

**FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
**COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FOR**  
**RECRUITMENT TO POSTS IN BPS-17 UNDER**  
**THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, 2000**  
**ENGLISH (Précis & Composition)**

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

**Q1. MAKE A PRÉCIS OF THE FOLLOWING PASSAGE IN ABOUT ONE THIRD OF ITS LENGTH. Suggest a suitable title also. (20)**

Besant describing the middle class of the 9th century wrote " In the first place it was for more a class apart. "In no sense did it belong to society. Men in professions of any kind (except in the Army and Navy) could only belong to society by right of birth and family connections; men in trade—bankers were still accounted tradesmen—could not possibly belong to society. That is to say, if they went to live in the country they were not called upon by the county families and in the town they were not admitted by the men into their clubs, or by ladies into their houses... The middle class knew its own place, respected itself, made its own society for itself, and cheerfully accorded to rank the deference due."

Since then, however, the life of the middle classes had undergone great changes as their numbers had swelled and their influence had increased.

Their already well –developed consciousness of their own importance had deepened. More critical than they had been in the past of certain aspects of aristocratic life, they were also more concerned with the plight of the poor and the importance of their own values of society, thrift, hard work, piety and respectability. Thrift, hard work, piety and respectability as examples of ideal behavior for the guidance of the lower orders. Above all they were respectable. There were divergences of opinion as to what exactly was respectable and what was not. There were, nevertheless, certain conventions, which were universally recognized: wild and drunker behaviors were certainly not respectable, nor were godlessness or avert promiscuity, not an ill-ordered home life, unconventional manners, self-indulgence or flamboyant clothes and personal adornments.

# Practice 1. Class- 2000 paper.

46 minutes.

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~~— Q# 1 —~~

Title:

The Struggle of the Middle Class in  
the 19<sup>th</sup> Century

During the (19<sup>th</sup>) nineteenth century, the middle class did not belong to the society except few. They were not welcomed anywhere. But the middle class knew its importance and value and ultimately made its own society. Due to the increase in number and influence, the life of the middle class has changed with time. Their nuanced understanding of themselves, criticism of aristocratic life, concern for the struggles of the poor, and emphasis on hardwork and respectability - were best examples for guiding the lower class. However, there were different opinions on what was respectable and what was not.

Passage Word Count = 282 words.

Precis Word Count = 96 words.



**Q2. Read the following passage and answer the questions given at the end in your own words. (20)**

The vitality of any teaching, or historical movement, depends upon what it affirms rather than upon what it denies, and its survival and continued power will often mean that its positives are insufficiently regarded by opposing schools. The grand positives of Bentham were benevolence and veracity: the passion for the relief of man's estate, and the passion for truth. Bentham's multifarious activities, pursued without abatement to the end of a long life, were inspired by a "dominant and all-comprehensive desire for the amelioration of human life"; they were inspired, too, by the belief that he had found the key to all moral truth. This institution, this custom, this code, this system of legislation-- does it promotes human happiness? Then it is sound. This theory, this creed, this moral teaching -- does it rightly explain why virtue is admirable, or why duty is obligatory? The limitation of Bentham can be gauged by his dismissal of all poetry (and most religion) as "misrepresentation"; this is his negative side. But benevolence and veracity are Supreme Values, and if it falls to one of the deniers to be their special advocate, the believers must have long been drowsed. Bentham believes the Church teaches children insincerity by making them affirm what they cannot possibly understand or mean. They promise, for example, to fulfill the undertaking of their god--parents, that they will "renounce the devil and all his works, the pomps and vanity of this wicked world" etc. 'The Devil' Bentham comments: " who or what is he, and how is it that he is renounced?" Has the child happened to have any dealings with him? Let the Archbishop of Canterbury tell us, and let him further explain how his own "works" are distinguished from the aforesaid "Pomps and Vanity". What king, what Lords Temporal or Spiritual, have ever renounced them? (Basil Willey)

**Questions**

(a) What does the writer mean by the following expressions:

Multifarious activities, amelioration of human Life, it is sound, be their special advocate, Renounce the devil, drowsed, gauged, aforesaid.

(a) On what grounds does Bentham believe that the Church

(b) What is Bentham's philosophy based upon?

(c) What according to the writer is Bentham's limitation?

Teaches children insincerity?

(d) In what context has the Archbishop of Canterbury been quoted i.e. is he praised or condemned?

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## —-(Q#2)—

Read the passage and answer the questions given at the end in your own words.

## -(Q.2)-

What does the writer mean by the following expressions:

1. Multifarious activities → Various kind of activities.
2. Amelioration of human life → Improvement or betterment of human life
3. It is sound → It is valid/ accurate/ true.
4. Gauged → Estimated or calculated.
5. Be their special advocate → Be their important supporter
6. Drowsed → Drugged, sedative
7. Renounce the devil → Discard or leave the evil / condemn the evil.
8. Aforesaid → Mentioned before

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—(Q.b)—

What is Bentham's philosophy based on?

Bentham's philosophy is based on benevolence and veracity. Bentham's philosophy is built on his love for mankind and the quest for truth.

—(Q.c)—

What according to the writer is Bentham's limitation?

According to the writer, Bentham's disregard and for the poetry <sup>and</sup> religion, and their misrepresentation, are considered his limitations.

—(Q.d)—

On what grounds does Bentham believe that Church teaches children insincerity?

According to Bentham, the church teaches children insincerity by making them simply attest or have unwavering belief on things that they cannot possibly comprehend. They teach children that by doing certain things and tasks, they can discard evil, without explaining how it will be effective in condemning the devil.

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(Q. e)

In what context has the archbishop of Canterbury been quoted ie is he praised or condemned?

Archbishop of Canterbury has been mentioned in context of pomp and vanity. He is condemned because he has not criticized pomp and vanity which should be renounced.