



An Institute for Civil Services

IAS TOPPER'S

TEST COPY

DEVANSHI LALL

RANK - 701

GS MAINS ETHICS

ETHICS, INTEGRITY AND APTITUDE

Time Allowed: 3 hrs.

Max. Marks: 250

Q.	Marks	Instructions to Candidate
1.		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There are 17 questions.• All questions are compulsory• The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.• Content of the answer is more important than its length.• Answers must be written in the space provided. <p>Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.</p>
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Name Devanshi Lall

Roll No. _____

Mobile No. _____

Date _____

Signature [Signature]

1. Invigilator Signature _____

2. Invigilator Signature _____

Roll No. _____

SECTION - A

Q1. Why does cultural relativism supposedly make us more tolerant of other cultures and, critically examine the view that moral values are relative? (150 Words) (10 Marks)

Remarks

Remarks

Q2. What is the relation between conviction, integrity and courage? Illustrate. What is the need and importance of conviction in leading a society or a group or an organization to achieve the goals of change and progress?
(150 Words) (10 Marks)

Remarks

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Remarks

Q3. Explain role of epistemology in administrative decisions through an example?
(150 Words) (10 Marks)

Remarks

Remarks

Q4. Do you think that the best civil servant is one who acts as a whistle blower or one who tries to find the possible solution from within the system? Give reasons and cite examples. What are the challenges in finding a solution from within the system?

(150 Words) (10 Marks)

Remarks

Remarks

Q5. Explain and elaborate the following statements:

- (a) Never stop your heart from desiring and always surround yourself with people who will inspire you to push the envelope.
- (b) Success is not the result of spontaneous combustion. You must set yourself on fire.
- (c) Courage is the most important of all the virtues because without courage, you can't practice any other virtue consistently.
- (d) To walk safely through the maze of human life, one needs the light of wisdom and the guidance of virtue.
- (e) There was never a night or a problem that could defeat sunrise or hope.

(50 Words Each) (5 × 4 = 20 Marks)

Remarks

Remarks

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Remarks

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Remarks

Q6. What is doctrine of double effect? Does 'Principle of Permissible Harm' stand the test of moral laws?
(150 Words) (10 Marks)

Remarks

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Remarks

Q7. What is excellence? What are the main obstacles in the pursuit of excellence? How does continuous pursuit of excellence help an ordinary person or a leader in betterment of the life and society?
(150 Words) (10 Marks)

Remarks

Remarks

Q8. Is innocence a positive or negative attribute? Can you say that the death of innocence is one of the main reasons for decline in faith in goodness? Would you agree that as the more intelligent and practical we become, there are more chance of death of innocence?
(150 Words) (10 Marks)

Remarks

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Remarks

Q9. Can 'goodness' be learnt? Discuss the eightfold path suggested by Buddha in this regard and explain its relevance in contemporary times for ordinary citizens, leaders and administrators?
(150 Words) (10 Marks)

Remarks

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Remarks

Q10. Define the following terms with respect to civil servants:

- (a) Beneficence
- (b) Self-integrity
- (c) Reciprocity
- (d) Serviceability

(50 Words Each) (4 × 5 = 20 Marks)

Remarks

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Remarks

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Remarks

Remarks

Q11. 'Only when correct reasoning and right desire come together does truly virtuous action results'. Do you agree? Justify.
(150 Words) (10 Marks)

Remarks

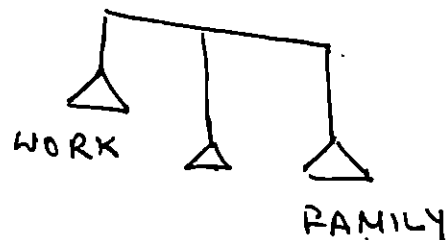
Remarks

SECTION - B

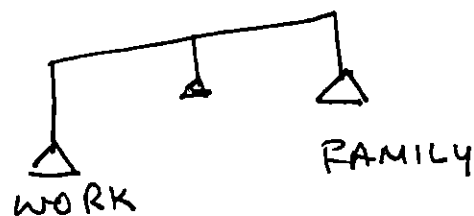
Q12. One of your friend, a mid-level bureaucrat, is highly upset because of his job related stress and family problems and often expresses his disenchantment with life. He gave an application for 3 week leave, which was sanctioned by his boss. However, a senior officer (placed higher than his boss), called him during his leave period to office for handling a sudden exigency and this was not the first time when such a thing had happened to him. It happens very often because the officer is very efficient and reliable. The officer has a feeling that those who work honestly are overused while those who work less but keep a personal liaison with seniors work less and get various rewards and privileges. He is disillusioned. He is unable to give reasonable time to his ageing sick mother, his wife who is under depression and children who are going to face their 10th and 12th board examinations. The officer is very upset and broken because of his inability to reconcile his official duties and family responsibilities. He seems to be very disturbed and broken. Despite being an honest and efficient officer he has not been given adequate rewards and recognition and space for looking after his personal needs; he displays signals of suicidal tendencies. What would be your suggestions to him? Discuss merits and demerits of each option. (250 Words) (20 Marks)

My friend here is facing disturbances in his professional and personal lives. These disturbances are in the form of :-

(1) work life and family life imbalance.



OR



Remarks

(2) Mental stress that has manifested into depression.

(3) Lack of satisfaction at work.

My suggestion to him would be

(1) Take Leave from Work.

Merits are :- He will get a break.

- Time to rejuvenate and regain his mental strength.
- Spend time with family, look after his ailing mother, nurture his wife and help the children with the exams.
- He and his wife could also practice meditation and Yoga during this period.

De merits are :- He will be relinquishing his official duties.

- Create imbalance between his rights (ie, to take leave) and duty to work.

(2) Continue Official work without leave.

Merits :- He will be fulfilling his

* leading to a mental breakdown.

GS SCORE

official duties.

- Respect from colleagues and seniors
- His expertise might be important to handle the current emergency.

Demerits :- → His stress levels might escalate ^{from} &

- Wife and mother might suffer mental and physiological elements.

- Children's studies might get hampered if both parents are unable to help and support them during this critical period.

(3) Reduce the period of leave - First finish the official work as soon as possible, then talk to his senior explaining his current situation and then take leave from work.

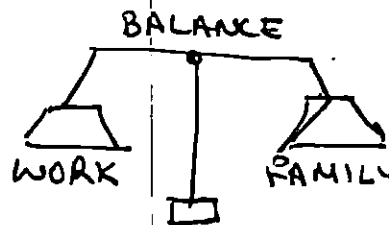
This would ensure ^a ~~the~~ ^{balance} ~~right~~ between his work (DUTY) and leave (RIGHT)

Merits :- ~~There~~ He would have finished his official work.

↓
Feeling of satisfaction & confidence

↓
should undertake meditation, go for a vacation with the family after the children's examinations.

↓
MOTIVATION



Remarks

Q13. As a District Magistrate in a tribal area, you have found that there are many superstitious practices which inhibit the welfare of the people such as - believing in super natural powers responsible for droughts, famines, natural disasters and diseases, witch hunting, fatalism (surrendered to fate rather than making efforts to change). While aspiring to act as an agent of change and development in the region, you find that there is opposition by people to modern ideas and practices. Answer the following questions:

- How will you proceed to remove superstition in tribal area and instill rationality among the people?
 - Do change and progress needed to dismantle the local traditions in the tribal area?
 - How a civil servant can win the trust of the people in a tribal area?
 - How to ensure people's participation in any measure which you have suggested?
- (250 Words) (20 Marks)

In the given case study the
NEED is DEVELOPMENT and
CONSTRAINT is SUPERSTITIOUS PRACTICES
of the TRIBALS

(a) As the District Magistrate I would have to be that catalyst who brings about social change. However at the same time it is my duty to respect tribal customs, norms and traditions.

Thus, I would need to find an innovative method to remove superstition and at the same time instill rationality among the tribals.

(ii) CHILDREN - It would be easier to talk to the children, teach them about rationality through different pedagogy models.

Remarks

eg:- Showing them films and cartoons.
 Learning through SCIENCE and Science Projects.
 Organising Cultural Exchange Programmes...
 Taking them for excursions. to science museums.

(2) WOMEN - Talking to them on a one to one basis.

Teaching them about healthcare, organising workshops.

(3) COMMUNITY RADIO - Involving the locals educating them about different geo physical processes in nature like - Rainfall, Winds, Droughts etc.

(4) (b) Change and progress do not have to dismantle local traditions.

They can go hand in hand.

① eg:- Eklavya Model Schools in Tribal areas, where children are taught ^{understanding} ~~keeping~~ the local traditions and customs.

Dr.

② In Ladakh, Wangchuk, trained Ladakhi students in water management and solar energy harvesting techniques that were traditional as well as scientific.

Remarks

In West Bengal, the dress code of Higher Secondary Female Students is a saree.

1 (C) Winning the trust of the tribal people, as a civil servant :-

- Becoming the 'servant' of the people by
 - Field visits
 - organising events when the locals can reach out to the office.
 - Forstering adaptability
 - Empathy towards the people.

Eg:- In Gopalganj, the DM dined with the widows in an event, to break social taboos.

- Using technology like Teleconferencing,
- Reaching out to the children, motivating them.

Eg:- DM in Dantewada organised a session with the children in the district, wherein he would give career counselling, talk about their studies and motivate the children to become leaders for tomorrow.

1(d) Ensuring People's Participation

- Public Outreach
- Volunteer Programme
- Rewards and Incentives

Eg:- Those who send their children to schools

Remarks would get free health check up, hygiene kits.

→ Sensitization of the Rural Development Officials

→ Motivating the people through

Q14. You are CEO of a company, which is involved in manufacturing of large-scale copper products. It has created good employment opportunity for the locals. But the local residents are not happy with the management of the company and big group of local residents are protesting continuously. They are demanding closer of the plant as factory discharge is contaminating the local water sources.

Your father is a senior IAS officer placed in the concerned Ministry. He is influential and very well networked. Company's management is pushing you to manage the situation and local authority through your father, as putting high quality production facility in plant will increase the cost of production, and company may lose market share in terms of sales if cost goes high. Based on the above situation answer the following questions:

- (a) What are the options available to you?
 (b) Discuss merits & demerits of each option.
 (c) What will be your final call? Justify.

(250 Words) (20 Marks)

The company in the given case is producing

POSITIVE EXTERNALITY ↓ Employment opportunity for the locals	NEGATIVE EXTERNALITY ↓ POLLUTING LOCAL WATER SOURCES
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As the CEO, I am placed with an ethical dilemma.

Using Personal contact for the enrichment of the company at the cost of the environment.

a) & b) The following options are available to me

① Use my father's influence to manage the situation

Merits → Easy, quick fix solution
 → Company will applaud me
 → Profitable to the company

Remarks

De merits → Environmental pollution, biodiversity loss.

→ long term costs would have to be borne by the local people.

→ Their health will deteriorate, and human capital will diminish.

→ This will not set a good example for the future.

→ As a person, I will be guilty conscious.

(2) Refuse to use my father's personal contact

Merits → Environment will be healthy

→ locals will be happy.

→ Polluting industries will have to pay a price.

→ Greater long term benefits in the form of clean environment, healthy lives and satisfied community living.

De merits → Risk my job

→ Being loss to my company

→ lose market share

→ local employees might lose their jobs if the plant gets closed.

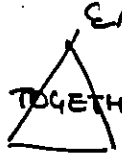
(3) As the CEO, Rise up to this challenging situation, go through the proper channels, address the concerns of the people, abide by the

Remarks

'Polluter Pays Principle', find ^{an amicable} ~~and~~ solution by involving all the stakeholders.

Merits → Using the theory of the GREATEST COMMON GOOD to solve the given situation.

Working for
PEOPLE ENVIRONMENT
TOGETHER COMPANY



→ Will not be using my father's influence because that would be wrong to the local people and the environment.

As a citizen of this country, I have a duty towards them too.

→ For my company, I would work towards finding alternative markets.

14(c) My final call would be Option (3)

This would ensure that I fulfill my duty towards my environment, my company and the local people.

ENVIRONMENT → Use technology that is less polluting or sewage treatment before discharging it.

COMPANY → Alternative market solutions, product diversification and Corporate Social Responsibility in the region for the people and environment.

Remarks

PEOPLE → Grievance redressal, legal channel ~~or~~ ~~After~~ and participation through C&R to reduce environmental impact.

Q15. You are head of a charitable trust that takes care of education, clothing, food & other basic needs of children from marginal community. Your organization also offers health services to the members of weaker section. You find it difficult to serve qualitatively because of the crunch of funds. Trust runs on donations and contributions from donors only. There is a regular fall in contribution from several imminent persons who were prime donors previously. Now you have decided to go for small advertisement to get donation for the good cause. Response is not very encouraging, however, a prominent local politician with a criminal record offers a hefty donation. The options available are:

- (a) Take donation from that politician.
- (b) Reject offer of that politician as his track record is poor.
- (c) Ask him to directly assist to those who are in need.
- (d) Reduce your operational scale to affordable level, so that you can sustain charitable work.

Analyse each option with its consequences.

(250 Words) (20 Marks)

As the head of the charitable trust, it is my duty to work for the education, clothing, food and basic needs of the children, and healthcare needs of the weaker sections. However because of paucity of funds I am unable to serve the children and the marginalised, to the best of my and my organisation's ability.

Therefore my primary concern is to

- Raise funds
- Ensure quality of life for the children and the marginalised.

(a) Take donation from the politician

Advantages

- Funds will be raised
- Basic needs of the children will

Remarks

be fulfilled.

→ Quality healthcare will be provided for the members of weaker sections.

Disadvantages

→ Politician is with criminal record, he might try to influence the trust and its activities.

→ Money received from him might be tainted black money.

→ Sense of guilt would haunt me.

This is a typical case of CONSEQUENTIALISM where the means justify the ends.

(b) Reject offer of the politician as his track record is poor.

Advantages

→ Won't receive tainted money.

→ Satisfaction, honesty and uprightness.

→ Lead by example

→ Channelize my energy to find other means to generate funds.

Disadvantages

→ Quality of life of the children will suffer.

→ Will have to downgrade some activities.

→ Create frustration and apathy.

Remarks

(C) Ask him to directly assist those who are in need.

Advantages - Ensure that the basic needs of the children are met.

- Healthcare is provided to the marginalised
- No guilt, frustration.
- The politician would be like 'Robin Hood'.

Disadvantages

- He might try to influence the children
- It could be vote bank politics.
- He might threaten the children and the members of the weaker sections.

This can put their safety into jeopardy.

(d) Reduce your operational scale to affordable level so that you ~~can~~^{the} sustain charitable work can sustain.

This is the most feasible option in the given situation.

It eliminates the need to take donation from the politician.

Quality of life for the children is also sustained.

For those who have been affected by downscaling, collaboration with other NGOs and philanthropists could help ensure that their

Remarks

basic and healthcare needs are met.

Q16. You are a District Collector. A seven-year boy has been killed in a school. Parents are angry and protesting. They have blocked the traffic and want speedy action. Parents are scared as it happened during the school hours. They also want tough action against school administration. Few parents don't want to send their children to same school. They tried admission in different schools but all of them have been denied admission. Now, few parents seek help from administration for admission of their children at different places. They don't want to send their children to same school where a boy has been killed. It is harming their children's study as examination is approaching. What are the options before you as District Collector to address the concerns of the parents?

(250 Words) (20 Marks)

The situation at hand is very volatile and needs a great degree of sensitivity, empathy and courage. As the District Magistrate it is my duty that the citizens ^{feel} ~~are felt~~ secure in the district and that their grievances are addressed at the earliest.

This would be my following course of action :-

Immediate Action :-

- Quikrate investigation headed by the Superintendent of Police, into the killing of the child.
- ~~Of the~~ Talk to his parents pacify them and restore their faith in the investigation and administrative machinery.
- ~~Then~~ Coordinate with the police, to dismantle the crowd, to restore traffic movement.

Remarks

→ Personally talk to the parents and convince them about the steps that are being taken.

Ensure them that the perpetrator of the crime will not go scot free.

~~Build trust~~

Initiate TRUST BUILDING MECHANISM between

PARENTS \Leftrightarrow ADMINISTRATION

ADMINISTRATION \Leftrightarrow SCHOOL

PARENTS \Leftrightarrow SCHOOL

To ensure that Parents send their children to ~~school~~ same school

→ Bring the teachers on board to talk to the parents and convince them.

→ ^{Provide} ~~Take~~ an undertaking from the school authorities to each parent, that their children would be safe in the school.

→ Importance of annual time table of school session and the need to finish the syllabus for Class X and Class XII students.

- Provide security in the school premises.
Motivating the parents
- ~~teaching~~ through examples,
Peshawar Army School - Terrorist
killed several students to instil fear
in them. But the students and
their parents fought back.
They students regained their school
within a fortnight.

The Florida High School Shooting Case -
students and their parents were
instrumental in fighting for gun
control in USA. They resumed their
studies shortly after the incident.

Long Term Solutions

- Need for a safety manual in every
school.
 - Form a safety committee with parents,
students and teachers.
 - A centralised School Safety Authority
under the MHRD or State Education
Commissions.
 - Initiate self defence classes for
school children. functional
 - Mandatory usage of CCTV in school
premises.
- As the DM I would advocate for these

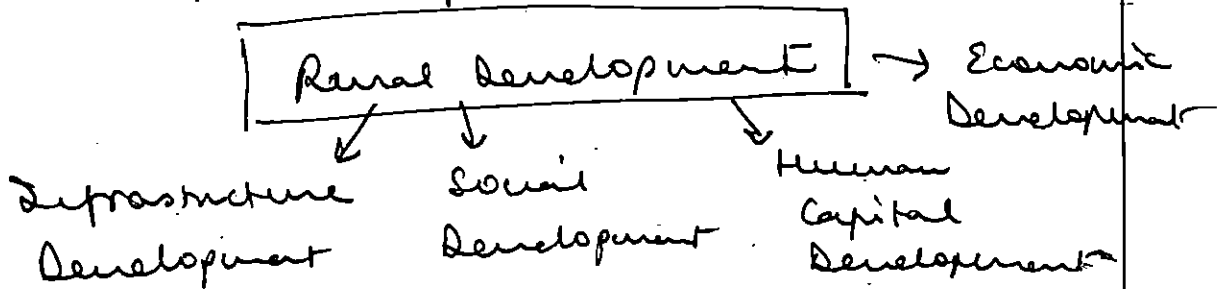
Remarks

long term measures and policy
changes.

Q17. As a young IAS officer, you have been posted as the Sub-Divisional Magistrate in a remote area. You have found that schools, road connectivity, community halls are not in good conditions. You know that allocated budget is not sufficient and also the whole process of getting nod from higher authority is time consuming. You have found an alternative to do it through public participation. Mention the steps you will follow in this case and justify each step. (250 Words) (20 Marks)

As the Sub Divisional Magistrate I would be that agent who brings about rural development.

Components of Rural Development.



Constraint to this Rural Development is insufficient funds and cost of time in getting permission from the ~~senior~~ higher authority.

Alternative → Public Participation

Innovative measures to foster community participation for rural development.

- (1) Schools - To improve the quality of education and infrastructure -
 - Collaborate with NGOs like Team For India. ~~As~~ volunteers etc can

Remarks_

help improve levels of education and also add value through Extra Curricular Activities.

→ ~~Skill Development~~

→ Teaching the students to ~~innovate~~ innovative clean energy solutions, which can then be ~~utilised~~ installed in the school premises.

→ Encouraging peer learning and programmes like children teaching their parents / elders.

→ In Japan, all school children clean their classrooms each morning. Children in India should also be encouraged to do the same.

(2) Road Connectivity -

→ Encouraging the farmland owners to look after the roads near their farms.

→ Using locally available resources to repair existing roads.

→ In parts of Haryana, rural roads are used as running tracks by the ^{rural} youth, who ~~then participate in~~ This can

also be initiated in my region to improve fitness, sports and ~~recruitment~~ of rural youth in ~~state police service~~ ~~(State Police Service exams)~~ provide ~~them~~ a ~~practice~~ a track where the rural youth can practice running for Police Exams.

Community Halls and Places → ~~Organise~~

→ ~~Reps~~ ~~Do~~ Take initiatives to include Corporate Social Responsibility Funds for rural development.

→ ~~Do~~ ^{Make} Take community level festivals organised by the locals to create awareness about health ~~issues~~ and population issues.

→ ~~1. Promote rural~~

Thus community participation can be a very effective tool for the development of the community.

However this must be complemented by the efforts of the state to ensure a good quality of life for the people.