

Precis Writing:

Original Passage:

It is usual to identify flattery with false praise. But this seems to offer a poor definition of flattery, for, false commendation is easily detectable and, therefore, incapable of achieving the result while flattery is that praise which aims at magnifying the virtues to the exclusion of vices. But then the person flattered must have some qualities, in fact or in his fancy, which can be praised and amplified. Thus one who made a fairly good speech can be flattered by saying that he presented an excellent piece of oratory. But one who was laughed down by the audience cannot be said to have delivered a good speech at all. If any attempt is made to say that he did so, he will feel ridiculed and the effect of the art, at once, lost.

Flattery is an art of appreciation. Both emanate from the same motive of pleasing the other's self-esteem. But the former is largely vitiated by the tinge of falsehood and often aims at the realization of some self-interest but

the latter is based on truth and is without any motive.

Title:

Flattery: An Art of
Appreciation

Precis:

Flattery is often considered as false praise, which is a poor definition. False praise can be easily identified while flattery cannot. Flattery is an art of praise which aims at increasing goodness to evil-doing. But the person flattered must have some qualities which can be praised. One who delivered a good speech can be flattered. While one who was laughed down by audience, any attempt to flatter him will be senseless. Flattery is an art of appreciation. Both have some motive of pleasing the other's self-esteem. But appreciation is often based on falsehood and flattery is based on truth.