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उम्मीदवारों को इस भाग में लिखना मना है। Candidates must not write on this margin

खण्ड–A / Section-A

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।

Q.1) Little Strokes fell great Oaks

Like every other young boy in America, this boy also had dreamt of playing basketball in the world famous NBA league. However, he couldn't even qualify for the college team and was ridiculed for his height.

The boy although disappointed did not give up on his dream. He applied for the junior team and trained extra hours everyday to prove his worth. ✱ Gradually he gained over 10 CM height and not only got selected for his

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college team. Infact, he became youngest player to be signed by Chicago Bulls.

All the small-small efforts he had put in erstwhile years finally started paying dividend to him and he went on to become the greatest basketball player of all time known as "Air Jordan" due to his high leaping ability. I am talking about Michale Jordan who with his work ethics became the most famous sports personality of America.

This story shows how little strokes fell great oaks in case of Michale Jordan. But the question is how it is possible? The reasons for same are that when one put little extra effort each day, it builds strong foundation and base. It helps to focus on detailed aspect of a complex and ambitious outcome, it helps us to focus on process rather than end result.

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In this essay, we will try to explore more on how little strokes fell great oaks? Why this wisdom is important to not only Individuals but also society & global community? What if someone does not believe in small efforts & is highly motivated & energetic? Is it always true. Does life provide us enough time and opportunity? And at last we will see how we can inculcate the values to achieve the benefit of wisdom in our daily lifes?..

LITTLE STROKES FELL GREAT OAKS: HUMANS ARE SUBSYSTEM OF A WHOLE

A famous ecologist M.J Holliman once said "Nature has spent decades, centuries, even millenia to refine itself to present its best face to humanity" The Great Himalayas or Alps or Andes we see today are little efforts of nature spanning across thousands of years. This shows to achieve greatness even nature has put small efforts on daily basis.

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Humans are no different, We are part of a society, nation and larger community thus our desires and dreams cannot be shaped by our own efforts alone, We need to consider external factors too to achive desired outcome. This require Individual to be cautious, having self awareness, Understanding complexity of life, among other things.

For Instance, Vikram Sarabhai knew he cannot make India a space superpower in short span of time thus he made little strokes in scientific arenas (collaboration with Homi-J-Babha & CV Raman), Political arena (convincing J.L Nehru & Indra Gandhi), personal arena (his father & wife) to achieve the dream of what ISRO is today.

At the level of society too, small-small efforts leads to desired outcome in long term. Everyone around the world was apprehensive about India's

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test with democracy on eve of Independence but, it was our collective efforts which has lead to India's image as spiritual democracy, Island of democracy, and welfare democracy.

These efforts were not just restricted within our borders but also had global effect. Our little effort toward energy transission in form of International Solar Alliance has now become one of the most potent platform not only to tackle climate change but also to ensure energy security for global south.

By now, it is quite evident that no effort is small as one day it leads to something big and our efforts do not just go in vain. It somehow pay us dividend in one form or other. Let us explore more about the importance of this wisdom in next few paragraphs.

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LITTLE EFFORTS : NUCLEAR FUSION RELEASES MORE ENERGY THAN NUCLEAR FISSION

Newton once quoted that "if one has seen further than others it is by standing upon the shoulders of giants". Here we can equate the giants to the base we make with our little efforts. Life is like a Marathon and to win this race we need consistent discipline and courage possible ~~thorough~~ thorough efforts in our daily life.

For illustration, M.S Dhoni and Virat Kholi even after all the success and fame still continues to follow strict diet, strict training routine, avoiding alchol and junk food to not only win on field of cricket but to win in competition of life.

Putting little efforts in daily life avoid burnout and exhaustion in an Individual making the person more efficient, productive and focussed in

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long term toward his/her purpose of life. It helps us to remain motivated in long term and become self regulating entity.

For Instance, Gandhiji's idea of Struggle Truce-Struggle helped freedom movement to evolve by its own and maintain its momentum in long term whereas Revolutionaries putting all their energy at once made it less sustaining and more sporadic.

Importance of little strokes to fell great oaks can also be proven by the fact that in this ever changing world, it allows to make changes in our process with dynamic technological changes, value changes, needs & wants changes etc thus it makes not only our outcome but also our process futuristic and ambitious.

For Instance, Unlike China and Brazil, India has taken cautious approach toward the trend of de-dollarisation. RBI's

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Inter-departmental group has suggested short term, medium term and long term effort for Internationalisation of Rupee with changing dynamics of geo-economics.

Thus, little efforts leads to correct destination with minimal pain & suffering whereas if someone put all his energy at once, then one may run out of fuel too soon before reaching the destination. One may win the battle but may lose war.

For Instance, in football, the team who run the most in first half often end up losing or drawing the match due to loss of energy, mental strength and overconfidence by scoring few goals based on 1st half performance. This shows discipline throught is possible only with little effort consistently.

However, as we discussed earlier, life, world & nature are not so simple, rather it is very

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complex so the question that arises is that do we have enough time and opportunity to make efforts for what we want in a long period of time?

TIME TO REPAIR ROOF WHEN SUN IS SHINING

In the movie, "the boy who harnessed wind", the young boy did not have time to put little efforts and had to act and achieve something seemed impossible in short span of time. His bold effort saved life of thousands in small village of Malawi which was suffering from severe drought and famine.

It shows sometimes, the situation force us to take immediate and bold step otherwise it can have negative consequences. Take India's case where we are at the stage of demographic advantage. It requires our policymakers to take great effort to reap demographic dividend and become developed nation by 2047.

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Not only time and situation force us to take bold effort but also the scarce opportunities and resources in times of cut throat competition. For Instance, India needs to leverage the opportunity provided by coinciding of global divides, G20 Presidency and SCO presidency to emerge as world leader.

Despite the fact that situation and time forces us to take bold effort, one still cannot ignore the importance of little efforts to fell great oaks as seen in both past and present be it Niti Aayog advocating for efforts by local bodies to Achieve SDGs by 2030 or UN secretary general in past (Kofi Anan) travelling to Iraq for world peace.

BETTER PRACTICES TO BEST PRACTICES

APJ Abdul Kalam in his book "wings of fire" asked youths to first identify the fire inside them,

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find the purpose of their life and then consistently work to achieve it by balancing the values of desire, hardwork and motivation.

The wisdom little strokes fell great oaks teaches us important values like calmness, patience, gratitude, tolerance, introspection, courage of discpline, honesty toward our efforts which can not only lead to best practices but better practices than best practices.

To fell great Oaks as a nation in our Amrit Kal, we need to follow Kartavya path through little efforts by all the stakeholders of society be it school going children, scientists, civil servants, parents, spouse, politician, teachers, etc.

For this we need to focus more on process rather than day dreaming on results as there is a famous quote which says "history is

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series of victory won by scientific man over romantic man."

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खण्ड–B / Section-B

उम्मीदवारों को इस भाग में लिखना मना है। Candidates must not write on this margin

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।

Q.7) Reality is the shadow of Ideas

Recently, a movie called Openheimer is making news around the world and infact it was banned in Japan. It shows the story of USA's nuclear Manhatten project based on Ideas of ~~Physicist~~ Dr J. oppenheimer. In the movie, It has been shown that Dr Oppenheimer use to get visions of quantam physics which he turned into reality by making world's first atom bomb.

It is fascinating because It shows how one idea in a single individual's mind can become reality for the whole world. The reason for the

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अभ्यर्थियों को इस भाग में लिखना मना है। Candidates must not write on this margin

same is that human mind is a curious mind which seeks to explore unknowns which in turn is converted into reality for validation of the idea.

The process is non-ending as it provides further motivation and raises ambition to not only understand reality but also to shape it. According to philosphers associated with existential phenomenology (experiences shaping perception) believe that there are different realities for different people because of difference in ideas.

In this essay we will try to go deeper into its understanding along with exploring why it is important to understand the impact of idea on reality? what if ideas does not reflect the reality? Some counter argument challenging the wisdom. And at last exploring how we can use this knowledge for a reality that is beneficial for every being on planet.

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Ideas Shaping Reality: Architect of Structure

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According to David Hume, "Reality is construct of mind whereas perception is its architect". Our experiences, ideas and knowledge shapes our perception which in turn make or build our world view.

For Instance, Bhagat Singh experiencing exploitation & suppression at hands of British developed an idea regarding socialistic society which shaped his reality where he saw peasants, labourers women as sufferers and thus developed empathy toward them.

Similarly at the level of society, idea of nature as sacred has shaped the reality of Indian societies confluence with nature in form of sacred groves, Ganga Aarti, Kailash Mansarovar yatra, worship of animals like cow, lion, tiger, etc.

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Reality exist not only in past and present but also in future. This is where human ingenuity comes into picture. There is a famous quote which says humans through their mind can make heaven of a hell and hell of a heaven.

For Instance, our ideas of exploiting the development potential provided by mother nature has made our reality of climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution, etc. However on the other side the same human ideas have turned arid lands of middle east into reality of bustling cities like Dubai, Doha, Jeddah, etc.

Ideas does not just turn into reality by themselves it require humans to explore, take risk, innovate and turn it into reality. It is in human nature to explore as there is a saying that

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a ship in harbour is safe but that is not what ship is for.

For Instance, Columbus, Vasco-da-Gama, etc took up the idea of exploration beyond the vast oceans to shape the reality of round or spherical earth, to bring into reality the new world of Americas. It shows how reality is nothing but shadow of Ideas but we need to go deeper and understand why it is important to us in present times.

ONE CANNOT STEP IN SAME RIVER TWICE

Chinese Philosophy of Taoism says that "a victory is assured only if you explore". Predictablity is death. As reality itself is a subjective and dynamic concept. It provides humanity the scope to change it to a better version.

Todays reality is that we suffer from several problems like

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unsustainable population growth, poverty, food insecurity, wars, conflict, environmental degredation, rising inequality among other issues. However, as it our ideas which shape our reality thus there is optimism and hope that the above mentioned realities of present times can be changed for better.

It requires values of tolerance, open mindness, courage, rationality and above all the Indian value of Vasudev Kuthumbhakam which advocate for reality of One Earth, one family, one future. We cannot repeat the same mistakes of past in shaping the realities of future.

For Instance for better future reality, the world has taken up ideas of Sustainable development goals, Energy transition under Paris agreement, Responsible use of Artificial Intelligence, cooperation on

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tackling money laundering and terror financing through FATF, etc.

We need to ensure that our progressive ideas turn into reality otherwise it may lead to incongruence, dis-satisfaction and even violence, extremism and fundamentalism. For instance in Batman movie by Christopher Nolan, the degredation of Gotham city was due to the fact that there was huge gap between ideas & reality.

But, the question arises that we have seen through past examples that reality does not always reflect ideas so what are the factors that create this incongruence and how can we address them?

UNIVERSE IS COMPLEX : TOO LARGE TO FIT INTO REALITY

Reality is product of multiple elements. Ideas are one of many components. Sometimes ideas which are too complex faces lot

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of constraints before turning into reality. There can be resource constraint, lack of appropriate timing to turn into reality, etc.

For Instance, India's planning commission forwarded the idea of agroclimatic agriculture planning but it still struggle to turn into reality as it faces constraint of MSP policy, literacy among farmers, etc.

There is also an alternative argument that sometime ideas are the shadow of reality. Our sorrounding be it physical or humans shapes our idea. The best example for this is the idea of gravity & its laws were developed when Issac Newton witnessed the reality of falling apple from tree on ground.

However, one cannot ignore the importance of influence on ideas on

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shaping reality thus we also need to focus on what values we can learn through this wisdom. It teaches us that one should not be risk averse, one should have confidence to bring in positive changes, one should channelise their experience into Innovative ideas.

It is very important for our country which is hoping to become developed nation by 2047. Here knowledge economy with focus on Innovation can play a major catalyst thus we need to promote scientific temper among our children, protect liberty of citizens, promote startup culture and provide suitable platform to help ideas convert into reality.

At last concluding by taking inspiration from words of famous American Psychologist William James who said "The greatest discovery of my generation is that human beings

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can alter their lives by altering their attitudes of mind".

David Hume

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Space for Rough Work

Reality is the shadow of Ideas

Real, rational, factual, visible, true → reflection → thought, belief, dreams, etc.

① Intro. → Story ( )

Reasons → Motivation, curiosity, exploration, ambition, validation, perception, Pretext

② Deep Insights

a) A ship in harbour is safe but that is not what ship is for

b) Human Ingenuity → Problem solving

③ Importance

↳ Innovation, progress, development, shaping ideas for better reality

↳ what if not → Incongruence, less satisfaction, revolt, etc.

④ Counter argument

↳ not possible all the time → constraints

↳ ideas shaped by reality

↳ reality is subjective

⑤ Conclusion

↳ Quotes → experience, risk taking, confidence

↳ WF

↳ Quote → William James (American Psychologist)

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Space for Rough Work

little strokes fell great oaks
- small effort, small step, less speed,
- big result, big reward, big outcome, big dream,

eg: National mov., religious Policy, ISRO, Sarabhai, Homi J. Babha, climate change, women, SDGs 2030, FD, obvious, big Impact, ISA, CDRI, E, Dedollarisation, Naxalism, Dhoni, Kholi,

① Intro
- Michale Jordan story
- Reason → cautious, strong boundation, calmness, marathon, careful consideration, focus on process, complexity of life, self awareness, detailed process
- Protect

② Deep Insights
- a) Nature as case study → Himalayas formation
- b) Part of system not the system

③ Importance → no burnout, dynamic changes, big purpose of life, life is a marathon, bigger ambition

④ What if not → demotivation, running out of fuel, mediocre life, winning battle losing war

⑤ Counter Argument
- Scarce opportunities → cold war, cut throat comp.
- not always young → demo. dividend

Nudge
1. Anish Kapoor
2. The Boy who harness wind
3. Abdul Kalam wing of fire
4.

⑥ Int. event
- Kofi Anan → Iraq war

⑦ Conclusion
- Int. event → ISRO
- values → calmness, gratidue, Patience, tolerance, courage, discipline, Work ethics
- WF → children, Governance, IR, etc.
- Quote (yuva dhaniyard).

Quote
1. Shoulder of Giants (Newton)
2. Sardar Patel → little pond of water
3.

Heading
1. Time to Repair Roof
2. Better Practices to best Practices
3. Nuclear fusion > Nuclear fission