

Q. 2. Write a précis of the following passage in about 120 words and suggest a suitable title: (20)

I'm not sure where and from whom Naga learned the fiery language of the Left. Perhaps from a relative who was communist. Whoever it was, he - or she - was a good teacher and Naga deployed what he learned spectacularly. It took him from conquest to conquest. I was once pitted against him in a school debate. We must have been thirteen or fourteen years old. The topic was 'Does God Exist?' I was to speak for, and Naga against, the motion. I spoke first. Then Naga delivered his flaming speech, his skinny body taut as a whipcord, his voice quavering with indignation. Our mesmerized classmates took diligent notes of his blatant blasphemy: 'The falsehood of our 330 million mute idols, the selfish deities we call Ram and Krishna are not going to save us from hunger, disease and poverty. Our foolish faith in monkeys and elephant-headed apparitions is not going to feed our starving masses...' I didn't stand a chance. Naga's speech made mine sound as though it had been written by a pious, elderly aunt. Oddly, though I have a clear, raw memory of my feeling of utter inadequacy, I have no memory of what I actually said. For months after that, I would secretly declaim Naga's sacrilege to myself in the mirror: 'Our foolish faith in monkeys and elephant-headed apparitions is not going to feed our starving masses...' my atomized spit landing on my own reflection like rain.

Title :

Naga's profound learning about the
Left

The author was not sure about the teacher of Naga who taught him the staunch theory of the Left. All in all, he was a good teacher, because Naga's adoption of knowledge made him so. It enabled him to win many times. Once, in a school debate on the topic of 'Does God Exist?', the author had to speak in favor, and Naga had to speak against. Naga's speech was quite bold about idols. He raised questions about the believe in idols, monkeys and elephant like deities who were incapable of

Date: _____

M T W T F S S

helping people in their distress.
Naga's speech conquered the author's
Even after months, author could not
relief himself from the Naga's thoughts
about the false gods.

Precis words = 117