

TEST CODE: 22027

FIAS - 2019 - MGPEA3

ForumIAS
MGPO11542

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ACADEMY GENERAL STUDIES

Name Of Candidate

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Date:

24-8-2019

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained
Q.1		
Q.2		
Total Marks:		

Remarks:**INSTRUCTION**

- Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Email, Roll No, Mobile).
- There are TWO Sections. Each Section has TWO topics printed in English and Hindi. You have to write on 1 topic from Each part.
- One question in each part is compulsory.
- The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
- Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided.
- Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
- Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off.

Start Time: 7:00 pm	End Time: 9:50 pm
Mode Of Examination :	Online <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/>
ECN CODE:	Evaluation Date:

2nd Floor, IAPL House, #19, Pusa Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi - 110005

MARKING SCHEME

Parameter/Criteria	Aspects Considered	Total Marks	Essay 1	Essay 2
Basic Format	Introduction + Conclusion	10		
	Body	15		
Content	Data/Facts/Interpretation/ Analysis	25		
Organisation	Flow of ideas/ Absence of Deviation from the topic	25		
Language Skills	Punctuation/Grammar/ Sentence Formation/Spellings	25		
Examiner's Discretion	Perception/ Innovation/ Engaging	25		

Parameters	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor
Coherence				
Language				
Handwriting				
Pre-writing				

Very Good	Good	Average
120 and above	100-120	Below 100

SECTION - A

1. Administrative Reforms: Key to Good Governance.
2. The Earth does not belong to us: we belong to the Earth.

The earth does not belong to us: we belong
to the Earth

Between June 13-17 2013, there was unusual amount of rainfall in Uttarakhand leading to eruption of Mandakani river which destroyed lives, houses and everything else that came in its way. It was a heaven's rage. What else does one expect from the mountain if there is unplanned and haphazard construction, mismanaged tourism and intensive mining in the fragile ecosystem?

This incident and various such natural turned into man made disasters signifies the importance of health of earth to the human

~~human~~ beings. Survival and well-being of human kind is always dependent on the mother earth. However, on the other hand we are the main reason for its destruction.

In its history of 4.5 billion years, earth has provided the essential ingredients for different life forms to flourish, from single celled amoeba to large mammals. Humans are just one of its creations among millions of species that have either existed or are still existing on earth. We human beings are just about ~~a few~~ thousand years old. We are just a small cog in the wheel (~~part~~) of the machine i.e. mother earth. We are not the machine. Our existence is possible only because of the various services provided by mother earth.

However, we human beings in order to fulfil our selfish desires

have treated earth as if it belongs only to us. We have tamed almost all aspects of the earth as a resource and have exploited it for our selfish needs. As Gandhiji has said "The earth has enough for everyone's needs, but not for anyone's greed." This greedy nature of human beings have resulted in unsustainable use of mother earth. and thus we ~~are~~ are today facing many issues.

To meet the rising demand of ever-increasing population we have ~~transformed~~ transformed the land use pattern, encroached upon the forests, wetlands, increased level of pollution in air, water ^{and} soil.

The over exploitation of resources and irresponsible consumption has led to increased use of energy and thus leading to release of various greenhouse gases like Methane,

~~Sulphur~~ & nitrogen dioxide, etc which has led to climate change. Human activities have also led to the habitat loss and its fragmentation ~~causing~~ driving animals and plants to extinctions. We human beings have increased the rates at which the sixth episode of mass extinction is occurring and hence it is correctly called as anthropogenic mass extinction. These manifestations of anthropogenic activities which ~~to~~ highlights that humans treat earth as if it belongs to him only led to several implications on humanity and its environment.

Treating

earth as if it belongs to us ~~to~~ only has serious political implications. It has led to disputes among various states for example the dispute between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu over the sharing of Cauvery river water. This

Issue can be solved easily if the people of these states judiciously use water and does not pollute it. However, no such steps are being taken by us.

Increased exploitation of natural resources and their unequal distribution has led to various violent protest which many times lead to issues like regionalism. For example, various political movements for the demand of Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand were because of these reasons only.

Apart from political implications, ~~#~~ our selfish nature towards mother earth can have agricultural implications as well. Agricultural productivity is sensitive to climate change induced effects. According to economic survey of India 2018, India incurs losses of about

\$9-10 billion annually due to extreme weather events. It also noted farmer's income losses from climate changes would be between 15% and 18% on an average. Moreover, because of overuse of groundwater for irrigation purposes in India, groundwater depleted at 10-25 mm per year between 2002 and 2016. This will ultimately affect the farmers.

Over exploitation of mother earth by human beings also has socio-economic implications. It affects the vulnerable sections of society like women, elderly more as they are more dependent on natural resources. Women are more likely to experience poverty and hence making recovery from extreme weather events more difficult.

Moreover because of harmful anthropogenic activities, health of human beings is affected. For example, in 2018, extreme heat waves caused more than 1500 deaths in India. Moreover, there has been a spread of infections

diseases, mainly because warmer temperatures allow disease carrying insects, animals and microbes to survive in areas where they were once blocked by cold weather. Because of climate change, the food security of people will be affected and we can see large number of cases of malnutrition in children, women and other vulnerable sections of society.

Increasingly frequent and severe weather and climate related events leads to an increase in bouts of migration and climate refugees. The loss of traditional territories threatens the existence of traditional and cultural heritage of minority and indigenous groups. Moreover, displaced people are often more susceptible to recruitment by terrorist organisations. According to Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre in 2018, about 17 million people were recently displaced.

because of disasters and these numbers are expected to rise rapidly in future.

According to World Economic forum, climate change is the biggest threat to global economy. If the activities of human being continue in unsustainable manner, then this could cost around 5-20% of annual GDP. It could push for example 45 million Indians into extreme poverty over the next 15 years. Globally, more intense hurricanes and downpours could cause billions of dollars in damage to property and infrastructure.

apart from these implications, treating mother as our own property has international implications also. The development race between developed and developing countries is based on the utilisation of fossil fuels and other natural resources in haphazard manner which is deteriorating earth's resources. A

discord has occurred between these two groups of countries on the question of sharing responsibilities of climate change. The world is developed not ready to accept common but differentiated responsibilities.

Due to increased instances of erratic rainfall, dispute over sharing of river water is occurring between countries for example Teesta ~~to~~ River issue between India and Bangladesh.

Over-exploitation of earth's resources and overpopulation is leading to land degradation and clearing of forests. 20% of the world's healthy land has been degraded in last 15 years and impacted over 3.2 billion people in the world. The current forest fires in Amazon forests clearly points finger at greedy nature of humans. We need to question ourselves "can we survive without the lungs of the mother earth?"

In the above paragraphs we have seen what can happen if we treat mother earth as our private property. There is clearly a need to take steps at individual, community and international level so that again earth can become fresh and evergreen planet.

At an individual level, eating a plant based diet, avoiding air travel, living car free or using public transport and smaller families can have a high impact on reduction in carbon footprint. Simpler steps like replacing regular cars with electric and hybrid models, recycling waste and upgrading light bulbs can also help. Using cloth bag instead of plastic bag will be helpful.

At community level, inspirations can be taken from already successful models. Examples include the climate friendly construction techniques in Gorakhpur which includes bricks from local areas and usage of indigenous

knowledge. In Senegal with financial aid from UNDP, Community Natural Reserves are established to enhance climate change resilience. Village Edatheruvu in Palakkad, Kerala has devised a unique citizen initiative aimed at collection, segregation and scientific disposal of waste. Moreover, communities are involved in afforestation drive to check the degradation of land. To increase ground water recharge and aquifers we need to follow Rajendra Singh model of construction of Johad and check dams.

At international level,

there should be more efforts to fully implement the agreements like Kyoto Protocol, Paris Agreement, Cartagena protocol, etc. Defaulters must be morally pressurised to follow the line. Also to achieve these targets, developing countries should be provided with access to cutting edge technologies, funds and thus support of developed countries becomes necessary.

Thus, in this essay we have discussed why it becomes important that we choose sustainable development as our model of development. We human beings can take little steps at individual, community and international level to avoid Nature's rage and already many people have started taking actions in this direction. Ethically, we need to realise that every species has an intrinsic value and we have a moral duty to care for their well-being and pass on our biological legacy in good order to the future generations. The earth does not belong to man, man belongs to earth. All things are connected like the blood that unites us all. Human beings did not weave the web; we are merely a strand of it. Thus, we need to understand, whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves.

Feedback

Feedback to be provided in terms of (1) Introduction (2) Sentence Constructions (3) Paragraph Formation (4) Legibility (5) Deviation from Topic (6) Coverage of dimensions (7) Simplicity / ease of reading

SECTION - B

1. Before you embark on a journey of revenge, dig two graves.
2. The future depends on what we do in the present.

The future depends on what we do in the present .

A women carrying eggs to the market . On her way to the market , she started dreaming about the future she would have once she sold all the eggs . She dreamt about how she would buy big house , big car , all the luxurious objects once she became rich . However , while dreaming about the future , she stumbled upon a piece of rock , and all her eggs fell on the ground and she ruined her present as well as her future .

This anecdote which everybody has heard it once in their life shows the importance of the present .

~~#~~ Saint Kabir had rightly said "Kal kare so aaj kar, aaj kare so ab"; pal me parlay hoyegi, bahuri karega kab" (We don't know what the future holds for us, hence we must do the things now only). This couplet shows the importance of present and thus it is rightly said that what we do in present determines our future.

In this essay, we will discuss this famous quote by Mahatma Gandhiji from various perspectives and with the help of various examples.

Our actions in present determining our future ~~is~~ very well exemplified in the social sphere. Haven't we seen boys in their 20s behaving with the women in same manner as they had seen in their homes during their childhood? That is why it becomes important that in present times

men should behave properly with women. The women should be treated with dignity and respect otherwise our future ~~is~~ is bleak. Bad behaviour today will lead to more number of rapes, domestic violence cases against women in future.

Aren't we aware of the adverse impacts of present actions of female foeticide?
Female foeticide and infanticide in present will lead to decline in sex ratio in future which will ultimately lead to forced bachelorhood, polygamy, and buying of brides from poor families.

Education is the biggest investment.
And hence the steps taken by government and parents towards the education of the children in the present will ultimately in future produce active citizens who are ~~more~~ healthier and are aware of their political, social and economic rights.

Apart from social sphere, our present actions determines our future in the environmental sphere too.

Presently, people waste water and do not understand the importance of saving water. Today, they do not undertake any activity like rooftop harvesting, drip agriculture, etc at a large scale. because of these actions in present times, the future of India as well as the world seems bleak and that is water scarcity.

Unplanned and haphazard construction, encroachment of wetlands, etc in present times will ultimately bring havoc in major cities around the world.

Pictures of floods in Uttarakhand in June 2013, Mumbai floods are still clear in everybody's minds.

How do you save a million people from