

### Précis 13: CSS 2010

**Q.2: Write a précis of the following passage and suggest a suitable title: (20)**

Of all the characteristics of ordinary human nature envy is the most unfortunate; not only does the envious person wish to inflict misfortune and do so whenever he can with impunity, but he is also himself rendered unhappy by envy. Instead of deriving pleasure from what he has, he derives pain from what others have. If he can, he deprives others of their advantages, which to him is as desirable as it would be to secure the same advantages himself. If this passion is allowed to run riot it becomes fatal to all excellence, and even to the most useful exercise of exceptional skill. Why should a medical man go to see his patients in a car when the labourer has to walk to his work? Why should the scientific investigator be allowed to spend his time in a warm room when others have to face the inclemency of the elements? Why should a man who possesses some rare talent of great importance to the world be saved from the drudgery of his own housework? To such questions envy finds no answer. Fortunately, however, there is in human nature a compensating passion, namely that of admiration. Whoever wishes to increase human happiness must wish to increase admiration and to diminish envy.

What cure is there for envy? For the saint there is the cure of selflessness, though even in the case of saint's envy of other saints is by no means impossible. But, leaving saints out of account, the only cure for envy in the case of ordinary men and women is happiness, and the difficulty is that envy is itself a terrible obstacle to happiness.

But the envious man may say: 'What is the good of telling me that the cure for envy is happiness? I cannot find happiness while I continue to feel envy, and you tell me that I cannot cease to be envious until I find happiness.' But real life is never so logical as this. Merely to realize the causes of one's own envious feeling is to take a long step towards curing them.

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PRECIS 2010Title: Envy : Impacts and Cure

Envy is an undesirable human trait. It drives a person towards hate, and harming of individuals endowed with something he does not have. Instead of finding contentment with ~~one's~~ <sup>his</sup> own blessings, a jealous person makes sure ~~none~~ <sup>no one</sup> can have what he does not ~~own~~ <sup>have</sup>. Envy is present in all walks of life, especially ~~such~~ professions that are more rewarding than others. In comparison <sup>to</sup> ~~to~~ envy, one finds real happiness through the process of admiration. Such happiness <sup>can help</sup> ~~can~~ curb jealousy. In reality, however, envy can only be eradicated once a person finds the root cause of his or her emotion, and where it stems from.

Words : 105

Original passage : 322

Idea and grammar are ok.

## Comprehension 21: CSS 2002

**Q:** Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. (20)

There is indeed, something inexpressibly pleasing in the annual renovation of the world and the new display of the treasures of nature. The darkness and cold of winter with the naked deformity of every object, on which we turn our eyes, make us rejoice at the succeeding season, as well for what we have escaped, as for what we may enjoy. Every budding Flower, which a warm situation brings early to our view, is considered by us a messenger to notify the approach of more joyous days.

The spring affords to a mind free from the disturbance of cares or passions almost everything that our present state makes us capable of enjoying. The Variegated Verdure of the fields and woods, the succession of grateful Odours, the Voice of pleasure pouring out its notes on every side, with the gladness apparently conceived by every animal from the growth of his food and the clemency of the weather, throw over the whole earth an air of gaiety, significantly expressed by Smile of nature.  
(Samuel Johnson)

### Questions:

1. Give meanings of the underlined expressions in the passage in your own words. (10)
2. Say how an early budding flower becomes a messenger of happy days? (3)
3. Who, according to the writer can make the best of the spring season? (3)
4. Why are all animals glad at the approach of spring? (3)
5. Suggest a title for the passage. (1)

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Comprehension 2002

You are allowed to submit only one question in one pdf. The remaining questions may be submitted in separate pdfs.

Q.02

The early budding flower becomes a messenger of happy days by signalling the arrival of spring season. It portrays the end of the harsh and cold winter. As the season warms up, the flowers start to bud and bloom. Spring brings warmth and joy after a cold time. Therefore, the early budding of flowers indicates the coming of spring and increases anticipation for the next season.

Q.03

According to the writer, only those that are free from distractions and burdens of life can make the best of spring season. People are too busy to notice the arrival of spring and enjoy what it offers. It plays a trivial part in one's life, wherein everyone is surrounded by worries and a fast paced environment. Thus, only those individuals that do not carry the burdens and worries of the world

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are able to fully enjoy and cash in on the spring season.

Q.04.

Animals are glad at the approach of spring because the season is inherent for their survival. The growth of vegetation and plants serve as food for animals.

Similarly, it allows mobility and travel, compared to the winter season, during which many animals hibernate. Spring season, as a result, is essential for growth and survival of animals, leading to happiness on its arrival.

Q.05.

Title: The Pleasures of Spring Season