

EXERCISE 2

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 unfailingly 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, poise, 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 ones own self. (280 words)

Précis

Title: Renunciation: a way to owning the world

In this passage, Sri Rama-Krishna says that if one is aspire to follow the path of philosophy one should fulfill the certain requirements. Firstly, one should be analytical enough to distinguish the truth from false. Secondly, one should seek for spiritual pleasure rather than being materialistic. Thirdly, one should have self control and patience to acquire peace of mind. Finally, one should rescind ones arrogance which is the root cause of evils. By following the ~~for~~ mentioned conditions one may own the world without losing ones own individuality.

Summary:

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| Total words in passage = | 280 |
| Required words = | 93-94 |
| Total words in précis = | 87 |