

PRÉCIS

Central Superior Services Examination (CSS) 2003

Passage.

If then a practical end must be assigned to a University course, I say it is that of training good members of a society. It is the art of social life, and its end is fitness for the world. It neither confines its views to particular professions on the one hand, nor creates heroes or inspires genius on the other. Works indeed of genius fall under no art; heroic minds come under no rule; a University is not a birthplace of poets or of immortal authors, of founders of schools, leaders of colonies, or conquerors of nations. It does not promise a generation of Aristotles or Newtons or Napoleons or Washingtons or Raphaels or Shakespeares though such miracles of nature it has before now contained within its precincts. Nor is it content on the other hand with forming the critic or the experimentalist, the economist or the engineer, through such too it includes within its scope. But a University training is the great ordinary means to a great ordinary end; it aims at raising the intellectual tone of society, at cultivating the public mind, at purifying the national taste, at supplying true principles to popular aspirations. It is the education which gives a man a clear conscious view of his own opinions and judgments, a truth in developing them, an eloquence in expressing them, and a force in urging them, it teaches him to see things as they are, to go right to the point, to disentangle a skein of thought, to detect what is sophistical and to discard what is irrelevant. It prepares him to fill any post with credit, and to master any subject with facility. (John H. Newman)

Poets

people

position to be appointed

15x
270

University; Social training ground

A University course must train good members of a society. It's a social art that's neither limited to a particular profession nor sharp minds. University may not be able to give a generation of influential legends like in the past or a generation of exceptional professionals. However, on a greater end, University develop the intellectual mindset of the society at mass level. It gives a generation with a clear mindset that are conscious about their opinions, judgements and goals. It trains them to be equipped any subject with relative ease.

Words in précis: 88 words

Words in passage: 272 words

main idea is picked but the sentences are not clear

need improvement in sentence structure and clarity

not satisfactory 5/20