

RBI Gr B – Phase - 2

Descriptive English



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Agenda

- Previous Year Precis. ✓
- Tricks of Precis Writing. ✓
- Time Management. ✓
- Key mistakes. ✓
- Sample Precis. ✓

Read the Passage & write a precis on the basis of the passage in 150 words.

We human beings have been venturing into space since October 4, 1957, when the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (U.S.S.R.) launched Sputnik, the first artificial satellite to orbit Earth. This happened during the period of political hostility between the Soviet Union and the United States known as the Cold War. For several years, the two superpowers had been competing to develop missiles, called intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs), to carry nuclear weapons between continents. In the U.S.S.R., the rocket designer Sergei Korolev had developed the first ICBM, a rocket called the R7, which would begin the space race.

This competition came to a head with the launch of Sputnik. Carried atop an R7 rocket, the Sputnik satellite was able to send out beeps from a radio transmitter. After reaching space, Sputnik orbited Earth once every 96 minutes. The radio beeps could be detected on the ground as the satellite passed overhead, so people all around the world knew that it was really in orbit. Realizing that the U.S.S.R. had capabilities that exceeded U.S. technologies that could endanger Americans, the United States grew worried. Then, a month later, on November 3, 1957, the Soviets achieved an even more impressive space venture. This was SputnikII, a satellite that carried a living creature, a dog named Laika.

Prior to the launch of Sputnik, the United States had been working on its own capability to launch a satellite. The United States made two failed attempts to launch a satellite into space before succeeding with a rocket that carried a satellite called Explorer on January 31, 1958. The team that achieved this first U.S. satellite launch consisted largely of German rocket engineers who had once developed ballistic missiles for Nazi Germany. Working for the U.S. Army at the Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama, the German rocket engineers were led by Wernher von Braun and had developed the German V2 rocket into a more powerful rocket, called the Jupiter C, or Juno. Explorer carried several instruments into space for conducting science experiments. One instrument was a Geiger counter for detecting cosmic rays. This was for an experiment operated by researcher James Van Allen, which, together with measurements from later satellites, proved the existence of what are now called the Van Allen radiation belts around Earth.



Read the Passage & write a precis on the basis of the passage in 150 words.

In 1958, space exploration activities in the United States were consolidated into a new government agency, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). When it began operations in October of 1958, NASA absorbed what had been called the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA), and several other research and military facilities, including the Army Ballistic Missile Agency (the Redstone Arsenal) in Huntsville.

The first human in space was the Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin, who made one orbit around Earth on April 12, 1961, on a flight that lasted 108 minutes. A little more than three weeks later, NASA launched astronaut Alan Shepard into space, not on an orbital flight, but on a suborbital trajectory—a flight that goes into space but does not go all the way around Earth. Shepard's suborbital flight lasted just over 15 minutes. Three weeks later, on May 25, President John F. Kennedy challenged the United States to an ambitious goal, declaring: "I believe that this nation should commit itself to achieving the goal, before the decade is out, of landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to Earth."

In addition to launching the first artificial satellite, the first dog in space, and the first human in space, the Soviet Union achieved other space milestones ahead of the United States. These milestones included Luna 2, which became the first human-made object to hit the Moon in 1959. Soon after that, the U.S.S.R. launched Luna 3. Less than four months after Gagarin's flight in 1961, a second Soviet human mission orbited a cosmonaut around Earth for a full day. The U.S.S.R. also achieved the first spacewalk and launched the Vostok 6 mission, which made Valentina Tereshkova the first woman to travel to space.



Read the Passage & write a precis on the basis of the passage in 150 words.

During the 1960s, NASA made progress toward President Kennedy's goal of landing a human on the moon with a program called Project Gemini, in which astronauts tested technology needed for future flights to the moon, and tested their own ability to endure many days in spaceflight. Project Gemini was followed by Project Apollo, which took astronauts into orbit around the moon and to the lunar surface between 1968 and 1972. In 1969, on Apollo 11, the United States sent the first astronauts to the Moon, and Neil Armstrong became the first human to set foot on its surface. During the landed missions, astronauts collected samples of rocks and lunar dust that scientists still study to learn about the moon. During the 1960s and 1970s, NASA also launched a series of space probes called Mariner, which studied Venus, Mars, and Mercury. Space stations marked the next phase of space exploration. The first space station in Earth orbit was the Soviet Salyut 1 station, which was launched in 1971. This was followed by NASA's Skylab space station, the first orbital laboratory in which astronauts and scientists studied Earth and the effects of spaceflight on the human body. During the 1970s, NASA also carried out Project Viking in which two probes landed on Mars, took numerous photographs, examined the chemistry of the Martian surface environment, and tested the Martian dirt (called regolith) for the presence of microorganisms.

Since the Apollo lunar program ended in 1972, human space exploration has been limited to low-Earth orbit, where many countries participate and conduct research on the International Space Station. However, unpiloted probes have traveled throughout our solar system. In recent years, probes have made a range of discoveries, including that a moon of Jupiter, called Europa, and a moon of Saturn, called Enceladus, have oceans under their surface ice that scientists think may harbor life. Meanwhile, instruments in space, such as the Kepler Space Telescope, and instruments on the ground have discovered thousands of exoplanets, planets orbiting other stars. This era of exoplanet discovery began in 1995, and advanced technology now allows instruments in space to characterize the atmospheres of some of these exoplanets.

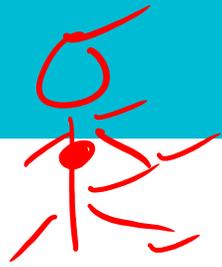


Solution –

Space Exploration – A leap of Faith

Although the possibility of exploring space has long excited people in many walks of life, for most of the latter 20th century and into the early 21st century, only governments could afford the very high costs of launching people and machines into space. Starting after the mid of 20th century, USSR and USA became the pioneers in space research and exploration which in turn started the so called space race between the two nations. This reality meant that space exploration had to serve very broad interests, and it indeed has done so in a variety of ways. These space programs have increased knowledge, served as indicators of national prestige and power. This space exploration paved the way for our future and after numerous space journeys, we are looking towards exoplanets not just as spectators but as contenders towards the future.





PRECIS WRITING

Definition of Précis

12-15 words

A Précis is a clear compact condensed (brief) of a passage by exclusion of unimportant text and filtration of key points in the writer's own words. *

Précis-writing is regarded as a very important kind of composition because it develops one's capacity to discriminate between the essential and the non-essential.

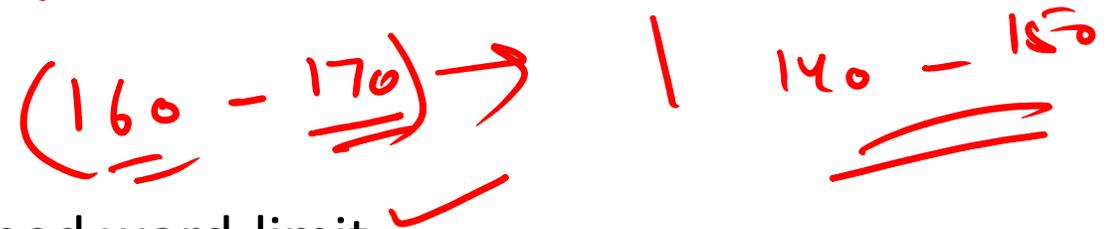
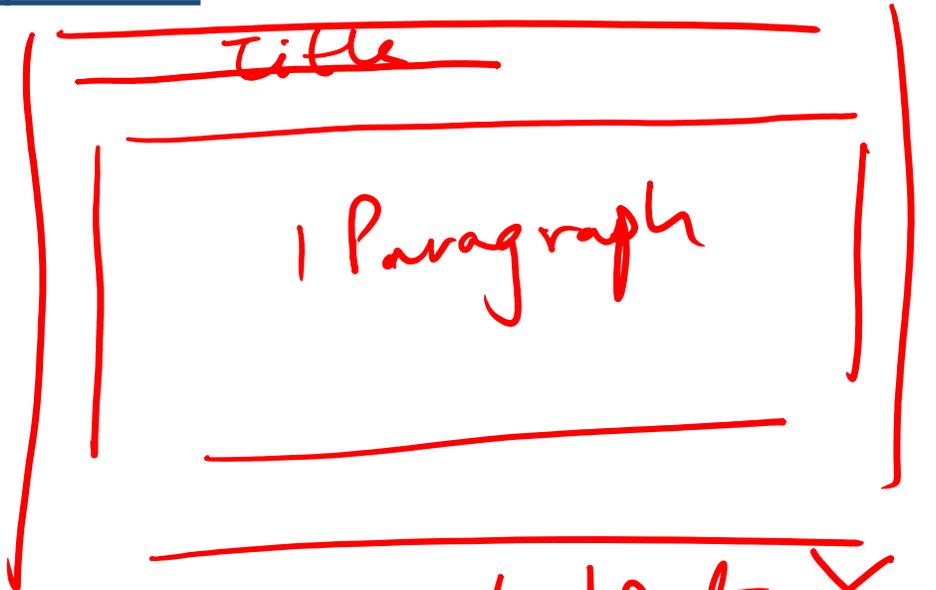
- Plan/outline of the original passage or article.
- Keep the abstract of the passage. ✓
- Selection of the most prominent phrases and sentences. ✓
- Form a chain of facts, Connect to make an organic whole. ✓

150-170
10-12

PRECIS WRITING

Key points of a précis

- Crux/Gist of the passage is the Title.
- Avoid Replication of Important Sentences.
- Have Brevity and Clarity.
- Avoid Direct Speech and Use Indirect Speech.
- Exclusion of Statistical Information. specific reference / Example / Data X
- Observe Proportion. ✓
- One third of Original Passage / Follow the mentioned word-limit. ✓



Precis vs Summary

What is the Difference between Precis and Summary?

About Precis

A small miniature of any piece of writing which provides the absolute main point of that writing or article can be defined as precise. It must consist of an appropriate heading. Maintaining the order of the original passage is not necessary in a precis. The essential points are usually mentioned here in precis. The tone of the speech used is the same throughout the read. In precis, the conclusion is a must at the end, which will justify the other main points described.

About Summary

The summary can be described as a brief of all the recorded points in any article. Any passage or article with a shortened variation depicts a summary, where the headline is necessarily not so important. The not only headline but also the order needs to be maintained, covering all the important points. The tone used in summary varies and necessarily is not needed to be in order. The summary can also skip the conclusion, and mean the same.



Difference between Precis and Summary

PRECIS	SUMMARY
It must have a heading. ✓	A heading is not that required. ✗
It is just a small replica of the article. ✓	It is a brief description of the article. ✗
No need for maintaining the order ✓	The order should always be maintained here. ✗
It contains the main or essential points. ✓	It covers all the important points. ✗
The same tone is used throughout. ✓	It is expressed in terms of readers own words. ✗
The main idea has to be extracted. ✓	The idea is already extracted in the shortest form possible. ✗
It contains a conclusion as well. ✓	Not every time ends with a conclusion. ✗



Precis vs Summary

Similarities between Precis and Summary

- Both the precis and the summary provide the gist of the original work in a shortened form. One may not contain the headings or the conclusions, but the point remains the same.
- No addition of idea occurs. The facts remain the same all without changing. No factual ideas slide into the article.
- If we see in a structured way, we can mark that one-third of both the original texts, in precis and summary, maintain the order and complete the sentences' meaning.



PRECIS WRITING

Do's and Don'ts of Précis Writing

1st sentence ✓

- Start the précis with the main idea so that reader can quickly understand the essence of the précis.
- Take one key point from every paragraph which can mostly be extracted from either the first or the last sentence of every paragraph.
- While writing a précis, make a suitable environment where all the points can be described and discussed equally. *observe proportion*
- As a précis is concise, compress it by using connecting words and make sure that space is available to retain the important data, keywords, and the concept.
- Removing the irrelevant data or sentence is as important as writing the relevant points. Thus, identify the superfluous data and facts and keep the core idea of the work only in the précis.
- Do not form personal opinions, remarks and criticism in a précis. ✗
- Do not reuse text from the passage. ✗ *Originality by*
- Use Synonyms to present the sentence in own words.



Precis Writing

5 Mistakes not to make while drafting a Precis.

- Typos / Grammatical Errors ✗
- Word Limit ✗ *Don't Exceed the word limit.*
- Structure ✓
- Only use the information that is given in the paragraph. ✓
- Do not reuse text from the passage and form personal opinions ✗

Time-Management

- Precis Writing

- Expected Word Limit – (150 - 170 words) ✓
- Weightage – 30 Marks ✓
- Time Allotment - (20 - 25) Mins ✓
 - 7-10 mins to read the passage. ✓
 - 10-12 mins to draft precis. ✓
 - 1 min to proof read. ✓

Essay → 30
RC → 35
Precis → 25
90
80

Precis Writing

5 Mistakes not to make while drafting a Precis.

- Typos / Grammatical Errors
- Word Limit
- Structure
- Only use the information that is given in the paragraph.
- Do not reuse text from the passage and form personal opinions

Precis Writing

5 Mistakes not to make while drafting a Precis.

- forget title.
- Copy & Paste.
- format (1 paragraph)
- Word limit.
- ~~Inclusion~~ of superfluous / Data / Ex
(Specific)

H/W Read the Passage and write a precis on the basis of the passage.

Agriculture is the primary source of livelihood for about 58% of India's population. Gross Value Added by agriculture, forestry, and fishing was estimated at Rs. 19.48 lakh crore (US\$ 276.37 billion) in FY20. Share of agriculture and allied sectors in gross value added (GVA) of India at current prices stood at 17.8 % in FY20. Consumer spending in India will return to growth in 2021 post the pandemic-led contraction, expanding by as much as 6.6%.

The Indian food industry is poised for huge growth, increasing its contribution to world food trade every year due to its immense potential for value addition, particularly within the food processing industry. Indian food and grocery market is the world's sixth largest, with retail contributing 70% of the sales. The Indian food processing industry accounts for 32% of the country's total food market, one of the largest industries in India and is ranked fifth in terms of production, consumption, export and expected growth.

Principal agricultural commodities export for April 2020 - January 2021 was US\$ 32.12 billion.

The Economic Survey of India 2020-21 report stated that in FY20, the total food grain production in the country was recorded at 296.65 million tonnes—up by 11.44 million tonnes compared with 285.21 million tonnes in FY19. The government has set a target to buy 42.74 million tonnes from the central pool in FY21; this is 10% more than the quantity purchased in FY20. For FY22, the government has set a record target for farmers to raise food grain production by 2% with 307.31 million tonnes of food grains. In FY21, production was recorded at 303.34 million tonnes against a target of 301 million tonnes.



Production of horticulture crops in India was estimated at a record 326.6 million metric tonnes (MMT) in FY20 as per third advance estimates, an increase of 5.81 million metric tonnes over FY19. India has the largest livestock population of around 535.78 million, which translates to around 31% of the world population. Milk production in the country is expected to increase to 208 MT in FY21 from 198 MT in FY20, registering a growth of 10% y-o-y. Area under horticulture is projected to rise by 2.7% in FY21.

Sugar production in India reached 26.46 MT between October 2019 and May 2020 sugar season according to Indian Sugar Mills Association (ISMA). India is among the 15 leading exporters of agricultural products in the world. Agricultural export from India reached US\$ 38.54 billion in FY19 and US\$ 35.09 billion in FY20.

The organic food segment in India is expected to grow at a CAGR of 10% during 2015--25 and is estimated to reach Rs. 75,000 crore (US\$ 10.73 billion) by 2025 from Rs. 2,700 crore (US\$ 386.32 million) in 2015.

The processed food market in India is expected to grow to Rs. 3,451,352.5 crore (US\$ 470 billion) by 2025, from Rs. 1,931,288.7 crore (US\$ 263 billion) in FY20 on the back of government initiatives such as planned infrastructure worth US\$ 1 trillion and Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojna. The food processing industry employs about 1.77 million people. The sector allows 100% FDI under the automatic route.

Between April 2020 and February 2021, the total value of processed food products exports was Rs. 43,798 crore (US\$ 6.02 billion). India exported key processed food products such as pulses, processed vegetables, processed fruits and juices, groundnuts, guar gum, cereal preparations, milled products, alcoholic beverages and oil meals.



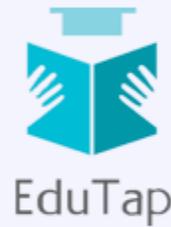
Agrarian Economy - Potential drivers of Indian growth story

Although agriculture sector employs more than half of India's population yet it only contributes a little less than one fifth of India's GVA. But, surprisingly, India's agricultural sector, especially the food processing industry is on the cusp of dynamic growth in both domestic front as well as exports. Every vertical including food grain production, government procurement, horticultural production, milk production and sugar production is expanding at a good pace. India which is already a major exporter of agricultural produce and that position is set to improve. Even the organic food sector is expected to grow at a very good pace and reach ten billion dollar valuation in a few years which is a further pointer to the overall growth in the agriculture and food sector. The processed food market, a major employment generator is set to almost double on the back of sustained government support and our processed food export is also clocking impressive numbers in broad agreement with the robust growth trend of the whole agriculture sector.



*Thank
You!*

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