

ForumIAS  
MGPQ17171

# ForumIAS

ACADEMY

## GENERAL STUDIES

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Mobile No.

Roll No. *1910032948*

Date: *2/9/19*

Maximum Marks: 250

Time Allowed: Three Hours

### INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained
1		
2		
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### INSTRUCTION

- Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet.
- There are TWELVE questions printed in ENGLISH, all questions are 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.

*Any specific messages for ForumIAS Mentors/Evaluators with respect to your copy? Write it here.*

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Total Marks:

Remarks:

Start Time | *1840*

End Time | *20:05 (1hr 25 minutes)*

Mode Of Examination :

Online  Offline

ECN CODE:

Evaluation Date:

Parameters	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor
Language						
Structure						
Presentation						
Handwriting						
Content						
Attempt						

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

- Have only done Part A for practice.

PART - A

Q.1) a) What do you understand by "good" in good governance? Is good governance always ethical governance? Analyse.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

According to the UN, the 'good' in good governance refers to the following 8 traits in governance:

1. Responsiveness
2. Accountability
3. Transparency
4. Rule of law
5. Efficiency & Effectiveness
6. Communication
7. Equity and Inclusive
8. People's participation

The above qualities provide governance with the requisite 'public service' spirit

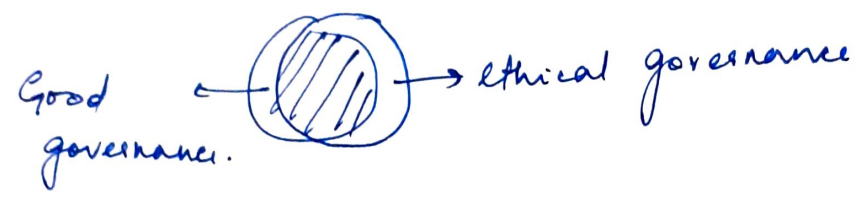
### Ethical governance

This involves following values, norms and ideals as laid down by the Constitution in governance. For eg: Integrity, Probity, impartiality, empathy and compassion.

Good governance may not always be ethical governance as it is not explicitly

about the values to be upheld. Eg: use of technology to improve service delivery may lead to the digitally illiterate being excluded.

Thus there is a need to bring a synthesis between good and ethical governance.



Feedback ( For OFFICE use only )

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		<b>Total :</b>	

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b) What is constructive confrontation? Can there be progress without confrontation? Discuss the importance of Civil service values in resolving the same.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Constructive Confrontation refers to the form of opposition / differing opinion that <sup>one</sup> may face which is intended to improve the decision / action rather than simply criticise.

for eg: Opposition parties bring out deficiency in Ruling party / Government programme to uphold public service values.

Progress without Confrontation:

Although without confrontation decision making may become faster and streamlined, confrontation (constructive) is necessary as:

- Brings out deficiency.
- Brings out different view points - spirit of democracy.
- Check on authoritarian tendency and form of accountability.
- Improves tolerance in society and respect for dissest.

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Civil Service values such as integrity, openness,  
honesty and ~~do~~ impartiality are essential  
to have constructive criticism.

It however the form of criticism/  
confrontation needs to be 'constructive'  
and not destructive to ensure good  
governance.

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Structure		Content	
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Q.2) a) "Self-restraint is the very keystone of the ethics of vow-taking." What do you understand by this statement in the present-day scenario? Explain. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

The statement highlights that in the ~~course~~ essential nature of a vow/oath involves an act of promise to oneself and others regarding the fulfillment of certain duties. For eg: Oath taken by judges at appointment

Self restraint is of central value here because :

- Self restraint enables fulfilling one's duty without fear or favour.
- Is a recognition of the temptations and a decision to proactively deny them.
- Activates sense of 'responsibility' in an individual towards one's duty.
- Recognises role of internal locus of control and accountability

Relevance in present day:

- Criminalization in politics and corruption

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in public life is a direct violation of an oath towards the public and due to lack of self restraint.

- Similarly, bureaucrats need to exercise self restraint in adhering excessively to rules and norms and overregulation in cases like tax terrorism.

self restraint may be cultivated through both internal and external factors such as self awareness, self regulation, systems of accountability etc.

judges

Feedback ( For OFFICE use only )

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		<b>Total :</b>	

b) "To be honest towards yourself is the very beginning."

What do you understand by this statement? Explain your stand with illustrations from your personal life. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

Integrity is the state of being 'whole' i.e. adhering to one's moral principles and values in an context-independent manner and unwavering with circumstance.

The statement highlights that the first step to being a person with integrity lies in recognizing and accepting the lapses that one may have made in following our value. Honesty is required because:

- It brings out the truth in one's behaviour, gives an opportunity for critical analysis and improving ourselves
- Inculcates a sense of responsibility for one's own actions / behaviour
- Creates a habit of exercising control and choice in one's action in a manner that makes us people with integrity

Personal life illustration :

Having ignored an injured animal on the street on my way to meeting friends I realized that it was a violation of my own principle of being empathetic and compassionate towards animals. After discussing this with friends, we came back to rescue the dog.

Thus being honest about my actions without justifying or explaining them away led to me being a person with integrity.

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Q.3) a) Discuss the Inventory Management Code as recommended by the 2nd Administrative Reforms Commission. (X)

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

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b) Discuss the ethical dimensions of international aid with examples.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

International aid refers to the aid given by development banks (IMF, WB, ~~AIB~~ NDB) or developed nations in order to assist a country in need.

### Ethical dimensions:

- International aid is an act of empathy and compassion. An attempt to alleviate the sufferings of people.
- Recognizes inalienable and basic right of human dignity and seeks to uphold it.
- Is in nature of charity and an ~~act~~ altruistic act where own resources are used for people of a different nation.
- Recognition of humanity as one species.

However there are certain ethical dilemmas as well:

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- can be a form of 'reward' for corrupt and inefficient leadership in a country
- Allows for funds to be ~~appt~~ diverted from the area in which aid is given (education and health) and removes sense of responsibility from recipient.
- Removes need to do more substantial things to solve crisis. (Eg: Donating towards Ebola research rather than sending best scientist.)

Many African nations have been called to be under 'Aid curse' as they become dependent on aid and lack capacity in their institutions. Thus the way forward lies in rationalising aid quantum and analysing the impact & making it contingent on good governance.

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Q.4) a) The fundamental question in Public services is "Who will guard the guardians?". Analyze in the context of accountability of civil servants for good governance.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Who will guard the guardians bring out the situation wherein the powerful and elite who are authorised to wield power may in fact be above scrutiny and accountability themselves.

Accountability refers to the enforcement of answerability ~~or~~ for the acts done by a civil servants.

### Need for Accountability

- Sunlight is the best disinfectant - accountability brings a system of punishment and penalties and acts as a deterrence.
- Enhances transparency and responsiveness
- Is the main pillar in 'good governance'
- Ensure optimum utilization of public resources.
- Overall maintains the spirit of public service which is essential for civil services.

## Mechanism to enforce accountability:

- Can be both External and Internal.
- External mechanisms : Judicial review and independence
  - Prevention of Corruption Act
  - RTI strengthening.
- Internal mechanism : Ethical training to civil servants as recommended by 2nd ARC
  - Value education in schools
  - System of rewards and punishment.

Accountability in itself is not sufficient and needs to be supported by an internal sense of 'Responsibility' in individuals themselves.

### Feedback ( For OFFICE use only )

Structure		Content	
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38500210 importance of political neutrality for civil servants. Discuss in light of increased political alignment shown by bureaucrats. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

Political neutrality for civil servants means an ideological neutrality and an impartial behaviour towards any single Government.

### Importance of Political neutrality

- Since political parties only form the 'temporary executive' while civil servants are 'permanent executive' it ensures continuity between Governments - smooth transition.
- Schemes and programmes for the public will be implemented based on merit rather than ideology.
- Ensures all sections of society are served - inclusivity.
- Ensures that the Government has an efficient work force to implement its' decisions
- For the individual civil servant - being

impartial makes a person objective in decision making.

Recent cases of young officers resigning to join political parties has brought out the importance of maintaining impartiality. This may be done by.

- Providing security of tenure and preventing frequent whole scale transfers.
- Code of ethics and ethical training for civil servants (as suggested by 2nd ARC)
- Ensure mechanisms of accountability to reduce chances of biased decision making.

Feedback ( For OFFICE use only )

Structure		Content	
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Q.5) a) "Moderation in temper is a virtue, but moderation in principle is always a vice." - Thomas Paine. What do you understand by the statement? Explain giving examples.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Thomas Paine brings out the need for maintaining integrity in following one's principles and values but highlights the need to control one's emotions especially anger.

Moderation in temper :

- A volatile temper can hamper objective decision making and cloud our judgement.
- Temper is physically harmful as it causes stress and hypertension.
- Makes our behaviour unpredictable and may hamper relationships.
- It is a wasteful utilization of one's energy.
- Can lead to inappropriate and unlawful incidents. Eg: Mob lynching, communal violence.

## Moderation in principles :

- May lead to ethical ~~diff~~ dilemmas frequently as one doesn't have a standard principle to abide by.
- Moral corruption as well as material corruption.
- Reduces a person's integrity and courage of conviction making them weak.
- Can invite subjectivity and lack of decision making ability.

Moderation in principles as a vice has also been supported by Einstein when he said that physics can have relativity, but not ethics.

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b) Ethical dilemmas arising in private and government institutions one and the same. Do you agree with this view? If not, enumerate the differences and mention the approaches in resolving both the dilemmas. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

Ethical dilemmas are situations wherein two moral principles or values collide and taking a decision necessarily leads to a compromise on one of them. Eg: Taking a decision on passive euthanasia where sanctity of life is in opposition to compassion.

Private and government institutions do not face the same ethical dilemmas because:

- The underlying profit motive is different from public service motive of Government.
- Private institutions have stakeholders to whom they owe a fiduciary responsibility whereas for governments there is a democratic imperative involved - ~~there~~ this raison d'être is to serve.

## Difference between private and Government dilemma :

### Private dilemma

- Economics vs environment
- Economics vs social obligation
- Competing interest of clients, shareholders, employees, Government etc.

### Government dilemma

- balancing interests of different communities and groups.
- Hierarchy and loyalty vs meritocracy.
- Freedom of speech vs. Rule of law.

### Approach to resolution

- Code of conduct, code of ethics to create standards.
- External mechanisms of accountability.
- Proper norms, rules, regulations
- Ethical training for officials and long term inculcating values of integrity, openness, impartiality, honesty etc.

Feedback ( For OFFICE use only )

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Q.6) a) Discuss the contribution of Immanuel Kant to the field of ethics. What are the limitations to his approach?

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Immanuel Kant presented a deontological approach to ethical conduct. His main premise was that duty must be performed for the sake of duty itself and without regard to the consequences of such actions.

• For him there are certain 'Categorical Imperatives' that need to be followed. A

duty is a categorical imperative if it passes the test of universalizability. For

eg: Honesty is a categorical imperative as everyone everywhere must follow it, but stealing cannot be such an imperative.

• He also said that humans should not be used as a means to an end and are an end in themselves. Thus he did not support euthanasia, capital punishment.

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## Limitations

- He did not consider cases where duties are in conflict. William David Ross gave a deontological pluralistic approach and said that in cases of conflict of duties, the circumstances determine ethical conduct.
- Teleologists / Consequentialists regard the consequences of one's actions as a primary parameter. Eg: Bentham's utilitarianism says ethical conduct is that which creates greatest good for greatest number.

Despite the limitations, Kant's ideology resonates with concept of 'Dharma' and 'Nishkam Karma' i.e. - duty without wanting results.

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b) "We can have no consideration for a machine which is meant either to enrich the few at the expense of the many, or without cause to displace the useful labour of many." In the light of this statement, discuss the ethical implications of large scale use of Artificial Intelligence. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

Artificial Intelligence is poised to replace large number of low skilled jobs and clerical work causing fears of unemployment and rising inequality.

Ethical implications :

- AI can benefit industries by reducing cost of labour and greater efficiency thereby improving profitability
- AI can also lead to better public service delivery in education, health which benefits the marginalised.

However, there are negative implications :

- Raising inequality between haves and have nots by creating high skilled high paid jobs while replacing low skilled low paid jobs.

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- AI in military can lead to ethical considerations of large scale damage to the technological networks.
- AI in public service may remove a sense of responsibility and accountability in the Government towards public service.
- Will disproportionately benefit the digitally literate - leading to lack of inclusivity.

However, one must not promote a neo-Luddite movement in opposition to any kind of technological progress. It is thus ~~the~~ the role of the Government to ensure equitable distribution of resources and ensure good governance in light of AI.

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c) What does this quotation mean to you in the present context: "A mind all logic is like a knife all blade. It makes the hand bleed that uses it." - Thirukkural. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

The statement highlights the importance of emotions and sentiments beyond just that of logic and objectivity.

Importance of emotions and why 'all logic' may be harmful :

- Emotions such as empathy, compassion are essential to ensure public welfare and uplift the marginalised. Eg. Mother Teresa
- Emotions such as anger may also motivate an individual to work harder and channelise one's energies.
- 'All logic' mind can make us cold and calculative
- logic would dictate that one follows the letter of the law rather rather than the spirit
- logic can lead to subpar relationships.

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However an overemphasis on emotions can also be detrimental as :

- Emotions can cloud our judgement, make wrong decision. Eg: support to Hitler in the Nazi movement by his subordinates.
- Emotions like temper are physically harmful.
- Emotions in public services may lead to inefficient utilization of resources and even corruption.

Thus logic and emotions need to be balanced by self awareness, self regulation, emotional intelligence and meditation.

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Structure		Content	
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