

NEXT IAS

ESSAY-Test 3

निबन्ध-परीक्षा 3

CSE 2023

कार्यालय के प्रयोग हेतु
For Office Use

निर्धारित समय: तीन घंटे

Time Allowed: Three Hours

अधिकतम अंक: 250

Maximum Marks: 250

General Instructions

This question-cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet contains 32 pages. Question Paper in detachable form is available at the end of the QCA Booklet which can be taken away by the candidate after examination.

Two blank pages (Page Nos. 31-32) have been provided for rough work.

On receipt of the Booklet, please check that this QCA Booklet does not have any shortcomings, torn or missing pages, etc. If so, get it replaced with a fresh QCA Booklet.

सामान्य अनुदेश

इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू० सी० ए०) पुस्तिका में 32 पृष्ठ हैं। प्रश्न-पत्र क्यू० सी० ए० पुस्तिका के अन्त में संलग्न है, जो अलग (वियोज्य) किया जा सकता है और उम्मीदवार परीक्षा के उपरान्त अपने साथ ले जा सकते हैं।

रफ़ कार्य के लिए दो खाली पृष्ठ (पृष्ठ सं० 31-32) दिए गए हैं।

पुस्तिका प्राप्त होने पर, कृपया यह जाँच कर लें कि इस क्यू० सी० ए० पुस्तिका में कोई कमी न हो, फटा हुआ पृष्ठ न हो अथवा कोई पृष्ठ गायब न हो इत्यादि। यदि ऐसा हो, तो इसके बदले नई क्यू० सी० ए० पुस्तिका प्राप्त कर लें।

(To be filled by candidate)

All fields mandatory

(Inaccurate/Incomplete information may lead to delay in the evaluation process)

Name of Candidate : ANUSHKA KARNWAL

Next IAS Roll No. : GSPM23B13087

Test Code → TC- 032

Date of Examination : 29/07/23

Exam Centre : Old Rajinder Nagar ☐

Bhopal ☐

Online ☒

निरीक्षक का कोड

Invigilator's Code

कार्यालय के प्रयोग हेतु
For Office Use

[To be filled by the STUDENT]

Student's Queries for the Evaluator (if any write them below)

[To be filled by the EXAMINER]

Evaluator's response

प्राप्तांक के विवरण (परीक्षक द्वारा भरा जाए) / Marks Details [To be filled by the Examiner(s)]

	निबन्ध विषय सं० Essay Topic No.	अंक Marks	
खण्ड-A Section-A			
खण्ड-B Section-B			
सकल योग / Grand Total			

Your performance vis-a-vis other Examinees/Students
[To be filled by the Examiner(s)]-

Front Runner	Achiever	Aspirant

EVALUATOR'S FEEDBACK: ESSAY SECTION-A

Parameters	Exemplary	Good	Average	Needs Improvement
Understanding				
Coherence				
Lucidity				
Structuring				
Presentation				



Parameters	Exemplary	Good	Average	Needs Improvement
Understanding				
Coherence				
Lucidity				
Structuring				
Presentation				



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।

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

Little strokes Fell great oaks. (Topic 1)

The second half of the 19th century saw the flowering of seeds of political consciousness, and the rise of nationalism. This is the story of India's National freedom struggle which started with more national feeling and finally culminated into independence. However, this did not happen overnight or over few years. It took us almost 100 years to gain independence, the great oak.

In achieving this oak, India witnessed great number of small strokes. We went from a demand of admission into the councils to a say in the executive and to the demand of 'Purna swaraj'. We also saw a transition from non-violent protest to the Quit India Movement with its cry for 'Do or Die'. Thus, those small strokes gave us our great oak.

In this essay, we will first explore more such relationships. Then, we will look at the negative relationship between strokes and oak. We will also look if only and always small strokes are needed or enough. Finally we will reason, where do the strokes root from and how to channelise them.

THE STROKES - OAK RELATIONSHIPS

Around 1500 BC, when the society began to divide on occupational basis, some groups were pushed down the ladder. These were known as Shudras. Gradually when resentment grew and the Brahmin class became spongy, 'Buddhism' emerged (600 BC) to challenge the Brahmanical order. Today, the social evil of untouchability stands abolished by the constitution with suitable reservations in place.

Similar consistent efforts went into being vocal about women rights. Raja Ram Mohan Ray, the father of Indian Renaissance became vocal about sati, inheritance rights, widowhood. Those small strokes translated into the great oaks of sati - abolished, inheritance rights secured by law etc.

उम्मीदवारों को
इस मार्ग में
लिखना नहीं है।
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

NEXT IAS

India's economic trajectory has also been on similar paths. Between 1911-1947, India grew at the rate of 0.3%. We have worked consistently, tried and tested different policy measures. Bringing self sufficiency in food, pulling out 415 million people out of extreme poverty in last two decades have been our strokes at the economic front. This has translated into our rank of India being the 5th largest economy today. We are entering our 'Amrit Kaal' with the similar and renewed strokes. We can also look at India's space program. We started with simple Rohini rockets with minimal infrastructure. Today, we have launched our Chandrayaan-III which is carrying hopes of 1.4 billion Indians. We are being watched by the world in this endeavour.

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

India's international position in the uncertain global order is testament to our efforts (strokes) at maintaining autonomy. We have carefully balanced our relationship with the west as well as East, with immediate as well as far end neighbours, with democracies as well as autocrats. These small efforts maintained with utmost caution have allowed us to remain self-Aligned and keep India's interest at the top.

Thus, we looked at multiple strokes-oaks relationships. However the above examples were of positive and mindful strokes. Let us look at some examples of negative and irresponsible strokes and their resultant oaks.

NEXT IAS

STROKES - OAK RELATIONSHIP - The negative
conventions.

Yandhi Ji highlighted that "the world has enough for everybody's needs but not enough for everybody's greed". This takes us to the present climate crises. A well accepted fact is that it did not happen overnight. We started with fulfilling small needs and ultimately took too much out of our 'Mother Earth' that, today even the 2°C target seems unachievable.

Man's technological quest started with easing life of humans. We made small and useful innovations of telegraph, voice calls, video calls, computers. But our quest of technological supremacy took us to the age of AI. This today is threatening human jobs. The recent incident in Bangalore, India

is a fine example. A startup CEO laid off 80% of the employees in place of robots and chatbots.

The similar downturn is visible in new arm's race. The idea of minimum defence stock to maintain territorial sovereignty has been transposed. With small stakes of building up arms and ammunition, we are now in amidst of arm's race. Each country is acquiring latest weapon systems like S400, Brahmos, UAVs, loiter munitions.

Thus the above examples highlighted that small and consistent efforts (stakes) in wrong or irresponsible direction result into harmful stakes of climate crises, arm's race and job loss.

Let us now look at if these small stakes have achieved enough and also if always they are needed.

The INCOMPLETE strokes and the HALF BAKED OAKS

Though our efforts have been continuous and achieved great results, we have miles to go ahead. We abolished untouchability in the constitution but on ground, the instances remain alive. NCRB pointed out that there were 1.3 lakh anti-dalit cases registered between 2010-20.

Similarly, though our economic efforts have been fruitful, we have lagged in building the manufacturing base. This has resulted into surplus labor in agriculture and the problem of missing middle. India jumped the structural growth transition and is now efforts are on to revive the missed bus.

The above two examples highlight the issue of inefficient strokes and thus

the half baked oaks resulting from them. Now let us look at if always and everytime small strokes can yield the desired results.

THE BIG STROKES and GREAT OAKS

Some issues persistently haunting the mankind and environment need big overhauls. One example is of the land reforms, India initiated after independence. Going slow on that front would have further perpetuated inequality and poverty. Thus the urgent need was felt and soon after independence, the 1st amendment to the constitution was made.

This was 75 years ago, today we have another example at hand. Recently Antonio Guterres highlighted that the "Era of global warming is over and we have entered the Era of global Boiling". This necessitates major transformations worldwide. If we miss this ¹⁵ bus now, we

उम्मीदवारों को इस मार्ग में लिखना पना है।
Candidates must not write on this margin

might be perceived as well. India's 'Panchamrit' and 'Life campaigns' highlight the urgency of the issue.

Thus we looked at possible and negative relationships, the half baked ones and the urgency ones too. The final part takes us to what and how we direct our strokes and define our oaks.

DIRECTING STROKES and DEFINING OAKS

"Everybody sees obstacles in the path. Those who persevere will see the light sooner or later" - Swami Vivekananda.

The quote implies that our strokes got to be consistent. A realignment of efforts in the line of sustainable, inclusive, equitable, environment centered growth is needed.

These strokes emerge from our innerself. Aristotle¹⁶ highlighted

the well of virtues in character building. Thus we need to build the right character to build up the right habits and direct our actions in the right direction.

Redefining oaks implies keeping human and wildlife at the center of policy making or technological quest. Saving own's territory should not translate into taking other's home away. Vikram Sarabhai,

highlighted that any endeavour to technology has to be guided with the greater welfare of the mankind.

Thus, closing with the values highlighted in Bhagwad Gita, all humans have to do their 'Karma' (i.e. strokes), which are done in good faith, for truth and justice.

This would translate into great oaks of 'A healthy, happy, self fueling planet' which is centered at around all life¹⁷ forms.

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

खण्ड-B / Section-B

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।

(Topic 5).

The whole Purpose of Education is to turn mirrors into windows.

"The purpose of education is to give knowledge, not of facts but of values"
- William Burroughs.

The above quote highlights the importance accorded to education. Teaching the appropriate values and helping us to be an ethical man. It helps us making aware of the world and of self and thus playing our part to transform mirrors into windows which are of greatest benefit to the mankind.

In this essay, we will look at what significance has been given to mirrors and windows. We will see how education has played, plays or can play the role. We will also look at what happens when there is imbalance between mirrors and windows. We will further see at what all other factors stand complementary to education.

MIRRORS and WINDOWS: what they reflect?

A child is exposed to the mirror much before she is exposed to the windows. What does this imply? The mirror-self relationship: A mirror that we look into everytime reflects who we are. It teaches us self awareness, self love and self belief. We talk to ourselves, ask questions and give answers. We realise ~~to~~ our likes, dislikes and our passion. Most importantly, we self introspect.²⁰

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

The window: world relationship: The windows that we look through introduces us to the real world, the truth and the lie. It introduces us to the complex relationships that we are a part of. It presents us the environment and circumstances where we have to grow. It defines our resource capability. It introduces us to varied set of people with their needs and problems.

To say, on a whole while the mirror presents us with the binary [0's and 1's], the window takes us to the complex and real time superpositions of these binary numbers [00, 01, 10, 11].

Having looked at the significance of mirrors and windows, let us look at what purpose education serves in here and how does it bridges the transformation

EDUCATION : the path from
mirror to windows

NCERT highlighted that 'If schools do not nurture values, education loses its heart and soul'.

This is to highlight that education shapes an individual and thus the society. Let us look at various connotations of it.

Education and self belief: The idea of having trust in self abilities comes from education. Schools provide us ample opportunities through competitions, workshops etc where we overcome our fears like stage fear. Thus from the mirror of self belief, we move to the window of progressive contribution in society. The pioneering examples we have are that of Savitribai Phule, Jyotiba Phule, DK Karve etc.

Education and Justice : Education teaches us the constitutional values of justice, equality, tolerance and human dignity. It teaches us what is right and just. This guides us in making our ethical understanding (the mirror) and taking stand for justice (the window). One example is that of the ~~the~~ 'Educated middle class intelligentsia' who led the national movement of independence. They could recognise the injustice met out to Indians and thus stood up firmly against it.

Education and Clean Minds : Dr Kalam, highlighted that 'If the country has to be full of corruption free minds, then three factors assume importance: Mother, Father and Teacher'. Thus the education at home and school teaches us honesty, truth and discipline. This helps us in inculcating integrity (the mirror) and

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

keep the country free of the 'corruption virus' (the window). TN shesham is a paramount example of this.

Education and zeal : Education inculcates the zeal of curiosity (the mirror). This motivates one to work hard and find solutions to the persistent issues. For example, only because we are educated, we understand that what the idea of sustainability entails. Thus this defines our efforts at 'blue-green infrastructure', 'walkable cities', 'mindful consumption', move towards renewable sources (phase down of coal).

Thus, we looked at how Education builds our attitudes and characters. We inculcate them continuously through mirrors and finally apply them in the real world to achieve real results that is the window. Let us now look at what happens if education fails to do this.

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

Mirrors and windows : THE RUSTED ONES.

sometimes, mirrors lead to self obsession. The classic example we have in hand is that of Suryodhana [Mahashenata]. This leads to no care for others, false justification of wrong deeds and finally into self destruction. Here the idea of growth (the window) is not realised.

similarly, mirrors can also be used as a tool to further prejudices. Here education becomes a weak link. For example, a school curriculum which always portrays 'a man' as a 'businessman' and 'a woman' as a 'homemaker' inculcates wrong pre-occupations. Here the mirror makes woman, a lesser gender and the window, full of gender discrimination.

There can be instances of the mirror being 'too narrow minded'. This runs the risk of triggering

violence in society. Muslim League's consistent demand of Pakistan poses this assertion. Here the education could not allow 'a broad mind thinking'. This happened because of the 'narrowed mirror'.

Thus, we looked at how wrong interpretations of mirror and window, results into counterproductive ends. Let us now look at what other factors complement Education and how to strengthen the mirror - window bond.

Education PLUS 'N'

The 'N' above denotes certain other factors which go in making education more fruitful.

Family values form the bedrock of a human being. It defines what interpretations we make of mirror and what we do in the window. Children pick up emotional,

religious, societal and cultural values at home. Tolerance learnt at home translates into tolerance in society. This helps us the menace of communalism, castism, regionalism, terrorism etc.

Societal Ethics determine what kind of education is being provided. A society that gives importance to scientific temperament (example, Israel) provides education that is innovative.

Apart from it, the government structure determines the education policy.

An autocracy, military ruled state is unlikely to teach the values of equality and justice. For example, the political structure of Taliban is heavily biased against 'women rights'. While, India being a democracy talks about 'Panchakosha' system of education. one which leads to intellectual, spiritual, self development.

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

Thus, having gone through some factors which help education in fulfilling its purpose, let us look at how we can strengthen the bond between mirrors and windows.

MIRRORS INTO WINDOWS : The productive combo.

Assuming that mirror inculcates positive thoughts and the windows signify positive outcomes, a number of factors can strengthen this combo.

First and foremost is consistency. Recently, Honourable PM highlighted the three pledges of consistency, humility and duty. This ensures that the small efforts we do everyday (the strokes) elevate our character in the mirror. And this would finally add up to the end results of 'happiness' (the oak).

The second factor is Self-Repair. No one is perfect. As humans, we make mistakes. However, the importance lies in learning from mistakes and renouncing our ego into the voidness. Every sportsman learns something or the other from every match that he plays. The idea is to come back, look in the mirror again and improve upon self.

The third factor is Duty with humility. Gandhi ji highlighted to focus on the means. This duty is our means. It had to be on the right track. Swami Vivekananda highlighted about taking up one idea in life and doing your duty with utmost loyalty. This is the idea of 'Niskama Karma'.

Thus, education is the most powerful tool which can make or break individuals, societies and nations. Therefore, it is right

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

application with right means
will make up the idea of
Inclusivity, Growth, Justice, Innovations
and all this not just for one
country but for the world as a
whole. Education will go a long
way in building this world
into one family and realise the
goal of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'.

N
NEXT
IAS
