

# 1 OF STUDIES

- Francis Bacon

## Talking about the text

- > How many of you have the habit of reading books?
- > Do you agree that nowadays majority of the people are losing the habit of reading books? If so, why?
- > Do you know there are lots of benefits in studies?
- > Do studies cure illness really? If yes, how?

Read the essay to find out.....

Studies serve for delight, for ornament and for ability. Their chief use for delight, is in privateness and retiring; for ornament, is in discourse; and for ability, is in the judgment and disposition of business; for expert men can execute, and perhaps judge of particulars, one by one: but the general counsels, and the plots and marshalling of affairs come best from those that are learned. To spend too much time in studies, is sloth; to use them too much for ornament, is affectation; to make judgment wholly by their rules, is the humour of a scholar: they perfect nature, and are perfected by experience: for natural abilities are like natural plants, that need pruning by study; and studies themselves do give forth directions too much at large, except they be bounded in by experience. Crafty men contemn studies, simple men admire them, and wise men use them; for they teach not their own use; but that is a wisdom without them, and above them, won by observation. Read not to contradict and confute, nor to believe and take for granted, nor to find talk and discourse, but to weigh and consider. Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and digested; that is, some books are to be read only in parts; others to be read, but not curiously; and some few to be read wholly, and with diligence and attention. Some books also may be read by deputy, and extracts made of them by others; but that would be only in the less important arguments, and the meaner sort of books; else distilled books are, like common distilled waters, flashy things. Reading maketh a full man; conference a ready man; and writing an exact man; and, therefore, if a man write little, he had need have a great memory; if he confer little, he had need have a present wit: and if he read little, he had need have much cunning, to seem to know that he doth not. Histories make men wise; poets witty; the mathematics subtle; natural philosophy deep; moral, grave; logic and rhetoric, able to contend "*Abeunt studia in mores;*" nay, there is no stound or impediment in the wit, but may be wrought out by fit studies: like as diseases of the body may have appropriate exercises;

bowling is good for the stone and reins, shooting for the lungs and breast, gentle walking for the stomach, riding for the head, and the like; so, if a man's wit be wandering, let him study the mathematics; for in demonstrations, if his wit be called away never so little, he must begin again; if his wit be no apt to distinguish or find differences, let him study the schoolmen, for they are "*Cymini sectores*;" if he be not apt to beat over matters, and to call upon one thing to prove and illustrate another, let him study the lawyer's cases: so every defect of the mind may have a special receipt.

## GLOSSARY

- retiring (adj) /rɪ'taɪərɪŋ/ : (M) preferring not to spend time with other people, preferred to be alone (here)  
 (U) Mohan's son is a shy, retiring sort of boy.
- discourse (n) /'dɪskɔ:s/ : (M) written or spoken communication or debate.  
 (U) Mr Jacob likes to engage in lively discourse with his friends.
- disposition (n) /dɪspə'zɪʃ(ə)n/ : (M) the action of arranging people or things in a particular way.  
 (U) Housewives are real financial managers in the disposition of funds given to them by their husbands.
- counsel (n) /'kaʊns(ə)l/ : (M) advice  
 (U) We need a wise counsel to develop our business.
- marshal (v) /'mɑ:ʃ(ə)l/ : (M) assemble and arrange in order (here)  
 (U) She marshalled her thoughts before answering to the panel.
- sloth (n) /sləʊθ/ : (M) laziness  
 (U) Sloth and carelessness are the chief reasons for one's failure in life.
- affectation (n) /əfɛk'teɪʃ(ə)n/ : (M) behaviour, speech, or writing that is pretentious and designed to impress  
 (U) He speaks clearly and without affectation.
- pruning (n) /'pru:nɪŋ/ : (M) reducing something by removing things that are not necessary  
 (U) The government has decided to prune the budget this year to save money from unnecessary expenditure.

crafty (adj) /'krɑ:fti/	:	(M) clever, especially in a dishonest or secret way (U) She is an old, crafty woman.
contemn (v) /kən'tem/	:	(M) treat or regard with contempt, dislike (U) The wicked contemn God.
contradict (n) /kɒntrə'dɪkt/	:	(M) deny or be in conflict with (U) Fact always contradicts fantasy.
confute (n) /kən'fju:t/	:	(M) prove to be wrong (U) He confuted his opponents with facts and logic.
diligence (n) /'dɪlɪdʒ(ə)ns/	:	(M) careful and persistent work (U) The police are pursuing their enquiries with great diligence.
flashy (adj) /'flæʃ.i/	:	(M) lack flavour, tasteless (U) Ravi always had a flashy bike.
witty (adj) /'wɪtɪ/	:	(M) using words in a clever way (U) He was a witty, engaging, clever man who devoted his life to a political philosophy
subtle (adj) /'sʌt(ə)l/	:	(M) sharp (here) (U) Newton has a very subtle mind.
stond (n)	:	(M) ( <i>obsolete</i> ) stop or hindrance
impediment (n)	:	(M) a hindrance or obstruction in doing something
/ɪm'pɛdɪm(ə)nt/	:	(U) In a number of developing countries, poverty has been one of the impediments to progress.
wrought(v) /rɔ:t/	:	(M) worked(here) (U) Nowadays one must choose peaceful life, wrought with duty and rest.
reins (n)	:	(M) ( <i>archaic</i> ) kidneys.
maketh (v)	:	(M) ( <i>archaic</i> form of) make
doth (v)	:	(M) ( <i>archaic</i> form of) do

➤ Logic and Rhetoric along with Grammar are the three ancient arts of discourse. Logic means the science of the formal principles of reasoning and Rhetoric aims to study the art of speaking or writing effectively as a means of persuasion.

➤ In the above essay you see some unintelligible phrases which, perhaps, you have not come across. Such phrases are written in Latin language. Many writers of The English Renaissance period (15th century) (Francis Bacon lived during the period) were masters of Latin and they often used to write many phrases in that language.

Let us look at these phrases used in the text by Bacon.

1. *Abeunt studia in mores* in Latin means “Studies determine character”
2. *Cymini sectores* means “Splitters of cumin”, that is, “hair-splitters.”

## About the author

Sir Francis Bacon was a great English philosopher, statesman and a pioneer of modern scientific thought. He is regarded as the Father of English Essay.

Francis Bacon was born on 22 January 1561 in London. He was the son of Sir Nicholas Bacon, keeper of the great seal for Elizabeth I. Bacon studied at Cambridge University and at Gray's Inn and became a member of parliament in 1584. He was knighted in 1603 and was appointed to a succession of posts culminating, like his father, with keeper of the great seal.



Later, he was appointed as Lord Chancellor, the most powerful position in England. Shortly afterwards, he was charged by parliament with accepting bribes, which he admitted. He was fined and imprisoned and then banished from court. But the king later pardoned him. He retired to his home at Gorhambury in Hertfordshire, where he continued to write. He died in London on 9 April 1626.

Bacon's real interests laid in science. He has been called the father of empiricism. His works argued for the possibility of scientific knowledge based only upon inductive reasoning and careful observation of events in nature. He published his ideas in '*Novum Organum*' (1620), an account of the correct method of acquiring natural knowledge. His another work on science is *Advancement of Learning*.

His other popular works include *The New Atlantis*, *Wisdom of the Ancients* and the most adorable *Essays* first published in 1597 and later published by adding some more essays in 1625.

The present essay *Of Studies* is taken from his book *Essays, or Councils, Civil and Moral*.

## About the lesson

In this essay, Bacon explains that there are three uses of studies. Firstly, studies give us delight in our leisure time and in privacy. We can spend our time reading books, which give us both enjoyment and education. Secondly, reading helps us to speak and communicate with people more efficiently. Thirdly, studies help us to deal with our problems of life more effectively. We can make good judgement of matters and issues. Studies help professional experts to deal successfully with particular cases.

Study has some disadvantages. Spending too much time reading books will make a man lazy. Another disadvantage is that those who study too much may make a show of their learning. This affectation should be avoided. Again too much study of books may develop in us a tendency to separate studies from their practical application in day to day life. The scholar should avoid such bad tendencies. This bookish knowledge should be guided by experience of life. Practical experience helps us to apply them to real life situations. There are cunning and crafty people who think that they need not want practical experience of life. Simple people admire book learning. But wise men use studies and apply them to life situations.

Bacon prescribes some rules of study. We should not read just to contradict or argue with others. We should not blindly believe whatever we study in the books. We should keep an open mind. Bacon wants lovers of books to use their critical judgement and to evaluate impartial opinions of the authors.

According to Bacon, all books are not to be read in the same manner. There are different types of books and Bacon tells us how we may approach each type of book. There are some books to be read in parts, so we may skip through the pages. Some books are to be read completely. But these books need not be studied well. We can read them for our curiosity. But some other books are to be studied carefully and digested, because their form and content are very important and useful for us in our practical life. Some books are condensed or abridged like distilled water, bright but tasteless. Such books are to be read by assistants, because the matter is very less.

Now Bacon tells us how studies cure the diseases of our mind. Reading makes a person up-to-date. Every subject has its' own value for the reader. History helps us to enhance our wisdom. Poetry makes us imaginative. The study of mathematics makes men clever and quick in grasping. The study of natural science increases the depth of mind. On the other hand, morality makes men grave and the study of logic and rhetoric enables men to argue well. Thus studies reform our character and make us more civilized. Studies can cure diseases of mind just as physical exercises cure defects of the body. For example bowling is good for kidneys, shooting for the lungs and walking for digestion. Similarly mathematics is a strong cure for mind wandering. Scholastic philosophy is good for muddle thinking. The study of law is an effective medicine for bad memory. Thus every defect of the mind can be cured by the study of the proper subject.

## CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

Answer the following questions in a line or two

1. What do studies serve?
2. What are the advantages of studies?
3. How does studies perfect us?

4. Why do crafty men dislike studies?
5. What, according to the writer, makes a man perfect in life?
6. How does mathematics make men subtle?
7. Physical diseases can be cured by the use of perfect medicines. What is the perfect medicine for one's mind?

**Answer the following in 10-15 lines each**

1. What according to Bacon is the theme 'Of Studies'?
2. How does Bacon emphasize the value of experience?
3. What did Bacon mean in the line "Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and digested?"
4. How do studies cure the diseases of the mind?

### **Annotations**

Annotate the following in 10-15 lines each. A model annotation is given below.

1. **Studies serve for delight, for ornament and for ability.**

**Context** The above line is taken from the essay 'Of Studies' written by the great philosopher, statesman and promoter of modern scientific thought, Sir Francis Bacon. He is regarded as the Father of English Essay. In this essay, Bacon points out the purpose of study in a pithy and witty aphoristic style.

**Explanation** Bacon, at the beginning of the essay, explains the three-fold purpose of study. First it gives us delight in our leisure time and in privacy. We can spend our time reading books, which give us both enjoyment and education. Secondly, reading helps us to speak and communicate with people more efficiently. Even experienced men turn to learned people for advice and guidance. Thirdly, studies help us to deal with our problems of life more effectively. Studies help professional experts to deal successfully with particular cases. The ability of a learned man is seen in his judgment and in the way he carries out his business.

**General Relevance** Although the essay looks short, every sentence is pregnant with meaning and is capable of being expanded into several sentences. The essay combines wisdom in thoughts with extreme brevity and full of aphorisms.

2. Crafty men contemn studies, simple men admire them, and wise men use them.
3. Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and digested.
4. Reading maketh a full man; conference a ready man; and writing an exact man.

## SPEAKING SKILLS

### Greeting, Taking leave and Introducing

It is important to know how to use English to greet people politely when we meet them and to end the conversation when we take leave of them. Read the following dialogues. You will find people greeting and taking leave of one another and introducing themselves or others.

1. **Mr Swamy and Mr Ramesh meet at the SBI ATM Centre. They stay in the same colony, but do not know each other. They greet each other, exchange a few words and take leave.**

Swamy : Good morning Mr Ramesh!

Ramesh : Good morning Mr Swamy! How are you?

Swamy : I'm very well, thank you and how about you, Mr Ramesh?

Ramesh : I'm fine, thanks! I came here to withdraw money.

Swamy : I want to send money to my son. Bye, Ramesh.

Ramesh : Bye.

2. **It is Sharma's first day at work. He introduces himself to Mr Surya, the Manager of the company.**

Sharma : Good morning Mr Surya. I'm Sharma, the new Public Relation Officer reporting for duty.

Surya : Good morning Sharma! I'm pleased to meet you. Welcome to S.V. Telecom Services. We are glad to have you.

Sharma : Thank you sir! I look forward to working here.

3. **Surya Introduces Sharma, a new PRO to Ashok, Assistant Manager in the company.**

Surya : Ashok, I'd like to introduce Sharma to you. He's the new Public Relation Officer, joined duty in our company today.

Ashok : Hello, Sharma. Glad to meet you. I'm Ashok, Assistant Manager in the company.

Sharma : Glad to meet you too.

4. **Rohitha meets her neighbour Charan at a restaurant. She introduces him to her cousin Yashwanth, who is with her.**

Rohitha : Hi, Charan. What a pleasant surprise!

Charan : Hi, Rohitha, I came to meet my friends here.

Rohitha : Charan, I don't think you've met my cousin Yashwanth. He's come from Bangalore. Yashwanth, this is Charan, our neighbour. He is studying B.Tech at S.V. Engineering College, Tirupati.

Yashwanth : That's nice. Pleased to meet you, Charan.

Charan : Nice to meet you too.

**Exercises**

1. Look at the following expressions used to greet people and take leave of them. Read each item and repeat it for practice. Note the use of contracted forms such as I'm for I am and you'll for you will.

Good morning, how are you?

I'm very well, thank you. What about you?

I'm fine, thanks.

We haven't met for a long time, have we?

It's a pleasure to see you.

It was nice meeting you, but I'm afraid I have to go now.

I must leave. I hope you'll excuse me.

That's quite all right. I hope we can meet again soon.

Yes, we must./ Yes, I hope so too./ Yes, please do come over.

Good bye, bye!

2. Look at the following more informal expressions used to greet people and take leave of them. Read each item and repeat it for practice.

Hello! What a pleasant surprise!

Good to see you after so long.

Hi! It's great to see you too.

How are you and where have you been?

Just fine, thanks. How are things with you?

Everything's okay, thanks.

We must meet and catch up on what's happening.

Yes, we must do that.

Wish I could have stayed longer, but I must run.



## VOCABULARY

Vocabulary plays a very important role in learning a language. The more vocabulary you know the more confident you feel about the language. Increasing your vocabulary does not mean merely learning the definitions of large numbers of obscure words; it does not mean memorizing scores of unrelated terms. What it means is becoming acquainted with ideas, and their verbal symbols which are words. For this we take the help of root words. Root words are the base words which cannot be further divided into words. They give us ideas based on which we can build our vocabulary by using prefixes and suffixes.

### Look at this example

Phone is a Greek root word which means sound.

Phone (G) = sound

Microphone = an instrument to intensify slight sounds

Megaphone = a device that makes a very big sound when speaking into it

Telephone = a device that carries sound over long distances

Symphony = group of instruments which sound together

Euphonious = of a good sound

Cacophony = a harsh, unpleasant sound

Phonetics = the study of sounds

Homophone = words that sound the same but are different in meaning and/or spelling

So if you have the idea that the word 'phone' means 'sound' you can guess the meaning of the words which use it as a root. The other part of the word which we attached to the root at the beginning are called prefixes and those attached at the end are called suffixes. Hence in the above word list micro-, mega-, tele-, sym-, eu-, caco-, homo- are all prefixes and -tics is a suffix. Prefixes and suffixes also have an idea attached to them. For example;

Micro- is a prefix which means small. Now let's examine these words.

Microorganism = a very small organism

Microbe = a small organism/a germ

Microscope = a device that magnifies the image of small objects

Microcosm = a small (miniature) model of something

Microbiology = the study of very small organisms

Microsurgery = surgery using microscopes and small instruments

Microphone = an instrument to intensify slight sounds

Micrometer = an instrument for measuring minute distances

Microwave = a small radio wave

So let's start.

Ego = I, self

Egoist = who always thinks about self, selfish person

Egotist = always thinks and talks about self, feels superior to others

Egocentric = if you consider yourself the centre of universe, self centered

Egomaniac = thinking about self becomes an obsession, abnormally self absorbed

Superego = the part of yourself (mind) that tells you what is right and what is wrong, the part of the mind that is self-critical

Alter ego = another self, another side of oneself, a second self, a bosom friend

Egoity = the essence of ego, personality

### State whether Yes/No

1. Are egomaniacal tendencies a sign of maturity? Yes/ No
2. Microorganisms can be seen with the naked eye. Yes/ No
3. Cacophony is something harsh for ears. Yes/ No
4. Are egocentric people easy to go with? Yes/ No
5. Micrometer can be used to measure roads. Yes/ No
6. Can alter ego be understood as our best friend? Yes/ No
7. Are 'allowed' and 'aloud' homophonous? Yes/ No
8. We can see microbes through a microscope. Yes/ No
9. Euphony is something unpleasant to ears. Yes/ No
10. Are egocentric people easy to get along with? Yes/ No

### Match the following

- | A            | B  |
|--------------|--|
| 1. egoist    | a. the scientific study of sound of a language |
| 2. microwave | b. self-critical conscience                    |
| 3. symphony  | c. selfish person                              |
| 4. superego  | d. small radio wave                            |
| 5. phonetics | e. harmony in musical sounds                   |

# GRAMMAR

## Simple present tense

The simple present tense is used to describe **habits, unchanging situations, general truths, and fixed arrangements**. It is simple to form. Just use the base form of the verb: (i take, you take, we take, they take) The third person singular takes an -s at the end. (he takes, she takes)

### The simple present tense is used

- To express habits, general truths, repeated actions or unchanging situations, emotions and wishes: **I drink coffee** (habit); **I work in Guntur** (unchanging situation); **Bangalore is a large city.** (general truth)
- To give instructions or directions: **You walk** for two hundred meters, then **you turn** left.
- To express fixed arrangements, present or future: Your exam **starts** at 09.00.
- To express future time, after some conjunctions: *after, when, before, as soon as, until*: **He'll give it to you when you come next Saturday.**

The simple present is not used to express actions happening now.

### Examples

#### ■ For habits

He drinks tea at breakfast.

She only eats fish.

They watch television regularly.

#### ■ For repeated actions or events

We catch the bus every morning.

It rains every afternoon in the hot season.

They drive to Kashmir every summer.

#### ■ For general truths

Water freezes at zero degrees.

The Earth revolves around the Sun.

#### ■ For instructions or directions

Open the packet and pour the contents into hot water.

You take the No.6 bus to Nagarjuna Nagar and then the No.10 to Railway station.

#### ■ For fixed arrangements

His mother arrives tomorrow.

Our holiday starts on the 26th March.

■ **With future constructions**

She'll see you before she leaves.

We'll give it to her when she arrives.

**Forming the simple present tense: to like**

Affirmative	Interrogative	Negative
I like	Do I like?	I do not like
You like	Do you like?	You do not like
He likes	Does he like?	He does not like
She likes	Does she like?	She does not like
It likes	Does it like?	It does not like
We like	Do we like?	We do not like.
They like	Do they like?	They do not like.

**Notes on the simple present, third person singular**

- In the third person singular, the verb **always ends in -s**: *he wants, she needs, he gives, she thinks.*
- Negative and question forms use **DOES** (= the third person of the auxiliary 'DO') + the infinitive of the verb. *He wants ice cream. Does he want strawberry? He does not want vanilla.*
- Verbs ending in **-y** : the third person changes the **-y** to **-ies**: *fly --> flies, cry --> cries*  
**Exception:** if there is a vowel before the **-y**: *play --> plays, pray --> prays*
- Add **-es** to verbs ending in: **-ss, -x, -sh, -ch**: *he passes, she catches, he fixes, it pushes*

**Examples**

- **He goes** to school every morning.
- **She understands** English.
- **It mixes** the sand and the water.
- **He tries** very hard.
- **She enjoys** playing badminton.