some efficient processes for the use of fissionable materials for industrial purpose. The solar energy from the sun can also be gathered, harnessed and brought well in use for different purposes. So, the people who imagine that man would be left with no source of power in future only display their short-sightedness.

Original words: 362

Precis words: 113