



SECTION B – WRITING SKILLS
CHAPTER 11
PRECIS

SOLUTIONS

TEXTUAL EXERCISE

Write a precis of the following passage and give a suitable title.

1. Swami Vivekananda, speaking in America, told a somewhat graphic story in order to impress upon his hearers how very little, as a rule, people really longed for God. He told of a young man who came to a religious teacher and said that he wanted to find God. The sage smiled and said nothing. The young man returned time after time, ever repeating the intensity of his desire, his longing to find God. After many days the sage told him to accompany him as he went to the river to take his morning bath and when both were in the river the sage took hold of the young man and plunged him under the surface of the water and held him there. The young man struggled and struggled to shake off his hold. Finally, he raised him out of the water and said to him, “My son, what did you long for most when under the water?” “A breath of air” gasped the youth. “Thus, must the would-be disciple long for God if he wants to find Him. If you have this longing for God, Verily He shall be found by you!”

Ans:

Title: Searching for God

People generally longed for God. Swami Vivekananda told a story about a young man who went to a sage to seek the answer of where to find God. The sage took him to a river for a morning bath. Then he plunged him under the water and held him there. He struggled and gasped for a breath of air. The sage then said that if you have that desperation and longing for God then you will be found by him.



2. There are charms in village life. There is a peasant rising with the morning star glittering in the sky and turning his bullock and buffaloes out to graze before sunrise. After sunrise they are taken to the fields to plough. Watch the peasant's wife milking her cows or grinding her corn! Hear the lambs bleating and the birds chirping! How fine the fields are looking! While the peasant in his fields is working all day in sun or rain, as if he plays on the lap of Mother Earth, notices the house- wives of the village with pots on their heads going to the village wells and thence bring water for their homes, all walking with slow steady steps, in groups, talking to one another as they walk, while the pot stand piled overhead, firm like a column rooted in Earth. See too an evening group of villagers sitting in a temple or shop or village office, and having their small talks about things in general. It is true that there is a great deal to be done.

Ans:

Title: Charm of village life

The scenery of morning in a village is very charming. The peasants woke up in the morning and everybody is ready to do their daily chores. The peasants work in the fields from dawn to dusk while the women folk fetch water from the village wells. In the evening also group of villagers sit together having their small talks about things to be done.

