

CSS English (Precis & Composition) — 2024

Complete Solved Paper

Q.2. Précis Writing

Title: Urban Green Spaces and Sustainable Cities

Urban green spaces provide cities with recreational, social and environmental benefits. Parks and other natural areas offer opportunities for relaxation, community interaction and cultural activities while providing habitats for wildlife. They also improve air quality, reduce urban heat and promote physical and mental well-being. However, rapid urbanization threatens these spaces, making sustainable planning essential. Cities must therefore preserve parks, tree-lined avenues and green rooftops while integrating nature into urban development. Protecting and expanding green spaces is a shared responsibility necessary for achieving healthy, sustainable and harmonious cities.

Q.3. Comprehension

1. What is the main theme of the passage, and how does it emphasize the evolving relationship between humanity and technology?

The main theme of the passage is the transformative relationship between humanity and technology in the modern digital age. Technology has become deeply integrated into communication, commerce, education and decision-making. The relationship is no longer merely one of humans using technological tools; technology increasingly shapes how people learn, communicate and organize their lives. The passage emphasizes that this growing relationship offers enormous possibilities but must be guided by wisdom, ethical awareness, equity and inclusivity.

2. According to the passage, how does education adapt to the digital landscape, and what challenges and opportunities does this transformation present?

Education is adapting by moving beyond the traditional classroom into digital environments such as e-learning platforms and virtual classrooms. These technologies facilitate collaboration, knowledge sharing and access to information across geographical boundaries. They democratize education by allowing learners around the world to access knowledge. However, this transformation also creates challenges, particularly unequal access to technology and the internet. It therefore requires inclusive educational policies and responsible guidance from educators.

3. Discuss the concept of the digital divide as presented in the passage. Why is inclusivity crucial in the context of technological advancements, and what role do educators play in addressing this divide?

The digital divide refers to the gap between people who have access to modern technology and those who lack such access. It can create educational, economic and social inequalities because individuals without digital resources cannot benefit equally from technological progress. Inclusivity is therefore essential to ensure that technological advancement benefits all sections of society rather than widening existing inequalities. Educators have an important role in helping learners develop digital skills, responsible behaviour and awareness while supporting policies and practices that make education more accessible.

4. Explore the role of ethics in the digital realm, especially concerning artificial intelligence. How does the passage highlight the intersection between technology and ethical considerations?

Ethics has become increasingly important as technology acquires greater influence over human life. Artificial intelligence can make decisions that affect individuals and society, making transparency, accountability and fairness essential. The passage highlights that technological progress cannot be judged solely by efficiency or innovation; its consequences for human rights and society must also be considered. The intersection of technology and ethics therefore requires AI systems to be developed and used responsibly.

5. What is the message regarding the responsibility of individuals and society as a whole in navigating the intersection of humanity and technology? How can progress align with principles of equity, inclusivity, and ethical awareness?

The passage argues that technological progress is a shared responsibility. Individuals, educators, institutions and governments must ensure that innovation serves humanity rather than creating new forms of inequality or harm. Progress can be aligned with equity by providing wider access to technology, with inclusivity by reducing the digital divide, and with ethical awareness by ensuring transparency, accountability and responsible use of technologies such as AI. Humanity must therefore embrace innovation while remaining conscious of its social consequences.

Q.4. Correct ALL of the following

(i) Chewing slowly, the pepperoni pizza tasted delicious.

Correct: Chewing slowly, I found the pepperoni pizza delicious.

(ii) Kicking and screaming, the exasperated father dragged his toddler out of the grocery store.

Correct: Kicking and screaming, the toddler was dragged out of the grocery store by his exasperated father.

(iii) A young girl in the corner, holding a red balloon.

Correct: A young girl in the corner was holding a red balloon.

(iv) Whom do you like more?

Correct: Whom do you like better?

(v) He ordered a meal from the restaurant that was high in protein.

Correct: He ordered a meal that was high in protein from the restaurant.

(vi) My favorite pizza topping is mushrooms they are really tasty I also like pizza with olives.

Correct: My favorite pizza topping is mushrooms; they are really tasty. I also like pizza with olives.

(vii) The group asked to hear the report that Shirley and me prepared.

Correct: The group asked to hear the report that Shirley and I prepared.

(viii) I managed finishing the painting.

Correct: I managed to finish the painting.

Q.5 (a). Punctuation

(i)

The cordless vacuum, one of the least interesting of the household appliances, got its start as a moon drill.

(ii)

Dr. Seuss books are famous for their delightful rhymes and nonsense words. *If I Ran a Zoo*, however, likely gave us the real word nerd.

(iii)

There are many theories about Edgar Allan Poe's mysterious death, including rabies, alcoholism, and a truly strange possibility: he may have been a victim of a voter fraud scheme.

(iv)

The film critic said, "One of the most misquoted lines in movie history is, 'Play it again, Sam.'"

(v)

Poorly named animals include: the flying fox, which is really a bat; the electric eel, which is really a knifefish; and the honey badger, which is the only member of its genus and species!

(vi)

The Haskell Opera House sits right on the US-Canadian border, with the stage in Quebec and many of the seats in Vermont.

(vii)

Most carnivorous plants attract and digest insects and other invertebrates, but some large pitcher plants have been known to digest frogs, rodents, and other vertebrates.

(viii)

Harvey is a good driver; moreover, he is a very friendly one.

Q.5 (b). Prepositions

(i)

His research is characterized **by** a deep understanding of genetic mutations.

(ii)

The solution is contingent **on** various factors.

(iii)

The experiment is predicated **on** the assumption of uniform conditions.

(iv)

The project is commensurate **with** the skills of the research team.

(v)

The methodology is impervious **to** external influences.

(vi)

The discussion oscillated **between** two main points.

(vii)

His proposal hinges **on** securing adequate funding.

(viii)

The model is contingent **on** accurate data inputs.

Q.6. Pairs of Words

(i) Creak / Creek

Creak: The old wooden door began to **creak** when I opened it.

Creek: We sat beside a small **creek** and enjoyed the peaceful surroundings.

(ii) Palate / Palette

Palate: The chef prepared a dish that delighted even the most sophisticated **palate**.

Palette: The artist selected a bright **palette** of colours for the painting.

(iii) Elicit / Illicit

Elicit: The journalist's questions managed to **elicit** an honest response from the minister.

Illicit: The authorities seized a shipment of **illicit** drugs at the border.

(iv) Peel / Peal

Peal: A loud **peal** of thunder shook the windows.

Peel: She carefully **peeled** the apple before eating it.

(v) Taut / Taught

Taut: The climber pulled the rope **taut** before beginning the ascent.

Taught: My mother **taught** me how to read when I was five.

(vi) Faint / Feint

Faint: She felt **faint** after standing in the sun for several hours.

Feint: The boxer made a **feint** to the left before delivering a powerful punch.

(vii) Rheum / Room

Rheum: The doctor examined the patient's eyes, which were irritated by excessive **rheum**.

Room: There was not enough **room** in the car for another passenger.

(viii) Wreak / Reek

Wreak: The earthquake **wreaked** havoc on the city's infrastructure.

Reek: The abandoned building began to **reek** of dampness and decay.

Q.7. Translation

The passage describes the situation in Palestine and the international community's response to the continuing conflict.

English Translation

When the Palestinian representative appeared before the United Nations, the organization had already accepted the two-state solution as a formula for resolving the Palestinian conflict. The Palestinian people had also accepted the principle of their right to self-determination. However, despite the resolutions passed by the United Nations, the proposed solution could not be implemented. On the contrary, the United States continued to support Israel.

Seven decades have passed, yet the time for implementing this formula has still not arrived. Gaza and the Palestinian territories continue to be drenched in the blood of innocent and unarmed Palestinians as a result of Israeli military action. The war has continued for the past eighteen months and the region has been completely devastated.

More than 20,000 Palestinians, including women and children, have been killed by Israeli forces. Those who have survived are facing immense suffering, while food and medicines are no longer reaching them adequately. There is hardly any safe place left for human beings to take shelter,

and people are being forced to struggle for survival. Even those who have managed to remain alive are gradually losing hope in life because of the continuing destruction and deprivation.

