

## FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FOR  
RECRUITMENT TO POSTS IN BPS-17 UNDER  
THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, 2001

## ENGLISH (Précis &amp; Composition)

TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS.....Maximum Marks: 100

Q1. Make a precise of the following passage in about one third of its length and suggest a suitable heading. (20)

It was not from want of perceiving the beauty of external nature but from the different way of perceiving it, that the early Greeks did not turn their genius to portray, either in colour or in poetry, the outlines, the hues, and contrasts of all fair valley, and hold cliffs, and golden moons, and rosy lawns which their beautiful country affords in lavish abundance. (164)

Primitive people never so far as I know, enjoy when is called the picturesque in nature, wild forests, beetling cliffs, reaches of Alpine snow are with them great hindrances to human intercourse, and difficulties in the way of agriculture. They are furthermore the homes of the enemies of mankind, of the eagle, the wolf, or the tiger, and are most dangerous in times of earthquake or tempest. Hence the grand and striking features of nature are at first looked upon with fear and dislike. (148)

I do not suppose that Greeks different in the respect from other people, except that the frequent occurrence of mountains and forests made agriculture peculiarly difficult and intercourse scanty, thus increasing their dislike for the apparently reckless waste in nature. We have even in Homer a similar feeling as regards the sea, --- the sea that proved the source of all their wealth and the condition of most of their greatness. Before they had learned all this, they called it "the unvintagable sea" and looked upon its shore as merely so much waste land. We can, therefore, easily understand, how in the first beginning of Greek art, the representation of wild landscape would find no place, whereas, fruitful fields did not suggest themselves as more than the ordinary background. Art in those days was struggling with material nature to which it felt a certain antagonism. (292)

There was nothing in the social circumstances of the Greeks to produce any revolution in this attitude during their greatest days. The Greek republics were small towns where the pressure of the city life was not felt. But as soon as the days of the Greeks republics were over, the men began to congregate for imperial purposes into Antioch, or Alexandria, or lastly into Rome, than we seek the effect of noise and dust and smoke and turmoil breaking out into the natural longing for rural rest and retirement so that



from Alexander's day ..... We find all kinds of authors --- epic poets, lyricist, novelists and preachers --- agreeing in the precise of nature, its rich colours, and its varied sounds. Mohaffy: Rambles in Greece (4/4)

**Q2. Read the following passage and answer the questions given at the end in your own words. (20)**

Poetry is the language of imagination and the passions. It relates to whatever gives immediate pleasure or pain to human mind. It comes home to the bosoms and business of men: for nothing but what comes home to them in the most general and intelligible shape can be a subject of poetry. Poetry is the universal language which the heart holds with nature and itself. He who has a contempt for poetry cannot have much respect for himself or for anything else. Whatever there is a sense of beauty, or power, or harmony, as in the motion of the waves of the sea, in the growth of a flower, there is a poetry in its birth. If history is a grave study, poetry may be said to be graver, its materials lie deeper, and are spread wider. History treats, for the most part, cumbersome and unwieldy masses of things, the empty cases in which the affairs of the world are packed, under the heads of intrigue or war, in different states, and from century to century but there is no thought or feeling that can have entered into the mind of man which he would be eager to communicate to others, or they would listen to with delight, that is not a fit subject for poetry. It is not a branch of authorship: it is "the stuff of which our life is made". The rest is mere oblivion, a dead letter, for all that is worth remembering in life is the poetry of it. Fear is poetry, hope is poetry, love is poetry; hatred is poetry. Poetry is that fine particle within us that expands, refines, raises our whole being; without "man's life is poor as beasts". (In fact, man is a poetical animal. The child is a poet when he first plays hide and seek, or repeats the story of Jack the Giant Killer, the shepherd - boy is a poet when he first crowns his mistress with a garland of flowers; the countryman when he stops to look at the rainbow; the miser when he hugs his gold; the courtier when he builds his hope upon a smile; the vain, the ambitious the proud, the choleric man, the hero and the coward, the beggar and the king, all live in a world of their own making; and the poet does no more than describe what all others think and act. Hazlitt

### Questions

- In what sense is poetry the language of the imagination and the passion?
- How is poetry the Universal Language of the heart?
- What is the difference between history and poetry?
- Explain the phrase: "Man is a poetical animal".
- What are some of the actions which Hazlitt calls poetry and its does poet?
- Explain the followings underlined expression in the passage.
  - It relates to whatever gives immediate pleasure or pain to human heart
  - A sense of beauty, or power, or harmony.
  - Cumbersome and unwieldy masses of things.
  - It is the stuff of which our life is made.

Nature and Early Greek

# The <sup>Art</sup> and Early Greeks

The early Greeks did not show their beauty in poetry, paintings or in such art. The old thinkers never realized the beauty in nature and disliked the wild-forests or the difficulties in agriculture. They ~~thought~~ <sup>considered</sup> it the habit of the foes of mankind. Even, Homer found sea, being their very source of all wealth, a futile object. ~~The Greeks, even in their flourished days did not produce any art work. And all the antique art works of Greek era began with the end of Greek republics and the beginning of Alexandria's era.~~

Total words 414

written words : 92

Idea not picked thoroughly.  
Do not include examples in precis. Just give their gist.

**(a) Ans:** Hazlitt describes the poetry as the language of imagination and passions. Because poetry has a linkage with the pleasure and pain of man's mind. He may find the chunk of satisfaction and ping of pain, one imagines to the <sup>beyond of</sup> limitations. ~~of~~

You are allowed to submit only one question in one pdf. The remaining questions may be submitted in separate pdfs.

**(b)**

The writer is of the view that poetry is the universal language of the heart. He first exemplifies that if a person does not have any compassion for ~~love~~ poetry he may not keep any respect even for himself. Because poets know the language of the hearts and poetry is the universal language as a poet can find poetry even in the waves of ocean and as well as in the blossoming of a flower.

**(c)**

Writer explains the the difference between the history and poetry while saying ~~that~~ that history is only full of stories where the rulers, kings or authoritatives would deal the circumstances with strategies of fighting where as poetry is deeper and wider in sense of feeling, realization.

**(d)**

Writer says that man is a poetical animal because each action even from the birth of a child, the first crying

of an infant till the last breath of a dying man - can be portrayed by a poet in the poetry in such a beautiful way that it hits the real and actual vibes.

(e)

Hazlitt calls some of <sup>the</sup> actions poetry and their doers poet. The followings will elaborate this phenomenon. He call a child a poet because his playing 'hide and seek' sounds a poetry to him. Similarly, shepherds, when he provides a <sup>garland</sup> bunch of flower to his mistress, a miser, hugging his gold; a countryman while stops at the looking at the rainbow and in the the same way a coward, a beggar. or even a king are the poets when doing their actions. says Hazlitt.