

COMPREHENSION PASSAGE

- I. Read the questions carefully and mark the important words.
- II. Understand the requirement of the questions.
- III. Read the passage carefully and mark the important words/ points to get the central idea of the passage.
- IV. For precis, read the paragraph and mark what is very important.
- V. Skip the point that is repeated or least important.
- VI. Do not include any thing extra while answering the questions or in precis that is not given in the passage.
- VII. For writing precis, arrange the points as they appear in the passage
- VIII. Use simple language for writing precis.
- IX. Remember that a precis always contains important points and reduce it to 1/3 of the length of the paragraph.
- X. Always give your precis a title that is according to the main idea of the passage.

PASSAGE:

Newspapers keep us constantly in touch with the whole mankind. In olden days, a man's world consisted of his own village and one or two neighboring villages. It was difficult for him to know what was going on in the other parts of the country. But today, the press assisted by rapid means of communications bring us news from farthest corners of the globe. The press is responsible for educating public opinion. The laws of a nation are really shaped by its press. In fact, the public receives guidance from the newspapers. Thus, their power in modern times is really great.

QUESTIONS:

10 Marks

- I. Why in olden days man could not know what was going on in the far off places? 2
- II. What is the responsibility of the press today? 2
- III. Write the meaning of the following words: 0.5 + 0.5 = 1
 - a. Farthest.
 - b. Opinion.
- IV. Write a precis of the passage and suggest a suitable title. 4 + 1 = 5

SOLUTION:

- I. In the olden days, it was difficult for the man to know the things happening in far away places because there were no rapid means of communication available then.
- II. Today press is responsible for educating the public and developing their point of view.
- III. Farthest: Distant
Opinion: Point of view
- IV. Title: Importance of newspapers OR Newspapers

Precis:

Newspapers, in modern times keep the whole mankind connected which was not possible previously because the of modern means of communication were not available then. Today, the press has become powerful and is reshaping public opinion.

PRECIS OF PASSAGES

PASSAGE 1

The sultan sent agents to all parts of East to buy rare manuscripts and bring them back to Cordova. His men were constantly searching the bookseller's shops at Cairo, Damascus and Baghdad for rare volumes for his library. When the book was not to be bought at any price, he would have it copied and sometimes, if the book was not available and it was in the authors mind, he would send him handsome presents and begged to send him the first copy for his library at Cordova. By such means he gathered no fewer than four hundred thousand books and this at a time when printing was unknown as every manuscript had to be painfully copied in the fine clear hand writing of a professional copyist.

PRECIS:

The sultan sent his men to East to buy rare manuscripts for his library. If the book could not be bought, it was copied or if a book was not yet written, he would send presents to the author and request him to send him the first copy of his book when he completes it. Like this she sultan collected a large number of books when printing was unknown.

TITLE:

The sultan and the library of Cordova.

OR

Cordova's library.

PASSAGE 2

Musa was in chief command, and the gates were in his charge. They had been barred when the Christians came in view; but Musa threw them open "Our bodies", he said, "Will bar the gates". The young men were kindled by such words and when he told them, "We have nothing to fight for but the ground we stand on; and without that we are without a home or a country", they were ready to die with him. With such a leader, the Moorish cavaliers performed feats of bravery in the plains which divided the camp from the city.

PRECIS:

Musa was in charge of the gates who did not close the gates on seeing the Christians. He told his men that if they lost the battle, they would become country less. This inspired the men who fought bravely.

TITLE:

Musa the leader.

APPLICATION WRITING

- I. Applications at SSC level are mostly addressed to the principal.
- II. Understand the topic and then write the application. Your application must contain the reason for making a request.
- III. Topics like character certificate, leave, school leaving certificate, fee/fine waiver, trip arrangement, availing hostel and college bus facility or request for buying new books for the library are included in the paper.

APPLICATION PATTERN

The principal,
A.B.C school,
A.B.C.

Subject: Request for _____.

Sir,

Yours obediently,

X.Y.Z.
Class X-D
Roll No: 5598
Dated: 22nd July, 2019.

OR

Yours obediently,

X.Y.Z.
Class X-D
Roll No: 5598
Dated: 22nd July, 2019.

SAMPLE APPLICATION

Write an application to the principal of your school requesting him to cancel your fine.

The principal,
A.B.C school,
A.B.C.

Subject: Request for Cancellation of Fine.

Sir,

It is stated that I had been ill last week and due to my illness, I could not send my leave application. As a result, I have been fined five hundred rupees. Presently, it is not possible for my father to pay it as he is jobless for past three months. I request you to kindly waive off the fine and also reassure you that in future I shall send my leave request to the school in case of my absence from the school.

Yours obediently,

X.Y.Z.
Class X-D
Roll No: 1234
Dated: 22nd June, 2019.