

GSSCORE

An Institute for Civil Services

IAS TOPPER'S

TEST COPY

ANKUSH SINGH BHATI

RANK - 238

GS MAINS ESSAY



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Roll No. _____

ESSAY MOCK TEST

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.

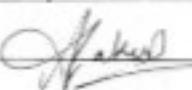
Remarks

(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 Ankush Singh Behati

Mobile No. _____

Date _____

Signature 

1. Invigilator Signature _____

2. Invigilator Signature _____

SECTION - A

1. Our constitution is a ray of hope: H for Harmony, O for Opportunity, P for People's participation and E for Equality.
2. A national festival is an occasion to refine and rebuild the national character.
3. Trade is a communication of cultures and values; when trade stops, war comes.
4. The relationship between Human Intelligence and Artificial Intelligence (HI + AI) will necessarily be one of symbiosis.

SECTION - B

1. The noblest way to acquire wisdom is reflection.
2. It is easy to hate and it is difficult to love; in fact, all good things are difficult to achieve; and bad things are very easy to get.
3. If you are lonely when you are alone, you are in a bad company.
4. We can evade reality, but we cannot evade the consequences of evading reality.

SECTION-A

1. Our constitution is a ray of hope: H for Harmony, O for Opportunity, P for People's participation and E for Equality.

"At the stroke of the midnight hour; when the world sleeps, India will awaken to a new rising". This is an excerpt from the famous ~~saying~~ speech of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru - India's first Prime Minister. When Nehru spoke from the rampart of Red Fort, his words cut across the national boundaries to reach every nook & corner of the World. His words were bold, eyes were stiff, and his resolution unwavering. He was making a promise to the newly formed independent Nation of a bright, ~~and~~ prosperous and egalitarian future. His words were warm for the marginalized and downtroddens of India. ~~But~~ They were empowering to the women of country, and they were assuring to all its citizens. When Nehru spoke,

he did ^{so} with an unwavering confidence and resolve. His confidence was built upon the edifice of Indian Constitution. The "backing" of the Constitution did not let him doubt for a moment about the promises he was making. Such was the strength that our Constitution imparted to Nehru.

Over 70 years have passed since the speech. But the speech still echoes in the ears of every Indian. The ~~the~~ country has gone through ups and downs, but the promises remain afresh in our minds. So, did the Constitution stand by Nehru's promise all along? Did it bestow upon the AWAKENING that Nehru was talking about? Or has it ~~been~~ eroded in the wand of time!?

WHAT DOES CONSTITUTION SIGNIFY!?

Indian Constitution, unlike American or French constitutions, was not built in a

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day. It had a journey of about 150 years starting from 1773 AD. It had gone through multiple stages of hardships ~~and~~ to come out as a sparkling star as it is today.

The development of Constitution has moved along the journey of Nationalist movement. It is erroneous to think that the work on Constitution was started in 1946 when the Constituent Assembly was established. It had started when the first time Indians stood for their rights, and had evolved over time getting shaped, and reshaped. This is so because the ideals that Constitution enumerate, the values that it impart, and the hope that people show on it can't be built in one or two years. What happened in 1946 was just mechanical task of writing down these values, and giving it a physical shape.

When written down in paper, ~~the~~ it became a symbol. A symbol of hope, aspirations,

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faith and trust. This symbol embodied the years of struggle, it had an essence of agony of extremists, petitions of moderates and blood of revolutionaries. It is ~~the~~ ^{is} fountainhead of hope and premise that Gandhi, Nehru, Tilak, Azad showed us. What is the constitution without this hope? A ~~few~~ piece of paper? A spiritless book?

INDIA BEFORE CONSTITUTION

When Ambedkar returned back to India after completing his studies abroad, he had to work in Baroda. But when he moved to the city, he realised that he can't be accommodated anywhere as he's an untouchable. No body gave this highly educated lawyer a shelter.

When 13 million of people ~~were~~ in Bengal were dying of hunger, the ~~big~~ Nawab of Hyderabad was declared among top 10 richest persons in the world.

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~~When~~ girls in 1940s, ~~women~~ aspired to get education, and dared to dream, she was looked down upon.

These are just few examples to show the fissures and schisms that our country was reeling under. Poverty engulfed almost all the parts of country, literacy rate was 17%, we did not have food to feed the citizens. All this happening in a country already divided on the lines of gender, caste, class, religion, language & ethnicity.

The future seemed so dark that famous political scientists predicted fall of India, even before it stood up. Churchill was confident that India can't survive for more than 15 years.

But as the time ~~as~~ testifies, we have proved all of them wrong. We not only survived, we flourished. We rose year by year, decade by decade to make our position in top strongest countries of the World.

(HARMONY AND CONSTITUTION)

India is a coalition nation bound together by constitution. It has diversity in race, caste, religion, language, habits and what not. But still the country stands as a 'Nation'. It has become a symbol of unity and harmony in the world.

Harmony comes from the fraternity and integrity that our Preamble promotes.

The very first article of Constitution reads "India, that is Bharat, shall be a UNION of States" (Article 1). It is not a Union in spirit. It gives ample sovereignty and freedom to the States. It's of form which is famously called a 'Quasi-federal'. Which means COOPERATIVE FEDERALISM, yet united. In this way it promotes harmony among states.

CITIZENSHIP is a legal membership of any democracy. It comes with a promise of equal rights and opportunities to all. In

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this way, it recognises the rights of every person and promotes Political Harmony among them.

No harmony prospers in distress and pain. Unless, freedom is guaranteed, and protected, harmony remains in danger. By guaranteeing a set of fundamental rights and their protection, the constitution brings people together. It gives you the right to move and settle anywhere. This right protects a Marathi living in Delhi, or a Bihar living in Chennai. It provides space for people to interact, meet and do business together.

Religious harmony is promoted by Articles 25-30 which give the rights to religious freedom, propagation, protection. Any religious community living in fear will be detrimental to harmony.

Apart from fundamental rights, other rights like right to do trade, right to vote etc all

promote harmony.

OPPORTUNITY & CONSTITUTION

The Preamble promises an equality of states and opportunities to all. The opportunity that constitution talks about are ~~multi-faceted~~ multifaceted. It includes opportunity to growth, political opportunity, opportunity to hold your religious beliefs, opportunity to do trade, business and opportunity to make yourself heard.

Article 19 is the source of most opportunities. It gives you freedom. Right to freedom of Speech and expression gives you opportunity to say or not say your thoughts.

Right to freedom of forming associations give you a collective right to express yourself.

Not all the parts of India are equally blessed with resources or geographical

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opportunities. Constitution, by giving you a right to move freely, and settle anywhere in India nullify these differences. As a result, the poor and down trodden from failing areas of Bengal, Odisha and Bihar are working in metro cities like Delhi and Mumbai.

Right to do any Business, trade and profession is another cornerstone of opportunities.

Then the opportunities of propagating, protecting and practising religions of your choice is a big blessing that many countries do not give.

With the ever expanding definition of Article 21, the Right to life has become a source of numerous opportunity. Also, Art 21-A, which guarantees a Right to Education is an opportunity of opportunities. It is a power to open up new vistas and avenues for people children of India.

(Right to vote), though not a fundamental right, is equally empowering. Adult suffrage had been dream of most nations, yet to be fulfilled.

Right to vote comes with Right to participate in elections, and become a part of Government.

So, in short, constitution has tried to encapsulate all forms of opportunities that one can dream of.

Equality and Constitution

Inequality may exist in myriad of forms in a society. It can find manifestation in form of inequality based on gender, caste, religion, class, ethnicity, age etc.

When ~~exists~~ Part-II of constitution bestows upon an equal citizenship to all Indians, it sabotages and obliterates all the forms of inequalities present in society.

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By the virtue of this citizenship, one can ask for equal opportunity and status, equal participation in election, equal right to freedom and equal justice.

Article 14 guarantees equality before law, and equal protection of law for all. Be it a PM or a rikshaw-puller, both stand equal before a court of law.

The biggest social-evil that India had faced in past is caste based ~~violence~~. Constitution had explicitly mentioned inequality. Constitution had made it Abolition of Untouchability, and had made it a crime punishable by law.

Any discrimination based on race, religion, caste, sex or place of birth stands ultra-vires to the Article 15 and 16.

(People & CONSTITUTION)

The Preamble of the Constitution starts as "We the people of India...". This signifies

that the whole Constitution derives its power and legitimacy from the People of India. This is the reason why India is also known as People's Republic.

Democracy is made successful only when the masses participate in it. By giving all the adult citizens an equal right to vote, the Constitution guarantees this participation from their behalf.

One of the DPSP mandates the state to increase people's participation in cooperatives decision making.

Not only people participate in form of elections which happen every five years. They do participate by forming Pressure groups, Civil societies, Political parties, Labour unions and all. This enables them to participate on a day to day basis.

ROLE OF JUDICIARY.

We have seen that how the various provisions and articles of the constitution promote harmony, equality, opportunity and participation. But the promotion will fall short of its target without protection.

So, the very Constitution also ensures for protection of these 'HOPES' by means of Judiciary. Along with Protection, the Judiciary with its ever expanding definition of the provisions, ensures that the HOPE ~~remains~~ remains aligned with needs of today.

For example, lately the Judiciary has read down the Section 377 of IPC and recognized

the rights of LGBTQ community.

Similarly, earlier in 2017, it gave a new ^{meaning} ~~meaning~~ to Right to Life in form of Right to Privacy.

So, we have seen that how the Constitution of India empowers each and every citizen with HOPE - Harmony, Opportunity, Participation and Equality. But this isn't an end in itself. There's a famous saying that "with Great power, come great Responsibilities". With these powers, the Constitution also give us a responsibility to protect them; to nurture them.

The Constitution can only provide a space to fulfill the promise that Nehru made to us. It is "We - The people of India" who have to fail to realize that promise.

SECTION-B

4. we can.. evade reality, but we cannot evade the consequences of evading reality.

An Ostrich is seen as the 'biggest' bird in the world. However, its big size comes with a disadvantage of equally small brain. When an Ostrich faces a Fox in jungle, it escapes to save itself. And after running for few meters, it digs up a hole and sinks its face in that hole. He can't see the fox now. And his logic says that the fox ~~should~~ could also not see him now. As expected, the Ostrich soon becomes the fox's meal. What is true for Ostrich is also true for humans, societies, civilizations and nations. We can evade the reality by sinking our face in that hole, but can't evade the consequences (the fox) that follow.

ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY - The Earth is dying a slow death!?

Post Industrial revolution, the world has seen unprecedented levels of prosperity and wealth. The livelihood of people in general has improved drastically.

The pace and quantity of production have attained new levels from producing for subsistence to producing surplus for market, the whole economic system has went for an overhaul.

While the whole world was basking in the glory of capitalism, somewhere in the other corner - the sea water level were rising, the floods were becoming frequent, and ice was melting much quickly.

Report of islands getting submerged, of much frequent forest-fires and of

dying animals and fishes did make their place in newspapers and journals. Researchers were publishing academic papers on changing Ecological balance in the World.

But the glare of modernisation was so high, that all of this went unnoticed. We were so indulged in the celebrations of science that we missed out the clear signals that Earth was giving.

As a result, we have come to a time when all of this seems uncontrollable now. The average temperature of earth has gone up by 1.2°C of pre-industrial times, the ice in Poles have melted - increasing the water levels in sea, the Ozone layer is depleted beyond repair, water air and soil all are polluted.

The consequences of our neglect are standing firm on our face. The Earth overshoot day in 2018 was on 2nd August.

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It means that we are borrowing worth 5 months of resources from future generations.

(A MONARCH EVADED REALITY ONCE)

Louis XVI will be one of the most remembered kings of the World history. Not for his military might or for his superb governance but for being a cause of French Revolution. A revolution that heralded a totally new era in world, which changed the very fabric of political relationship between state and citizens.

French Revolution, or any revolution for that matter, do not happen all of a sudden. It is a slow process which unfolds gradually. Louis XVI couldn't see the reality, or tried to evade the reality if seen. As a result, he had to lose his life when the revolution came.

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Something similar happened with British rule in India, when the Army revolted against the Raj. It didn't happen in a day, but was simmering under the ~~the~~ ~~the~~ garb of peace.

The same logic when applied to modern democratic states have much of the election result mysteries in World. It was a shock to the World when Trump won the US election. It was equally shocking to everyone when Arvind Kejriwal came to power in 2014. But such drastic happenings in the arena of politics are not sudden. They are results of neglect of politicians. They neglect the demands of citizens, and consequences follow.

1930, 2008 - THE YEARS OF ECONOMIC FAIL

Today's economy is so designed that it connects the whole world together in a

network. What happens in USA affects the national economy of ~~the~~ India. Similarly, recession in Greece affected all the countries of World.

In such an interconnected and inter-dependent world, a small change in economy can cause domino effect and lead to a global slowdown.

But the good news is that it doesn't happen in a day. Lehman Brothers didn't collapse in a day or week. Before the fall, issues develop. This is evident from the fact that Naphuram Rajan predicted the 2008 slowdown way back in 2006.

But it is the neglect of the world that causes a havoc like 1930's recession and 2008 slowdown.

Had adequate measures were taken in time, the slowdown were avoidable.

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HAZARD OR DISASTER?

Natural calamities are a reality since the dawn of civilizations. Civilizations as old as Mohen-jodaro faced calamities. They are part and parcel of Earth's existence.

But what makes the natural calamities or hazard a disaster? An earthquake in Antarctica is not a disaster. It is the human factor that makes a disaster. Poor planning, overburdening the resources, mindless exploitation lead to disasters.

Latest example being Kerala floods. The Mullaperiyar dam was built way back in 1895 for a life of 50 years. But even after 150 years, it remains intact. The government had gone for a 'Band-aid' technique, rectifying any leakage when it occurs.

Examples of disasters being made more

Hazards by neglect of humans are countless.

But neglecting the very signs that Earth gives is not a solution. The consequences are much more devastating.

(NEGLECT AT MICRO-LEVEL)

Neglect at governmental and policy levels have been seen. But does neglect happens in day to day lives as well?

Roads are where maximum neglect can be witnessed. We often avoid wearing helmets, putting seat belts and following the traffic rules. The results could be as devastating as losing ones limb or even ones life.

for many centuries, we have evaded the reality of gender-discrimination in our families and daily lives. The patriarchy

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in the family is a reality which is often goes unrecognised.

soon, it takes a form of gender-violence and societal crimes like rape, abduction, eve teasing etc.

A mother might neglect the small mistakes of her son daily. But when he lands in jail for same mistakes, she can't neglect it.

The instances of neglecting reality are innumerable. It happens at international levels when we refuse to accept the ill-effects of nuclear energy, it happens at national levels, at societal levels and at individual levels. The reality can easily be evaded by altering facts, by misguiding people etc. But it is like a time-bomb. Every neglect just adds up some more fuel to the Bomb. The bomb will certain explode one day.

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IntroAt the stroke of middayTugot with destinyMagna CartaBody! - What does Constitution signify.

① Its symbolic ② It's a fountainhead of hope and premise

Magna CartaHopesGony of the ExtremistsPetitione prayers of ModerateThe burning desire of Revolutionary forcesWarmdisasterIntro -ENVIRONMENT.

POLITICAL : [Louis XVI - French Revolution]

ECONOMIC.SOCIAL.Remarks