

Dated:

National Officers Academy  
Mock Exams CSS-2025  
English Precis and Composition

Q.2 Make a precis of the following passage and suggest a suitable title.

The Schengen visa application process for Pakistani citizens is riddled with rejection and skepticism, often based on trivial or unfounded reasons, such as incomplete documents or questionable intentions. This starkly contrasts with Pakistan's warm reception of Western visitors, offering hospitality and cultural experiences. Schengen nations seem to view Pakistanis as potential threats, ignoring their legitimate aspirations. The passage calls for a more empathetic and fair approach, emphasizing that Pakistanis are ordinary humans, deserving respect and equality in visa procedures.

- Total Words in the Passage : 249
- Total Words in Precis : 87
- Title : "Schengen Visa Rejections: A Call For Fairness and Empathy"

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Q.3 Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Questions:

1) What were the reasons behind Foreman's transition from boxing to business?

Foreman transitioned from boxing to business due to financial hardships he faced after losing his fortune through bad decisions, uncontrolled spending, and poor financial planning. His reinvention of himself as a lighthearted and authentic personality gained public affection, which eventually led to a business opportunity with the George Foreman Grill.

2) What was the competitive advantage of the George Foreman Grill?

The George Foreman Grill's competitive advantage was its unique design, which allowed grease to drain off one side, making it appealing for health-conscious consumers. Foreman's branding and commercials emphasizing family and fun further distinguished the product in the market.

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3. What would have happened if Foreman had not sold the name rights?

If Foreman had not sold the naming rights, he might have faced declining royalties as competition increased and the market for the grill became saturated. Selling the rights for \$137.5 million allowed him to exit the business at its peak and secure a substantial financial return.

4. What kind of contrasted and complementary sentiments are evoked in this story?

The story evokes contrasting sentiments of failure and resilience. Initially, it shows Foreman's struggles after losing his fortune, but it also highlights his ability to reinvent himself and succeed against the odds.

Complementary sentiments of warmth and determination are also evident, as Foreman's cheerful personality and family-focused approach contributed to his business success.

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5. How far is the text successful in presenting the true picture of Foreman and his struggle?

The text is highly successful in presenting a comprehensive picture of Foreman's struggles and triumphs. It details his fall from financial security; his resilience in returning to boxing; and his reinvention in business. The narrative emphasizes his authenticity, adaptability, and strategic thinking; portraying him as a figure who overcame adversity and achieved lasting success.

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Q.4 Correct any FIVE of the following sentences.

i. Most of the shelves in the library is empty.  
Most of the shelves in the library are empty.

iii. The culture of our country is richer than any other country in the world.  
The culture of our country is richer than that of any other country in the world.

iv. Ten mile are a long distance.  
Ten miles is a long distance.

vi. She is one of the student who has passed competitive exams.  
She is one of the students who have passed competitive exams.

viii. Learning to play piano requires a lot of efforts.  
Learning to play the piano requires a lot of efforts.

Dated:

Q.5.

A. Punctuate the following passage:

bill gates once had coffee at a coffee shop when the waiter was taking the dishes away bill gates tipped him one dollar whenever your daughter comes for coffee she gives me a five-dollar tip said the waiter she is the daughter of a billionaire replied bill gates and I am the son of a poor carpenter this is why it is often said never forget your past because your past is your greatest teacher.

Bill Gates once had coffee at a coffee shop. When the waiter was taking the dishes away, Bill Gates tipped him one dollar. "Whenever your daughter comes for coffee, she gives me a five-dollar tip," said the waiter. "She is the daughter of a billionaire," replied Bill Gates, "and I am the son of a poor carpenter. This is why it is often said: never forget your past, because your past is your greatest teacher."

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( B. Re-write the following sentences (ONLY FIVE) after filling in the blanks with appropriate Prepositions.

i. He poured the water into the glass.

ii. The government has tided over difficulties.

iii. The people were driven to despair by the horrors of war.

iv. His success cannot be cried down by anyone.

v. There were lots of shops on the main street.

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Q.6.

A. Use only FIVE of the following in your own sentences to bring out their meanings.

(i) Peek, Pique  
Peek

Meaning: To look quickly or secretly at something.

Sentence: The child could not resist taking a peek at the gifts hidden in the closet.

Pique

Meaning: To provoke or arouse interest or curiosity; can also mean a feeling of invitation or resentment.

Sentence: The mystery novel's intriguing first chapter piqued my curiosity, making me eager to read more.

ii) Flounder, Founder  
Flounder

Meaning: To struggle or have difficulty moving or deciding, often in a clumsy or confused way.

Sentence: The student began to flounder during the presentation when asked a difficult question.

Founder

Meaning: A person who establishes something, such as a company, institution, or organization.

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**Sentence:** Steve Jobs is considered the founder of Apple Inc., a company that revolutionized technology.

(v) **Shear, Sheer**  
**Shear**

**Meaning:**

Shear refers to the act of cutting something, especially wool from sheep or the stress in structural elements causing layers to slide against each other.

**Sentence:** The farmer used blades to shear the sheep, collecting wool for the upcoming winter.

**Sheer**

**Meaning:** Sheer describes something extremely steep, thin to the point of transparency, or outright or complete.

**Sentence:** The sheer injustice have ignited a fire within us, demanding change.

(vi) **Discrete, Discreet**  
**Discrete**

**Meaning:** It means something is distinct and separate or has a clear independent shape or form.

**Sentence:** These small companies now have their own discrete identity.

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**Discreet**

**Meaning:** It means careful or showing good judgment in what one says or does; not too devious.

**Sentence:** He is very discreet in giving his opinions.

vii)

**Quaint, Queer**

**Quaint**

**Meaning:** Cleverly made; artful

**Sentence:** American visitors admire the quaint customs and villages of England.

**Queer**

**Meaning:** Deviating from the expected or normal; strange: a queer situation.

**Sentence:** He is queer character.

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B. Use only FIVE pairs of words in sentences clearly illustrating their meanings.

(1) Blot one's copy-book:  
Meaning: To spoil one's good reputation or record.

Sentence: He blotted his copy-book by arriving late to the critical meeting with the CEO.

2. Hang up one's hat:  
Meaning: To retire or stop working.

Sentence: After 40 years of service, she decided to hang up her hat and enjoy a peaceful retirement.

3. Eat crow:

Meaning: To admit one's mistake and accept humiliation.

Sentence: After his prediction about the stock market failed, he had to eat crow and apologize to his clients.

4. Dead wood:

Meaning: People or things that are no longer useful or productive.

Sentence: The company decided to cut the dead wood to improve overall efficiency.

5. Midas touch:

Meaning: The ability to succeed in everything one undertakes.

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Sentence: With his Midas touch in business, every venture he starts turns into a massive success.

Q.7. Translate the following into English, keeping in view the idiomatic/figurative expression.

When the British came to Africa, they brought "development" with them. They said they were here to help us progress. We closed our eyes. When we opened them, we found innovation, but they had our land. Similarly, when social network science arrived, they had Facebook and Whatsapp. They said it was free. We closed our eyes, and when we opened them, we had Facebook and WhatsApp, while they had our freedom and personal information. So whenever something is free, we had end up paying for it with our freedom...!