

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.

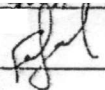
(Examiner will pay special attention to the candidate's grasp of his/her material, its relevance to the subject chosen, and to his/her ability to think constructively and to present his/her ideas concisely, logically and effectively).

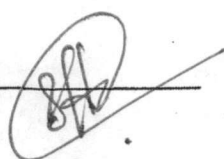
Remarks

Name Faisal Khan

Mobile No. _____

Date _____

Signature 

1. Invigilator Signature 

2. Invigilator Signature _____

~~60+55
115~~

SECTION - A

1. Prayer does not change God, but it changes him who prays.
2. Not all those who wander are lost.
3. Our lives begin to end, the day we become silent about things, that matter.
4. We don't see things as they are; we see them as we are.

SECTION - B

1. Bureaucracy is a giant mechanism operated by pygmies.
2. Protest beyond the law is not a departure from democracy; it is absolutely essential to it.
3. More law, less justice.
4. The increasingly rapid pace of life is creating more problems than it solves.

Section-A

"We don't see things as they are; we see them as we are."

Mother Teresa, an Albanian nurse, came to India to set up missionaries of charity and help the destitute especially leprosy patients. She was driven by courage of dealing with a terrible and compassion to heal the wounds of the victims. On the other hand, many Indians had neglected and even ostracised such patients due to ignorance and fear after decades of colonial rule. The worldview of Mother Teresa and indifferent people was different because of their attitudes. This attitude made them see the same things in different ways, mostly reflecting their own self in the other.

She came on a holiday trip to India and on looking at the poverty she decided to stay in India to serve the poor & the destitute.

Remarks

introduction

Attitude of different people in the society is shaped by different factors. A culture which values materialism starts to see everything from a transactional perspective. Similarly, distrust in the society breeds cynicism and hinders cooperation. A small fight may be blown out of proportion in such societies. Personal experiences also shape this attitude. Those who cannot face failures in life become pessimistic and dismissive about almost anything. This attitude prevents initiatives and the person stagnates.

A pessimistic person starts a chain of negative thought whenever relevant circumstances prevail. A pessimistic spouse starts having negative thoughts when the spouse is not home or late after the office. Maybe the spouse is

in extra-marital relation, or met with an accident, had a fight with someone, etc.

On the other hand, an optimistic person gives the benefit of doubt to the spouse.

Thinking that maybe there was extra work at office or spouse is partying with a friend or perhaps bringing some surprise back home. For such people,

the same event may become a pleasant experience in anticipation as compared to the former for whom it may become their worst nightmare.

different attitudes

Similarly, people who are rational and tolerant of other's views always try to find the complete picture about an issue.

On the contrary, irrational and impulsive people jump to conclusions, not even waiting to hear out everyone, upholding the principle of natural justice. This is best manifested in TV debates where

among the sea of howling and dismissiveness there are few who listen and talk patiently expecting that every viewpoint is worth giving a patient hearing. Most of the dismissive parliamentarians are ideologically blind. Just like their adherence to some manufactured truths without reason, they dismiss those who use reason to give a contrary viewpoint.

This ideological myopia and ethnocentric worldview makes people intolerant and unaccommodative! A legitimate act of supporting a cause is assumed to be appeasement or vote bank politics because they themselves indulge in the same. Their views are not driven by constitutional rights but their own self interest. In the process, such mindset proliferates in the society and breeds cynicism everywhere.

A simple act of charity like donating clothes or giving food is seen from the prism of cynicism. Hidden motives are sought behind altruistic acts of charity. Rather than creating a competition of doing good deeds for others and promoting volunteerism in the society, the negative attitude towards it discourages such things. No government initiative, be it cleaning Ganga or addressing corruption or women safety can be a success without grassroots participation.

different views -
different perceptions -
different attitudes

The cynical attitude promotes a self-centred lifestyle which eventually gravitates towards materialism. Western societies are individualistic and also materialistic. Various problems like global warming, deforestation, inequalities have their genesis in materialism. A materialistic person sees monetary value in everything; be it nature or

doubtful
suspicious
attitude

Remarks

humans.

Poaching in countries of Africa and Asia are driven by these growing materialistic impulses. (Kaziranga national park) in Assam has the largest population of the one-horned rhino in the world. For the poachers, rhino's ~~eyes~~ ivory horns is a priceless possession worth a fortune in global market. whereas, for the wildlife enthusiasts and nature lovers, the horn is a magnificent jewel enhancing the beauty of the animal. Rather than killing the rhino they would happily become part of the conservation efforts to save the rhino. Tigers, elephants, pangolins, white panda are some of the casualties of the materialistic life worldview who are facing an existential crisis in many parts of the world.

Remarks

A materialistic worldview doesn't spare even humans especially the vulnerable ones like children and women. Child labour and human trafficking for organ trade or sexual exploitation is a result of the greedy mindset. It blinds people so much that even sell their wives in return of some short term gains. Tribals who are displaced from their habitations, the forests which are seen as money by many, are forced to work as domestic labour or exploited for (organ trade) on the other spectrum are the civil society organisations like (Kailash Satyarthi's Bachpan Bachao Andolan). Kailash Satyarthi views children as one of best creations of God. The world, according to him, is best seen through a child's eye - free from all ills of the society and a fairly simple one where there is room for good for everyone.

Same issue different perceptions

Remarks

~~Mahatma Gandhi~~

✓ Even for criminals who indulge in organised crime like trafficking Mahatma Gandhi had room for compassion. Gandhi's life was full of deeds meant for others, he believed in seeing the good in every human.

To him the criminals were a result of diseased mindset who needed to be treated. The jails should act as places of treatment rather than torture or unbearable living conditions. He saw

criminals as patients and jail as the hospital because he himself was a man of compassion and forgiveness. Mahatma Gandhi's concept of hating the evil but not the evil doer was driven by his hope in humanity.

Such a mindset is needed for those who value vengeance over forgiveness.

Remarks

Good analysis

Many west Asian countries like Iraq went into chaos because the people themselves valued vengeance over forgiveness. When the opportunity came to the oppressed one's under Saddam Hussein they left no stone unturned to seek revenge because it was accepted in the society. If they had believed in forgiveness as the highest virtue then they would have established a just society by forgiving and accommodating the ruling sections under Saddam Hussein.

different perspective

It was not possible for many to do so because they had lost in each other. The erstwhile ruling class was not ready to trust the new regime because they themselves never upheld their commitments to treat others justly. Their own character bred mistrust in themselves.

It said that too much negative assumption is a sin. Only when the people realise that seeing good in others, trusting them and collaborating with each other is need of the time, they can solve the pressing problems of today, ranging from mistrust between countries like India-Pakistan or USA-Iran to global problems like climate change, terrorism, poverty, water crisis, human trafficking and many more. For which they should remember Kabir's dola - "I went to find ^{fault} ~~evil~~ in this world and the most evil person faults I could find were in none other than me." People should strive to be the change they wish to see in this world.

60

Remarks

Section-B

"The increasingly rapid pace of the life" is creating more problems than it solves"

Nipun Kumar is an IT professional working for Google, his dream company. Though based in Bangalore, he has taken a flight to attend a meeting at the Silicon valley headquarters of Google. But the journey has taken the best of him and 1 hour before the meeting he is yet to sleep because of jetlag. Despite the challenges, the meeting went well. The next challenge is food. Being a vegetarian in USA is a tough task. He had to eat the canned food and has now fell ill. 3 hours later, he has another meeting to attend though this time via videoconferencing. It seems that Nipun's endeavours to conquest time has created more problems than he has solved.

good introduction

Remarks

21st century is a century of fast paced life driven by technology in all spheres! Be it transportation via aeroplane or saving time by eating processed foods stored in refrigeration. The latest to add to the bandwagon of technologies is the digital revolution. Electronics goods like smartphones, sensors, internet and automation are making humans pursue an otherwise unthinkable lifestyle! However, the problems caused by them are not insignificant.

Cooking is the most basic need of humans which even technology can't conquer. However, the fast paced life has created a new market of technologies which can reduce the time taken in performing the essential task of eating. Refrigeration has been one of the watershed events in food industry.

Remarks

automation
created
lot of
facilities
but for the
elderly
people it
is not

facilities

People cook once in the morning and eat for the entire day. The need to earn more in the societies has made many females as part of the workforce. For them, balancing work and home is impossible without a refrigerator. But it has created many problems like less consumption of fresh food affecting the nutritional status of their diet. Also, the less time consumed in preparing food burns less calories and leads to obesity. Obesity is growing as the top non-communicable disease leading to mortality. Even developing countries like India are seeing rise in obesity in households where fresh food is not consumed.

Food & obesity are problems
 You need to switch the technology
 improved PACE in helping the people or not

Another related industry which has spawned to provide fast cooked meals is the food processing industry. Today a few corporates like Kellogg, Nestle, McCain, etc. are producing huge quantities

Remarks

of processed food. Around 80-90% of the food is processed in USA as compared to only 10% in India. However, the corporate owned business has led to many associated problems.

Ethical issues have been raised in the meat processing industry where animals are herded inhumanely and live in unhygienic conditions having poor ventilation, light and are fed hormones like oxytocin to boost productivity of milk and meat. As a result, the consumer eats a processed meat can which has meat of diseased animals who are sold to earn quick profits. Even in India, a recent expose showed how formaldehyde is used for preserving fish to increase their shelf life. The chemical is a potential carcinogen.

The food processing industry also

has a huge carbon footprint. Methane gas is released while raising the livestock. Agriculture adds the 3rd largest greenhouse gases to the environment. Climate Change is a consequence of these activities.

The quest to provide quick meals to the people to save time by 'catchy ads like 2-minute noodles' also creates problems for the farmers in the developing world.

Indian farmers are facing tough competition from machine driven agriculture of the west. USA has stalled the negotiations at WTO due to its opposition to India's trade support to its farmer for food security and poverty alleviation. The USA food processing lobby apart from increasing inequalities by virtue of its corporate design is also preventing poverty alleviation in other parts of the world.

The next major sector where technology has greatly shrunk time and distance

Problem between US & India at WTO regarding subsidy being provided by India out of focus issue

is the transport sector. Transportation has seen major developments since the development of wheel. Aircrafts are the fastest mode of transportation today which have made globalisation possible. International meetings and global supply chains have developed due to the aeroplane. Today, printing of magazines and newspapers is done in India for UK market. It has provided jobs to the Indians and improved their standard of living. Similarly, meetings may take place in Silicon valley one day, Singapore the next morning and India the day after.

However, humans have not been able to fully keep pace with the technology. Jetlags cause health risks and frequent fliers are more prone to cardiac attacks. In the guise of reducing time, it is creating possibilities of reducing

Remarks

This paragraph is not required in this essay

human time on Earth! Also, the aerosols injected by aeroplanes lead to air pollution and global warming. The noise pollution for the avian species is another major problem. ✓

good

The transport sector is witnessing another change in the form of self-driven cars. The idea is to save time finding a ride and while driving which would allow travellers devote time for some other tasks. But there have been new ethical issues like who to hold responsible in case of an accident—technology company or the owner. Also, the threat to numerous drivers who come from weaker sections of the society is another problem created. USA Truck Drivers Association are opposing moves to introduce self-driven trucks for logistics. ✓

↓
driverless

The most important change in the pace

of life has been brought by the digital age. There has been a new digital-technology in the market every month. Apple's iPhone stocks don't exhaust before they launch the next version of the same. Internet has made boundaries irrelevant by allowing integration of places located globally. Financial systems have been integrated to allow fast transactions through computer controlled stock exchanges and banks. This has allowed finance to flow in developing markets promoting growth and also bringing technology for economic development.

However, the world of 0s and 1s created by the digital technologies have ^{also} reduced the time left for humans to think. Many youngsters today become software engineers like Nipun Kumar but they seldom

Remarks

mostly out of focus