

Roll No. \_\_\_\_\_

## ESSAY

Time Allowed: 3 hrs.

Max. Marks: 250

### Instructions to Candidate

- Both sections are compulsory.
- Attempt one essay from each section.
- Each essay carries 125 marks.
- Write each essay in about 1000-1200 words.
- After finishing the first essay, attempt the next on a fresh Page.
- Any page left blank in the answer-book must be crossed out clearly.

(Examiner will pay special attention to the candidate's grasp of his/her material, its relevance to the subject chosen, and to his/her ability to think constructively and to present his/her ideas concisely, logically and effectively).

Name KIRAN SHRUTHI DV

Mobile No. [REDACTED]

Date 06/09/2017

Signature Kiranshuthi

1. Invigilator Signature \_\_\_\_\_

2. Invigilator Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### Remarks

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SECTION - A

1. Many men go fishing all of their lives without knowing that it is fish they are after.
2. The material world is simply an expression of the mind.
3. The higher we are placed, the more humbly we should walk.
4. Sports and Competition do not build character; they reveal it.

SECTION - B

1. Consumerism kills culture with overproduction and heightened sense of need, established by the marketing.
2. In the era of post truth fact depends entirely on the power of man who can fabricate it.
3. People 'over-produce' pollution because they are not paying for the costs of dealing with it.
4. There are not enough jails, not enough police, not enough courts to enforce a law not supported by the people.

SECTION - A

"SPORTS & COMPETITION DO NOT BUILD CHARACTER, THEY REVEAL IT."

Sports and competition enrich our lives immensely. Sports and competitions provides a dose of happiness and a break from the monotony. We are incredibly happy to watch our favourite sports persons/teams in action and cheer for them. We feel incredible pride when they win and disappointment when they lose. More so, when they represent our country.

Both aims to win. *winning for nation to do something*

Sports has existed from time immemorial. What started as a leisure activity has evolved into a competition which requires extreme dedication and skill. Almost all modern day sports were once a leisure activity for example football was originally played by shepherds as a pastime in Scotland, Tennis originated in the

Remarks

court of Louis XVI in France, Wrestling was once a physical exercise in Ancient Greece etc. But once the skill factor is involved, the question arises, how to decide who is the best in the field? Hence competitions evolved and the sportspersons competed against each other with rules and regulations.

Sporting honour is associated with high pride even in the Ancient era. The Ancient Olympics held in Greece where the victors were highly feted is an example of that. Even in India skills in archery and wrestling were highly appreciated. Our mythical figures were highly endowed with these skills.

So it leads us to the question, why are sports and competition widely regarded by us? why do they evoke so many emotions within us? The answer can be found in observation at what they reveal. Sports and competition apart from being games factor of skill, they

Remarks

involve two of the most important <sup>qualities</sup> skills to man: hardwork and perseverance. Without dedication to your craft and perseverance it is hardly possible to succeed. Having skill alone does not qualify you for success.

"Hardwork beats talent, when talent does not work hard". Competitions reveal the person who has persevered the most, struggled the most and yet did not give up and succeeded. This acts as a beacon of hope to others. Hence we sports reveal the amount of work a person is willing to put to succeed.

Competition does not simply end with winning but also how you carry yourself after your excellent laurels. It shows whether a person is justifiably proud of his actions while remaining humble, or does it become everything to him and causes him to develop a ego. It reveals the nature of the person that is hitherto unseen during the unguarded moments after a victory.

Remarks

Sports ~~are~~ <sup>are</sup> ~~not~~ <sup>not</sup> ~~just~~ <sup>just</sup> ~~about~~ <sup>about</sup> ~~winning~~ <sup>winning</sup> ~~but~~ <sup>but</sup> ~~also~~ <sup>also</sup> ~~about~~ <sup>about</sup> ~~losing~~ <sup>losing</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~how~~ <sup>how</sup> ~~you~~ <sup>you</sup> ~~carry~~ <sup>carry</sup> ~~yourself~~ <sup>yourself</sup> ~~after~~ <sup>after</sup> ~~a~~ <sup>a</sup> ~~victory~~ <sup>victory</sup>.  
 ↓  
 Good / Bad  
 Do fame on next analysis

People tend to adore their heroes who have kept a humble demeanour after winning, rather than someone who lets success define them.

More importantly, it shows how they react to a defeat, are they gracious in defeat or, do they accept blame for their defeat, accept their shortcomings and strive to do better! Or a person can be bitter in defeat, blaming anybody other than themselves for their loss. It reveals the type of person who is dependable, who can be counted on to introspect, to do the right thing especially when it is difficult to do so.

Sports and competition are increasingly a team event. It helps in the building of a camaraderie between the different members of a team. It promotes the feeling of oneness, rather than a feeling of individuality. It builds the trait of taking pleasure in the success of others, rather as much as your own. It means ~~looking~~ looking out for each other rather than looking out for oneself. It teaches the

Remarks

individual to put the needs of the team above his own requirements. It melds a collection of individuals into a single entity.

As it <sup>says</sup> true, <sup>just</sup> <sup>you</sup> <sup>can't</sup> <sup>have</sup> <sup>many</sup> <sup>winners</sup> <sup>why?</sup>

It is said in sports, that the team which behaves like one wins. The team though it may have talented individuals may not succeed unless they have a common aim. For example, in the Football world cup though there were many teams with talented individuals like England, Argentina, Holland it is the team which depended on the collective brilliance of all its members, Germany that won.

Competing in a team, brings out the person's character that is hardly visible to anyone. It brings shows how much he is prepared to sacrifice his personal ambitions for that of his team's victory. It reveals how he alters/refuses to alter his particular specialty for the best of the team. It reveals how <sup>he</sup> acts when a member makes a mistake? <sup>Does</sup> he brush it off?

Remarks

Academically  
Business  
Confidence  
Went  
right

or hold it against him? Does he act as a uniting presence or a divisive figure in the team? Does he accept advice, suggestions from his teammates or does he spurns them without giving any thought? It shows the flexibility, open mindedness of the person.

Team competitions also reveals how much an individual is prepared to fight for the team. Does he give up and bring the team down during a defeat or does he rise up and motivate the team. It is during crisis, that the nature we work hard to suppress creeps up. Hence competitions reveal the best of ~~us~~ us or the worst of us.

More importantly it reveals how badly the person wants to win. Does the person wants to win at all cost or does the person wants to win fairly. Does the ends justify the means or are the means equally important? This causes many a brilliant sports persons to fall from their adored perch. Lance Armstrong, who won the Tour De France, many times was hailed as a

Remarks



exemplary sportsperson. His rise after fighting cancer, showed the triumph of spirit over the fatigue of the body. But later it was revealed that he was determined to win by any means necessary that included doping. By doing so his character revealed an utter disregard for the rules of the game as well as an utter disregard for the principles of fairness and sportsmanship. He succeeded in besmirching his own reputation in the eyes of the people.

A Lesson & Role of Pushover

But equally there are people who inspire us. Every single athlete in the Paralympics show us, that once you set your mind to it, the hardships of the body can be overcome. They act as the epitome of the principle "mind over matter". There are others like Wilma Rudolph, who from a black family in the USA in the 1920's, who was diagnosed with scarlet fever and double pneumonia win in the Rome Olympics. Then there is Jesse Owens who won at the height of the rise of Nazism in Germany in the Berlin Olympics. Our own deander Paes overcome a Brain tumour to continue to succeed.

Remarks Good points - But confuse each dimension

ie. → Main idea - explain - illustrate - discuss inference  
 How to keep it merely

Sports and competition thus reveals what a person is made of. It ~~we~~ builds as well as reveals what a person's character is really like. It shows the motivations of a person, what drives them to act the way they do and how they conduct themselves after the victory.

The reason why sports and competitions are adored by many is that they offer us hope. Hope that hardwork and perseverance does result in laurels, that the talent ~~can be~~ honed with dedication takes us places, that coming from different backgrounds does not matter as long as we work hard and strive to improve ourselves.

They also teach us how to make use of the opportunities offered to us and how to cograb an opportunity when they are offered. They teach us the value of time and how every second counts. They show us the lessons of how to

Remarks

be not thwarted by defeat or uplifted by winning, that being level headed is important to get ahead. They bring out the best in us, and tries to minimise our flaws.

In order, to make our personality well rounded, and for motivation we look up to those who compete and win for inspiration. We do so because the competition reveals the true character of a person. Even if he subconsciously tries to keep his traits hidden competition has a way of revealing it. This is why, we look to their lives to understand what motivates them and how they achieved their success.

~~This is why, it is said that competition reveals the character of a person. It is applies not only for sport, but also for any sort of competition like elections, academia etc. It shows how the person builds his profile to win and how the means he employs to win. Thus sports and~~

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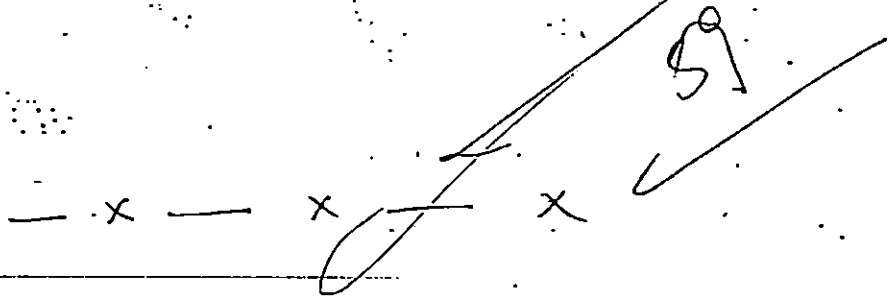
Remarks

Effective communication

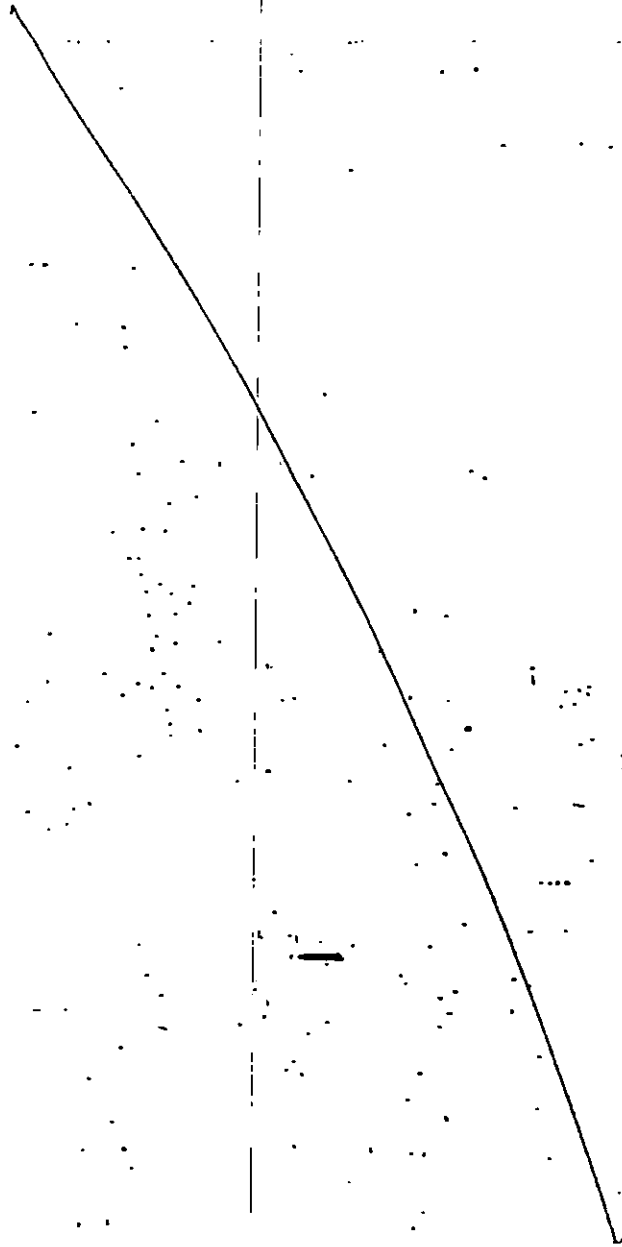
Just do critical analysis

& ensure integration of values / Dimensions

competition can be rightly held to be not just building character, but also reveal the underlying nature of their character.



Remarks



*Remarks*

## SECTION - B

Q. IN THE ERA OF POST TRUTH, FACT DEPENDS ENTIRELY ON THE MAN WHO CAN FABRICATE IT"

Post-truth is a phenomenon, which has come to prominence in recent days. It involves the alteration interpretation of facts and figures to suit the narrative of a particular view and to bolster their opinion. It seeks to mislead, or at least not give the complete picture to the general public so as to not make a rational decision.

Post-truth drives the people to act on the basis of emotion without verifying the veracity of the data given. In this age of information technology and the internet, there is a treasure trove of data available in an instant. The problem is how to authenticate the information being presented. With increasingly short attention spans of the public and the need to sensationalise the matter at hand and more importantly to control the narrative of the issue, post truth becomes deadly in the hands of the wrong persons.

Remarks

This phenomenon plays an enormous amount of power in the hands of the fabricator. The fabricator now has the motive and the ability to either sensationalise the issue, rile up the masses or he can dress up the issue as an unimportant phenomena and kill the issue at its bud.

Use of post-truth is not something new. In the past Bismarck made ample use of it, in needling the French during the unification of Germany. Again during the World War II, Nazis used this weapon to suit their narrative of Jew Hegemon. It was Goebbels the Nazis propaganda chief who said that if a lie was repeated again and again and again that people will be inclined to believe that there must be something to it. It convinced the world to turn their back on the horrors of the Holocaust.

And not just in the political world, even

Remarks

in the world of science, facts can be distorted to make something appear the way they want it to. For example, the anti vaccination campaign handled by the professionals who claimed that there is a link between autism and vaccination, using a data outlier. This put off many people from vaccinating their children, with the catastrophic result of being a reducing herd immunity and developing diseases which were once life threatening.

In the environment, as arena, post truth has been used to control the narrative of the climate change. There are many who believe that climate change as a phenomenon do not exist and they are done specifically to cripple the economies of the west and curb their productivity. There are people who believe that short term gain <sup>is worth more</sup> ~~outlives~~ long term destruction.

More recently in the case of Brexit, we saw that the narrative of the United Kingdom paying more than its fair share and the

Remarks



immigration crisis fuel the narrative and the debate. Finally culminating in the UK leaving the EU.

These examples show the power that a certain narrative hold to the people. This gives liberty to the powerful manipulator to use those facts for the person's own agenda. There are many reasons why post truth is extremely palatable to these people. The main attraction being it plays to the narrative of the majority. It confirms their belief in what they hold to be safe and correct.

It gives license to them, to indulge in acts of a morally grey area. For example, refugee issue in Europe. The Refugees are supposed to be treated with care and sensitivity and empathy. Instead with the narrative based on a miniscule portion of data, that they are there might be terrorists colors our entire outlook. Because of this, the entire refugees are refused asylum and turned back.

Remarks

to the country that they have fled. Normally people even though the thought of hosting so many refugees would be uncomfortable they would not have been turned back. But with the narrative that they are terrorists gave them license to turn the refugees away.

Post-truth satisfies the majority of the population it gives them a sense of satisfaction in their own actions. With the manipulation of data, they feel that they have taken the right path.

Mainly, it has sway and power because it gives the people a break from reality and sense of escapism. No one wants to hear that the world is reeling under the effects of climate change; that we are wreaking havoc on the planet and a drastic change in lifestyle is needed to save the planet. So in this scenario when a person pushes the fabricated narrative of how "Climate Change" is a hoax or how climate change can be good for the planet people cling to it as an escape from reality.

Remarks

So the manipulator, fabricator has unlimited power at his disposal. If this fabrication continues, it might benefit them. The oil companies and fossil fuel companies recognized this in the 1970's when they suppressed data on climate change and instead encouraged further production of fossil fuels endangering the planet but enriching them economically.

In the current scenario, post-truth evolves mostly on social media, rather than being a mere tool for networking it has evolved into a forum where people can air their views. When information arises from a source that appears to be credible, it is bound to get noticed and passed around. It becomes unstoppable in certain cases. Hence today the power once exercised by the media is now shared by the social media. Today their power has been truly recognized.

The power of good press and PR has also been recognized. Today in the world of journalism, for every

Remarks

one journalist there are 9 PR workers. This shows the importance attached to controlling the narrative.

It is necessary that governments, need to create a favourable climate / atmosphere for their reforms and policy proposals among the people so they have a greater chance of succeeding and they have a greater acceptance. But by misinterpreting facts the people should not be misled into supporting accepting policies that are patently not good.

Facts are sacred. They provide us with the base to take decisions, to formulate policies and to take the right course of action. Manipulating such facts distorts the very foundation of truth and while it does bring short term political gain, economic gain it destroys more than it brings.

Hence the social media, especially should be made aware of the immense power it possesses and should take responsibility for the information published. Else what seems harmless now has the

Remarks

ability to turn into a chimera that destroys us all. The fabricator/manipulator when identified of manipulating data should be punished adequately so that this is not seen as an encouragement to do so repeatedly.

Facts may be bitter, they may be hard to digest but as the saying goes "the bitter truth is better than the sweetest lies". Hence while Post truth may seem appealing, it is necessary to look beyond the meaning to see what they actually offer and then take a decision. It is important for every citizen to look beyond the narrative and take a reasoned decision. This is what will enable us to go beyond the current

state and ensure we progress and not stagnate.

- Essay is my compilation of my ideas

- x alex x
- you cannot ignore / have plus and.
- But you are too quick to write to another dimension. Try to bring some depth.

Remarks

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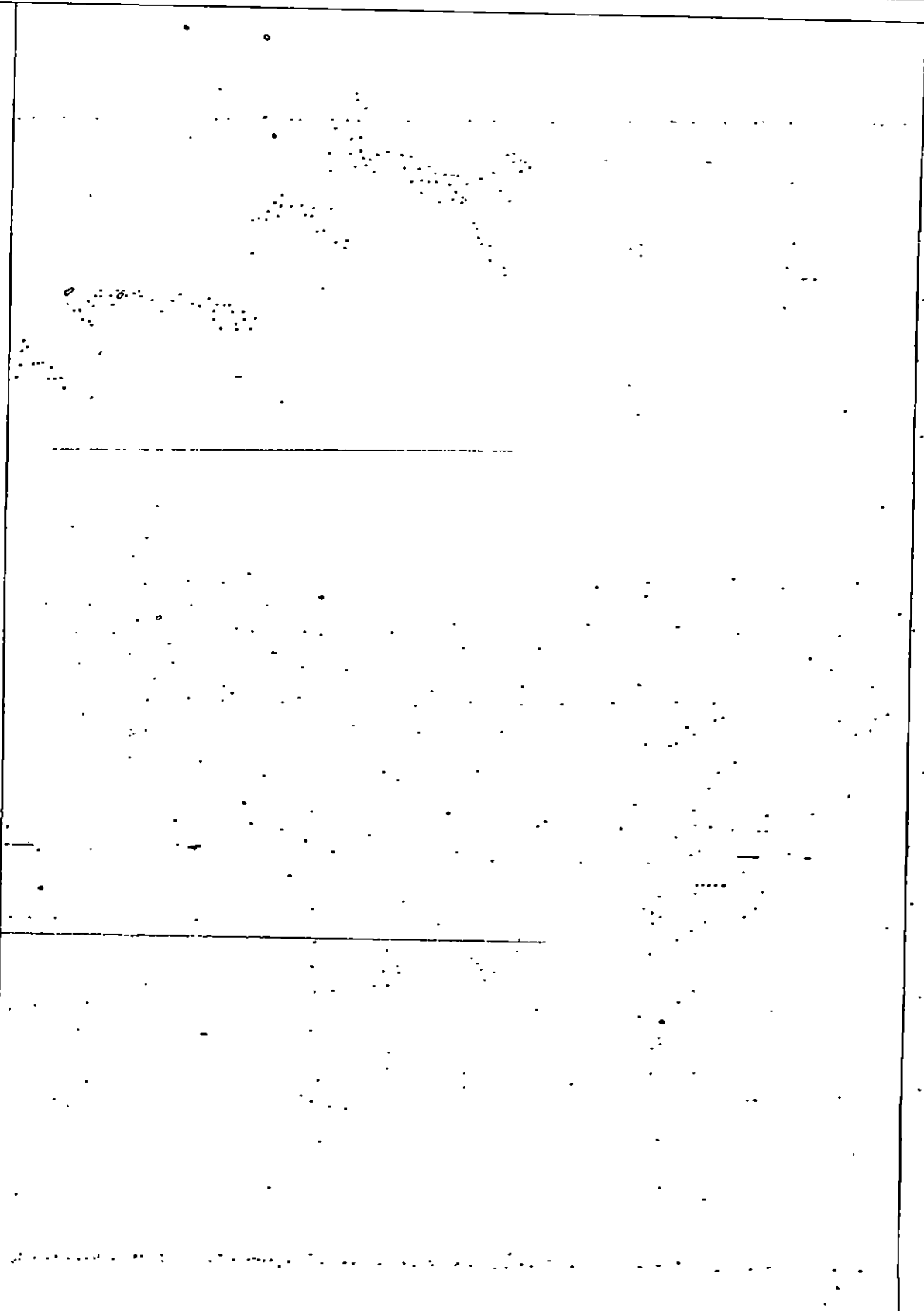


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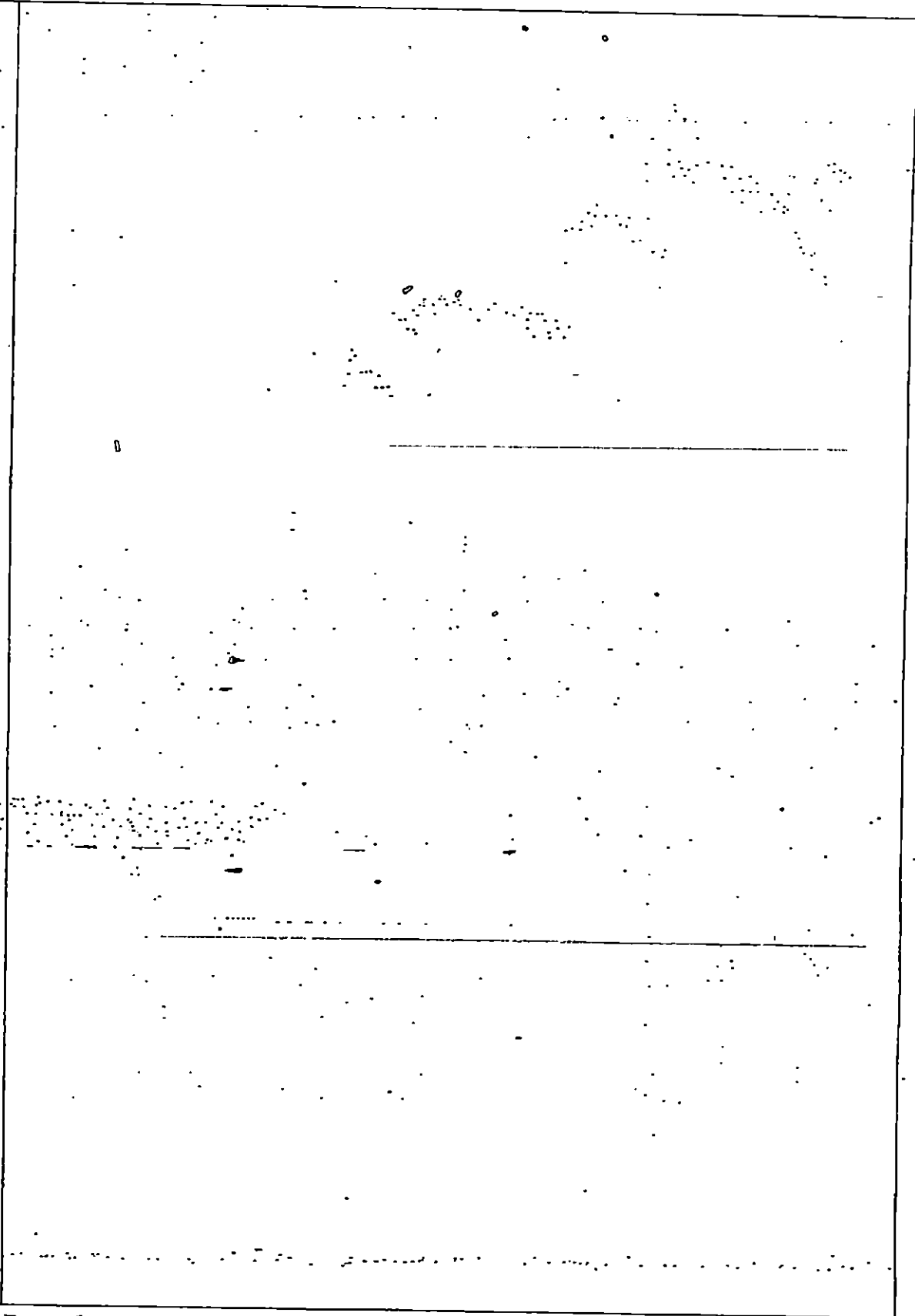
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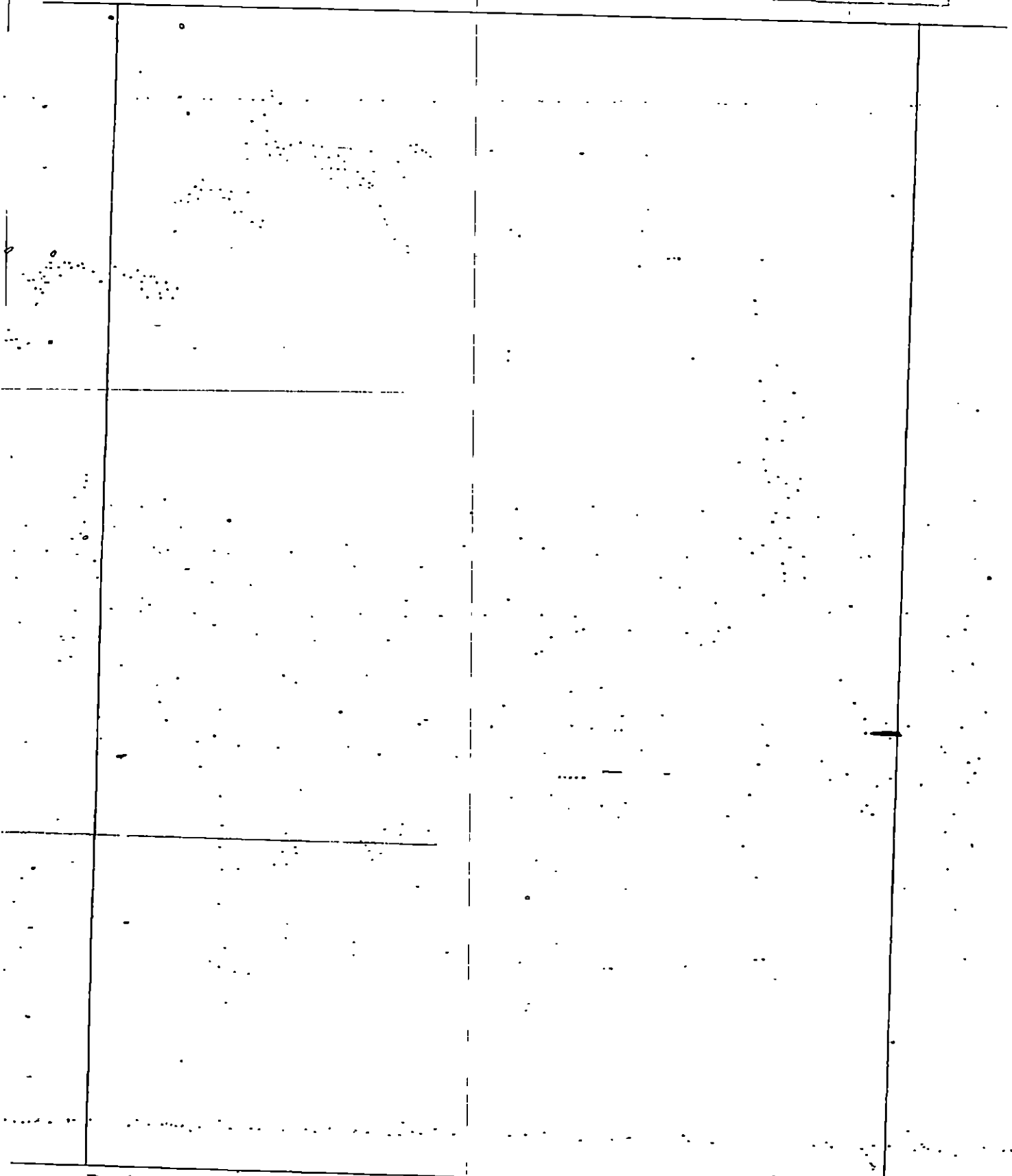
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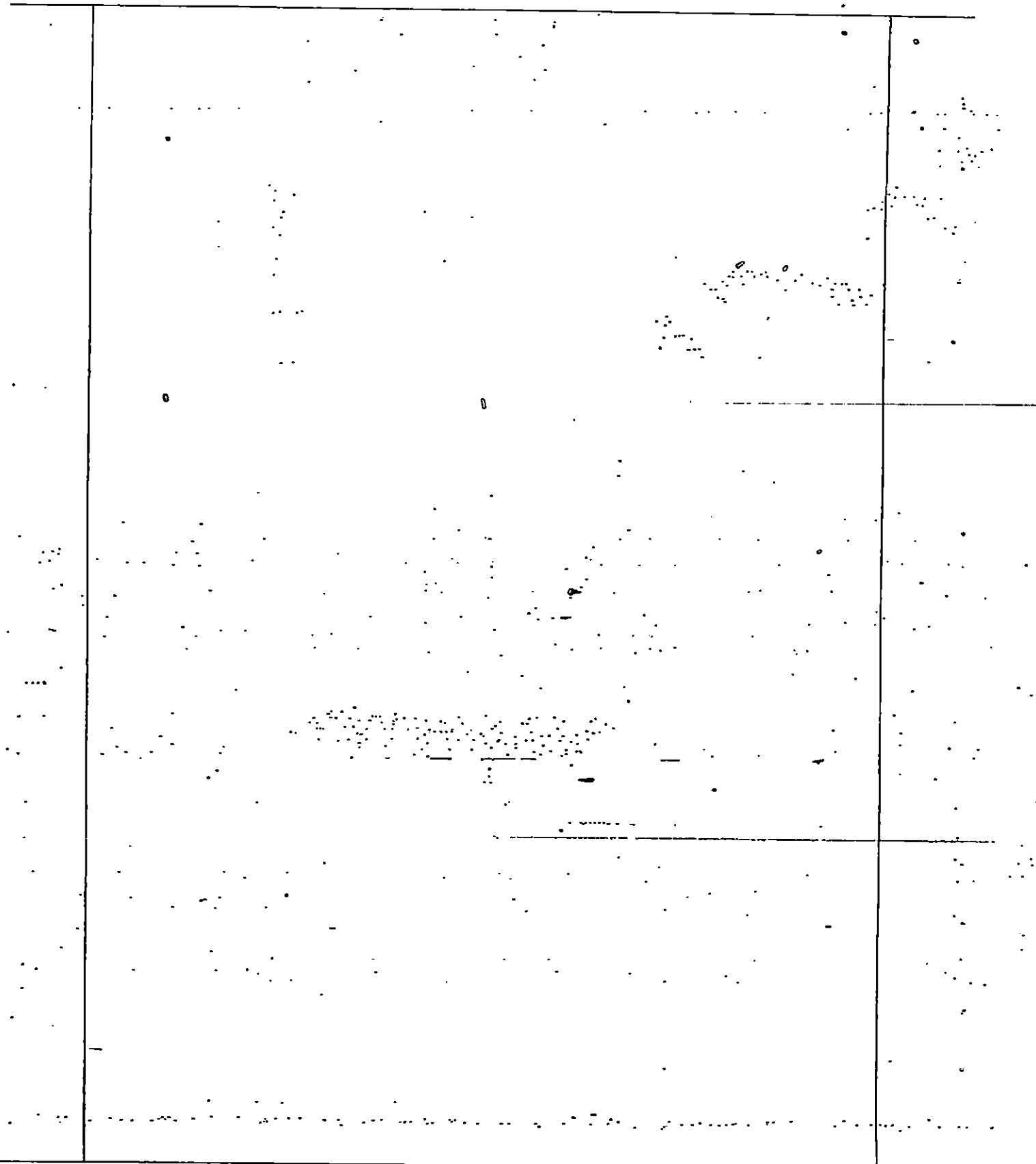
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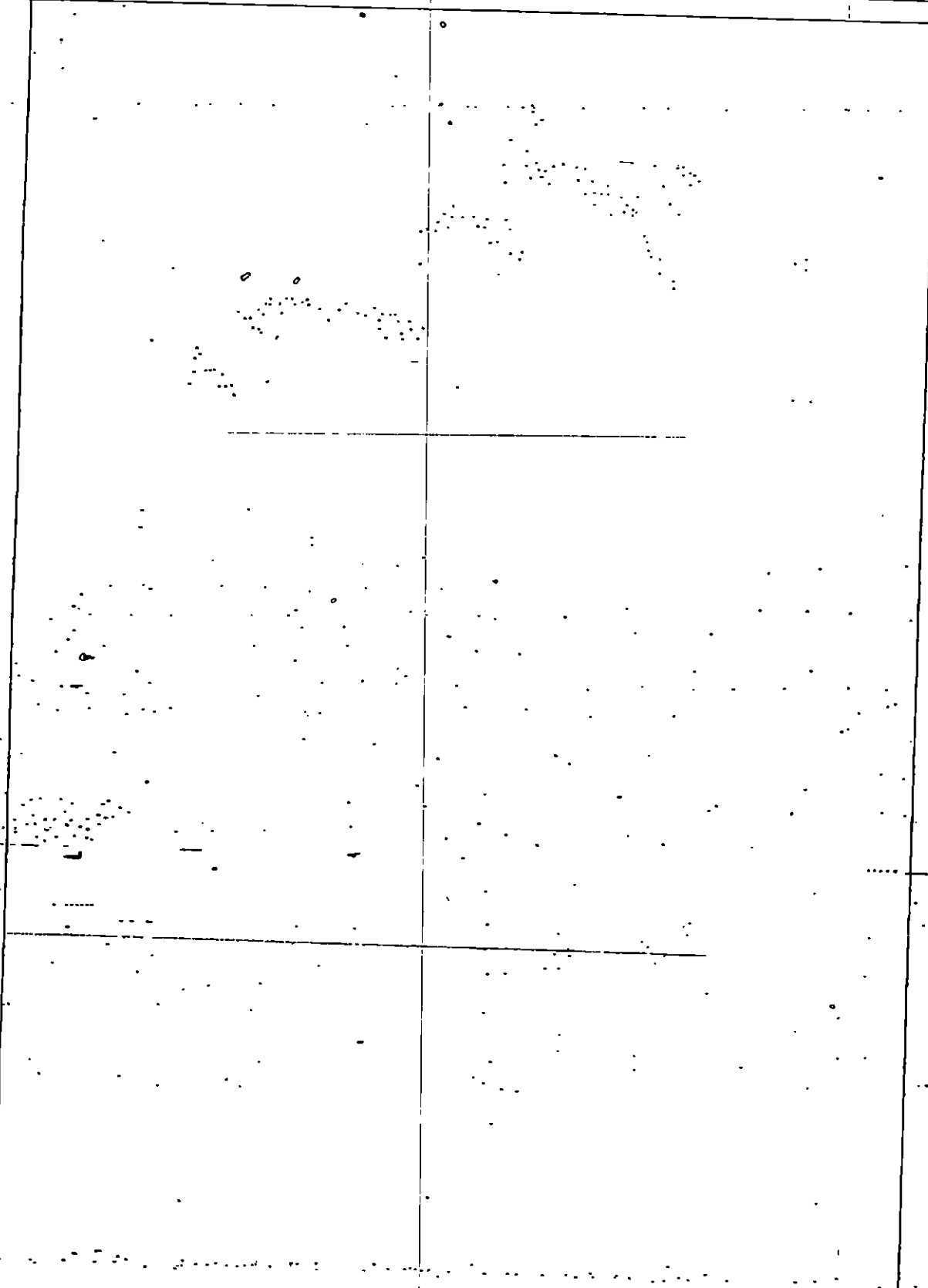
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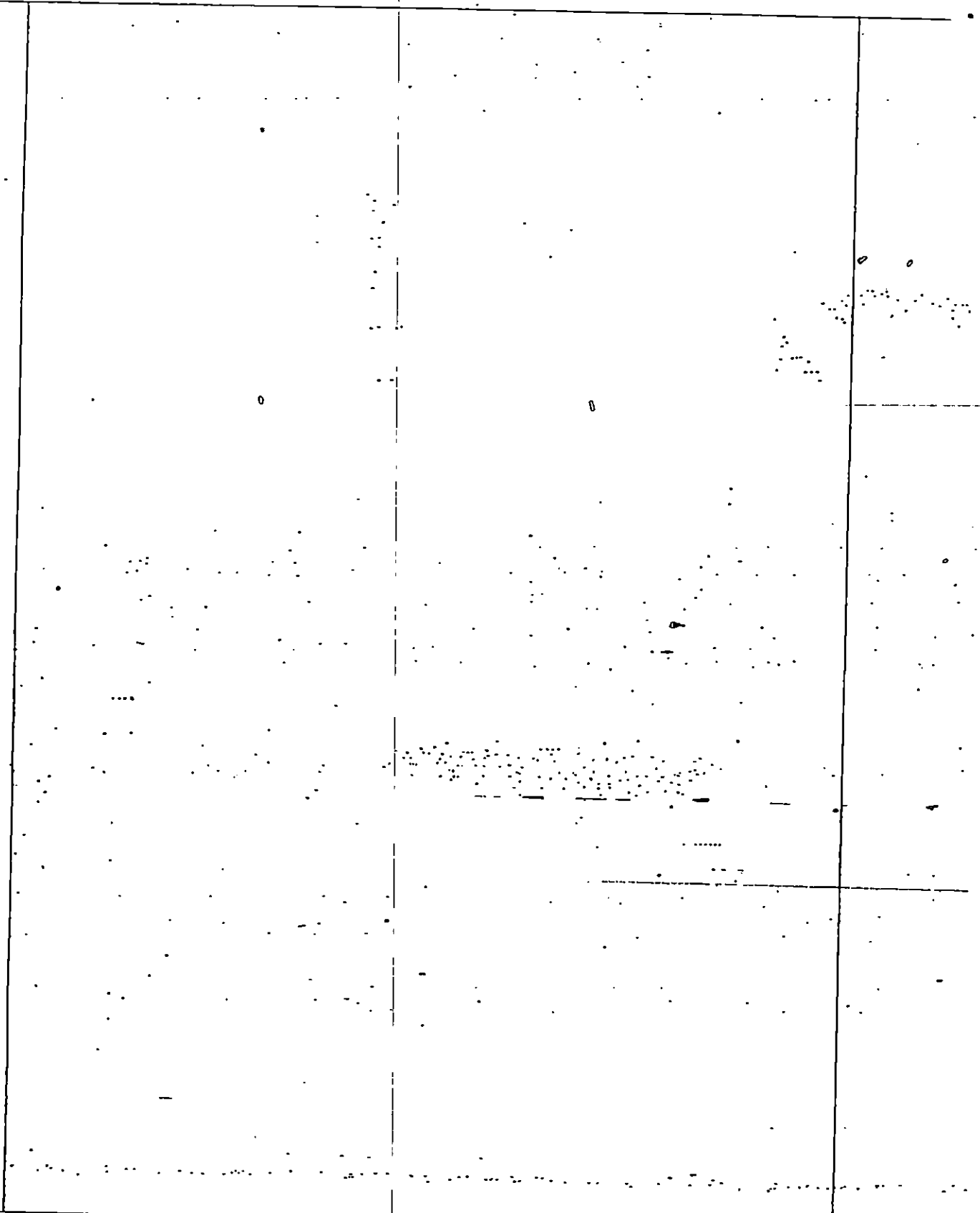
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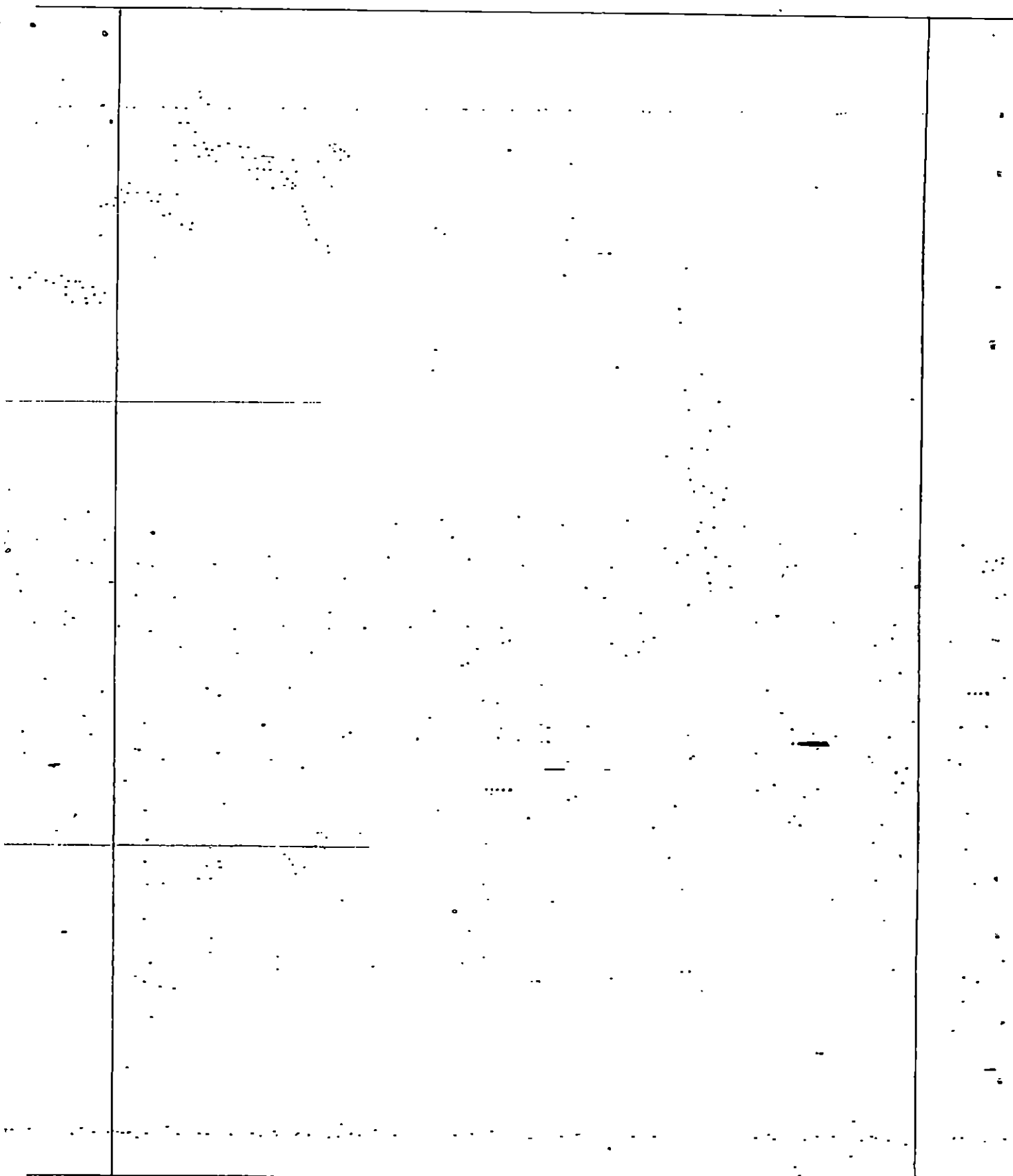


GS SCORE



Remarks

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*Remärks*

of climate change deniers

white supremacists

→ gives an outlet to the people who already feel wronged

→ power of the fabricator :

→ Immense power in his hands

→ eg. Goebbels - Nazi Propaganda

(his quote) - Jewish Holocaust

→ Bismarck - union of Germany through propaganda

Hanni: AIDS epidemic - misinformation & scare surrounding it →

→ Present : US Election

→ Distortion of facts

→ FB - wields power

Fabricator mindset

- exodus of north east students from South India

Remarks

In the era of post truth fact depends entirely on the person who can fabricate it?

POST TRUTH : Altering / misinterpretation of facts to suit the narrative, to suit the existing perception of the people.

→ Came into fore during the US election, BREXIT and the current crisis

Facts are sacred.

Why facts are important?

→ Scientific basis, grounded in reality, gives us a sense of what is right / wrong. how to proceed

→ They may be the bitter truth. but still they give us a solid base.

→ Enables us to take a rational decision

Why are post-truth's attractive?

→ Plays to the narrative of the majority

→ Makes people feel good about the morally <sup>grey actions</sup> good ~~pro~~ like racism.

→ Satisfies the

→ Gives them a break from reality and escapism to

→ the real problems plaguing them

Remarks

Are they prepared to win at all costs or win fairly?

→ Elections; Doping, Lance Armstrong (US)

Populism

Monetary Gain (Betting)

• Sports and competition enrich our lives ; they make dull events sparkle, promote a feeling of oneness.

Remarks

4. Sports & competition do not build character  
they reveal it.

Sports : & competition



leisure activity : to occupy man ; for physical fitness ; acumen ; decision making ; demonstrating strength & activity

competition : to compete and find out who is the best ; rewards & laurels attached to it

eg. Ancient Olympics, Archery skills tested ... Mahabharat  
are called character

Why sports & competition building ?

- Team Eff. Discipline & perseverance needed to excel
- To keep fighting, striving to be better when winning
- To be gracious in defeat
- Team Effort - camaraderie
- Honour for their country

Why they reveal character ?

(1) How they handle defeat ?

- ↓
- (2) Gracefully → Or in bad humour  
do they learn from it      blame the opponent

(3) Team player or individual

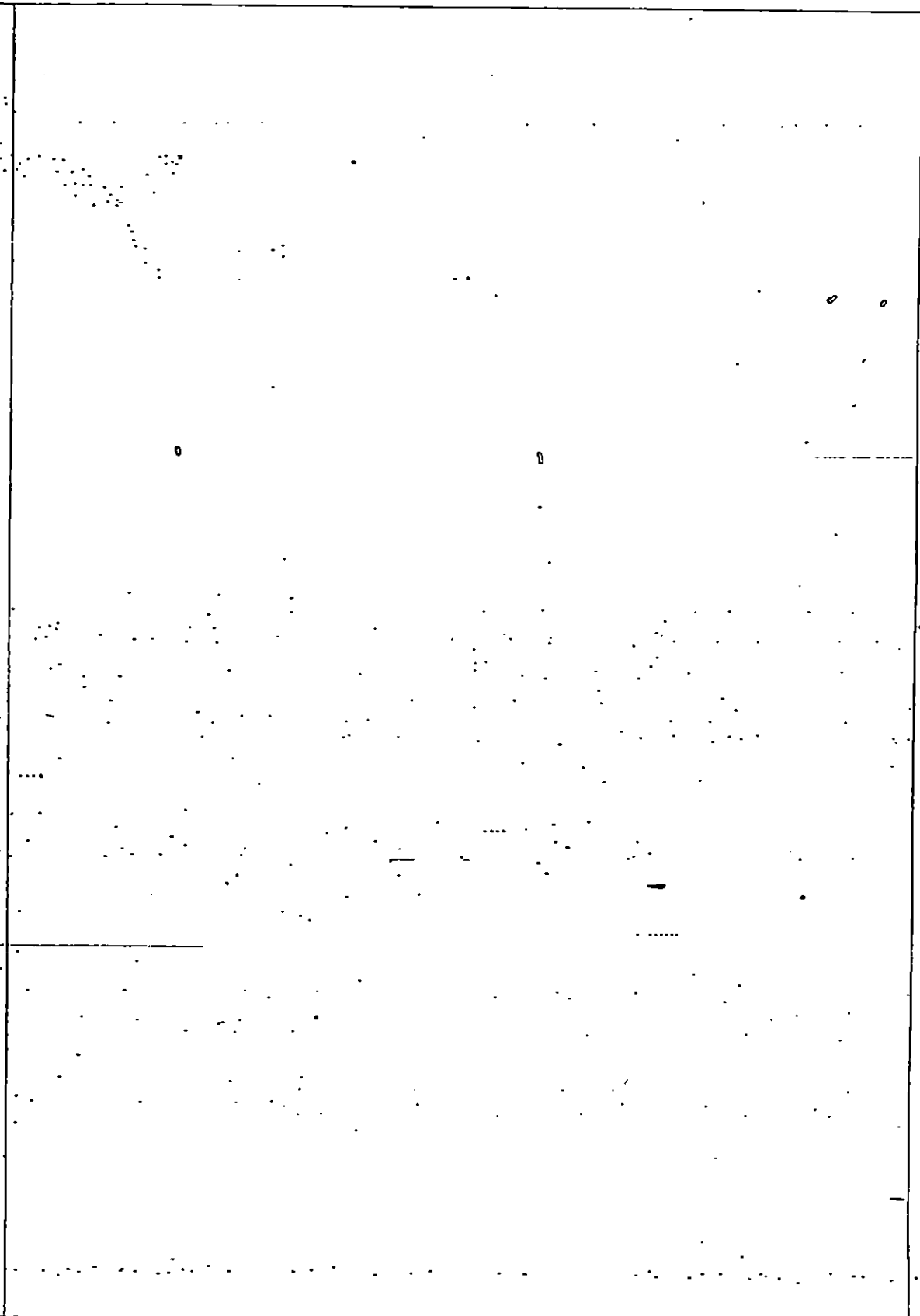
(4) Does the end satisfy the means or the means equally important

Remarks

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Remarks



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