

NEXT IAS

खण्ड-A / Section-A

उम्मीदवारों को
इस भाग में
लिखना पना है।
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- Q.1 Little strokes fell great oaks.
छोटे - छोटे प्रयासों से बड़ी सफलता मिलती है।
- Q.2 Judge a man by his questions rather than his answers.
किसी व्यक्ति का मूल्यांकन उसके उत्तरों के स्थान पर उसके प्रश्नों से करें।
- Q.3 Great principles, great ideals know no nationality.
महान सिद्धांत, महान आदर्श किसी एक राष्ट्र से संबंधित नहीं है।
- Q.4 In struggling with misfortune lies the true proof of virtue.
दुर्भाग्य से संघर्ष करने में ही नैतिकता का सच्चा प्रमाण निहित है।

1. Little strokes fell great oaks

Thomas Edison is credited with the discovery of light bulbs. It took him more than 2000+ elements to find the "Tungsten" that could light up our lives. His persistent steps towards making of bulb led to this breakthrough.

This perfectly captures the importance of taking small steps towards your goal to achieve success.

The small steps taken in form of designing setup for testing to patiently trying out various elements that gave us the lights we enjoy today.

Here strokes highlight the efforts of an individual or the changes in value system of society that leads to progress. The advancements at international summits has led humanity towards prosperity.

In the discussion ahead, we will try to see these small steps and their significance for an individual to organisations to nations. We will also see how it could have an undesirable result and the way forward for future generations.

"Slow and Steady wins the Race"

This quote also highlights the need for constant improvement by an individual to achieve success. The values or personality of a person is a result of years of constant efforts. Such personality can be seen from historical perspective as well.

The likes of Hitler who unified Germany in 1870s has been working since revolts of 1830 and 1848s. Similarly, the constant efforts in form of national movements of 1921 or Civil Disobedience of 1930s, Mahatma Gandhi and other nationalist leaders were able to secure independence on 15th August 1947.

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These efforts are present not only in our history but are a reflection of everyone's life. From the walking of a child that required constant crawling, walking and falling by a baby, success was inevitable. In later years of life, education in schools and colleges is what leads to success of people like APJ Abdul Kalam in missile technology to nuclear energy generation Vision of Homi J. Baba.

Such individuals can be seen not only in technical fields but sports and entertainment also.

Actors like Shah Rukh Khan to cricketers like MS Dhoni have been successful in their fields despite

having no similar background in acting or cricket. It is the little steps that made it big in the hindsight. The question arises if the result of small and consistent efforts is limited to an individual or is applicable to society as a whole?

The answer is yes!! The constant improvements in ethical values of a society requires a long drawn efforts. The increasing participation of women in economic activities to getting permanent Commission in army is the result of efforts like Abolition of Sati in 1830s to socio-religious movements since pre-independence period. This wave of women

empowerment in society gave us powerful entrepreneurs like Indra Nooyi or Vineeta Singh (Sugar Cosmetics) to Kalpana Chawla. The change in ethical values of society is spearheaded by law and judiciary as well. Decriminalisation of Homosexuality and increased acceptance of gay couples in society is a testament to it.

When the society comes together consistently reflecting and improving success is inevitable. This has a reflection in the successful handling of COVID-19 pandemic as well where steps towards containment (lockdown) to mass vaccinations has reduced its spread. The efforts of Civil society groups like Hemkunt foundation¹² are also commendable.

Role of such groups in enactment
of Right to Information (RTI) Act.
to movements like Narmada
Bachao Andolan reflects us the
importance of small-small steps.

This change is not limited
to civil society groups but has
an influence in political landscape
as well. The winning in elections
is a result of year rounds
efforts in form of debates and
discussions, rallies, door to door
campaigning by party workers.
Since, it is the culmination of
all such groups and individuals
that a nation is formed. The
small steps result in development
of nation as a whole.

From the use of diplomacy
to ensure peace ¹³ with ~~a~~ neighbours

It is result of years of negotiation and diplomacy such as mango diplomacy by Bangladeshi PM to back channel talks with Pakistan, India has seen peace in 21st century. Not only diplomacy but the growing GDP is a result of slow and calculated liberalisation in form of 1991 Economic reforms.

This economic progress led to increased private sector participation and hence, the development in science-technology in form of launch of Chandrayaan-3. The increased digitisation has not been a one day affair but a result of constant policies and programmes aimed at same.

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All these instances of success are visible in international forum also. The result of constant negotiations centered ~~ab~~ around environment from the 1992 summit to Paris Agreement in 2015 the rate of Green House Gas emissions has dropped slightly and ozone hole is recovering.

The success in ensuring flora and fauna conservation has been long drawn battle resulting in Conference on Biodiversity (UNCBD) and other year round initiatives such as Red Book by IUCN. Even the formation of United Nations and its relative success in food security, bringing countries together for discussions has been a result of continuous efforts towards global peace.

All that Glitters is Not Gold

However, these small steps may not always result in success or the success attributed to one may cause more harm than good.

This can be seen in the development of Nuclear-bomb and destruction followed by . or the continuous economic progress has led to environmental destruction as highlighted by 6th Assessment report of IPCC. The increasing incidences of radicalisation and terrorism due to consistent efforts has been a bad influence seen in form of 9/11 Twin Tower Attack to 26/11 Mumbai blasts.

Ray of Hope →

In such a scenario, it is necessary to inculcate good virtues at all levels and create awareness on the importance of taking small steps.

The role of value based education is of utmost importance. As Mahatma Gandhi has rightly said " Education that does not build the character is worthless "

The role of agencies of socialisation in inculcating inquisitive thinking and never-say-die attitude can be of great help.

Highlighting the life stories of great personalities and role

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models to adoption of the
the concepts of "failures are
the pillars of success" so that
people try new things and take
consistent steps are also important.

Learning from life of Edison
one can see how constant
dedication led to success in same
way, small strokes can take us

"Astoma Sadgamyā"
(Take us from to righteousness)

"Tamaso ma Jyotirgamya"
(from darkness to light)

"Mrityoarma Amritmagamyā"
(from Mortality towards Immortality)

खण्ड-B / Section-B

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- Q.5 The whole purpose of Education is to turn mirrors into windows.
शिक्षा का सम्पूर्ण उद्देश्य दर्पण को खिड़कियों में बदलना है।
- Q.6 To dwell is to garden.
निवास करना बगीचे के सामान है।
- Q.7 Reality is the shadow of ideas.
सच्चाई विचारों की छाया मात्र है।
- Q.8 We can not despair of humanity, since we ourselves are human beings.
हम मानवता से निराश नहीं हो सकते, क्योंकि हम स्वयं भी मनुष्य हैं।

7:

Reality is the Shadow of Ideas

"We are what our thoughts have made us. So take care about what you think. Words are Secondary and they travel far".

This quote by Swami Vivekanand perfectly captures the idea that our ideas and thoughts are our real personality. If we think of poorly about someone, it is going to reflect in our attitude and behaviour.

The same way, reality of our lives is based on our ideas. If a country wants to progress, thinking big and innovative is the way ahead. Here, the reality is a reflection on things that has happened in the past or taking place at the moment.

Whereas the ideas are a collection of thoughts of an individual or a group. It forms the shadow on the base on which further progress take place.

In this essay, our endeavour will be to explore the reality from the lens of ideas in different spheres of life. To look at if it is more than ideas or not?

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Different philosophical schools of thought present in ~~the~~ India, all of which promote or reflect the need of good imagination.

From Yoga stressing on meditation to keep our mind purity in check to the ideas of Samkhya, the focus on ensuring a good, purposeful life lies in our thoughts.

The belief in Kana or atom by Kanad gave us Vaiseshika school which has become a reality after the experiments of Rutherford and Bohr.

Even the ideas of John Rawls to make a decision behind the wheel of Ignorance provokes us to think big for all to ensure

favourable outcome. The Kantian ethics based on deontology stresses on right means. If means are right, the end result will be blissful. The same way, if ideas are big and better, it will be a reality sooner or later.

This has its reflection in art where a painter's ideas is what turns the painting into masterpiece. The same way, an architect's imagination gets translated into paper designs and later into a magnificent structure as seen in case of new parliament building to the Tajmahal, which takes us to history. If the ideas turned into reality in our past or not?

Journey so far →

The reason for world war II has been due to the web of imagination built on idea that Germany will attack Poland and so on. Even the independence of India as reality was the result of ideas of "Purna Swaraj" and declaration made by Jawahar Lal Nehru in Lahore Session of Congress.

These are not limited to India but the end of Apartheid in Africa was the result of an equal, discrimination free South Africa's vision of Nelson Mandela becoming a reality in 1990s.

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The history is a reflection of our society. The society has also evolved due to emergence of liberal ideas. The inclusive and gender neutral society is becoming a reality due to efforts of various leaders. The election of Droupdi Murmu as the 1st tribal women president of India has become a reality after 70 years of independence.

The rights of transgender to economically and socially backward classes empowerment has become a success in present India. This vision of social, economic and political justice seen by constituent assembly has slowly turned true with policies and programmes.

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These ideas have reflection in political landscape also. From the appointment of only 1 women minister to more than 17% female ministers in 2019 shows our progress. However, the question arises if the similar results of ideas becoming reality is visible in economic sphere as well?

The answer is a big Yes!! From the liberalisation of 1991 to idea of Atmanirbhar Bharat Country has become economically stronger. The success of Digital India Programme to Gati Shakti to becoming the 2nd largest smart phone manufacturer is a testament to same.

Even the success of entrepreneurs such as Amazon, Ola, Flipkart is attributed to the big and fearless ideas of founders. This economic growth has pushed our attention to environment as well.

The sustainability vision seen by the world in Rio Earth Summit of 1992 has fast led to reduction in rate of deforestation and gradually reversing the climate change. The ideas of sustainability and ESG norms in corporate governance has become central. As rightly said by M. Gandhi

"The Earth has enough for everyone's needs but not for anyone's greed."

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Even the success in terms of technological advancement has been a result of innovative thinking. From Deep Ocean Mission (Samudrayaan) to landing on Mars to Musk's idea of reusing rocket, every idea has turned true. This is even better reflected in sports where the will of players can decide the outcome of a match (game).

From India ^{winning} ~~winning~~ 1983 Cricket world cup which everyone believed as an impossible task to rise of Indian football with recent winning of SAFF Championship 2023, determination and positive attitude is the key. A movie becomes reality as per the vision of a director only.

However, it won't be fair to say that reality is based on merely ideas. The situation or the people executing ideas can lead to different outcomes.

It requires a systematic preparation to make the movie into a reality ranging from DOP to Actor to writer to Editor.

The ideas of containing COVID via lockdown in China had to be changed in 2023 due to the ground realities. The use of nuclear technology for generating power to nuclear bomb depends on the person behind it. Similarly the ground realities while fighting a war may be completely different from the imagined²⁸ situation.

Silver lining in Dark Clouds →

The need is to promote the Culture of innovation right from childhood. Ensuring a Value based education which promotes critical thinking and cognitive abilities of a person are important.

The inculcation of entrepreneurship curriculum in schools to programmes like Business Blasters of Delhi can be the guiding light. At same time, the role of Yoga and meditation in keeping a calm mind is equally important to ensure constructive ideas.

Role of peer groups, agencies of socialisation such as parents, media and teachers become

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paramount in shaping personality of person. Learning from lives of great leaders and technocrats who made their ideas into social reality needs to be promoted

The vision of developed India by 2047 and the Panch Pran laid by our PM can be our guiding light in turning our ideas into reality.

Little strokes fill great oaks

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UN
Russia

2) ^{Intro} Discovery of light bulb.
meaning of strokes? Little vs Big.
Great oaks meaning?

General system Individual → Little strokes
Hitler - Axis Unit. | MG. - Indep. } 3.1
Muss. - Italy - | APJ Kalam - Missile man.
Baby - Walk to students - School Homi Bhabha. } 4.1
u-1/2 | Indiv. - Health | Shah RK - (CS)
MS Dhoni - Tick checker to today.

5.1 (Society Progress. - Sati to Women Emp.
Ethics change - Law. - 377 Decrim.) 6.
(Andra Nooyi, Kalpana Chawla)

6.1 → Pandemic Overcome - Prec. to vaccin. Hemkund.
Nation's Civil Society Groups - NGOs - RTI to Narmada Bachao
Pol. Parties - Press.

7-8 Nation - Diplomacy - Peace | Isra Gram | Israel Agem
to EDP - India - Liberalis. slowly
to Sci Tech Adv. - Chandrayaan. | Infra. - Gati Shakti
Dis Resilience - R 2004 Tsunami to Today Digitisation

9.10 (Int. Comm - COP15 to CBX to UN
10 (Neg. - N-bomb | Env Dest. (IPCC 6th) | Terroring 9/11 26/11

Way ^{U13} ^{U13} ^{U13}
Vedun | Experience Learning
Role model | Antyodaya
Socialisation | Talisman
Ash ma Sadganga.

Rough

9.10. Surt 3 deals we borrow earth
Env. Sci Tech - mars to Deep Ocean mission
I.R.Y.O.

Creative thinking | Entrepreneur mindset | Media | Role models
Dev. India by 2047 | Panch Pram

Reality is the shadow of ideas

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Intro "we are what our thoughts have made us. So take care about what you think. words are secondary and they travel fast."

what is reality?

what is shadow?

what are ideas?

How shadow?

Reality more than shadows?

How to think good?

Rough

History WWII - Idea - Hitler Attacking
Purna Swaraj vision of JLN → indep. to in Africa
Camp of thinking big to achieve big. in economy
Vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat | Growth → 1991
L Gati Shakti
L Dig. India Prog. | Entrep. - Zomato
La PListat
In Society → Women emp. | Gender Eq. - 15
→ Transgender rights
Inclusive India - Policies
Polity → 1 vote share | 1st tribal women Presi.
→ Eco. growth. 51
Yoga - Think Big | Vaishali - Atom belief.
Budd - Jain - true thinking
John Rawls - wheel of ignorance to
Deontology of Kant
India WC win 1983 to SAFF Champ. football 2023
to Gold in Olym by Neeraj 9
Movies - Ideas → Reality just like architect. of building
of Directors artist in painting 9.5

Counter - more than ideas - AI Disruptive beyond ideas
Sys. Prep. to turn ideas to Reality

Reality based on situat. - N tech for destruct.

People executing ideas → Progress in war
COVID execution

Value based Edu, Meditati | Yoga | Peer Groups