

PRÉCIS Central Superior Services Examination (CSS) 1986

Passage.

One of the fundamental facts about words is that the most useful ones in our language have many meanings. That is partly why they are so useful: they work overtime... Think of -all the various things we mean by the word "foot" on different occasion: one of the lower extremities of the human body, a measure of verse, the ground about a tree, twelve inches, - the floor in front of the stairs. The same is true of nearly every common noun or verb...considering the number of ways of taking a particular word, the task of speaking clearly and being understood would seem pretty hopeless if it were not for another very important fact about language. Though a word may have many senses, these senses can be controlled, up to a point, by the context in which the word is used. When we find the word in a particular verbal setting -we can usually decide quite definitely which of the many senses of the word relevant. If a poet says his verse has feet, it doesn't occur to you that he could mean it's a yard long or is three legged (unless perhaps you are a critic planning to puncture the poet with a pun about his" lumping verse"). The context rules out these maverick senses quite decisively.

Significance of Content

According to the writer, the most useful words in his language are those that convey multiple meanings and situations. Even every ordinary word has various meanings. So, it would be impossible to grasp the meaning of every other word if there were no context. Multiple meanings of a word are narrowed down by considering the content of its usage. In short, it is content that facilitates people to understand and make sense of poetry.

Total words in passage: 218

Total words in précis: 74

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/orgnization 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
1. Title matches with précis/main idea	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Language of title is weak/incorrect	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Length of title as per standard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Marks

Main Précis: _____/15

Title: ____/5

Remarks
