

31st to 33rd

PRACTICE THIRTY -ONE

DESCRIPTIVE COMPOSITION

Q.101 REVISION

a) TYPES OF PARAGRAPHS :

(1) **Loose paragraph:** is when the topic of a paragraph is expressed in the opening sentence, and the rest of the paragraph qualifies and amplifies it.

(2) **Periodic paragraph:** keeps the reader attentive and alert till the end as the writer gives the main thought in the last sentence, called the concluding sentence of the paragraph

(3) **Mixed paragraph:** is a mixture or a balance between (1) and (2) with the topic sentence coming in the middle of the paragraph.

b) **Example of a Loose paragraph - by Abraham Lincoln:** "I do the very best I know how – the very best I can. And I mean to keep doing so until the end. If the end brings me out all right , what is said against me won't amount to anything. If the end brings me out wrong, ten angels swearing I was right would make no difference."

c) **Example of a Periodic paragraph-** by Charles Dickens : "There was a fine gentle wind, and Mr Pickwick's hat rolled sportingly before it. The wind puffed, and Mr Pickwick puffed, and the hat rolled over and over as merrily as a lively porpoise in a strong tide; and on it might have rolled, far beyond Mr Pickwick's reach , had not its course been providentially stopped, just as the gentleman was on the point of resigning it to its fate."

d) **Example of a mixed paragraph** by R. L. Stevenson: "I expect to pass through this world but once. Any good therefore, that I can do, or any kindness that I can show to any fellow creature, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it , for I shall not pass this way again."

Q102. Speech training

Pay attention to the five vowel sounds , a, e, i, o, u, that have thirteen variations in combinations of diphthongs and triphthongs : OO as in moon, . E as in key, EE as in seen, EI as in seize. When a single vowel sound is used repeatedly, it becomes a figure of speech called Alliteration. Practise the following alliterations –

1. Soon the gloom will give room to the boon of the moon over Honolulu.
2. Into the cool blue the doomed schooner soon moved.
3. Who are you , sir, tell me who?
What's that to you , sir?
Who , sir?
You , sir!
What's that to who, sir?
Who, sir ?
You !!

PRACTICE Thirty -two
COMPOSITION Given

Vocabulary for Descriptive

Q.103. Various words for practise speaking and using in sentences orally:

- a) Noose, nose, nostril;
- b) Route, routine, routinely, rout; root,
- c) Chew, Cowper,
- d) Ruby, Rubican, rusty, rural;
- e) Conclude, salute, salutation;
- f) Booty, booth, boar , poor:
- g) Gregarious, Gregory, aggregate;
- h) To articulate, inarticulate

Q 104. Make sentences with :

- a) As quick as thought
- b) Without more ado
- c) A moot point

- d) Through neglect
- e) Sooner or later
- f) In a flash
- g) In a moment
- h) In a bustle
- i) For the duration
- j) Towards midnight
- k) On the stroke of twelve
- l) Golden Autumn
- m) The peep of dawn
- n) Bountiful September
- o) Over head and heels
- p) One in a thousand
- q) Many winters ago
- r) To all eternity
- s) Many a weary day
- t) The whole year round
- u) One crowded hour
- v) Without pausing an instant
- w) Blustering March
- x) Chilly November
- y) In the golden age
- z) Room for improvement

PRACTICE Thirty -three

Descriptive COMPOSITION

Q. 105 When writing a descriptive composition on a place or scene , **details need to be amassed** for **creating an Impression**. The writer needs to decide on whether the composition should leave a lasting impression, and if so, what that impression is to be. Then the details relevant to the impression selected are to be noted.

Next, it is of paramount importance to [write to the point](#). For example, if a composition on a 'Village Railway station' or 'A memorable summer experience' is to be written, the writer could [decide to emphasis its warmth and sleepiness](#) on a summer afternoon. This, then, becomes the [central idea](#) . Words appropriate to convey warmth and sleepiness are to be listed. – drowsiness, sleepiness, tranquil, calm, restful, harmony and so on. Use short and simple sentences to set the context and to convey the effect. [Read the following example](#).

It was late June. I was visiting a friend in the country and returning home by train. In spite of the heat of a cloudless afternoon, I could not resist the delight of a walk along lanes that wound their way all unhurriedly amid the green silence of the hedgerows. So I set out for the station on foot.

At the end of my walk I came upon a station that was quite unlike anything that I had been used to in my urban life. Entering through the only door, marked "Booking Office", I felt as if I was straying into some lonely out building of a distant farm, so quiet and sombre was it. There was not another soul to be seen ; nor was there any sound of human activity anywhere to be heard.

I walked out on the platform, strangely aware of the sound of my own footfall. The sun was beating down on the deserted asphalt, sending up a haze of heat that seemed to lap the few station appurtenances in drowsiness . A dog was curled up asleep under the platform seat.

Out across the fence laden with rambler roses spread slumbering meadows. A herd of milch cows were chewing the cud lazily, beneath a clump of banyan trees. Indistinctly, from the distance came the mingling of many bird songs.

While I stood drinking in the beauty of this placid scene , I became conscious of an alteration. In a moment the sole porter emerged from his midday nap, operated a signal that clanked noisily into position , and then ambled slowly towards me for return- half ticket, while I remarked that his red amiable face and easy going gait were in perfect harmony with the tranquil surroundings.

A wisp of whistle from the horizon, with a dark snake crawling behind it, announced the arrival of the train. As it drew nearer, the deep silence of the place was gradually displaced by creaking brakes and a hissing engine.

Save for myself, no one entered the train and no one alighted. The porter with leisurely expertness trundled a couple of milk churns on board, the door was slammed, the guard signalled to the driver, and we moved off, leaving the Station once more to its drowsy silence.

SUMMARY (a) What impression do I want to make on the reader and what should be my focal, central idea? (b) What words will best create the colours of the central idea? (c) What is the lasting impression I am leaving through my description?

Participle phrase,

Participle phrase is a group of words introduced by a preposition and usually doing the work of an adjective or an adverb.

1. Percy Bysshe Shelley - 'OZYMANDIAS'

"I met a traveler from an antique land
Who said: Two vast and trunkless legs of stone
Stand in the desert. Near them, on the sand,
Half sunk, a shattered visage lies, whose frown,
And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,
Tell that its sculptor well those passions read
Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,
The hand that mocked them, and the heart that fed:
And on the pedestal these words appear:

'My name is Ozymandias, king of kings;
Look on my works, ye Mighty, and despair !'
Nothing beside remains. Round the decay
Of that colossal wreck, boundless and bare,
The lone and level sands stretch far away.'