

TEST CODE : 5 2 0 4 2

FIAS - EGP 2022 - Batch 6 - Essay Test #2

ForumIAS

## ESSAY

Name Of Candidate	AYAN JAIN		
Roll No.	1910074977	Date:	7/9/22

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTION
Q. No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained	<p>1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet.</p> <p>2. There are TWO Sections. Each Section has MULTIPLE topics printed in English. You have to write on 1 topic from Each part</p> <p>3. One question in each part is compulsory.</p> <p>4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.</p> <p>5. 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.</p> <p>6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.</p> <p>7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off.</p> <p><b>Any specific messages for ForumIAS Mentors/ Evaluators with respect to your copy? Write it here.</b></p> <p><i>Should I increase content/no. of examples by reducing 'explanation' part or this balance is fine?</i></p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p>
Q.1			
Q.2			
<b>Total Marks:</b>			
<b>Remarks:</b>			
<b>For Student Only</b>			
<b>Start Time</b>   1:45 PM (one essay)		<b>End Time</b>   3:08 PM	
<b>Mode Of Examination:</b>		Online <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>For Office Use Only</b>			
<b>ECN CODE:</b>		<b>EG:</b>	<b>Evaluation Date:</b>

## MARKING SCHEME

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

<b>Parameters</b>	<b>Very Good</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Poor</b>
<b>Coherence</b>				
<b>Language</b>				
<b>Handwriting</b>				
<b>Pre-writing</b>				

<b>Very Good</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Average</b>
120 and above	100-120	Below 100

**SECTION - A**

1. Our moral, religious, and political traditions are united in their respect for the dignity of human life.

हमारी नैतिक, धार्मिक और राजनीतिक परंपराएं मानव जीवन की गरिमा के सम्मान में एकजुट हैं।

2. Neither a life of self-indulgence nor one of self-mortification can bring happiness.

न तो आत्म-भोग का जीवन और न ही आत्म-यातना का जीवन प्रसन्नता ला सकता है।

3. Reality is ultimately a selective act of perception and interpretation.

वास्तविकता अंततः धारणा और व्याख्या का एक चयनात्मक कार्य है।

4. Conversation enriches the understanding but solitude is the school of genius.

संवाद समझ को विकसित करती है लेकिन एकांत प्रतिभावान की पाठशाला है।

CONVERSATION ENRICHES UNDERSTANDING,  
BUT SOLITUDE IS THE SCHOOL OF GENIUS

"Multiple Intelligences go to school"

This was the title of a breakthrough research in Psychology by Gardner, who claimed that there was not one but seven kinds of intelligences.

Two of these are - Interpersonal intelligence, and Intrapersonal intelligence. Where the former deals with humans' interactions with others (such as conversations), the latter deals with our self-talk and thoughts, when in solitude.

As it would be expected, both these intelligences are extremely crucial for the holistic and well-rounded development of humans. And the two are enhanced by exactly opposite processes: Intrapersonal intelligence comes from introspection in solitude, while interpersonal is derived from our conversations in the full current of life.

Naturally, both serve different purposes allowing the full functioning of humans as social beings as well as individualistic entities. Before we analyze the role of conversation and solitude in this meta-cognitive process, let us first understand the very nature of human beings, which necessitates the involvement of both these processes in life.

## UNDERSTANDING HUMANS

'What humans are' has been a question revolving in the collective curiosity since eternity, and this understanding has been refined over ages.

Primarily, humans are social beings. Maslow's hierarchy puts 'social Needs' as of undeniable importance, second only to physiological needs like food. This is why, during COVID-19 lockdowns, frustration and irritable behaviour was a common occurrence among those living in seclusion. This is also why monkhood, like in Buddhism, requires the sacrifice of this great need, to build discipline.

This social nature of humans essentially implies that social

interactions are a must for humans to live a 'complete' life. Indeed, the absence of a social life has often been correlated to depression or poor mental health among people. (NIMHANS study)

At the same time, humans are inherently capable of living alone. In fact, solitude often allows humans to understand themselves on a deep level. Just as Rene Descartes said in his Wax Argument - "I think, therefore I am." This was a blow to the belief that a socially active life is sine qua non for a good life.

Thus, humans can be social and individualistic at the same time. Having clarified this understanding of human nature, let us now try

to understand how conversation enriches human intelligence and understanding.

### THE MAGIC OF CONVERSATION

The 21st century is a rather hectic and stressful one, and one of the most commonly given advice to overcome this, is to "talk to others". What is the pertinence of such conversations?

To begin with, it makes us realize that we are not alone. Understanding this can bolster a person's inner confidence. Just how Gandhiji's determination strengthened after conversing with people on a regular basis.

Secondly, conversation with people from different backgrounds tells

us different realities and can give us a fresh perspective. For instance, India is considered a tolerant democracy - this has been achieved due to the continuous conversations between people of different religions, castes, as well as ethnicities.

Next, conversation gives us a fresher understanding due to the synergy of ideas. Just how the Indian freedom struggle got an impetus after the Lucknow Pact of 1916 where Moderates, Extremists as well as the Muslim League came together to share opinions.

At a tangible level, conversation can play the crucial role of filling information gaps : whether it is about one person's conceptual



clarity in Mathematics, or about the forecasting of imminent disasters for an entire country. Similarly, intelligence about security matters like terrorism or smuggling is also shared through such conversation.

Another outcome of interactions can also be mutual benefit arising due to understanding one another. For example, after India opened its Economy in the 1991 LPG reforms, the understanding of Demand-Supply amplified trade leading to higher growth of India as well as trading partners.

An even more significant outcome of such understanding is when it deals with matters of global urgency. Just how the awareness

of climate change has been brought through conversations and is now inspiring concerted efforts by governments, private players, NGOs as well as civil society.

Finally, conversations make us more open-minded and help us evolve. Whether it is one person's empathy that develops, or how constitutions refine themselves by borrowing from other constitutions of the world.

Undoubtedly, conversation enriches the understanding. But, is it necessary? No. In fact, solitude is linked to the lives of geniuses like Albert Einstein, Nikola Tesla and even Mark Zuckerberg, all of whom have made ground-shaking contributions to the world. Let us understand how

solitude acts as a school of genius.

## THE POWER OF SOLITUDE

It is often said that we enter the world alone, and we leave it alone. Presumably then, solitude is inherent to humans.

A simple reason for this can be seen in the fact that we spend a lot more time with our thoughts alone, than we do in the public sphere. Then, it is imperative to understand the role of this solitude and intrapersonal intelligence.

First and foremost, solitude leads to fortitude. That is, it gives us strength, both mental as well as physical. Just how "trees that grow alone, grow strong", or

how Japan engaged in post-World War 2 reconstruction all by itself, and now is considered as a 'technological genius'.

Apart from strength, solitude gives us adaptability which is a trait of true geniusness. As

Darwin said, 'survival of the fittest': humans were the most adaptable species and hence were able to evolve the most.

At a psychological level, solitude can breed reflections and introspection. And as Socrates said,

"an unexamined life is a life not worth living", thus such solitude helps us examine our own lives, which can be followed by rectification. For example, Neeraj Chopra would often analyze his sport by himself, to

identify lacunae and fix them.

Further, solitude leads to creativity. It is said that Pablo Picasso and Leonardo Da Vinci would often spend time in solitude before coming up with a masterpiece. Perhaps this is due to the distraction-free state that solitude provides.

Moreover, solitude gives room for self-talk, which is often thought of as the most important kind of conversation, because it shapes our attitudes and mindset, which invariably direct our behaviour. Hence, Gautam Buddha or Mahavira would meditate for long hours in this solitude, to refine their thinking.

Lastly, solitude has the potential to bring out the limitless nature of human beings. It was shown in the movie 'Lucy' how solitude helps humans understand their own limitations, and then overcome them. Similarly, for nations, solitude can help realize the flaws of the system and fix them, just as was done by Nepal when it shifted from a monarchy to a constitutional democracy.

Evidently, solitude is the teacher that brings out one's genius.

Having studied the role of both conversation and solitude towards building of interpersonal and intrapersonal intelligence, let us try to use this knowledge in our day-to-day lives.

## APPLYING THE WISDOM

The interconnected-nature of present society necessitates conversation, while the increased workload brings forth solitude. What we can do is to make the best of both worlds.

By treating every conversation as an upgradation of our own understanding, and considering every moment of solitude as an exercise in self-introspection, we can grow.

We can grow to a point where the world is filled with comprehensive Human Capital in the form of self-aware geniuses, who treat each other with utmost respect and empathy, leading to higher social capital.



The future is in our hands, and "with great power comes great responsibility", hence we must ensure that our conversations and moments of solitude lead to a better world, a better humanity, and a better life!

**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