

# Précis writing

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- What do you understand by the word précis?

# CHARACTERISTICS OF AN EFFECTIVE PRÉCIS

The basic characteristics are:

- **Conciseness**
- **Clarity**
- **Completeness**
- **Coherence**

# STANDARDS

- Language be easy and simple
- Sentences be simple
- Para graphic flow be present
- Connectivity be present
- Clarity of thought
- No information is repeated

- Same irrelevant ideas are not to be mentioned
- same and relevant ideas are to be merged
- Précis paragraph be coherent (use connectors)
- The understood idea which need not mentioning , is omitted
- No correction is needed
- Generally it is  $1/3^{\text{rd}}$  of the original text
- Presented with author's point of view



# A Quick Reading

The great river Nile flows gently in its course to hot planes in the first half of the year but later on when the melting snows and rains on the mountains far to the south swell its tributaries, the Nile overflows. It spreads rich, muddy soil from Ethiopia over its valleys and forms deep stretches of green, fertile lands along its banks. The settlers found that in its soft, rich earth barley and wheat and other crops could be planted, even without the use of plough, and they began to make many settlements of farmers. They used stone implements for tilling the soil and for their weapons; and as time passed they learnt the use of copper. In these early times they did not, of course, understand why the river overflowed each year. But they knew that their crops and, therefore, their lives depended upon its magic floods, and they explained the miracle as the work of gods. But then there came some years when there was a "bad Nile". Sometimes the floods were not full and they did not bring enough soil; the crops were poor and the people starved. At other times, the waters were so great that they destroyed houses and villages, and drowned men and beasts. It took perhaps many centuries before the farmers learnt how to control Nile waters. The need to do this led to many discoveries and advances. Wise men among them, watching the position of the stars year by year, found that they could foretell when the annual rising of the Nile would come. Thus, they began to learn about astronomy and could make a calendar of the year. They also learnt how to store the waters for use in dry seasons by digging canals and dykes and making reservoirs and how to measure out land so that it could be divided fairly again after the boundaries of the farm had been washed away by great floods. In this way there came about the ancient knowledge of engineering and astronomy. (338 words)


**DON'T FORGET!!!**







- **Strongly connected ideas**
  - **Irrelevant ideas**
  - **Supporting ideas**


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The river Nile flows in the first half of the year, but in the later half it overflows spreading rich and soft soil on its banks making them easily cultivable , which caused flourishing ancient settlements of farmers there.

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- But then its flows became either so violent that they devastated life and property or brought too less soil to maintain their agricultural prosperity.

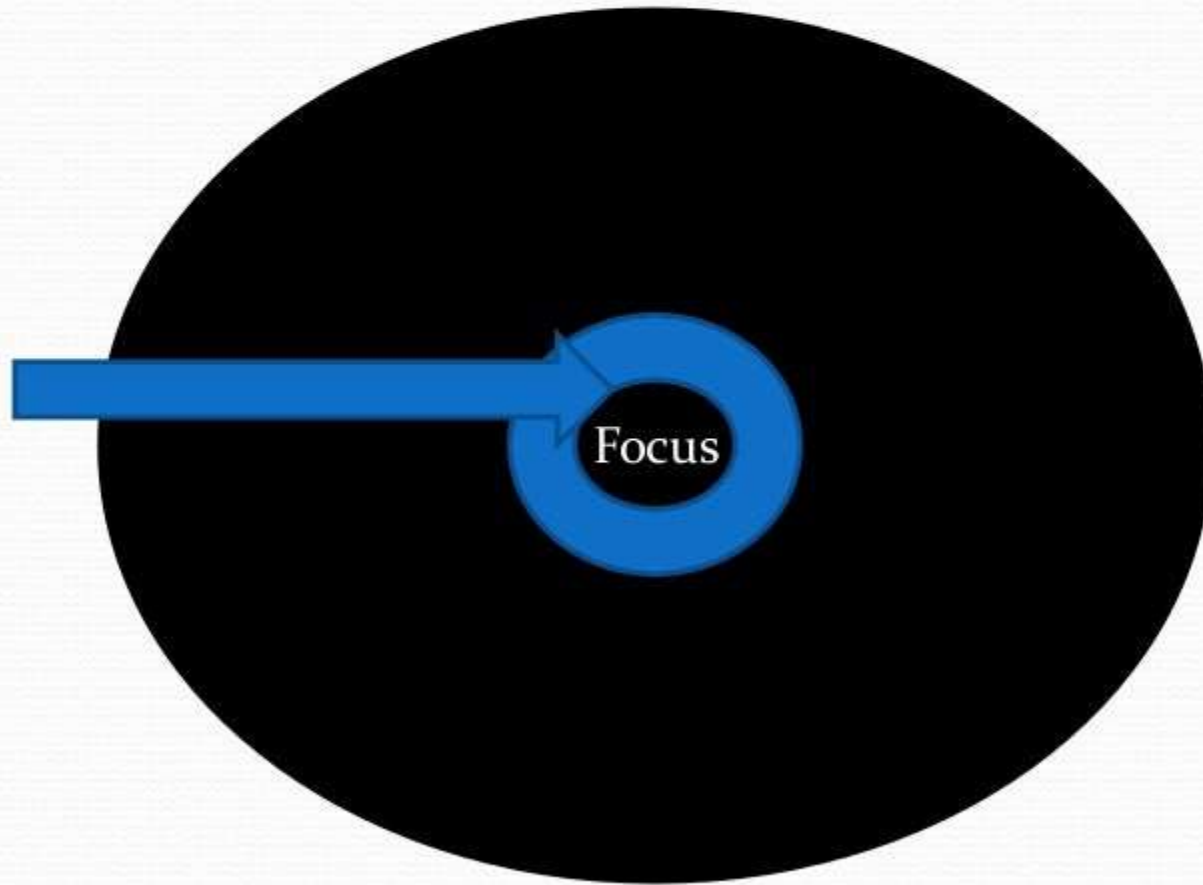
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- To forecast this abnormal pattern of flow the wise farmers timed its flows with stars and this led to the discovery of astronomy which enabled them to make yearly calendar.

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- They also made reservoirs to store its water and devised a system of re-demarkation of land after floods. Thus they learnt ancient engineering.

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How a title be written???





## Central idea of the text

Begining



Ending

# Titles can be...

- The birth of Astronomy and Engineering at Nile
- The Nile and the origin of Astronomy and Engineering
- The role of Nile in the birth of Astronomy and Engineering



**THANK YOU!!!**

