

G|S|SCORE

An Institute for Civil Services

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TEST COPY

VIKRAM GREWAL

Rank-51

Essay Marks - 161



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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.

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 VIKRAM GREWAL

Mobile No. _____

Date _____

Signature Vikram

1. Invigilator Signature _____

2. Invigilator Signature _____

SECTION - A

1. A free woman is one, who does not live in the shadow of others' judgment, but one who makes her own choices based on her own wisdom.
2. Expect the best. Prepare for the worst. Capitalize on what comes.
3. We are good architects of future, if our coming generations are not victim.
4. The more you sweat in peace, the less you bleed in war.

SECTION - B

1. Patriotism is to support your country, not your government.
2. In a healthy politics, the leaders do not serve any ideology or political party, but people.
3. The difference between insanity and genius is success.
4. Intelligence is not IQ, but capacity of imagination.

P. T. O

'SECTION-A'Q4:

THE MORE YOU SWEAT IN PEACE, THE LESS
YOU BLEED IN WAR.

Mythology is ripe with lessons for humankind. Famous myths relating to the honest and hardworking Noah in the Holy Bible's Old testament to the righteous sage Manu in the Vishnu Purana - both, on receiving the 'divine message' that a ravaging flood was approaching to destroy the Earth, set to work. Both built humongous ships to preserve flora and fauna of the planet along with human species and survived the world-ending disaster. It was their 'sweat' that made them survive.

Remarks

Tolstoy's 'War and Peace' explains the notions of 'peace' and 'war' as temporary and overlapping phases of human condition. Peace is related to preparation to avoid or triumph over the imminent war, while war is related to escalation of threatening difficulties that disrupt peace. Therefore, war is like a test of time and character that examines the principles of humanity that were honed during peace.

Global strategists and military generals of renowned stature have emphasised time and again the importance of evaluating and strategizing against one's enemies. 'Keep your foes closer than your friends,' once said Napoleon - for only when you are aware of dangers, you will be ready to face them.

Remarks

Sun Tzu in his 'Art of War' establishes the fact that rigorous training and perseverance during peace makes even the 'weakest of men' effective and lethal on the battlefield. Bismarck's general Karl Von Clausewitz reiterates the quote and remarks that to 'know your enemy' is to 'know yourself' - your strengths and your weaknesses.

Sweating in peace is a favourable time of introspection and gathering resources.

In 'Il Principe', Niccolo Machiavelli discusses that war is a 'surprise' which though should be avoided - turns out to be 'unavoidable' under drastic circumstances.

To minimize the 'element of surprise', one must always 'keep the bayonet' close to one's chest.

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War is perceived to be an inevitability in the race for resources. War is a metaphor for grave difficulties and challenges that pushes an individual out of his/her comfort zone of 'peace' and imposes a competition for glory and survival. Therefore, the phase of 'peace' is not only a result of victory in war but a calm period before the subsequent 'war'.

We must analyze the conception of 'peace' and 'war' as proverbs for daily opportunities of developing and struggles that threaten them respectively. Kautilya in his 'Arthashastra' claims that regular military exercises, intensive taxation and periodic checks on bureaucracy keep the economy healthy and in a 'prolonged peace away from war'.

Remarks

Kamandaka's 'Nitisara' describes peace as a chronological space for political, economic and social development which must be cherished by a subject population but must be equally dreaded by an established central authority, that is, the King. This is because the 'state' is an illusion which withers away by war and anarchy enters. This danger of anarchy tests the 'ethos' of a society which can only be developed during peace.

Our constitution is a prime example of sweetening in peace to avoid bleeding in war. After the end of the World War II, the Cabinet Mission established the Indian Constituent Assembly with pan Indian participation through representatives.

Remarks

These representatives worked hard and held discussions and debates for over two long years to finally come up with a draft on 26th November 1949. It is the largest written and well-researched constitution of the world. It takes into account not only the structure of the polity but also the rights of the individual and the duties of the state along with the protection of the minorities and vulnerable groups.

Thus, while other countries slid into dictatorships and genocides after decolonization, as in Africa and South Asia, India underwent a peaceful transition of power to become the largest democracy of the world. All thanks to

the sweat of our constitution makers and freedom fighters.

Peace is a time for data collection analysis and rigorous application of permutations and combinations to achieve best results. Take the example of 'film-making'. It is only when the screenwriters research on the subject, clinically develop the script and the actors hone their skills with the director who improvises and tries different methods of camerawork or lighting, does the film go on the floors. Additionally, the background work of location scouting and finance scouting along with surveys on the likes and tastes of the target audience - all these make a film successful ultimately.

Economic planning is another example. John Maynard Keynes posited that a government must always hold in-depth analysis of its consumers and the demand-supply chains to plan its economic policies. The Woodrow Wilson government ignored such a stand and had to suffer the economic depression and high unemployment later. The Socialist state of Cuba took this into account in 1960s and thus was relatively successful.

Learning from illustrations, examples and mistakes of others is another 'luxury' of 'peace' to equip yourself in order to face the approaching struggles. That is the reason 'case studies' in fields of politics, economics and even wars of history play a major role in preparing the poll strategists, economists and military commanders of future.

Remarks

The Census is a primary instrument by which all states monitor their governance. This 'governance' is not only an imperative for social development but a device to prevent losses in the face of future conflict.

For example, the census of all coastal areas will give us raw data to organize and streamline planning of Cyclone and Tsunami mitigation and rehabilitation.

Similarly, vaccination of infants lets the healthy beginnings of life be strengthened against imminent diseases. Thus, the health infrastructure of a country built during peaceful healthy periods can go a long way in reducing negatives during an epidemic or pandemic of large scale to the levels of zika, ebola, nippah.

Human psychology perceives 'well-being' as a state of perpetuity. We don't understand the potential threats that may be looming every second. This can be seen in our attitude towards money, health, education, relationships etc. All these domains need refurbishing and rejuvenation from time to time which can only be effectively done with a calm brain and not a battle-ready agitated one.

A student preparing for examination can have two attitudes: one, to study just before the exam or two, to study all year long before writing the exam. This clearly implies that in the former case - a high burden and volume of work will lead to detrimental results, unlike in the latter case where confidence and efficiency both

Remarks

are heightened to get desired results. His sweat in peace would pay off during the heat of the war-like situation of the exam.

'Shadow Cabinet' is a group of corresponding opposition leaders appointed according to portfolios of the Westminster Government of Britain. This system prepares these leaders during their time in opposition for their roles as future ministers in case of a regime change. This guarantees that the fruits of development continue even after a power struggle or election.

'Sweat gives experience and knowledge. Blood gives courage and reminder of mortality. Tears give humility and hope.' Thus blood, sweat and tears are by-products of toil and perseverance which - when developed in peace, help us to uphold

their value during war. They are remnants of glory and symbols of life, hence to enhance their significance through self-reflection, skill and hard work is the duty of every free denizen who values its indispensability.

A farmer is the epitome of sweat that enriches the land during peace. He knows the value of effort and considers socio-economic and political conditions. It is his undying spirit that sows the seeds of labour and reaps the yield of life which goes on to empower villages, cities, states, nations and the world. We must acknowledge this significance and try to imbibe in ourselves the will to work ^{in peace} to avoid fatality in war.

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'SECTION - B'

Q4: INTELLIGENCE IS NOT IQ, BUT CAPACITY OF IMAGINATION.

"Logic can take you from 'A' to 'B', but imagination can take you anywhere." When Albert Einstein said these words, the world was trapped in the clutches of withering 'Feudalism' that was making way for a new world order. However, the thoughts of the populace were still bound by tradition and war. What was needed to solve this stagnation was - imagination.

Remarks

Intelligence is usually related to acumen of fact-learning and reproduction of these facts. The layman perspective on intelligence is identical to 'having knowledge'. A high score in SAT or board exams or a remarkable record in solving IQ tests is considered to be a mark of intelligence.

However, the history of the world teaches us that this has never been the case. In fact, it is a recent trend, says a survey by Cambridge Department of Psychology. Modern academics have still not been able to free themselves of feudal medievalism that equates intelligence with the capacity to rote-learning and even religious instruction.

Francis Bacon in his "Doctrine of the Idols" argues that knowledge is not a statement but a question. A question that leads to more questions; some of this questions lead to answers while some self-proliferate. This process can only be understood by an individual with a sense of imagination.

'The flight of imagination' is an expression in daily use. What is this flight of imagination? It is the virtue, claims Immanuel Kant in 'A philosophical Sketch' that allows freedom from the usual. It makes you think in alternative universes and thus is the real form of intelligence.

The human brain has expanded from the minute 150-200 cm of the erstwhile Australopithecus africanus to its usual form in Homo sapiens sapiens. Richard Leakey writes about this observation saying that it does not necessarily point that evolution has led to increase in 'IQ' because that is a term we have developed for ourselves.

IQ is therefore a frame of reference for comparing human cranial capacity and not the real potential that lies in cognitive abilities. The measure of these cognitive abilities can be found in imagination. Human beings are, hence, unique not because we have IQ - for that is applied to other animals especially apes. We are unique because we hold the power of imagination.

Remarks

The paintings of rock cut shelters in Bhimbetka and Lakhudiyar show us that intelligence's true worth has been its affinity towards imagination, since time immemorial. From the discovery of fire, wheel, stone tools to the building of huts and villages, it has always been imagination that has acted as the 'spring of intelligence'.

Socrates viewed the Athenian State as a 'flawed one' while all others considered otherwise. He wrote comprehensively about the inadequacies of the administration and the social inequalities. This intelligence was rooted in imagination and Socrates was given the death sentence. This shows how world has treated the imaginative geniuses since

the Ancient Period. There have been instances of 'heretics' and 'blasphemous' minds who have brought forward the true picture of the universe but ultimately suffered because the world couldn't understand their vision. Nicolas Copernicus is a prime example - he dared to imagine the 'heliocentric' model of the solar system but ended up offending the Church - being burned at the stake.

The problematic perspective of comprehending 'intelligence is mere IQ' has had further disastrous consequences for society. 'Manusmriti' - a repugnant orthodox didactic manual - only because of concocted 'facts' presented as intelligence, changed the face of the cosmopolitan society of Ancient India. It promoted patriarchy and anti-female rituals like Sati.

Remarks

To change this lack of imagination, Bhakti movement rose to promote the idea of a different 'monotheistic' god and liberation of women through devotion. Akka Mahadevi, Karaikal Ammaiyar and Andal wrote outstanding verse and perceived god through imagination. And even today this imagination is respected as pure foresight and intelligence.

Imagination always stands the test of time while IQ fails there miserably. Children are taught hard-facts in school, but they forget them in the future. What stays with them until old age and even death is their imagination. And imagination never dies with the beholder, it spreads and grows further.

Alan Moore in his graphic novel states 'Ideas are Bulletproof' - they cannot be killed. Imagination is the repository of ideas and their application has yielded epoch-making results for humanity. Renaissance, Reformation, Scientific Revolution, Industrial Revolution, Commercial Revolution - all of them have sprouted from intelligence to see things in different ways.

These revolutions are testimony not only to the past but also to the future. Entrepreneurship requires problem-solving capabilities, energy and will power. These requirements are fuelled by imagination. Of course, IQ is important for running an enterprise - but that is an apparatus of the workers who will be led by a 'leader'.

Remarks

Imagination is a pre-requisite for effective leadership. Intelligence of this leadership encompasses empathy, integrity and Emotional quotient (EQ) among the team members. For example, Elon Musk founded Tesla and SpaceX not on the basis of IQ but a bigger background of intelligence which included the aforesaid EQ, risk assessment and most importantly imagination. This capacity of imagination is reflected in his projects of hyperloop, electric micro-submarines and Falcon rockets.

If it weren't for man's imagination to reach the moon, a whole industry of space exploration, navigation, transportation, hazard mapping, disaster management, telecommunication, geographic assessment and missions to other planets and now the Sun (Parker Solar Probe) wouldn't have been possible.

Remarks

Innovation is central to betterment of society - which is the foremost goal of intelligence. Imagination yields innovation, and hence expansion of intelligence. New perspectives in politics led us from monarchy to dictatorships to democracy. New ideologies in religion led us from ignorance to fanaticism to secularism. New notions in diplomacy led us from alliances to non-alignment to multi-alignment.

The benefits of imagination have been reaped in governance policies as well. GST, Demonetization, Direct Benefit Transfer, e-Marketing and ~~tele~~ tele-medicine are some of the imaginative measures that have improved service delivery. These wouldn't be possible in India without capacity to imagine - even though we have high

Remarks

IQ youth professionals.

Isaac Asimov wrote novels on Robotics in early 20th century and all conventional scholars mocked him for being frivolous. But today - over a century later - we stand at the cusp of a Robotics and Artificial intelligence revolution. Asimov dared to imagine.

Jane Austen wrote 'Sense and Sensibility' at the time of social oppression in Britain. She gave birth to female literature without taking a formal education. She is credited as the most intellectual of female writers - 'without even giving a dubious IQ test'. This also shows the difference between intellect and IQ - the former leans on application and imagination heavily.

Remarks

Kant said that humans deserve dignity because we can 'reason'. And it is because of reasoning that we take the flight of imagination. It gives rise to wishes, desires and 'dreams' of Martin Luther King Jr. It gives rise to empathy of Mother Teresa, courage of Malala and spirituality of Gandhi.

Imagination is a package of inferences and applications of human virtues. "It makes us see, and when we see - we act. And when we act - we change the world."

'Change for the better' is the objective of intelligence and hence is firmly rooted in our capacity of imagination.

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Remarks