

CLASS IX AND X ENGLISH COMPOSITIONS LESSON – 4 AMPLIFICATION

NOTES

AMPLIFICATION OR EXPANSION

Sometimes we are required to expand a given statement into a paragraph. A sentence, or a proverb or a saying is given, and we are required to enlarge it into a paragraph by bringing out its "fuller and more elaborate meaning", or by adding suitable illustrations, examples, or details bearing upon the main theme. Such exercise practically amounts to the writing of a short essay on the subject of the original statement. No hard and fast rule can be laid down for the length of the expansion. It must be neither too short nor too long; ideally about eighty to one hundred words will do.

SOME IMPORTANT HINTS ON WRITING EXPANSION OR AMPLIFICATION

Bear in mind the following hints:

- 1) Read carefully the original statement until its meaning becomes quite clear to you.
- 2) If a proverb is given for expansion, explain its full meaning in your own words.
- 3) Try to enlarge it by adding illustrations, examples, proofs, details, etc., until your expansion takes the form of a suitable paragraph.
- 4) Add only such details as are relevant to the subject. Do not add anything that does not bear exactly upon the main theme.
- 5) Your expansion should be brief to the point. It should give on the impression that it is a complete piece of English prose.
- 6) Revise what you have written, correct all mistakes in spelling, grammar and punctuation.
