

An Institute for Civil Services

IAS TOPPER'S

TEST COPY

VEER PRATAP SINGH

Rank - 92

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.


(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).

Remarks

Name Veer Pratap Singh

Mobile No. _____

Date _____

Signature 

1. Invigilator Signature _____

2. Invigilator Signature _____

SECTION - A

1. Fighting corruption is not just good governance but also self-defense and patriotism.
2. Politics is the art of choosing between the disastrous and unpalatable.
3. People are sheep. TV is the shepherd.
4. Chanakya may have been from India, but its Indians who never followed his advice

SECTION - B

1. Life teaches us many lessons, but the final lesson is, there is no final lesson.
2. A Nation can remain free, as long as it continue to be the home of brave.
3. Yesterday's score doesn't win you game today.
4. The true mystery of the world is the visible, and not the invisible.

SECTION-A

* "Fighting corruption is not just good governance but also self-defense and patriotism."

There have been cases of siphoning off of funds for various social sector initiatives aimed at well-being of poor, marginalised etc. Corruption in PDS, NREGA, Mid Day Meal etc. is a scourge which is against interests of disadvantaged and needy. Such incidences are adverse to national development, human development and prestige of a nation. Fostering corruption is augur-ill for both people and nation. This is against good governance, self-defense of poor, needy, even affluent, and patriotism.

Patriotism refers to unconditional, selfless and dedicated love for

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One's country's values and its people. Patriotism requires one to do what serves the best interests of the nation and do welfare of its people, especially deprived and downtrodden, but, it is observed that corrupt people put these values on altar of their self-interests and vested interest.

Corruption refers to use of public office for private gains. However, broadly it can be defined as the "deviation from the ideal" when people of power and authority misuses, and abuses their power, then this menace takes place.

Corruption can be petty or grand or collusive corruption. we

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Witness and experience corrupt acts from collusion between businessmen and politicians, politicians and top-notch bureaucrats etc. to retail corruption like officials seeking bribe for filing P.R., for issuing income certificate, caste certificate, driving license, etc.

So, corruption can be in forms of bribery, rent-seeking, embezzlement, extortion, kickbacks, nepotism, favoritism, influence-peddling, seeking patronage from politicians, collusion leading to crony-capitalism etc.

Corruption has become a new normal in our society & country. It can be seen almost everywhere. There is very few organisations and public offices which have

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remained untouched by corruption. we see corruption in police, administration, defence forces, politics, corporate world and institutions like NGOs, religious institutions, etc.

Most visible corruption is in police and administration. It is so because we encounter these regularly and almost all aspects of our lives are associated with these. However, instances like Bofors deal, Augusta Westland deal etc. give us examples of defence forces' corruption.

SATYAM Scam, many shell companies, tax evasion, lobbying by big corporate houses for favorable contracts etc. tell about corporate corruption. According to intelligence agencies, many NGOs were funded for carrying

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out subversive activities and to stall development of nation. Many religious institutions are involved in money-laundering.

However, despite so rampant corruption we have been not questioning its foundations. Corruption is not very new phenomena, it has been since ancient times. Agencies to curb corruption in Mauryan & Gupta age, give us evidences of corruption at that time.

But, - now corruption has been caused by a combination of factors. These reasons are - lack of respect for laws, lack of moral values like integrity, honesty, selflessness, and dedication to service, compassion and empathy for marginalised groups. Furthermore, it has been caused

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by self-aggrandizing, self-serving and self-convenience of bureaucracy. Administrators lack values like accountability, impartiality, openness, objectivity and transparency etc. This is added by Ambiguous laws and code of conduct, which do not provide role-clarity.

Moreover, social acceptance of corruption because of ever-expanding artificial wants of nearly all people has added fuel to the fire. Now, we have become so tolerant that we consider corruption a part and parcel of our life. This reflects the value-crisis in our society at large.

This tolerance for corruption has multi-faceted ill-effects on our society, economy, politics,

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Prestige and reputation of nation, security of nation, and it also has environmental costs and other international repercussions.

Socially, corruption widens the gulf between rich and poor, leading to disparities and inequalities. These inequalities become the cause of social unrest, crimes, social disintegration, and all this disturbs the social order, peace and harmony of society. When corruption is all around, benefits of well-conceived schemes and programmes don't reach to intended beneficiaries. For eg. funds of NREDA are diverted through bogus muster rolls, children don't get quality food in mid-day meal, elderly, widows etc. don't get pensions under National Social Assistance Programme etc. This all goes in direction where values of country like

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Sympathy, empathy, compassion, honesty, equality, fraternity etc. are dishonoured. This dents our patriotic feelings of citizens.

We have been observing for past some decades 'Criminalisation of politics' and 'Politicisation of criminals'. This is result of this corruption because politicians need money and muscle power to remain in power, and criminals need political patronage. There have also been evidences of cabinet ministers indulging in corruption.

Corruption generates black money which creates a parallel or shadow economy. This parallel economy causes economic instability. Money laundering, investment through P-notes, tax evasion, etc. Defaulting willfully etc. take a heavy toll on country's economic empowerment.

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Corruption also puts security of nation & its citizens in a very precarious condition. When police officials collude with criminals & terrorists, it creates fear in minds of people. For eg. Gurdaspur terrorist attack, an S.P. has been arrested on charges of conspiracy.

Corrupt officials not holding industrialists to account, allow them to release effluents untreated in river bodies. Natural resources are exploited ~~in~~ beyond limits and air, water etc. of country are polluted resulting in heavy damage to environment.

So, from above it is clear that when corruption affects almost all aspects of life, then its prevention becomes a sine qua non for development and

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growth of a nation. Corruption leads to impoverishment of poor, disadvantaged, marginalised, weaker sections and deprived, so when these sections are not getting their due, then it can be said that fighting corruption is self-defence & patriotism.

Self-defence because, they who are affected the most raise their voice to get their entitlements and to assure their rights. When resources of nation are not distributed equitably then people of lower strata challenge corrupt practices and defend their rights. Even affluent also become victim of misdeeds of wicked officials. They also join defending forces against iniquitous officials and institutions.

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By fighting corruption, they preserve the most cherished values of their country. When there is no or minimal corruption all get what they are entitled for. Students get timely and adequate loans, scholarships, farmers get their insurance sum, loans etc, elderly & widow etc get their pensions on time, deprived & poor get social assistance adequately, All get what they need like food, shelter, healthcare, Education, -quality & dignified life etc. So when there is all-round development and all are part of growth story of a nation, then only we can say justice prevails here. So, fighting corruption means ensuring justice to all, and this is the

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most Patriotic act, one can think and do.

We need to curb corruption. This can be done by enacting stringent laws, implementing existing laws like PMLA, 2002; Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, Benami Transactions Act, Black money Act etc., in letters and spirits. Lokpal and Lokayuktas should be appointed at the earliest. Ethics Commissioners can also be appointed to oversee functioning of officials.

Additionally, society has to wake up from slumber and it has to become zero-tolerant for corruption. Officers need to inculcate values, both administrative and moral. The officers should heed the words of Ordway Tead who said "administrators are

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moral agent - and administration
a moral act".

Unholy nexus between corrupt
officials and politicians, businessmen
etc. should also break. This can
happen only when people become
aware of their rights and assertive
to demand those rights.

All agencies like CEC, CVC, CBI,
SPIO, ED, CAG etc. must act
impartially, neutrally and with
utmost integrity to ensure that
public officials do not indulge
in corrupt practices.

People should also reject all
conveniences while involving in
petty corruption. They should
not give bribes to get their
work done. They should stand
for their rights and entitlements.
They should not act mere

Beneficiaries rather active agent of change.

So, we can say that- Corruption is anti-nation, anti-people, thereby it is against patriotism. It denies people their due entitlements. So people should fight it. This fight is their self-defence against corrupt officials and institutions. So, eradication of corruption can help us realise the dream which Rabindra Nath Tagore described as -

"where mind is without Fear, Head is held high, where knowledge is free."

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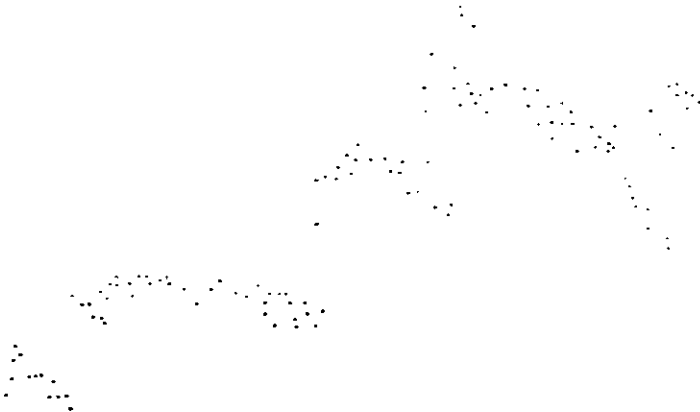
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