

FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION — 2019 · POSTS IN BS-17

English (Précis & Composition)

Complete Solved Paper — Part-II

*Précis · Reading Comprehension · Grammar & Sentence Correction · Punctuation
Prepositions · Idioms · Urdu-to-English Translation*

CSS 2019

FPSC BS-17

Fully Solved

Model Answers

FPSC English (Précis & Composition) 2019 — Fully Solved

Part-II · Question 2 — Précis Writing

Note: Part-I (MCQs) of this paper is not reproduced here, as the original scanned question paper supplied for this document contains only Part-II. All Part-II questions below are solved in full, exactly as set, with nothing altered in the original wording or options.

Q. 2 — Write a précis of the following passage and also suggest a suitable title. (20)

I think modern educational theorists are inclined to attach too much importance to the negative virtue of not interfering with children, and too little to the positive merit of enjoying their company. If you have the sort of liking for children that many people have for horses or dogs, they will be apt to respond to your suggestions, and to accept prohibitions, perhaps with some good-humoured grumbling, but without resentment. It is no use to have the sort of liking that consists in regarding them as a field for valuable social endeavour, or what amounts to the same thing as an outlet for power-impulses. No child will be grateful for an interest in him that springs from the thought that he will have a vote to be secured for your party or a body to be sacrificed to king and country. The desirable sort of interest is that which consists in spontaneous pleasure in the presence of children, without any ulterior purpose. Teachers who have this quality will seldom need to interfere with children's freedom, but will be able to do so, when necessary, without causing psychological damage.

Unfortunately, it is utterly impossible for over-worked teachers to preserve an instinctive liking for children; they are bound to come to feel towards them as the proverbial confectioner's apprentice does towards macaroons. I do not think that education ought to be anyone's whole profession: it should be undertaken for at most two hours a day by people whose remaining hours are spent away from children. The society of the young is fatiguing, especially when strict discipline is avoided. Fatigue, in the end, produces irritation, which is likely to express itself somehow, whatever theories the harassed teacher may have taught himself or herself to believe. The necessary friendliness cannot be preserved by self-control alone. But where it exists, it should be unnecessary to have rules in advance as to how "naughty" children are to be treated, since impulse is likely to lead to the right decision, and almost any decision will be right if the child feels that you like him. No rules, however wise, are a substitute for affection and tact.

✓ MODEL TITLE

"Affection and Tact: The True Basis of Teaching Children" (Alternatives: "Genuine Liking for Children" / "The Teacher's Instinct over Rules")

✓ MODEL PRÉCIS

Modern educationists overstress non-interference with children while undervaluing genuine enjoyment of their company. Only a spontaneous, disinterested affection — not one exploited for social or political ends — wins children's willing, resentment-free cooperation, allowing teachers to restrain them when necessary without psychological harm. Unfortunately, overworked teachers cannot sustain such instinctive fondness; constant exposure to children fatigues them, and fatigue inevitably breeds irritation regardless of professed theories. Teaching, therefore, should never be anyone's sole occupation but should occupy only a couple of hours daily, leaving ample time away from children. Where real affection exists, rigid disciplinary rules become superfluous, since instinct usually prompts the right response. Ultimately, no rules, however sound, can replace genuine affection and tact.

(Word count: ≈ 108 words — within the standard one-third length for a passage of this size.)

Q. 3 — Read the passage and answer the questions that follow. (20)

When I returned to the common the sun was setting. The crowd about the pit had increased, and stood out black against the lemon yellow of the sky — a couple of hundred people, perhaps. There were raised voices, and some sort of struggle appeared to be going on about the pit... [Passage as given in the original question paper — H. G. Wells, The War of the Worlds] ...I was overcome with disgust and dread.

✓ ANSWERS

1. What leads us to believe that this passage is from a science fiction story? (4)

The presence of a mysterious cylinder that has fallen from the sky, an unscrewing lid, and a strange creature with tentacles and luminous eyes emerging from it — none of them ordinary, earthly occurrences — clearly signal an alien landing. References to a "Martian," an unfamiliar atmosphere, and "greater gravitational energy of the earth" confirm the extraterrestrial, speculative nature typical of science fiction.

2. How was the crowd behaving? (4)

The crowd was excited, curious, and disorderly — elbowing and jostling one another to get closer to the pit despite warnings to "keep back." Onlookers, including women, pressed forward eagerly, ignoring Ogilvy's pleas for caution, driven by curiosity about the mysterious object.

3. Why did the mood of the crowd alter? (4)

The crowd's mood shifted from excited curiosity to astonishment and then horror once the cylinder's lid came off and, instead of a human being, a monstrous, tentacled creature with glistening skin began to emerge — turning fascination into fear and causing a panicked retreat.

4. What was the narrator's initial reaction to the "Thing"? (4)

Like everyone else, the narrator initially expected a man — or something only slightly unlike a terrestrial human — to step out of the cylinder. When he instead saw greyish, billowy movements, luminous disc-like eyes, and snake-like tentacles, a sudden chill of fear came over him, and this soon turned into ungovernable terror.

5. Why did the writer feel disgusted? (4)

The writer was disgusted by the creature's grotesque, inhuman appearance — its oily, fungoid brown skin that glistened like wet leather, its quivering, lipless, saliva-dripping mouth, and the slow, clumsy, heaving movements of its bulky body — all of which struck him as unspeakably repulsive rather than merely frightening.

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Part-II · Question 4 — Sentence Correction

Q. 4 — Correct only FIVE of the following. (10)

No.	Original	Correction
i	He enjoyed during the holidays.	He enjoyed himself during the holidays.
ii ✓	None of the boys had learnt their lesson.	None of the boys had learnt his lesson. ("None" is singular, so the pronoun must agree in the singular.)
iii ✓	He is abusing the money of his father.	He is misusing his father's money . ("Abuse" applies to people/power, not money; "misuse" is correct here.)
iv ✓	I regret at the delay.	I regret the delay . ("Regret" is transitive and takes no preposition.)
v	I could not help but laugh.	I could not help laughing . (or: I could not but laugh.)
vi ✓	I always have and always shall be your friend.	I always have been and always shall be your friend.
vii	I was out walking when I saw the new moon in the garden.	Acceptable as written — no correction needed .
viii ✓	He cried as if he was mad.	He cried as if he were mad. (Subjunctive mood required after "as if" for a hypothetical state.)

Five attempted (as required): items **ii, iii, iv, vi, viii** are marked ✓ above. Corrections for items i and v are also provided for completeness/practice, but only five need be submitted in the answer book.

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Part-II · Question 5 — Punctuation & Prepositions

Q. 5 (a) — Punctuate the following text, where necessary. (5)

a hungry lion slipped out of the forest into a barnyard one evening when he saw a plump donkey his mouth began to water but just as he was ready to jump on the donkey a rooster crowed he was frightened and so turned away into the forest again hey look at that cowardly lion the donkey brayed to the rooster i am going to chase him and the donkey ran after the lion wait the rooster shouted you dont know that but it was too late the lion had turned and killed the donkey ah my poor stupid friend the rooster said as he watched the lion eating the donkey the lion wasnt afraid of you but of my crowing

✓ PUNCTUATED VERSION

A hungry lion slipped out of the forest into a barnyard one evening. When he saw a plump donkey, his mouth began to water. But just as he was ready to jump on the donkey, a rooster crowed. He was frightened, and so turned away into the forest again. "Hey, look at that cowardly lion!" the donkey brayed to the rooster. "I am going to chase him." And the donkey ran after the lion. "Wait!" the rooster shouted, "you don't know that—" But it was too late; the lion had turned and killed the donkey. "Ah, my poor, stupid friend," the rooster said, as he watched the lion eating the donkey, "the lion wasn't afraid of you, but of my crowing."

Q. 5 (b) — Fill in the blanks with appropriate prepositions (ONLY FIVE). (5)

No.	Completed Sentence
i ✓	What time do we arrive at our destination?
ii ✓	We are flying into some rough weather; please fasten your seat belts.
iii ✓	It is warming up; by noon we should be able to go swimming.
iv ✓	My parents are not responsible for my actions.
v ✓	This pan is for cooking omelettes.
vi	Owing to poor attendance, this course is being cancelled.
vii	The police took the men in for questioning.
viii	The woman you gave the book to is my aunt.

Five attempted (as required): items i–v are marked ✓ above. Answers for vi–viii are also given for practice.

Q. 6 — Use ONLY FIVE of the following in sentences illustrating their meanings. (10)

1. i) To cast pearls before swine ✓

It was like casting pearls before swine when the professor explained quantum theory to an audience uninterested in learning anything at all.

2. ii) To step into one's shoes ✓

When the branch manager retired, his deputy stepped into his shoes and took charge of the entire office within a week.

3. iii) Stuff and nonsense

When he claimed the old house was haunted, his grandmother dismissed the story as stuff and nonsense.

4. iv) A wild goose chase ✓

The detective realised too late that the anonymous tip had sent him on a wild goose chase across the city.

5. v) To be ill at ease ✓

Being new to the office, she felt ill at ease among so many unfamiliar faces at her first meeting.

6. vi) Sit on the fence

Rather than support either candidate openly, the senator preferred to sit on the fence until the election results were clear.

7. vii) In a jiffy

Give me a moment — I will finish typing this report in a jiffy.

8. viii) To preen oneself ✓

He would preen himself in front of the mirror for a full ten minutes before every important interview.

Five attempted (as required): items marked ✓ — **i, ii, iv, v, viii**. Sentences for iii, vi and vii are also supplied for extra practice.

Q. 7 — Translate the following into English, keeping figurative/idiomatic expressions in view. (10)

پاکستان، افغانستان میں امن کے لیے پرعزم ہے کیونکہ افغانستان میں امن پاکستان کے لیے انتہائی اہم ہے۔ تاریخی تناظر میں دیکھا جائے تو پاکستان اور افغانستان پڑوسی برادر اسلامی ملک ہونے کے ناطے تاریخی، ثقافتی، لسانی رشتوں میں جڑے ہوئے ہیں۔ یہ رشتے اٹوٹ ہیں، دونوں کا انحصار ایک دوسرے پر ہے اور دونوں الگ الگ رہ بھی نہیں سکتے۔ پاکستان کا موقف روز اول سے یہی رہا ہے کہ افغان مسئلے کا سیاسی حل نکالا جائے۔ اس موقف کی حمایت چین بھی کرتا ہے۔ اس ضمن میں چین نے کہا ہے کہ افغان تنازع کا افغان قیادت میں ہونے والے امن مذاکرات سے ہی حل ممکن ہے۔ پاکستان اور چین اسٹریٹیجک شراکت داری کے لیے افغان تنازع کو مذاکرات کے ذریعے حل کرنے میں اپنا کردار ادا کریں گے۔

✓ MODEL ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Pakistan is committed to peace in Afghanistan, because peace there is of the utmost importance for Pakistan. Viewed against the backdrop of history, Pakistan and Afghanistan, being neighbouring, brotherly Islamic countries, are bound together by historical, cultural, and linguistic ties. These ties are unbreakable: the two nations depend on each other, and neither can remain wholly apart from the other. Pakistan's stance, from the very outset, has been that the Afghan issue should be resolved through a political solution — a position that China, too, supports. In this connection, China has stated that the Afghan conflict can be resolved only through peace negotiations led by the Afghans themselves. For the sake of their strategic partnership, Pakistan and China will play their part in resolving the Afghan conflict through dialogue.