

Time Allowed: Three Hours 197546620301 1910093950 (2023-07-09 23:16:04)

Maximum Marks : 250

समय : तीन घंटे

अधिकतम अंक : 250

ForumIAS

## ESSAY / निबंध

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	BHARVAN VENNELAGANTI		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910093950	Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र	1900	Date/दिनांक	9/7/23

\*Center Code: For Online - 1900 / Delhi : Karol bagh - 1901, ORN - 1902, Mukharji Nagar - 1903 / Patna : Boring Rd. - 2001 / Hyderabad : Jawahar Nagar - 2101

## INDEX TABLE / अनुक्रमणिका

## INSTRUCTION / अनुदेश

Q. No. प्र.सं.	Max. Marks अधिकतम अंक	Marks Obtained प्राप्तांक
Q.1		
Q.2		
Total Marks/कुल अंक		

## Remarks/टिप्पणी :

- Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet.  
कृपया उत्तर-पुस्तिका में नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर और मोबाइल नंबर भरें।
- There are TWO Sections. Each Section has MULTIPLE topics printed in English/Hindi. You have to write on 1 topic from Each part.  
प्रश्न पत्र में दो खंड हैं। प्रत्येक खंड में अंग्रेजी/हिंदी में बहु-विषय मुद्रित हैं। आपको प्रत्येक भाग में से किसी एक विषय का लेखन करना है।
- One question in each part is compulsory.  
प्रत्येक भाग में से एक प्रश्न करना अनिवार्य है।
- The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.  
एक प्रश्न/भाग द्वारा किए गए अंकों की संख्या इसके सामने इंगित की गई है।
- 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.  
उत्तर प्रवेश पत्र में अधिकृत माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जो कि दिए गए स्थान में इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के कवर पर स्पष्ट रूप से लिखा जाना चाहिए।
- Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.  
प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, यदि निर्दिष्ट हो, का पालन किया जाना चाहिए।
- Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off.  
प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा गया कोई भी पृष्ठ या पृष्ठ का भाग स्पष्ट रूप से काट दिया जाना चाहिए।

## For Student Only / केवल परीक्षार्थी प्रयोग हेतु

Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय :	End Time/समाप्त करने का समय :
7:00 PM	10:00 PM
Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि :	Online/ऑनलाइन <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline/ऑफलाइन <input type="checkbox"/>

## For Office Use Only / केवल कार्यालय प्रयोग हेतु

ECN CODE/ ईसीएन कोड :	EG/ईजी :	Evaluation Date/ मूल्यांकन तिथि :

<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



1. The ultimate renewable energy is the human ingenuity.  
मानव प्रतिभा सबसे बेहतर नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा है।
2. Human laws and natural laws mutually reinforce each other. ✕  
मानवीय कानून और प्राकृतिक कानून परस्पर एक दूसरे को सुदृढ़ करते हैं।
3. History should be understood as evolution of society. ✕  
इतिहास को समाज के उद्भव के रूप में समझा जाना चाहिए।
4. If one has seen further than others it is by standing upon the shoulders of giants.  
अगर किसी ने दूसरों से दूर तक देखा है तो यह दिग्गजों के कंधों पर खड़े होने की वजह से है।

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THE ULTIMATE RENEWABLE ENERGY  
IS HUMAN INGENUITY

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As the world approached the last month of 2019, the global economic analysts predicted a decade of prosperity. As a whole, the previous two decades spanning from the beginning of this millenia, <sup>were a</sup> resounding success on many counts. This period of global peace, economic progress, hyper globalization, scientific developments reaped benefits across nations.

For instance, the MDGs (Millennium Development

Goals) were reached prior to the timeline!  
Global poverty fell drastically and life expectancy was at its highest ever. However, what unfolded over the next few months would change everything. COVID-19, first thought as a mere hiccup in this success story, took the centre stage of global dialogue. Unable ~~do~~ to cope with this unprecedented crisis, nations closed their borders, economies completely shut-down and we entered a virtual <sup>global</sup> ~~total~~ lockdown. Over 10 million died, poverty arose from the underneath like the multi-headed hydra and governments were clueless.

In this backdrop, human ingenuity came to the rescue and how! The first ever mRNA vaccines were developed in less than 1 year, and we had ~~an~~ a silver lining. Around the world, human ingenuity sprung up with answers - Sputnik, Covax, Pfizer and several more vaccines

197546\_620301\_1910093950 (2023-07-09 23:16:04) developed as the central pillar of our covid response. Education pivoted to online education as ed-tech sector boomed. Quick commerce became a reality as groceries became an item of door-step delivery. With most of the world safe and vaccinated today, steps taken to reverse the negative effects of COVID, the world is yet again on its growth track. Due to human ingenuity, COVID did turn out to be a mere hiccup, albeit with its unfortunate and unavoidable consequences.

It is not <sup>for</sup> the first time that human ingenuity has come to the rescue. Rather, it is the only true asset that we have. Charles Darwin in his "Evolution of species" said that "it is not the most strong, or the most ~~intelligen~~ powerful species that survive, but the most adaptable ones". It is ~~that~~ on the wheels of human ingenuity that the vehicle of human progress lies. Infact, the study of human history itself, is a story of human ingenuity.

But what is human ingenuity? Ingenuity is nothing but the sum total of human intelligence, creativity, critical thinking, capacity to cooperate and desire to innovate. It is this spirit that fuels our march into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Human beings have been around, in the form of homo sapiens for around 100 million years. In these 100 million years, we have worked our way up the food chain, where we are capable of shaping our environment. However, this was not always the case. The discovery of the wheel, the use of <sup>quartz</sup> tools, the use of fire to ward off animals and cook food were all a consequence of human creativity. Infact, the learning of fire as an ally to our species has played a major role in our evolutionary history. Human curiosity led us to experiment with the naturally occurring fire and understand its humongous benefits in controlled use. The

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Softening of meat upon cooking it, evolutionarily

reduced the size of our jaws, leaving more space for the development of the mind. Today humans have the longest brain size to body weight ratio of any animal. Probably this, inadvertently became the cause of all human ingenuity. The discovery of agriculture in the neolithic revolution has finally led us to the settled species we today are.

Not just in our history, societally too, our constant desire for improvement through striving has shaped our societies. Take for example our ancient Indian society. Though largely egalitarian in the Rig Vedic period, as we approached the later Vedic age, the society became riddled with issues. The position of women deteriorated as sati and child marriage became ~~prevalent~~ prevalent, the caste system developed with the evil of untouchability and religion was synonymous with ritualization. rituals. It was in this dismal backdrop, that the greatest spiritual rendition occurred in our



Societal history. Around 500 BC, Gautam Buddha and Mahavir Jain popularized the Heterodox religious sect. Their desire for self awareness, self discovery and spiritual awakening is nothing but the highest display of human ingenuity. Thus, the society underwent radical reformatory changes. Similar societal reforms were brought about by the Bhakti Saints such as Shri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu, who democratized religion through the ingenious act of removing the middlemen in religion. God, he said, is universal and resides in our hearts. He is therefore accessible to all.

Not just our society, globally too, as a community we have displayed immense resilience and ingenuity to tide over challenges that each generation throws at us. The case of our geo-political history demonstrates a remarkable story. With the beginning of the Industrial age, hitherto disconnected societies came in contact. The rise of Industrial ambitions ~~forced~~ fueled Imperialism and colonialism.

The culmination of this unquenchable thirst  
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for industrialization led to clash of the  
Colonial powers. The world war I, as  
S. Chandra Bose called it was an Imperial  
War. The aftermath of the war led to  
the setting up of the League of Nations  
as an agency to resolve disputes peacefully.  
This however failed and the world war II  
caused untold suffering to humanity. It was  
then, the ingenuity of Roosevelt, Stalin and  
Winston Churchill that birthed the United  
Nations. The winners of the war were sure  
to create a more equitable and balanced  
global architecture. The world had learned  
its lesson and since WW II, due to the UN  
no global war has ensued.

In not just the world, even in on the  
individual scale, we find great stories of  
human ingenuity. Gandhi for example, was a  
master political strategist. With his political  
philosophy, he brought under the wings of  
the national struggle, the millions of peasants,  
workers, minorities and middle class. His

Ingenuity is best visible from his desire to choose salt as a symbol of British Colonial rule. Lord Irwin had mockingly dismissed the Salt satyagraha only to realise later that salt represented the unified aspirations of Indians. Salt was an issue for all, and a tax on such a basic commodity, pinched the pockets and prestige of all classes, communities and religions.

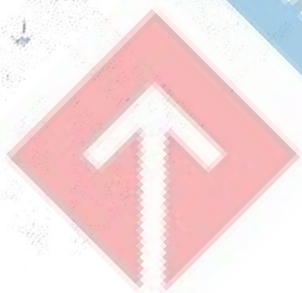
With these instances as a proof of our capacity to ward off the challenges, we enter our most challenging phase. Human Ingenuity is as much an asset as is a threat. Cyber crime, terrorism, crimes against ~~men~~ women etc are a product of human ingenuity. For example, the intricately and meticulously planned twin tower attacks on 9/11 displayed the highest level of human intellect. The nuclearization of arsenals, weaponization of space, rising economic inequalities are all the large issues that loom before us. The

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Inadvertent consequence of human ingenuity

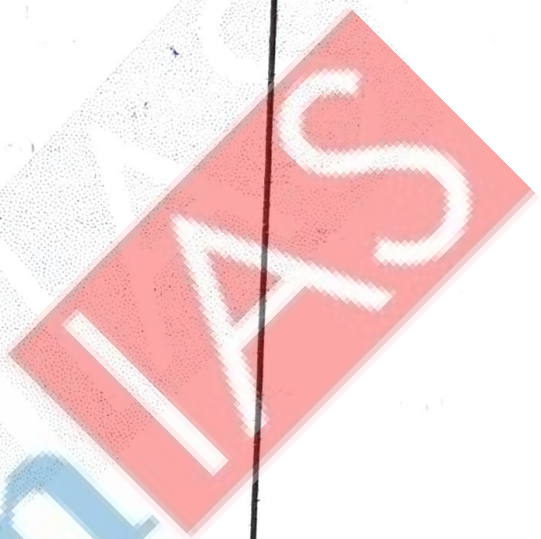
is the biggest threat to our survival - i.e. Climate Change. The millions of tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> released into the atmosphere are showing their impacts. With monsoons becoming erratic, sea levels drowning coastal cities and locust attacks destroying crops, climate change is our nemesis. Equally difficult to ignore are the socio-political and economic challenges of the refugee crisis, the Ukraine war, radicalization and health issues such as depression and disease.

Our strongest asset to face all these challenges, unsurprisingly, is our creativity, intellect and ingenuity. UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres was astute to point out that this is an era of collective problems and collective solutions. Individual or even national ingenuity has its limits. We are at our best, when working together, not against. With all the human resources pooled together and working towards the

Same ends, human ingenuity can and must, once again be humanity's silver lining.



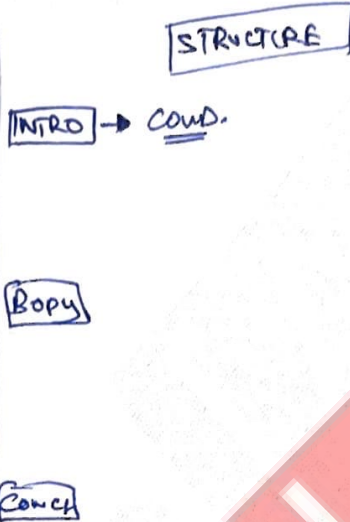
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human ingenuity → Creativity, innovation, progress, Justice

- Unlimited
- Recurring in history
- Problem solving
  - Admin.
  - Polity IR
  - Env Geog
  - Society, & Justice
  - Economic
  - + Nation (Ind.)
- Cooperation (Countri.)
- change.
- Perpetual (future.)

Note - (-ve) angle of ingenuity.



World Hist: →

Post Indep

Society → Hinduism → Bud/Jain → Bhakti/Sufi → Modern Reformers.

Modern Hist → Gandhi ← Extremists ← moderates.

History A2C.

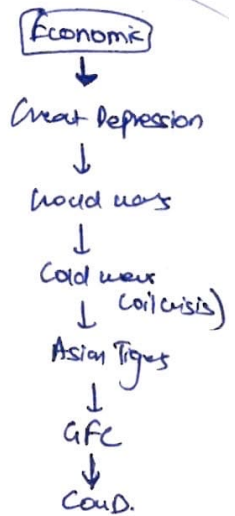
Polity

Admin/UPU

IR → WWI → LoN → WWII → UN OR Jews (WW) → Israel

SST - COVD / Ozone layer / Climate change

Int-Security - Crime / cyber / New ways of terror / Nuclear (Atomic) /



1. Is modernism at a crossroads with cultural and civilisational ethos?

क्या आधुनिकतावाद सांस्कृतिक और सभ्यतागत लोकाचार के दोराहे पर खड़ा है?

2. Man often enjoys the comfort of opinion without the discomfort for thought.

मनुष्य अक्सर चिन्तन के असुविधा के बिना विचार के सुविधा का आनंद लेता है।

3. The rise of populism in democratic societies is a threat to the rule of law and constitutionalism.

लोकतांत्रिक समाजों में लोकलुभावनवाद का उदय विधि के शासन और संवैधानिकता के लिए खतरा है।

4. It's time for us to turn to each other, not on each other.

यह हमारे लिए एक-दूसरे की ओर मुड़ने का समय है, न कि एक-दूसरे के विरुद्ध।

MAN OFTEN ENJOYS THE COMFORT OF OPINION  
WITHOUT THE DISCOMFORT OF FOR THOUGHT

With the largest enemy in the Eastern Hemisphere, he marched forward towards the highly fertile, prosperous and rich Kalinga kingdom. The trade through the ~~at~~ Utkal coast, the fertile valleys of Son, Mahanadi and damodar as well as the astute governance of Kalinga had made it one of the most sought after regions for the great emperor. As he marched towards the kingdom with

his large and formidable army, ~~the~~ he had expected the king of Kalinga to accept his suzerainty ~~without~~ without a war, <sup>although</sup> he was well prepared for any battle. And thus, the bloody Kalinga war ~~ended~~ <sup>culminated</sup> with the victory of the emperor.

This is the story of King Samrat Ashoka.

As he received the good news, he decided to visit the battlefield, only to find thousands of dead men, animals and nothing but the sight of blood. This forever changed the Great Emperor as he records in the XIII<sup>th</sup> rock edict in Kalinga.

Contrary to popular opinion, Ashoka was not always a man of peace, love and tolerance. In fact, the Buddhist texts of Deepavamsa record that he had killed over 100 of his brothers to become the samrat.

While this may be an exaggeration, Emperor Ashoka, like the other kings of his time, enjoyed the comfort of opinion, that the role of a king was to conquer,



expand and plunder. This event however,

pushed him to enter a deep thought and penance leading him to adopt Buddhism for a peaceful existence.

Thankfully, for a person to rid himself of his thoughts, opinions, beliefs and attitudes, such a large price need not be paid. Osho famously said that opinion was the lowest form of human knowledge. While deciphering the Upanashads, he delved into the nature of the upanishad rishis. Unlike religion that was full of answers, he said, spiritualism is full of questions. It was this search for truth that have led to the heritage of the world's greatest spiritual treatise in the form of the upanishads.

The human mind inherently desires peace, stability and security. In this quest, most mortals rarely ever venture into thought. As passive consumers of the world's offerings, they hardly ~~form~~ delve into

thought and reflection. Socrates believed that there was as much to discover about the world within us, as much as there is in the world around us. Still, he said, the discovery must begin from the knowledge of self ("know thyself"). Few among our billions strong species have been able to think deeply enough, thereby enriching the world with their teachings.

Opinions are nothing but the view we hold of the world around us. This includes people, places, things and events that we are familiar with. Opinions are a consequence of observation, socialization, instruction and experience. Carl Jung believed that individuals born are largely a "clean slate" i.e. Tabula rasa. It is the happenings around them that shape them and their opinions. It is therefore that ~~Voltaire said~~ Voltaire said - "The <sup>True</sup> genius is one who can think beyond his times". It is such

people that shape our world.

In the 18<sup>th</sup> Century, Indian society was beset with social evils. From child marriage to sati and untouchability to superstition, the society had degenerated into a stagnant monolith. Most had their opinions on women, religion, caste etc. already dictated to them. The oppressors and the oppressed did not question this status quo.

It was far more comfortable to enjoy and even suffer the constructs of their opinions, rather than to think about social reforms.

Raja Ram Mohan Roy, an upper caste Brahmin, ~~witnessed~~ witnessed the death of his own sister at a young age ~~as a~~ to sati.

This shook him and he became the first social reformer of modern India.

He put several years of thought into his scientific approach to the study of society. Thus, he propounded the philosophy of Universalism, rationalism and scientific temper. The majority of the society, steeped in their strong opinions, serenely

Similar Orthodox backlash was felt by Savitri Bai Phule on whom the crowds threw dung for educating girl children. It was the efforts of such thinkers that the opinions of society could gradually change.

On a global economic level, a similar condition existed among the newly industrialized societies. The Industrial revolution had divided the society into the industrialists and the workers. These workers lived in miserable conditions for low wages and no social security. For over a century hardly anybody questioned this setup. The comfort of opinions led the society's status quoist orientation. Then, Karl Marx and Engels in 'Das Capital' proposed a revolutionary alternative to the capitalist economy. This came after over a decade of deep thought, study and experimentation by Karl Marx. This fight between the economic structures of capitalism and communism, became

197546\_620301\_1910093950\_(2023-07-09 23:16:04) the dominant theme of the 20th Century.

Opinions and beliefs thus, when not developed through thought are an ~~antidote~~ antidote to change. Those who reside in their safe space of their opinions, never learn, grow and contribute. Very few have dared to pay the price of thought.

Socrates was sentenced to death due to his thoughts and words. Even Galileo was sentenced to prison for his theory that the Earth was ~~not~~ a sphere and that it ~~not~~ revolves around the Sun. Thought ~~that~~ brings discomfort and often much worse, disillusionment with society. Charles Darwin did not publish his book on theory ~~of~~ of evolution so as to not offend the Christian views and opinions held by his wife.

The change of opinions through thought is not however an organic and seamless process. It requires the tools of

Education, exposure, critical thinking and an enabling environment. In the absence of these, opinions form the most convenient refuge. When Kasab was interrogated in Tihar Jail over the role of Pakistan in the terror attacks, he refused to answer. However, he revealed that at a young age, he was sold by his parents to an organization that in his words enlightened him. It is not hard to imagine a person from such circumstances falling for the opinions of radical elements. When there are no tools of thought, opinions provide the necessary sense of security.

It is said that "a man is born free but lives in chains". These are the chains of ignorance and of unfounded beliefs. What we do is shaped by these chains that bind us. This may be religion, gender, nationality or materialism. Taken to an extreme, each

Capacity to think

In today's world of social media, online news, AI led fake news and hyper-information age the tools of thought are all the more necessary. Similar to what Marx said about religion, today technology is the opium of the masses. It is important for our society to promote free thinking, dissent and expression. As the Greek maxim goes - "I think, therefore I am".

enjoys

Enjoys comfort of opinion | Discomfort of thought.

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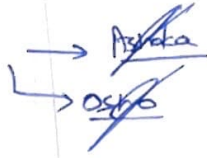
Leathe quote

"Opinion is the lowest form of human knowledge"

Opinion - A belief ~~of the~~ about something or someone.

Generalizations

Self



→ know thyself.  
Ayn Rand.

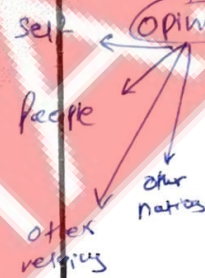
Society

→ Women  
Caste  
Religion  
Nation

- Change makers  
(counter current)

↳ Ambedkar v. R.R Roy.

(Dogma & Superstition)



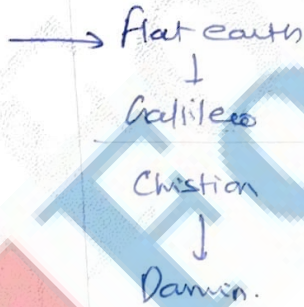
Economy

→ Karl Marx  
Socialism → 1941 reforms

FP → NAM → Anti Alignment.

STRUCTURE

S2T



① INTRO →

② Body → what shapes opinions.  
↳ Active v. Passive Consumption

↳ Soc Obs Ins Exp.

Surenn bhaur Abhigau

But you need  
↳ Tools  
↳ Exposure  
↳ Education  
↳ Kasab example.

③ concl.