



CLASS X
ADDITIONAL ENGLISH
SECTION C - WRITING SKILLS
LESSON 6
WRITING SUMMARIES/PRECIIS

SOLUTIONS

EXERCISES

Read each of the passages given below and write the summary/precis of it to one- third of its length using your language. Give a title to each of the summary/precis.

1. The role of women in a society is very important. Women’s education is a key to a better life in the future. A recent World Bank study says that educating girl is not charity; it is good economies and developing nations are to eradicate poverty, they must educate the girls. The report says that the economic and social returns on investments in education for the girls are substantial and probably greater than those for boys. As the female population forms half of the national population, the poor performance on the front of female literacy considerably affects the human development index of the nation. Society would progress only if the status of women is respected and the presence of educated women in the family would ensure education of the family itself. Education and empowerment of women are closely related.

Title: Importance of Women Education

Women play an important role in the society. Good economies and developing nations need to educate women for the eradication of poverty. Investing on women’s education would have no loss. When women remain uneducated, it greatly affects the human development index of the nation. Society would not be progressed until and unless one respects women and knows the importance of women.



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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (S)

Government of Manipur

2. When the Polos had served Kubla Khan for nearly 17 years they began to feel homesick for Venice, her broad waters and fair buildings calling them back across half the world but the emperor would not hear his servants departing for home. Did not his service provide every facility—power, wealth, dignity, ease and the shining light of the emperor’s countenance to bless them? Wherefore then did they look to the west from where they had come, poor merchants, to the present high state.

Title: Journey of Polos

After serving Kubla Khan for nearly 17 years, Polos wanted to return to their hometown, Venice. The emperors did not permit them. Transforming them from poor to rich, they may not be satisfied with the facilities provided to them.

3. I must not forget the birds of prey. Some of them especially the owl and the kestrel, are good friends, because they prey on small animals, such as mice and voles. The kestrel may be distinguished in the air by its habit of flying up into the wind and hovering for a time. It can see a mouse from 100 feet and 50 feet above. It folds its wings and falls like a stone upon its prey. The kestrel also eats large insects of various kinds.

And here we come back to the balance of nature, of which the classic example is the proposition. If a farmer stupidly shoots an owl, he wouldn’t be able to raise clover. From owls to clover seems a far cry, but this is how it all works out.

Title: Ecological Balance and its Importance

Both owl and kestrel belong to the birds of prey. What differentiates kestrel from owl is that it can fly high, view even a large and small prey like mouse from far off distance. But the important thing is the maintenance of equilibrium in nature between living organisms otherwise survival would be difficult.



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4. Half the world does not have enough to eat. Each year, as a result many millions die young. The bodies and minds of many more are permanently damaged by hunger.

We say to you, this suffering can be and must be stopped. When all of us, in the rich and poor countries, make up our minds to stop it, we can stop it.

The earth is ruled mainly by people out of touch with the young world. They know men starve and die in millions. But they think it more important to make guns and bombs to send us to fight one another, then to provide food and water, schools and hospitals, so that we might feed and serve one another.

Title: Destruction of war

Many millions, both young and old, die due to hunger in this world. The problems of hunger can be solved if we work unitedly with the goal of abolishing it. Our rulers, even after knowing the problems, are busy waging wars among themselves, thereby offering helping hands to the mankind.

5. It is a custom in the United States to issue a memorial stamp when a US president dies in office. The evolution has coincided since the time of Abraham Lincoln. After the assassination of President John F Kennedy, on November 22, 1963, there was a loud public glamour for a stamp in his honour. Mr. John A. Gronousky, the then US Post Master General, received many request from foreign countries also to bring out the stamp. Even children were anxious to have a stamp depicting President Kennedy. Along the requests, the post master general received many stamp designs also, sent by famous artists, grandmothers, and children. As the time passed 100s of stamp designs were submitted to the post office departments.

Title: Memorial stamp of US President J. F Kennedy

Since the time of Abraham Lincoln, issuing memorial stamp of the US president who dies during his term has been a custom. When President John F Kennedy was assassinated, people across the world requested Mr. John A. Gronousky, the US Post Master General, to issue a stamp in honour of him. There were more than 100 stamps designs being sent by the world.



6. Once upon a time, a washerman had an ass which was too old to work. So he made up his mind to sell it in the nearest market. The ass knew this and said to himself, “I’ll go to the city and try my luck as a musician, for I have a very fine voice”. The ass had not gone far when he met a dog panting by the roadside. The dog said to the ass, “Alas, my master was going to knock me on the head because I’m too old “. “Don’t you worry my friend”, said the ass. “You shall come along with me to the city. We will settle down as musicians, and make an honest living”.

Title: The story of an ass and a dog

Once there was an old ass who worked for the washerman. He knew the intention of his master of selling him off. So, he left for the city to become a musician. On his way, he met an old dog who met the same fate as him for being useless. The ass asked the dog to join him in his journey and settle down as musicians.

7. When Joan was admitted to the court the king pretended that someone else was he; but Joan was not deceived. All through her brief but marvellous career she proved that she was guided by Higher Power than that which was newly mortal. Though she rode in armour and carried a sword, she never killed any man, and at night she slept fully armed in the open air, her food was rarely anything but bread dipped in a cup of wine mixed with water.

She was really a shepherdess and her father was a labourer in the fields. While Joan was attending to her duties round the homestead at mid-day a strange voice came to her. She believed it was the voice of God instructing her to save her country from the English.

Title: The Bravery of Joan

Joan had a short marvellous career in the court of king. She was a very brave woman. She never killed a man in her life even though he rode armour and carried a knife. She belonged to a poor family and led a simple life .She spent her life protecting her country from English as instructed by the voice of God.



8. How many factors can you list that make earth different from other planets? They are innumerable: the position of the earth in our solar system: the tilt of the earth on its axis; and its rotation and revolution around the sun.

Other unique features include the strength of the gravitational pull of our planet, and of course the physical and chemical composition of the earth and the processes that have taken on the earth since its birth.

The earth was formed some 4.6 billion years ago, as dust and particles orbiting our newly formed sun began to come together to form the nine planets of our solar system. But for the 3 three millions years of its existence, Earth was a barren and harsh planet. The surface was covered in molten lava and exposed to the ultra violet rays of the sun. The atmosphere was made up of poisonous gases, and there were no lakes, oceans or river. The oldest evidence of life dates to 3.5 billion years ago, but it was not until about 1.4 billion years ago that the first multicellular organisms appeared. These organisms, and the other that evolved from them, could only survive when the system of the planet began to stabilise.

Title: Evolution of Earth

What Earth makes different from the other planets is its position, the tilt on its axis, its rotation and revolution, its gravitational pull and its physical and chemical composition. When Earth was formed 4.6 billion years ago, it remained barren and harsh for 3 million years. There was nothing except molten lava, poisonous gases and UV rays of sun. There was no existence of water .When first multi cellular organism appeared, they could not survive until the system of the planet was stabilised.


