

खण्ड-A / Section-A

उम्मीदवारों को
इस भाग में
लिखना पना है।
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- Q.1 If you look into someone's face long enough, eventually you feel that you are looking into yourself.
यदि आप किसी के चेहरे को काफी देर तक देखते हैं, तो अंततः आपको महसूस होता है कि आप अपने भीतर ही देख रहे हैं।
- Q.2 We can easily forgive a child who is afraid of the dark; the real tragedy of life is when men are afraid of the light.
हम उस बच्चे को आसानी से क्षमा कर सकते हैं जो अंधेरे से डरता है; जीवन की वास्तविक त्रासदी तब होती है जब लोग रोशनी से डरते हैं।
- Q.3 It is the province of knowledge to speak and it is the privilege of wisdom to listen.
बोलना ज्ञान का क्षेत्र है और श्रवण करना बुद्धि का विशेषाधिकार है।
- Q.4 Drop the question what tomorrow may bring, and count as profit every day that fate allows you.
यह प्रश्न छोड़ दें कि कल क्या हो सकता है, और हर उस दिन को लाभ के रूप में गिनें जो भाग्य आपको अनुमति देता है।

③ It is the province of knowledge to speak and it is the privilege of wisdom to listen

In one fine dusky night in ancient Greece, one of the greatest disciple 'Plato' asked one of the greatest philosopher 'Socrates' 'what is knowledge?' He replied - 'knowledge is virtue'. Then he asked what is virtue? Socrates replied, virtue is excellence. Plato further asked, how to gain excellence? Socrates replied, 'dialectic'.

Next, Plato asked what is the greatest wisdom you have gained over the years. Socrates replied, 'I know nothing'.

Further he asked, how to know things, Socrates replied, 'listen and question'.

This highlights that the 'privilege of wisdom' is to listen and 'to gain knowledge' you need dialectic.

Dialectic is a Socratic rational method to gain knowledge through the process of thesis, antithesis, Synthesis.

So, among the hierarchy of greatness, learning is followed by knowledge and knowledge leads to excellence (wisdom).

This wisdom lets ~~to~~ you realise that speaking listening is far more virtuous than speaking.

Let us now look at the meaning of these terms. 'Province of knowledge'

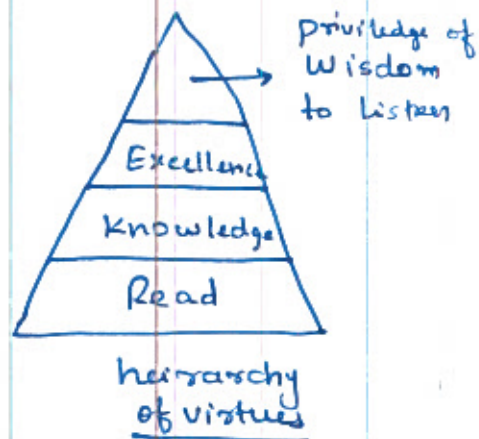
Is the amount and spread of knowledge or information you have gained over the period of time. It ranges from your knowledge about Universe to the knowledge of your inner soul.

Speaking, is a method to disseminate your knowledge to others. J.S. Mill, in his theory of democracy has regarded freedom of speech as the greatest virtue. This is the greatest factor which makes humans great and differentiates it from animals.

Furthering the virtue of speaking he says that even a madman should be allowed to speak, as truth may come from anywhere.

This was also resonated in our constitution when Article 19 was granted Fundamental right status and was made among trinity of inalienable rights fundamental to humans.

Whereas, listening is a process where you absorb the knowledge from outside world and analyse it in your brain about virtue of that knowledge.



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It is the greatest level of virtue one could gain. When a person has reached the level of above excellence, he treats listening as a privilege. This is best reflected in a famous proverb that,

"I'm not afraid of a man who talks rather I'm more concerned about man who talks less"

Even during my childhood days, when my mother use to teach me the wisdoms of life during bedtime, she use to say that, god has given us

two ears and one mouth. Even god knows that it is ~~more important~~ higher level of wisdom and privilege to listen than to speak.

However, the concept of listening should not only be limited to what is being spoken. It is a bigger level of privilege of wisdom to also listen to what is unspoken. This makes the foundation to present day proactive and vibrant Administrative Ethics of Emotional Intelligence. You need to even listen to the unspoken words of people and to react to it compassionately.

This was reflected in senior bureaucrat Parmeshwar Dyer when he jumped into ditch along with Sanitary workers to clean human excreta.

Taking the argument forward privilege of wisdom of listening is not only limited to human. It is equally applicable to nature. When Mendel, observed the garden in his backyard he was listening to the unspoken words of nature in the form of patterns of fruits grown and their colour.

Ancient Indian Philosophers of Vedanta philosophy, Sri Shankaracharya listened to the inner voice of soul and cosmic voice of Paramatma (God) and gave the theory of Advaitma 'Adwaitvaad'.

However, there are some pre requisit to realise the ultimate wisdom of listening. Firstly, you need to have knowledge about the topic of discussion. Next, you need to have

patience to listen (privilege of wisdom) and finally, you need to bring out rational conclusion from that act of listening (Socrates' synthesis).

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However, there are many Challenges to the process of acquiring knowledge and listening. The greatest hurdle was put forward by Post-Modernist scholars like 'Derrida' who says that "Every understanding^(listening) is a misunderstanding", every text needs to be seen along with context and No truth is transcendental of time and space.

However, after looking at the 'privilege of wisdom of listening' we need not downplay the virtue of speaking. Many a times, speaking is more correct than just listening. A husband

doing verbal domestic violence with wife should not be let gone just by listening

You need to speak out against your atrocities. ~~It~~ Speaking against injustice is of similar theme, It is rightly said that,

"The darkest corner in the hell is reserved for those who maintain their neutrality at times of moral crisis"

In this way, some of the Great leaders used both the virtues in combination to ~~make~~ enlighten the world. Gandhiji along with being a good listener was also a good orator and used both virtues to their fullest to create an impact.

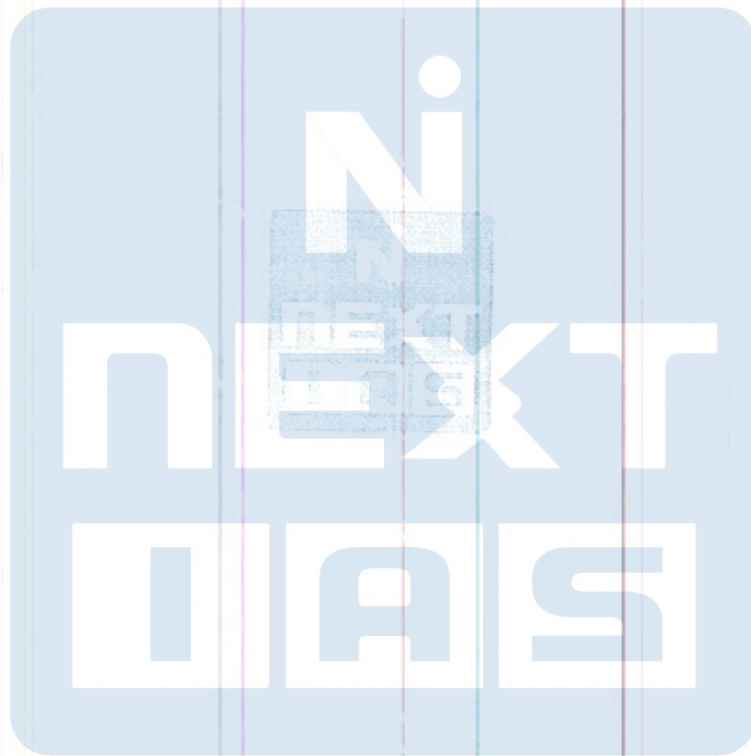
Similarly, Gautam Buddha primarily listened to ~~the~~ his inner voice and voice of cosmos ~~to~~

through meditation to become enlightened and then he preached the world with his "listened knowledge" of unspoken. Even in case of Gautam Budha we see the 'privilege of wisdom to listen' first to attain enlightenment.

This was the exact meaning what Socrates was explaining to his disciple 'Plato' about the greatest wisdom of life is to listen'.

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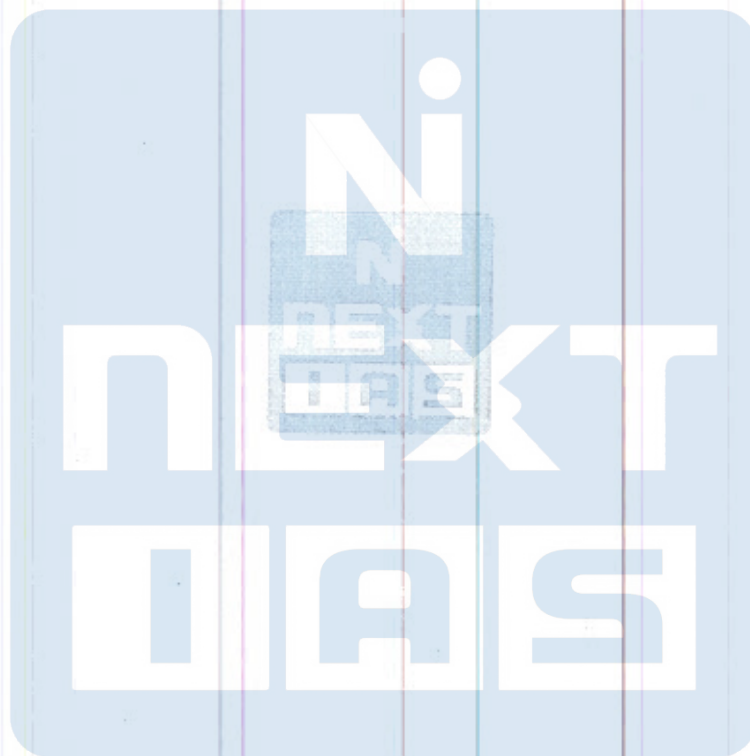
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खण्ड-B / Section-B

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- Q.5 Truth, like a torch, the more it is shook, it shines.
सत्य, मशाल की तरह है, इसे जितना अधिक हिलाया जाता है, यह उतना ही चमकता है।
- Q.6 Art is I; science is We.
कला मैं है; विज्ञान हम है।
- Q.7 Only the dead have seen the end of the war.
केवल मृतकों ने ही युद्ध का अंत देखा है।
- Q.8 Act as if it were impossible to fail.
कार्य ऐसे करें जैसे कि विफल होना असंभव ही था।

⑧

Act as if it were impossible
to fail

It was a deep silence in usually Chaotic Slums of Delhi when the world was quarantined inside their four walls of houses due to coronavirus outbreak; A young girl took her father to hometown in bicycle covering hundred of kilometers of journey in bicycle. This young girl, Savita, acted as if it were impossible to fail, even though most of the world had already accepted the defeat.

It was not the society or distance which decided her action, but her passion and will power to do the thing.

In this essay, as we move on we will look into the definition of the key terms, followed by its explanation accompanied by examples across time and space, This will be followed by pre-requisites to achieve wisdom of topic and challenges to achieve it. In the later half we will see some counter argument and other dimensions regarding this topic.

The word **Act**, in simple terms mean to show ^{physical} movement towards your desired goal. Though it looks simple but in the background there have been complex sets of calculation, ~~such~~ being done before you act. like,

processing of information you received, calculating the positive and negative impact of your actions followed by steps how you will Act.

When Gandhiji, declared Non-co-operation's Movement, it was not just a ~~the~~ spontaneous act but as explained by Bipan Chandra, it was a strategic plan of Gramscian ~~was~~ war of position against British hegemonic idea of civilising mission. Hence, an act involves proper planning, otherwise there ~~is~~ are high possibility of failure.

Here, the term 'failure' means to not achieve the desired goals. & However, similar to 'Act', failure also ~~have~~ is a multilayered concept. It is also defined with respect to subjectivity of time and space.

Taking same example of Gandhiji's Non-cooperation movement, we could

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Call it a failure post chauri chaura withdrawal, but in larger time and space of National freedom struggle it was just a stepping stone or as a war of position against greater goal of 'Swaraj'. It is rightly said that

"Every failure is not failure,
it is a learning for
larger goal"

When asked to Edison, the inventor of electric bulb, about his hundreds of failed attempts, he replied it was not a failure, I learned hundred ways not to ~~do~~ invent a bulb. It all depends upon your perspective how you define it, When your actions are as# it is impossible to fail you will definitely achieve it provided you have right temperament and direction.

When Chandragupta Maurya decided to overtake mighty Nanda empire with help of Kautilya's wisdom, He had nothing in mind except victory. He acted as if it were impossible to fail. and now he has changed the entire history of nation.

However, having this temperament of "impossible to fail" required a bit of caution and prerequisite to achieve this mental state. Firstly, you need to rationally calculate ^{your} strengths and weaknesses, resources you have. Next, you need continuous motivation backed by courage in your action. When a little boy sitting on the neck of Elephant directs the giant powerful elephant, it is the child's motivation, courage and right temperament which leads his action to success.

When, a 19 year old young boy Sachin ~~was~~ smashed the entire deadly ^{fast} bowling lineup of West Indies, he had faith in his act and skills than only he acted as if it was impossible to fail. Hence, we need these ~~prereq~~ prerequisite before ~~to~~ taking action.

However, these actions are not empty of Challenges, like distrust ~~and~~ and doubt of your friends, society towards your action or ~~harder~~ hurdles in the form of your enemy, ignorance and self doubt. But you need to overcome to make your failure impossible.

When Schindler, a german businessman, decided to save Jews from Hitler's Holocaust during worldwar II.

he was faced with challenges in the form of law of land, army & society, ~~at~~ but his irresistible will to ~~save the~~ ~~to~~ become 'humane, in group of humans' made his act a successful act which initially looked like sure case of failure. but he acted as if it were impossible to fail.

However, the greatest challenge lies in the form of missing the thin line between confidence and overconfidence. There is a difference between statements.

- "Act as if it were impossible to fail "
- and
- "Act as if it is impossible to fail "

The first statement reflects rational act of confidence whereas second statement reflects overconfidence. When over confident, Ravan captured Sita

he was ignorant and missed the thin line between confidence and overconfidence.

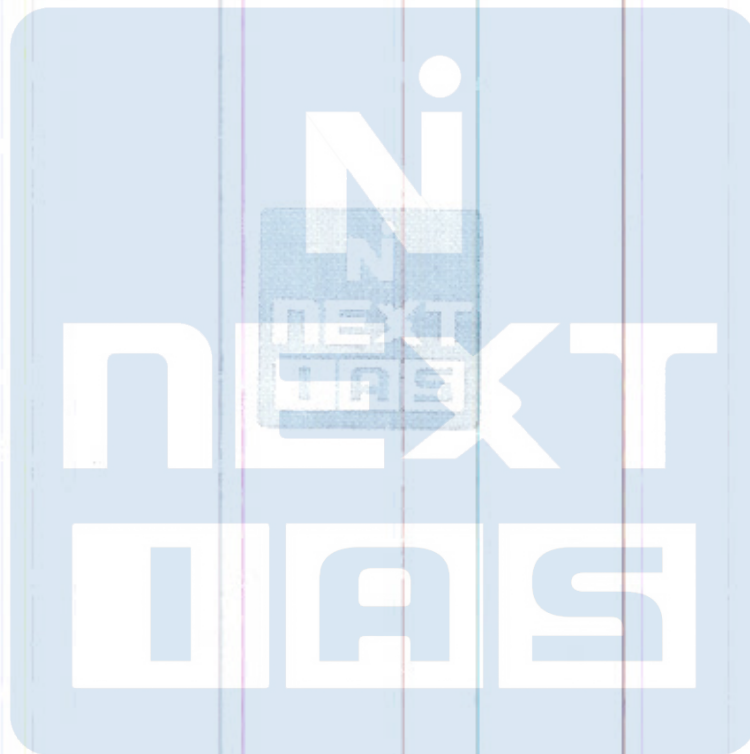
However, inspite of these challenges, you ~~to~~ can surely succeed if you have rational thinking and belief in your action. When Chipkoo movement started against mighty capitalists it was rational choice of livelihood coupled with belief in & this emotional attachment with nature which changed entire course and Policy of government towards environmental conservation.

Having said this, we need to augment ~~our~~ our actions with other virtules also like right knowledge, conduct and circumstances. Otherwise we may fail to ~~give~~ ^{take} wrong ways by miscalculation. M.N. Roy is called

as remarkable failure not because of his wrong motive but his wrong assumption of nature of British rule as main enemy. Later he rectified it in his philosophy of 'Radical humanism' which shows his temperament to learn from mistakes and act as if it were impossible to fail.

Similar was the step of Savitra, who waited for few days to calculate the scope of survival but ~~when~~ ^{after} she had rationally calculated greater risk of life in Delhi, she acted as if it were impossible to fail and took his father despite challenges, and later on ^{this little girl} inspired the world to fight mightily Pandemic of Corona.

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