EXERCISE NO. 1

Make a precis of the following passage:

Progress in life depends a good deal on crossing one threshold after another. Some time ago, a man watched his little nephew try to write his name. It was hard work, very hard work. The little boy had arrived at the threshold with a great effort. Today he writes his name with comparative ease. No new thresholds confront him. This is the way with all of us. As soon as we cross one threshold and conquer one difficulty, a new difficulty appears. Some people make the mistake of steering clear of thresholds. Anything that requires genuine thinking and use of energy, they avoid. They prefer to stay in a rut where thresholds are not met. Probably they have been at their job a number of years but now things are easy for them. They make no effort to seek out new obstacles to overcome. Real progress stops under such circumstances.

Some middle-aged and elderly people greatly enrich their lives by continuing to cross new thresholds. One man went into an entirely new business when he was past middle life and made a success of it. Morgan did not start to write novels until he was past sixty.

Psychologists have discovered that man can continue to learn throughout life. It is undoubtedly better to try, and fail, than not to try at all. Then one can be placed in the category of Swiss mountaineer of whom it was said, "He died climbing".

When a new difficulty rises to obstruct your path, do not complain. Accept the challenge. Determine to cross this threshold as you have crossed numerous other thresholds in your past life. In the words of the poet, do not rest but strive to pass "from dream to greater dream".

Progress in life

Progress in life depends on efforts and conquer difficulties. If one is not ready to overcome obstacles he stay in old condition. Some elderly people maintain their lives by overcoming the difficulties throughout the life. Therefore we should not complain of the difficulties that obstruct our path, but try to overcome these difficulties. Striving is best to rest.