

Q.2: **Make a précis of the following passage and suggest a suitable title.**

There has existed throughout the history of mankind a strange, albeit, an ironic relationship between the past and the future. The people who just eulogize their past without critical analysis and seek to recreate a utopian past almost invariably do not succeed, while those who view the past realistically, comprehensively and critically are able to draw on the past in useful, meaningful and lasting ways. They learn lessons from the history and apply those lessons for better future. Such people have in their future, and they approach the past with seriousness and critical reverence. They study the past realistically, try to comprehend the values, aesthetics, and traits which invested an earlier civilization its grandeur or caused it to decline. They preserve its remains, and enshrine relevant and enriching images and events of the past in their memories both collectively and individually. They attempt to adopt the values and traits which led earlier people rise, and shun the reasons and mistakes that precipitated their downward journeys. In sharp contrast to them, people and governments with an uncertain sense of the future manifest deeply skewed and subjective relationships to their history. They eschew lived history, shut out its lessons, shun critical inquiries into the past, neglect its remains but, at the same time, invent at their own imagined and to plan past-always shining, splendid and glorious. As a matter of fact, they are never able to benefit from their past. They study history, but learn nothing from history forecasts.

249-Total  
83-Precis

**Title:** Lessons of Past

**Précis**

History reflects relationship between past and future. People who glorify their past never succeed while those who critically evaluate their past, obtain lessons for better future tend to succeed. They observe success and failures of old civilizations.

According to them, people and governments with uncertain future neglect the lessons learnt and rely on glorifying their past. Such people never benefit from their past. Such people study history but benefit nothing from its relics.