

NEXT IAS

खण्ड-A / Section-A

उम्मीदवारों को
इस भाग में
लिखना पना है।
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- Q.1 You can't serve data on a hungry man's plate.
आप किसी भूखे आदमी की थाली में डेटा नहीं परोस सकते।
- Q.2 AI is overcoming our mental limitation but not expanding our mental horizon.
ए.आई. मनुष्य की मानसिक सीमाओं को नियंत्रित कर रहा है, किंतु मानसिक क्षितिज का विस्तार नहीं कर रहा है।
- Q.3 We are using environment for politics, not politics for environment.
हम पर्यावरण का उपयोग राजनीति के लिए कर रहे हैं, न कि राजनीति का उपयोग पर्यावरण के लिए।
- Q.4 The worst form of inequality is to try to make unequal things equal.
असमानता का सबसे बुरा रूप है असमान को समान बनाने का प्रयास।

1. You can't Serve Data on a
hungry's man's plate

In a small, remote village nested
among rolling hills, a curious teacher Maya found
herself confronted with a dilemma. The village
was plagued by extreme poverty, and the children,
though eager to learn, often came to school
with empty stomachs. Maya, driven by her
passion for education, struggled with moral
quandary of whether to feed their hungry

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bodies or nourish their young minds. The Internet and smart classrooms reached the plate village but food was still missing on their plates.

so, Maya decided to prioritize their immediate needs, initiating a community driven effort to provide daily meals for her students. As their bodies grew stronger and healthier, their thirst for knowledge also flourished.

The above story reminds us one thing very clearly. The foundation of our futures cannot be built over a hungry society. No matter how much we progress, with data as the new oil, the fulfilment of basic necessities of a life cannot be undermined at any cost.

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It is true that human civilisation had flourished in the past. Technological advancement remained one of the prime reason for this but we were able to sustain it because we focused on fulfilment of basic needs, to have enough to feed upon, to have shelter to live, Clothes to wear.

But if a person is denied at its basic fundamental needs, it creates hunger and sense of deprivation in life. Now hunger can be of various types, from food to poverty, lack of access to healthcare or be it inequality in society.

The orgam reform of India highlights that top 1% ~~of~~ people in India owns cumulative wealth of 72%. Such inequality creates a sense of hunger for the

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poor, hunger to have basic wealth to meet the needs of his/her family. On the other side, the data of GDP growth, that is, India is growing at 8.1. (GDP growth rate) fastest in the world. But has it able to fill the plate of a poor person, satisfy its needs? It can only be achieved by equitable distribution of resources.

On a similar note, hunger and malnourishment are the logical extensions of poverty. We may have good data about self-sufficiency ⁱⁿ ~~of~~ food grains but what about the data on poverty. As per recent NITI Aayog MPI Index, 14% of Indian population is still MPI multi-dimensionally poor, fighting hunger daily to sustain themselves. For them, data cannot be more

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than just a number.

But famine extends itself to other areas too. Today, there is a increasing scarcity of clean Environment. A famine's man plate also requires clean air to survive. Surely, we have data from IPCC that the globe is boiling, the temperature of globe had already increased 1.1°C since 1800s. But how can we utilise this data if we are not able to provide clean Environment to humanity, a hunger of all of us.

Moreover, the rising intolerance, hate etc. have also created the hunger for love and peace in society. The nations are developing with good data, but are they able to meet apetite for love for their citizens. Recall the incident of killing of 17-year old Nahel in France, highlighting the racism

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and intolerance in developed nations too.

Thus here comes the question, does the scenario always remain as its being projected? Does this means the data has no utility at all? Should we not provide DATA? The answer is "No".

The data indeeds acts as an external pushing factor to embark people towards the journey to end the various forms of hunger. Had the data not available, steps could not be taken to tackle issues like climate change. These data serve as a reminder and warning to act. It made the global leaders to forge Paris agreement and Net zero goals, thanks to the data!

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Further data gives us the direction to move forward, by identifying the areas to be worked upon. This helped in tracking the fundamental root cause. It is the data that fuelled innovation in society. The Galileo ~~was~~ ^{was} not ~~be~~ able to prove heliocentrism theory, backed by data. Or the different social reform movements like Raja Rammohan against sati, showed data in form of ancient texts. So the data itself creates appetite for the knowledge.

But here one thing must be talked about. Data can also be used in a negative sense. Serving data is beneficial but what ~~about~~ happens when it was distorted. The threat of fake news and manipulation of data can ~~div~~ not only direct our attention

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from hunger but also lead to violence and riots. The incidents of mob lynching are well known.

That's why, we need to be careful while using data. In 21st century when data became the new oil, we should also harness its potential. If used judiciously we could be able to eliminate hunger in society.

For this, ramp up the digital literacy, so that the beneficiaries could be able to know about the importance of data, and use it to fill their plate by themselves, along with the efforts of state. The e-governance is the clear example of how data helped in eliminating hunger of opportunities and

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benefits - be it Direct Benefit transfer to the poor.

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Further, enhancing and strengthening the data privacy is a must. If we want to secure data, then secure it securely, so that no one can steal the plate! Steps like Data Protection law 2023 of India and EU's General Data protection law are the steps in right direction.

As we navigate this data-rich world, let us remember the wisdom. To address hunger, poverty and inequality, use data for the welfare of all. Just as a hungry man cannot fast on data, a society cannot thrive when some among us are deprived of the most essential sustenance.

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Maya's choice to prioritize the nourishment of the bodies of students not only fight against hunger but made the able to use data in a more sensible manner. This will help in realising the notion of

Data of the people

Data by the people

Data for the people

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खण्ड-B / Section-B

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- Q.5 Existence is a science, living is an art.
अस्तित्व एक विज्ञान है, जीना एक कला है।
- Q.6 If the truth shall kill them, let them die.
यदि सत्य से किसी की मृत्यु होती है, तो उन्हें मरने दो।
- Q.7 The only way to go beyond things, is to go through them.
हालातों से परे जाने का एकमात्र तरीका उनसे होकर गुजरना है।
- Q.8 Dream for the best. Be prepared for the worst. Enjoy life in between.
सर्वश्रेष्ठ के लिए सपना देखें। सबसे बुरे के लिए तैयार रहें। इसके बीच के जीवन का आनंद लें।

7. The only way to go beyond things,
is to go through them

once, a young mountaineer named
Mike set his sights on conquering a formidable
peak known as "The Wall". Its sheer vertical
face was renowned for defeating even the most
seasoned climbers. Undaunted, he began his
ascent, clinging to the rock with every ounce
of strength. As he struggled upwards, he
recalled his mentor's words - "The only way
to go beyond things is to go through them".

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with each arduous step, he pushed through exhaustion and fear, determined to reach the summit. After an epic struggle, Mike finally stood at the peak's precipice, victorious. He had learned that the path to greatness often demands us to confront our deepest fears and obstacles head-on.

Since time immemorial, this well known adage remained true. Look at the story of Gautam Buddha. He wanted to seek out answers of life. And for this, he went on to go through the situations. He had to leave his luxury life and palace in order to know the path of liberation, to attain Enlightenment.

To everyone's curiosity, the question may arise why to go beyond

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things at its very first place? Why are we not happy with our present status - quo?

As an organism, living and growing, one cannot remain in the same situation for perpetuity. ~~The~~ Charles Darwin's theory of "survival of the fittest" requires us to evolve continuously, to be able to survive the adversities of nature.

Further, not all the things at present, we are seeing, could be good or satisfactory, certain practices need amendments, to improve ourselves. Some times back, LGBTIST community was facing or still facing discrimination based on their gender orientation. For them and for the society as a whole, we need to go beyond the illogical stereotyping

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and quest for giving them equality and dignity to their lives.

But the question now arises how to go beyond things. How can we look at the other side of ~~a~~ coin. The answer to this ~~is~~ seems simple. It is by going through the situation itself!

How?

There is a need to go through the situation because it helps in identifying the real challenges that is obstructing our evolution process. By embarking on the path, we realise how much difficult it is to proceed. When phogat sisters entered into the wrestling, they came to know about the barriers that a woman has to

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face in pursuing their dreams in sports. To go beyond this traditional mindset, they ~~has~~ itself faced societal pressures, but they never looked back and thus succeeded in reaching the other side of ocean.

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Indeed, not only ~~of~~ for himself or herself, going through the situation also helps the others to learn and join the path. It requires a spark to ignite a fire. Just like that, a leader is required to walk through the path so that others can also join this journey of progress. To attain Independence for India, Grandhi decided to face the situations, to feel the repressions and suppressions of the mighty colonialists. Seeing such a dedication and commitment attracted the masses to join this path, the

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against the injustice.

But it is easier said than done. It is easy to preach than practice. One should go through the situations, but is it a easy one? How we can overcome challenges to continue our journey?

For this, overcome the fear and build the courage and stick to your decisions. Challenges are sure to come, but we must show endurance to face them with a smile. When in 1960s, India was faced with the shortage of food, food crisis situation was about to emerge. But India went ahead with courage, ushered the Green revolution, showing that even the hardest barriers ~~can~~ could be overcome with our courage and dedication.

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Not only this, failures remain the part and parcel of every journey. one should not be disheartened with them, instead learn from them, when Thomas Edison failed for 1000 times, but he learned from every failure. His ^{every} next bulb was the improvement of the past, they were not the same bulbs that failed. At the end, this helped the world to see their houses lightened beyond the sunlight, at night.

one may also ask that what happens when we do not want to go through them. what can be its consequences?

one can choose not to participate. But by doing so, one may never get experience of a life in true sense. ~~to~~ ~~Through~~ these experiences shape our life, our

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learnings. Everyone possessed his/her own dreams and ambitions. But to achieve that no other person can do that for you. One has to sail its own ship in the tides of oceanic waters, to reach their destiny in life.

But can it be said that, going through the situation is the only way to go beyond. Or there are other ways too? Probably yes.

We can also learn from the ~~the~~ mistakes of others and prevent us from doing the same. These learnings could help us to save our efforts so that we can put in other areas. Take the case of China, The fall of USSR in 1991 served as a learning handbook for China, etc.

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took several socialist - communist reforms in its polity and ~~saved~~ made their authoritarian regime stronger, prospering till date.

Nevertheless, learnings are at best can guide us, but every one has to follow and traverse its own journey. For this, we need to build our attitude and strong character. As the saying goes
when the going gets tough,
the tough gets going...

The journey of life could be complex. But the journey of humanity remains simple and same for all. While progressing our personal goals, we should also have the collective responsibility to make our society more inclusive in future.

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As we navigate the intricate web of existence, these principles serve as a guiding light, urging us to face adversity with strength, knowing that it is through these trials that we discover the answers of our life.

Just like Mike faced the truth of journey, we must also be ready to accept the truth, only to improve upon the next step, that brings us one-step closer to look beyond the things.

Through life's twists and turns we stride, challenges faced, we cannot hide.

To go beyond, we must take the ride...

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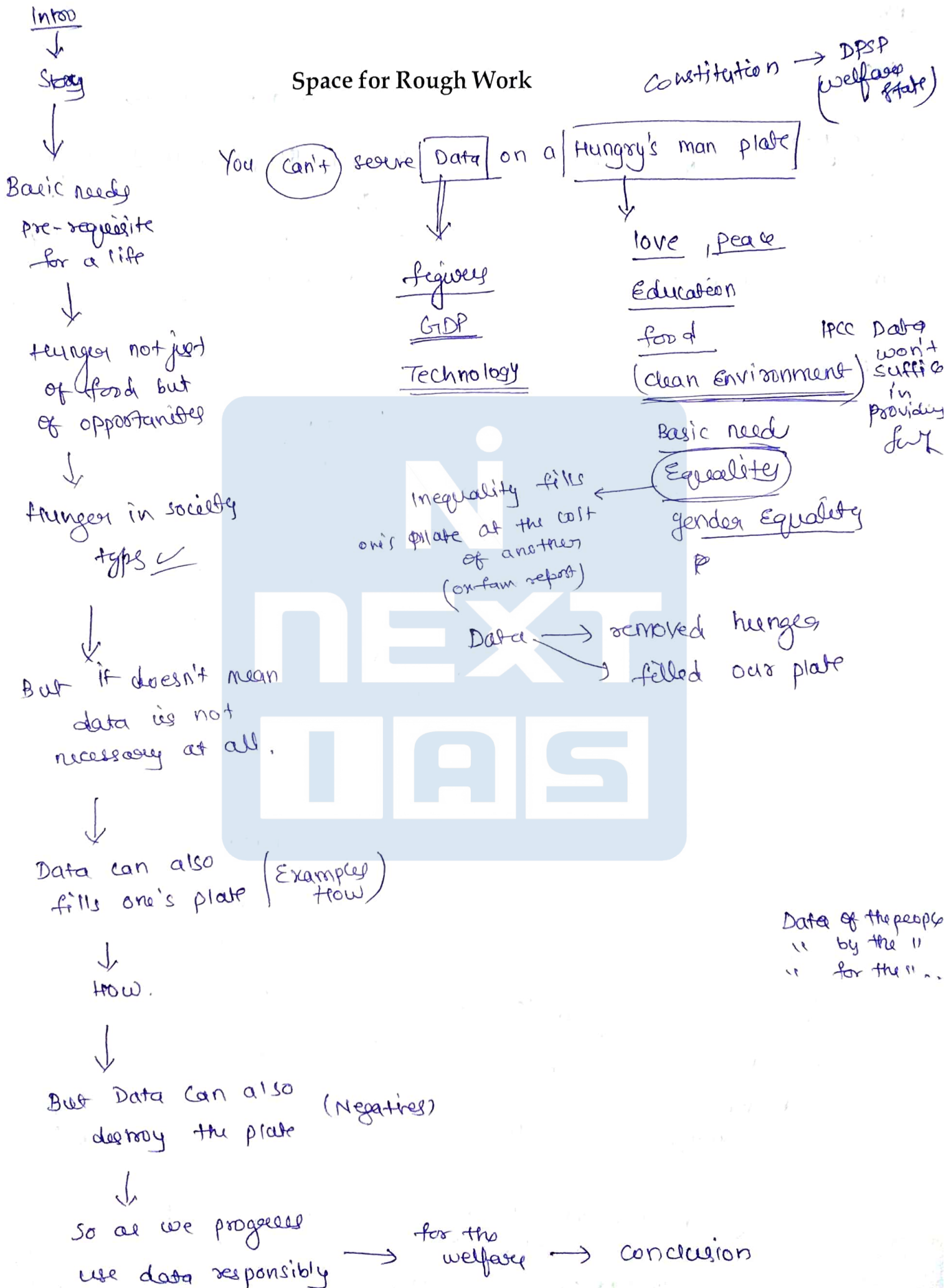
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Intro
↓

Space for Rough Work

Learn & Grow

Go beyond things
↓

why to go beyond
↓

Reasons

↓

But how to go beyond
↓

to go through them
↓

why

Difficulties we face in going through
↓

face them

↓

what happen if we do not go through

climate change ⇒ buying ^{not} e-vehicles but petrol
→ no practical advice
cases

one can also learn from others too → instead of going beyond

But we should go through → to learn to express the life

The only way to go beyond things is to go through them

Transformation
Innovation
evolution

face reality
challenge
courage

child example

to improve upon the past

Resilience

Adaptability

overcome fear → failure

to know truth

✓ Buddha

✓ Ashoka - Ambedkar

✓ Phogat sisters in wrestling

✓ NAM of India

✓ Green Revolution

✓ freedom struggle of India

✓ Nelson Mandela

conclusion

Journey of life