



INDIAN SCHOOL NIZWA - WORKSHEET

ENGLISH NOTE MAKING

Name: _____

Date: _____

Class: XII/XI Sec: ____

1 Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

The kingdom of books is as vast as the universe, for there is no corner of it which they have left unexplored. There is no dearth of books on any topic, be it as simple as the composition of sodium nitrate or as intricate as the mechanism of a spacecraft rocketing towards Mars. We make use of books for the dissemination of useful ideas, for popularizing the fruits of our research in various fields of knowledge, and spreading our progressive views on matters which are of vital concern to our fellow beings. In fact, no single factor of human labour has been as helpful to the advancement of civilization as books which are written in all languages of the world and which are decoratively placed in bookshelves in our homes and tastefully displayed in bookstalls and libraries. If to Keats, works of ancient poets like Homer were realms of gold from which we derived much joy as well as inspiration, to the modern lover of books, the labour of all geniuses, including those of Keats, are mines of inestimable intellectual wealth which he goes on exploring for the sake of his mental and spiritual advancement.

There was a time some five centuries back when books, as we know them today did not exist, and when there were few people who could read things written on stuff that certainly was not paper. At that time our ancestors used rocks, pillars and parchment with a view to recording and perpetuating their most important thoughts and achievements in the language they then understood. Now-a-days, the book-producing machinery gives to the work of every great scientific thinker, poet or philosopher the character of permanence, reproduces in attractive forms old and rare manuscripts and caters to the differing tastes of millions of people for whom book-reading is an extremely pleasant, intellectual exercise. Moreover, the high percentage of literacy, the growth of libraries in towns and villages and the tendency of intellectuals to have their own private collection of useful books, have given birth to a number of big publishing houses with branches in many parts of the world and publications numbering thousands. In recent years paperbacks have begun to reveal their attraction for the reading public, and although they have not completely thrown into neglect the hard-cover market, they have appeared to people who would not have thought of buying books not so very long ago. These paperbacks are generally reprints of popular fiction or of established classics or translations from foreign works which are in constant demand at all bookstalls.

1.1 On the basis of your reading the above passage make notes on it, using headings and sub-headings. Also use short forms, wherever necessary (minimum 4). Supply an appropriate title to it.

1.2 Write a summary of the above passage in about 80 words.