

6] When we survey our lives and efforts we soon observe that almost the whole of our actions and desires are bound up with the existence of other human beings. We notice that whole nature resembles that of the social animals. We eat food that others have produced, wear clothes that others have made, live in houses that others have built. The greater part of our knowledge and beliefs has been passed on to us by other people through the medium of a language which others have created. Without language and mental capacities, we would have been poor indeed comparable to higher animals.

We have, therefore, to admit that we owe our principal knowledge over the least to the fact of living in human society. The individual if left alone from birth would remain primitive and beast like in his thoughts and feelings to a degree that we can hardly imagine. The individual is what he is and has the significance that he has, not much in virtue of the individuality, but rather as a member of a great human community, which directs his material and spiritual existence from the cradle to grave.

PRACTICE PRECIS

Date: 19/3/25

Use of first person is not allowed in precis.

MAN; A SOCIAL ANIMAL

Humans are intrinsically social creatures. From the food that we eat and the language that we speak, all have been the product of other human beings. All that we know and do is due to us living in a society. In isolation, an individual is beast like. What makes him human is being part of the larger human community.

