

FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

**COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FOR
RECRUITMENT TO POSTS IN BPS-17 UNDER
THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, 2003**

ENGLISH (Précis & Composition)

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

Q1. Make a precis of the given passage and give a suitable heading:(20)

If then a practical end must be assigned to a University course, I say it is that of training good members of a society. Its aim is the art of social life, and its end is fitness for the world. It neither confines its views to particular professions on the one hand, nor creates heroes or inspires genius on the other. Works indeed of genius fall under no art; heroic minds come under no rule; a University is not a birthplace of poets or of immortal authors, of founders of schools, leaders of colonies, or conquerors of nations. It does not promise a generation of Aristotles or Newtons or Napoleons or Washingtons or Raphaels or Shakespeares though such miracles of nature it has before now contained within its precincts. Nor is it content on the other hand with forming the critic or the experimentalist, the economist or the engineer, through such too it includes within its scope. But a University training is the great ordinary means to a great ordinary end; it aims at raising the intellectual tone of society, at cultivating the public mind, at purifying the national taste, at supplying true principles to popular aspirations. It is the education which gives a man a clear conscious view of his own opinions and judgments, a truth in developing them, an eloquence in expressing them, and a force in urging them, it teaches him to see things as they are, to go right to the point, to disentangle a skein of thought, to detect what is sophistical and to - discard what is irrelevant. It prepares him to fill any post with credit, and to master any subject with facility. (John H. Newman)

Practice 4. CSS-2003 paper

37 min.??

M T W T F S S

Date.

~~(Q#1)~~

Title:

University Education: An Ordinary Means
to an Extraordinary
Impact

According to the author, university training is an effective way to nurture a society.

If it is introduced, it is a good way to cultivate intellectual members of a society.

It is not necessary for a university to produce extraordinary literary men, generals, leaders, heroes, philosophers, masters, critics, scientists, and economists. In fact, it is an ordinary means to achieve an extra-ordinary impact. by producing intellectual minds who have intellectual taste, principles, and aspirations. It educates man to identify his full potential and shortcomings to master any field (with ease) and excel in it with ease.

Passage Word Count = 283 words

Precis Word Count = 93 words.

Q2. Read the following passage and answer the questions given at the end, in YOUR OWN WORDS. 20

My father was back in work within days of his return home. He had a spell in the shipyard, where the last of the great Belfast liners, the CANBERRA, was under construction, and then moved to an electronics firm in the east of the city. (These were the days when computers were the size of small houses and were built by sheet metal workers). A short time after he started in this job, one of his colleagues was sacked for taking off time to get married. The workforce went on strike to get the colleague reinstated. The dispute, dubbed the Honeymoon Strike, made the Belfast papers. My mother told me not long ago that she and my father, with four young sons, were hit so

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hard by that strike, that for years afterwards they were financially speaking, running to stand still. I don't know how the strike ended, but whether or not the colleague got his old job back, he was soon in another, better one. I remember visiting him and his wife when I was still quite young, in their new bungalow in Belfast northern suburbs. I believe they left Belfast soon after the Troubles began.

My father then was thirty-seven, the age I am today. My Hither and I are father and son, which is to say we are close without knowing very much about one another. We talk about events, rather than emotions. We keep from each other certain of our hopes and fears and doubts. I have never for instance asked my father whether he has dwelt on (he direction his life might have taken if at certain moments he had made certain other choices. Whatever, he found himself, with a million and a half of his fellows, living in what was in all but name a civil war. As a grown up I try often to imagine what it must be like to be faced with such a situation. What, in the previous course of your life, prepares your for arriving, as my father did, at the scene of a bomb blast close to your brother's place of work and seeing what you suppose, from the colour of the hair, to be your brother lying in the road, only to find that you are cradling the remains of a woman? (Glenn Patterson)

Questions

- (a) From your reading of (he passage what do you infer about the nature of (he "Troubles" (he writer mentions.
- (b) What according to the writer were (he working conditions in the Electronics firm where his father worked?
- (c) Why was his father's colleague sacked?
- (d) How docs the writer show that as father and son they do not know much about each other?
- (e) Explain the underlined words/phrases in the passage:
Made the Belfast papers, had a spell, dubbed, was sacked, hit hard.

Comprehension

M T W T F S S

Date:

~~Q#2~~

(1)

In the passage, the writer mentions about the troubles caused by the factory strikes. The author's family was financially affected due to these strikes, and had to face its outcomes for many years. The writer also looks into the course of his father's life and believes that all the events in your life helps in shaping your future.

(2)

The working conditions in the electronics firm, where writer's father worked, were rigid. Workers were fired on the minor offenses or the choices they adopt in their personal lives. For example, a colleague was terminated because he took time off to get mauled.

(3)

The writer's father's colleague was fired because he took leave to get married.

(4)

The writer excellently depicts that as a father and son they do not know much about each other, because they never talk about each other. They always talk about events instead of their personal feelings and emotions. They don't share their hopes, fears and doubts with each other. In this way, the writer shows that he and his father are close but they don't know much about each other.

(5)

1. Made the Belfast Papers:

→ Became important and flashing subject in the Belfast newspaper.

2.

Had a spell:

The time period in which something lasts/
persists.

3.

Was Sacked:

Was forced/terminated from job.

4.

Hit so hard:

Affected badly/seriously.

5.

Dubbed:

A particular or special name for
something.
