

Roll No. _____

Time Allowed: 3 Hrs

Max. Marks: 250

Instructions to Candidate

- Attempt both essays
- The test carries 250 marks.
- Write each essay in about 1000-1200 words.
- 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.)

56158
M.Y.

DIKSHA

Matr. No. _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

DiKsha

Examiner Signature: _____

[Signature]

Headmaster Signature: _____

Roll

Remarks

- Good.
- your understanding about topic is good.
 - issues related to structure, flow etc also good.
 - let me check another copy, then will tell about improvement. As the basic aspects ok.

1. Nothing is absolute, subjectivity applies everywhere
2. Life happens to all, only a few make it happen

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1. Nothing is absolute, subjectivity applies everywhere

It was the 1900s, when a young patent officer from Germany started writing scientific papers that refuted the established 'science', the Newtonian physics.

Einstein had proven relativity of time the one conception considered absolute and final by all leading and even unlearned brains of the time. He had called the absolutism of physics, of science itself into question.

We live on Earth, the third ~~planet~~ planet of the solar system, of the milky way galaxy of an expanding universe. Or do we? Is it not just what our education taught us and how our brain comprehends our existence.

Going beyond an existential question can we really establish that anything at all is absolute in itself, or whether all of it is absolutely what has ~~was~~ been and will be. What is this absolutism? Where all do we perceive it can apply? Let us take a few areas ~~to~~ out of 'everywhere' to see if subjectivity does apply everywhere.

When we call ^{something} absolute we tend to assign the known parameters to establish its reality,

Remarks:

Need further elaboration

Re-write for greater clarity

Try to write in a simple and clear manner.

its existence or its application. Take, for example the case of life as a natural right to humans. Is it the absolute ^{established} truth? But we take it away for larger public good. Then are we going against nature? But isn't our ability to do so natural itself?

A lot of questions emerge when we try to take an absolute stand, scenarios where anything can be challenged. A thought experiment on ethical reasoning comes to mind:

The train on track about to kill 5 people can be deliberately turned to avoid them and murder one person.

A deontologist like Immanuel Kant would argue we can't use humans as ends means to achieve our ends and ask ^{not} to turn, while a utilitarian would argue save the five and kill 1. Thus even the sanctity of human life can be called into question and used to achieve larger goals.

Absolutism is a like a ^{belief} cult that does not let anyone question the bases of universally accepted truths. To reason, to seek human rationalism to challenge the truths is fundamental to being

Remarks:

Try to be very clear with the argument.

human. or is it?

Subjectivity is application of our own interpretations or some other explanations to any phenomena. A subjective event is where one can alter the outcome or application of principles as to one's own suitability. It is seeing the greys between the absolute black and white.

Let us begin with the beginning of time itself. We believe it started with a Big Bang when the universe emerged. But there are theories where multiple universes beginning and ending imply that we cannot be absolutely clear if that was beginning.

Even the concept of time, that we perceive linear, one directional has been questioned by the theory of General Relativity.

But to make it easier for us to live, we take the empiricist's view that what we experience by our senses ^(phenomena) and what we register in our brains and then how we represent it (noumena) is what is real and ~~that~~ out there.

Although many philosophers like Kant to many psychologists have tried to answer this famously called "Mind-Body Problem". That whether our mind exists in our body or our body

Remarks

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is controlled by the mind or is our consciousness a third party (soul) that keeps it together and drives us.

The existential question has been construed and by many and various thought experiments like the universe being a computer simulation, or as greek myths put it the playground of gods and a body of Gaia, or is it created by ~~them~~ our subjective experiences ~~that~~ parallelly and differently in multiple dimensions or a dream of a giant.

Thus even all the religions and God can be called to question on being the absolute truth. For which one of the religions is then absolute. Which form of God, if there is one or many, and how did he/she/it create this all. As the advaita philosophies of an Indian culture put it, we are all one with the God and God is none other than us, the nature around us and within us.

So, God can be subjectively questioned too?

Then what about ~~the~~ sciences which establishes itself on experimentation and validation and evidence? Is it absolute? We have already seen how it can evolve and can be subjective to different hypotheses of ~~it~~ for the unknown phenomena.

Remarks

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means different interpretation of the objective reality? or Subject dependent view of the word.

Check grammar

Content from good but is not properly expressed.

Vaguely written

Is Darwin's theory of evolution the absolute truth? We have evidence, it's rational, it does have some small gaps but it still keeps getting questioned, if not by many, especially unreal believers of many faiths. (?)

It thus does come to individual human, groups of people and sometimes even nations to subjectively create truths. They can then turn around history which is all but memory of humans recorded or told. Change the records, burn those that refute your standpoint, teach new generations different stories, and in some generations you have new history. Churchill said, "History will be kind to me, for I intend to write it" and so it has been.

So, the ~~some~~ Nazis tried and succeeded for sometime, many other nationalists ~~the~~ ~~Some~~ have tried but even their views are transient and don't stand in absolution.

& Humans are social creatures and we have lived and survived together for many millennia. So society plays an important role in our perceptions, in our experiences and ultimately in our endeavours. But neither is the society absolute, neither its laws and customs. Carl Jung gave the concept of

Remarks

of a collective unconscious, the culture, cultural symbols passed on through generations. But these keep getting affected by individuals and other societies, like by Gandhiji or due to globalisation.

A society trying to establish absolute norms, trying to isolate itself, tends to get degraded over time and people do come by to change it to more flexible, subjective outlook to become progressive.

Are our criminals really sinner then? They have broken subjective laws of the polity, or sometimes they are called so on breaking absolutist customs. Gandhiji has asked to hate the sin and not the sinner. This is because in his outlook the law may be unjust or the situation warranted such action. An absolute concern with the norms can then strip us of our humanity.

Thus, the Polity is ~~not~~ open to subjectivity. This is an established fact as this has happened so many times in history. No law is absolute, no constitution complete. No institution has absolute power and no single individual. If anyone, or anything tries to change this reality, the subjective reality of all other people comes into conflict. Laws do not account for all situations and

Remarks

Structure of the essay needs to be improved for better flow in reading.

are subject to revisions. Political systems have evolved from feudalism to monarchies to fundamentalism to one party rules to democracies and other forms. Even a democracy is not absolute ever.

Rarely do all people get equal rights, equal representation or equal treatment. So ~~even~~ democracies have their subjective interpretations and implementations.

Even the global order is subjective. So it was, is and will be. Never was USA the absolute power, nor was world war for absolute good. Tremendous scope for subjectivity. In Churchill being a hero was hero, to China's interpretation of international laws in South China Sea. There is no absolute winner or loser. No one absolutely right or wrong.

Even this Earth is subject to interpretations. Take the land we stand on. It is soil for farmer, it may be minerals for miner or land for the industrialist. Neither has it been a plain or hill forever, nor will it be after millions of years pass.

So, also, does the claim of humans as conquerors of nature fails. The tremendous environmental changes we humans have wrought has changed climate itself. But, even the climate has been subject to change ever since it was established. Maybe we have sped it up and one day nature

Remarks

Meaning of subjectivity is not properly used in the example.

Should've also covered issues with absolutism.

who again overpowers our short-lived (in geological times) conquests. And then even humankind will perish and our absolute ~~war~~ of control over nature turned to dust.

So should a person be content when his/her fate is sealed, when (s)he does not even know the existential question, when even his/her life is not guaranteed by anyone else. Contentment, and by extension happiness is no absolute state either. A subjective truth for some its money, for others family, for yet other achievement, for ~~others~~ ^{some} its health.

Thus we may be able to say everything can be subjective. But then why go on? why should humans not fall to the anarchist, self-survival?

Everywhere a human being is involved, there is bound to be subjectivity by the very nature of our psyche. ~~So~~ So should everyone live their life on their own terms?

This is where systems, rules, laws & norms, come into place. Transmitted through socialisation, education and human experience, the humans get integrated into their culture. The symbols, norms, traditions, heroes (Jung's collective unconscious) are taken as a template for life to ease the life

Remarks

a useful member of society.

So we should question everything with our rationality, keep a scientific temper and not believe anything on its face value. Yet people can agree to follow certain rules and laws as absolute or unswerving provided, with discretion to ensure a more harmonious, peaceful living. Neither is Rama's Purusharthas only absolute, nor is Snowden's leak ^{only} a subjective morality of laws. Our perceptions, our experiences, our concepts, our attitudes, values and morals make each one of us separate unique individuals, with our own subjective ~~experiences~~ experience and interpretations.

Let us revel in the shades of grey and hope to choose those closest to white.

* Need to write in a simple and grammatically sound manner.

* Essay needs to properly elaborate on why subjectivity and its application is well.

* Try to be as elaborate as possible
(By keeping the word limit in mind)

* Also properly structure the essay for

better readability.

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2. Life happens to all, only a few make it happen

A young girl, born to a rich family in one of the most advanced nations, the USA, was healthy, wealthy and wise. Until an illness struck the beautiful girl, and she was left deaf and blind. At a time when the 'disabled' were treated as second class citizens she grew up being homeschooled and without much expectations from her. But she endured, she even thrived with a little help, ~~so~~ and over the years she came to become the author of many books. She was determined, she was adamant. She believed in herself when no one else would.

By the time of her passing, she had met every president of US, visited many countries to give tell her story and is now known by all as the famed 'Hellen Keller'.

Life is a series of events that unfold from the birth of a person till their death. Every human born on this planet has lived these events that have happened to her/him individually. Everyone goes through some routines, some habits, some with a goal in mind, others trying to sail through. This is the difference being highlighted between the

Try to be concise in writing

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people who shape their life to their own needs. There are people who put their surf ^{board} on surface and just try to ride out the waves while there are those who put their oars into the stormiest of waters and come out alive.

Let us try to examine what truly is life? What makes life happen as opposed to life happening to one? Is it possible to shape one's own life? How and who can achieve this? Do they truly make life happen or is it all just chance? And ~~it~~ why should one try to change the ^{course of} river of life?

A Buddhist chant says, life is a game, play it. Life is a challenge, face it. Life is a song, sing it. Life is a journey, take it. Life is a gift, accept it.

These many & views on life are an illustration on how life is not just one straight equation that can be solved by everyone, in one single way, ~~it~~ given they are attempting to do so in the first place.

Remarks

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↓ Dimensions mentioned seem adequate. But, could've also mentioned the role of external factors in making life happen.

Life is personal, where every human experiences own set of phenomena, that ~~like~~ it perceives through their own, unique 'lens', crafted over their life, and stores uniquely while modifying the said lens (concepts, schemas)

Life is social, where every human is engaged with many others to experience events together and store them ~~to~~ as collective memory. Life is also time lived by human, the past, present and future.

Life is events, sudden or anticipated, stressful or joyful, created or presented, happening simultaneously and sequentially. Thus it is full of highs and lows and can be equated to a river, as has been by many ~~my~~ cultures.

A river has many turns, ~~as~~ falls, rapids, and smooth flows. A ~~human~~ ^{life} is like a man (woman) thrown into river with a boat. They can choose to ride it boldly, correcting courses, directing energy. They can also choose to just let the river take them wherever it wishes; they may make minimal efforts to avoid drowning.

The first kind of people are those that

Remarks

↓ Try to write in a simple manner.

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Shape their life events by planning, acting, ~~and~~ ambitious goals. While the second type - are fatalistic, resigned, passive, fearful.

Swami Vivekananda had ~~asked for~~ ^{asked for} ~~give~~ fifty young individuals who had the heart of steel and mind of a tiger and ^{with their} ~~he~~ could transform a country.

These individuals he seeks are men/women of ^{strong} character, unbent, unburnt by in morals by whatever life throws at them. The example of Mahatma Gandhi stands tall here. His character unquestionable transformed this budding nation ~~and~~ ^{which came to} believe in his ideals and methods.

These individuals he seeks have of a high need for achievement and low dependence motivation. Their motivations are strong, intrinsic and result of a greater needs of humanity, the need of self-actualisation in Maslow's hierarchy of needs.

Their motivations also stem from desire to help fellow humans realise their potential while even sacrificing their own needs. Teresa lived extraordinarily to help ^{the} ~~poor~~.

Remarks

Avoid
Patch works
for
effective
Presentation

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They actively pursue their goals and ~~do~~ ^{do not} seek help from those around them. Family, friends, mentors are ^{not} happy to help them when they pursue their dreams. ^{In} ~~the~~ ^{these} societies, people stand against their ideas, their actions.

Strong conviction, commitment, self-awareness and belief in their conscience guides them in these difficult times. Raja Ram Mohan Roy was opposed for bringing in reforms people were not ready for, he still endured. Mr. Shah Jahan Khan, today even could have stayed in his place for he did not deserve, he still endured and ~~tried~~.

These are people who find happiness in pursuing their deepest desires, no matter the ~~difficulties~~ that lie in the path. They are ready to give up hedonistic pleasures for the agnipath (fire path) that they would ^{help} realise their dreams. Siddhanta also took a painful public ~~advice~~ ^{advised} against, he came out of ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~fire~~ ^{fire} having found Nirvana.

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These are people who refuse to get beaten down. They rise back up like ~~phoenix~~ phoenix from the ashes, everytime they are knocked down. Dr. BR Ambedkar was shunned being a Mahan. An untouchable by birth he had to endure discrimination all his life. He kept rising up, each time higher with a fire of determination and became the most prominent star of Indian Polity.

These are no extraordinary avatars of God, incarnated to help humans. These are ordinary men and women who could have endured in mediocrity all their lives, shadowed by social customs or expectations. But ~~to~~ at ~~each~~ ^{many} forks in the road they chose the ones less travelled by.

They truly make life happen and it just does not happen to them. One could say Gandhiji managed to become a great leader because he was in right place at the right time, ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ South Africa during British rule, ~~only~~ ^{only} ~~english~~ ^{english} speaking lawyer test his experiments at small level to be sure of these and apply to India.

Remarks

Describe also → "Meaning of life happen to all?"

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But even then, his job was cut out for him, he was being paid for a limited work. What he came up with, Satyagraha against manifest injustices was not imaginable to the other Indians or suppressed masses.

So, he felt his was in the right spot only after many dilemmas. ~~or~~ ^{or} Out of many choices he chose to uphold the basic human rights and oppose the unjust laws by morally superior methods. Thus he pragmatically chose a weapon that gave him strength against the all-powerful imperialists.

Out of many decisions, he could have taken he chose to stand tall. As did Rosa Parks when she sat still in opposition to apartheid. As did ~~to~~ Durgashakti Nigpal when she could have bowed down to immense political pressures.

Out of ^{the} many interpretations of the aftermath of their decisions, they chose to learn lessons on living ~~and~~ rather than regretting. They

Remarks

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choose to adhere to the good decisions despite opposition. They are ready to accept a fully and correct course ~~when~~ realizing error. But they also stand by and strong will eat until their decision emerges right after many efforts when required.

A lot of us falter when faced with tough decisions, dilemmas that attract or seek avoidance. Thoreau had the choice to apologize or go to jail. He chose the latter to set a new example of upholding values, of integrity in the face of despair to guide the youth of the nation.

So we should too evaluate the \neq options on a value hierarchy and uphold the highest of values ^{or} in toughest of times.

But when \neq such a life being made brings so many troubles, then is it even worth living? Why should we ~~not~~ make our life when it we may strip away the pleasures that ~~in~~ some may say make life worth living. The hedonistic gratification of good sleep, a lavish spread of meal, luxury houses and transport, or even bodily pleasures.

Remarks

Could've also highlighted but How not everyone starts equally in society by virtue of birth, which also hinders personal growth.

Are men not what make us happy and should we not be content with just them? We could go with the flow, avoid the harsh waves and leave things to our karma from last life to destiny for this one.

The Ajivikas tried to live a life of simplicity, without associating with anything they perished. The human rights activists ~~try~~ try to stand against criminal politicians are gunned down. Even the administrators seem to be at mercy of political class where one officer was found murdered in UP last year.

Then why should one bother to take so many pains only to be die one day? Why not live life one day at a time? Eat, sleep, make merry and be with our loved ones.

But this conception of life is just one way to survive. A lot of people, most people, \neq follow this and end up living a life of not their making but one where they were led by environment, by family, society, friends. They had some small goals, that may or not have been

Remarks

But isn't the definition of life supposed to be subjective?

fulfilled. A life of regrets, a life of animal living with reproduction as ultimate goal. This cannot be why humans have evolved into such intelligent species & being able to conceptualise the universe. ~~son~~

→ Let think
Isn't even the famous people also have these issues?

But most importantly, happiness can always be re-defined. There can be and there are bigger goals that one can achieve from their potential. When one's neighbour is not happy, one's happiness cannot last long. And so to make others happy. (?)

The Hindu philosophy stresses on Dharma (duty) that is for every individual to uphold. The constitution beckons each one of us to strive for excellence.

The society too upholds the people who transformed it in high regards, even though after a while there are other incentives that can be small or big as per each one's perception, but to shape a life is to mould a clay jar, slowly and with patience. A beautiful outcome will be rejoiced by oneself and those around.

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Let us take a pledge to make a life for oneself that is a thing of beauty that is joy forever.

* Try to be concise in writing and write in as simple language as possible.

* Avoid being rigid on such broad topic and aim at writing in an open ended manner. * need to be more analytical while writing.



