

Q.1. Make a précis of the following passage; also suggest a suitable title. (15+5 = 20)

The relationship between human societies and their domesticated animals has always extended far beyond simple utility or companionship, revealing deeper truths about how cultures understood their place in the natural world. In medieval Europe, the bond between humans and horses represented not merely a practical arrangement but a complex social institution that shaped everything from warfare to commerce, from aristocratic identity to peasant survival. The breeding and training of horses required specialized knowledge that was jealously guarded by those who possessed it. Master horsemen could read the temperament of an animal through subtle signs - the set of its ears, the tension in its muscles, the quality of its breath on a cold morning. They knew which bloodlines produced horses suitable for carrying knights in full armor, which animals possessed the stamina for long-distance travel, and which had the temperament for working fields from dawn to dusk. The most skilled among these practitioners were the farriers, blacksmiths who specialized in shoeing horses and treating their ailments. A talented farrier could diagnose lameness by watching a horse walk, could fashion shoes that corrected problems with gait, and understood the medicinal properties of various herbs and poultices. These craftsmen occupied an interesting position in medieval society, neither quite common laborers nor members of the merchant class, but essential figures whose services were required by everyone from kings to farmers.

Their workshops became gathering places where knowledge was exchanged, where young apprentices learned not from written manuals but through years of observation and practice. The bond between rider and mount was itself considered an art requiring patience, consistency, and intuitive understanding. Different regions developed distinct philosophies about horsemanship, with some emphasizing dominance and control while others advocated for partnership and mutual respect. These approaches reflected broader cultural values about power, nature, and the proper ordering of the world. The most celebrated horsemen were those who seemed to communicate with their animals through invisible means, whose mounts responded to the slightest pressure or shift in weight, creating an impression of perfect unity between human will and animal action.

→ Precis - Writing

Precis Title:

"Correlation of Humans and Animals"

Precis:

The author states that the relationship between human and animals has shaped the culture. This is how in the mid Europe, bond of human and horses gained importance. Horses were trained with great knowledge. The master horsemen were able to understand the temperament and great bloodlines of horses. Among these, practitioners and blacksmith were famous who were able to understand behaviour of horses along with knowledge of herbs. These craftsmen gained popularity nationwide. Their workshops became a source of knowledge for young generation. The bond of rider and mount became an art. This led to emergence of two different approaches of dominance and partnership. The most famous horsemen were able to communicate properly with horses, displaying unity between human will and animal action.