

**Mock Test Series Batch-Online
CSS-2025 (January 2025)
English Précis & Composition Test-1
Total Marks: 50**

Test-1

Q.1. Make a precis of the following passage; also suggest a suitable title. (15+5 = 20)

Most people don't grasp the possible consequences of their teeny-weeny acts of corruption. A small bribe to expedite a process or a minor manipulation of rules to gain an advantage may seem harmless in isolation. However, such seemingly insignificant actions collectively contribute to a culture where corruption becomes normalized. This normalization creates a ripple effect, eroding the very foundation of trust and fairness in society. Imagine a public official accepting a small favor to overlook a minor violation. While it may appear trivial at first, it sets a precedent for larger and more damaging acts of dishonesty. Over time, these "small compromises" snowball into systemic corruption, where everyone assumes that bending the rules is just the way things work. The repercussions extend beyond ethics and morality. Corruption, no matter how small, hampers progress and development. Resources meant for public welfare are diverted, merit takes a back seat, and inefficiency becomes the norm. For instance, if a student cheats to secure higher marks, they might deprive a more deserving peer of an opportunity. Later, that same student might struggle in the workforce, unable to perform tasks for which they were unqualified in the first place. This cycle of mediocrity impacts industries, governments, and society as a whole.

Moreover, corruption fosters inequality. When some people use shortcuts to succeed, it disadvantages those who strive to follow the rules. It creates resentment, distrust, and hopelessness among those who believe in integrity, further weakening the social fabric. Studies show that in societies where small-scale corruption is rampant, citizens become desensitized to larger crimes, assuming that justice is unattainable. This apathy can lead to greater societal issues like political instability, economic decline, and social unrest. Ultimately, every "tiny" act of corruption is a seed that grows into something far more destructive. It is essential to recognize that integrity isn't just about grand gestures or fighting massive scandals. It's about holding ourselves accountable for even the smallest actions, understanding that every decision we make shapes the kind of society we live in. If each person resists the temptation to compromise on their values, we can collectively build a fairer, more equitable world.

Q.2. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. (20)

Every year, millions of people make New Year's resolutions, vowing to change their habits, improve their lives, or start new ventures. These resolutions often include goals like losing weight, exercising more, quitting bad habits, or learning something new. The initial enthusiasm is contagious, and for a brief moment, people feel empowered and optimistic about the future. But, as history has shown, these resolutions tend to fade as quickly as they were made. What causes this pattern of failure? At its core, the issue lies not just in the goals people set, but in the way they approach them. New Year's resolutions are often rooted in impulsive desires or societal pressures, rather than genuine, long-term commitments. This impulsive nature makes it easy to abandon them when the going gets tough. Additionally, resolutions are typically vague and broad, making it difficult to track progress or measure success. How can a vague promise like "I will be more productive" lead to concrete results? Another issue is the disconnect between resolutions and the realities of daily life. People often set goals that are

idealistic and not fully aligned with their everyday responsibilities, leaving them feeling overwhelmed. So, despite the best intentions, these resolutions are rarely sustained. But why do people continue to make resolutions year after year, despite their tendency to fail? There's a deep psychological reason for this—the human desire for renewal. The start of a new year offers a symbolic opportunity to hit the reset button, to start fresh. This feeling of a clean slate fuels hope, even though the underlying reasons for failure often remain the same. So, do these resolutions really make a difference? Statistically, they don't. Most people abandon them within weeks or months. However, the cycle continues because the New Year represents a chance for reinvention. To make real, lasting change, individuals need to shift their focus from symbolic resolutions to practical, well-defined goals that align with their personal values and are structured around achievable steps. Only then can lasting change be achieved.

Questions:

Q1. What is the primary reason why most people fail to keep their New Year resolutions?

Q2. Why do resolutions tend to be ineffective even though people are highly motivated at the start of the year?

Q3. What psychological factor keeps people making New Year resolutions year after year despite knowing they may fail?

Q4. What is a more effective approach to achieving lasting change instead of making New Year resolutions?

Q3. Choose the word that is most SIMILAR in meaning to the Capitalized word. (10) (Write on Answer Sheet)

1. CANDID

- a) Transparent
- b) Honest
- c) Blunt
- d) Sincere

2. ELOQUENT

- a) Fluent
- b) Articulate
- c) Persuasive
- d) Expressive

3. ALLEVIATE

- a) Relieve
- b) Soothe
- c) Mitigate
- d) Ease

4. EXACERBATE

- a) Aggravate
- b) Inflammate
- c) Worsen
- d) Intensify

5. UBIQUITOUS

- a) Widespread
- b) Omnipresent
- c) Commonplace
- d) Everywhere

6. TACITURN

- a) Quiet
- b) Reticent
- c) Reserved
- d) Mute

7. ABHOR

- a) Loathe
- b) Hate
- c) Despise
- d) Detest

8. METICULOUS

- a) Careful
- b) Precise
- c) Fastidious
- d) Scrupulous

9. PROLIFIC

- a) Creative
- b) Fruitful
- c) Productive
- d) Abundant

10. APATHY

- a) Indifference
- b) Lack of interest
- c) Disinterest
- d) Detachment
