



TO POSTS IN BPS-17 UNDER THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, 1997

ENGLISH (Précis and Composition)

Time allowed: 3 hours Maximum marks: 100

Q1. Write a précis of the following passage and suggest a suitable title. (25)

Exploration in the Arctic Circle still offers countless opportunities for fresh discoveries, but it is an adventure which is not to be undertaken lightly. As an occupation, it is more lonely and remote than anything else in the world and at any moment the traveler must be prepared to encounter hazard and difficulty which call for all his skill and enterprise. Nevertheless, such exploration will be carried as long as there are investigated areas to attract the daring and as long as the quest for knowledge inspires mankind.

Investigations have shown that the Arctic zone is rich in mineral deposits, but even if these deposits were themselves of little value, the economic importance of the Arctic would not be appreciably lessened. For it is generally agreed that "weather is made in the North", and as the success or failure of the harvests all over the world is largely determined by the weather, it follows that agriculture and all those industrial and commercial activities dependent upon it must be considerably affected by the accuracy of the daily weather reports. Modern meteorologists regard the conditions prevailing in the Arctic as of first-rate importance in helping them to arrive at accurate results in their forecasts.

Yet quite apart from any economic or other practical considerations, there is a strange fascination about this vast unconquered region of stern northern beauty. Those who have once entered the vast polar regions like to speak of their inexpressive beauty, the charm of the yellow sun and dazzling ice pack, the everlasting snows and unmapped land where one never knows what lies ahead; it may be a gigantic glacier, which reflects a beam of sunlight over its frozen expanse or some wonderful fantastically shaped cliff which makes an unfading impression on the memory. It may even be an iceberg stately and terrifying, moving on its relentless way, for the Arctic is the birthplace of the great icebergs which threaten navigation.

Precis: 1997.

Title The Undiscovered Miseries of Arctic Circle

The Arctic Circle present in the North is still not fully explored and it holds various secrets of nature. It is an isolated and vast land that is full of unexpected dangers. Although it may not contain precious minerals, Arctic Circle is still significant for the world. As weather patterns initiate in the North, they can be accurately predicted in this region, proving beneficial for agriculture, trade and business sector.

Besides weather forecast, the world is eager to know about new discoveries in the Arctic Circle. Those persons who have visited this polar area can't deny its unending natural beauty. The unexpected miseries like vast mountains, huge glaciers, and floating ice-bergs not only present challenges in the movement but also makes it interesting region.

(words in precis: 125)

(words in original passage: 324)

main idea is picked and discussed
over all content is fine but be precis and to the point
need improvement over all basics

8/20