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TEST CODE : 5 1 5 3 2

FIAS - MGP

ForumIAS

ESSAY

Name Of Candidate

Vedika Bihani

Roll No.

1910052951

Date:

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

## INDEX TABLE

## INSTRUCTION

Q. No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained
Q.1		
Q.2		
<b>Total:</b>	<b>250</b>	

1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet.

2. There are TWO Sections. Each Section has MULTIPLE topics printed in English &amp; Hindi. You have to write on 1 topic from Each part

3. One question in each part is compulsory.

4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

Evaluator's Discretion:

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.

6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.

7. 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:

## For Student Only

Start Time | 8:35 AM

End Time | 11:35 AM

Mode Of Examination:

Online  Offline 

**Evaluators Discretion:** This is the marks awarded at the discretion of the evaluator based on your overall impression, on the basis of (but not limited to) your handwriting, presentation, use of diagrams, flowcharts, facts and figures or absolutely anything that he/she liked in your copy.

## For Office Use Only

ECN CODE:

EG:

Evaluation Date:

## MARKING SCHEME

<i>Parameter/Criteria</i>	<i>Aspects Considered</i>	<i>Total Marks</i>	<i>Essay 1</i>	<i>Essay 2</i>
<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		

<i>Parameters</i>	<i>Very Good</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Poor</i>
<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।

Reality is ultimately a selective act of perception and interpretation.

"Reality is nothing but shadow of idea."  
- Plato

A business man was disenchanted by the material world. He was unfulfilled by the blind race for possessions, so he decided to understand ultimate reality of the world. In search for answers he finally met a Sain monk.



He relieved himself of all questions,  
 What is actual wealth?; Is the world  
 we see living <sup>in</sup> real or an illusion?;  
 What is knowledge?

The monk smiled and blindfolded  
 him, There was an elephant passing by,  
 so the monk asked the trader to  
 touch the elephant. Although perplexed the  
 trader obliged. Every time he touched  
 the different parts of elephant, he called it  
 by different objects - a chair, a stick, a  
 big bag etc.

Finally the blindfold was removed. The  
 monk said "Reality is 'anekantwada',  
 there is no one singular reality. We  
 all see blindfolded in this world and  
 we see world differently and interpret



it differently. Thus the act of finding reality in itself is a fallacy."

The trader nodded and moved ahead to discover multidimensional nature of reality.

What is reality?

In modern sense reality is truth of the world. They are stated like meta narratives and thus comprise a world view; the way <sup>to</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>to</sup> lead <sup>to</sup> life and goals that should be achieved in life time. Reality is view of one person imposed on another person.

We determine reality by our senses, but, are our senses perfect? In the above mentioned story we ~~find~~ found imperfect

nature of our sense organs. If our tools to understand reality (sense organs) are imperfect, then how is our perception of reality perfect?

Thus according to Hindu scriptures, reality is actually 'maya', it is an illusion created by our sense organs.

Greek philosopher Plato explained this through allegory of cave. We actually live in darkness, and have limited knowledge. Although we make best use of it but yet our sense of reality is only selective.

### Multidimensional of reality

Since we <sup>have</sup> already established that reality is <sup>an</sup> individual's imperfect perception. Let's explore multidimensional of this reality.

Lysgaard, a post modern scholar rightly remarked, even the natural observations made from Berlin and Baghdad are different then, how can there be singular reality?

To further substantiate let's take example from history. For Gandhiji British rule was satanic but for Jyoti Rao Phuleji 'British raj was better than Peshwa raj' due to non discrimination towards dalits and equality before law.

Even our society exist in post truth spectrum. For instance for some people abortion is a women's sexual right but for others it is against right to life of a foetus.



Even science talks about theory of relativity. Thus reality is incredibility towards metanarratives. But in this world of multiple realities, who chooses a single perspective and present <sup>it</sup> to the world? Who does the act of selection?

### Determinants of 'selective' reality.

The act of selective perception and interpretation is not innocent, it actually has knowledge - power connection.

Foucault, explains this through 'discourses'. The world is filled with discourses made by powerful people to establish supremacy of their status.

They maintain their dominant position through spreading their own version of knowledge i.e. discourses.

For instance in the current Russia-Ukraine ~~war~~ war, Europe accused India of being at wrong side of history. But such view is itself a demonstration of colonial hangover that still exists. Such eucentric view are shown as ultimate knowledge to maintain Europe's hegemony.

Similarly we can see the attitude of political leaders around the world to showcase selective usage of reality. For example more people around the world die of road accidents than terrorist attacks.

of terrorism  
 yet the issue, dominated American actions  
 in middle east.

Will to power also act as a determinant.

JS Mill selectively interpreted Indian  
 history as 'Hindu', 'Muslim' and  
 'English' to reduce India's civilisational  
 culture to religious orthodoxy, thus legitimised  
 British rule.

Although powerful / ruling class exercise  
 selectivism and reductionism in understanding  
 of reality, but what control does  
common have? Is understanding of reality  
 always a conscious decision? Are there  
also involuntary actions?



## Involuntary factors of selection

The modern world has transcended into post modern world, we live in a digital society. In this culture yellow journalism, fakenews and abundance of views are on rise.

Thus a common man's reality is actually determined by digital algorithms and artificial intelligence. Recent issue related to Cambridge Analytica in USA's election is case in hand.

Similarly we saw blasphemy induced Udaipur killing, which had put entire country into riot control alert. Sadly, today snapchat and instagram filters

: Are:

dictate perception of beauty. And, this cosmetic industry is on exponential rise.

Our sense of reality is infused with consumerism, ~~and~~ ~~and~~ and isolation.

Our smart phone gives us false sense of connection, on which <sup>the</sup> MNCs thrive.

Additionally the role of news media is essentially destructive. Recently former Vice President of India Hon'ble Venkiah

Naidu commented on how news media is changing people's perception of reality, only to further fragment and destruct the society.

~~Despite~~ ~~we~~ Although reality is an act of selective perception but as

society we can change our interpretation

through deliberate actions and endeavour to find golden mean.

Overcoming fallacies of reality.

Do you know why Socrates is known as most intelligent man on Earth? He

firmly held that 'I know nothing'.

The arrogance in human race <sup>exists</sup> is due to their overreliance on the fact that they know / can do everything. This arrogance is actually ignorance.

As Derrida held man must deconstruct every knowledge, and then reconstruct it, only to deconstruct it again. Meaning thereby that one must always undergo



test of falsification to introspect their values and actions.

In this context Gandhiji held that  
 "I keep my windows open to feel winds of all cultures." Thus tolerance and acceptance to different realities along with intelligence to accept them only in moderation ~~is the only way to save~~ <sup>can</sup> ~~beings~~ <sup>beings</sup> ~~from~~ <sup>save humans from</sup> extremism.

If warrior like 'Arjun' was humble and modest enough to listen <sup>to</sup> 'Bhagavad Gita' from 'Krishna'. Why we simple humans <sup>beings</sup> claim to know everything? Refuge should be seeked in spiritualism and not in imperfect sense of reality.

Rough work

Reality is ~~ultimately~~ a selective act of perception and interpretation

R

- Plato

① Allegory of cave

~~Allegory of cave~~

② What is reality?

post truth & post modern world

Q<sup>n</sup> ask senses  
interpretation

Hindu? Greek allegory of cave

③ Multidimensional of reality

Berlin v Baghdad → INC vs Jyoti KooPhul

④ Who selects  
What are factors of selective → USA nuclear vs Rest of world  
Power - Knowledge Weapon perception

↳ IS Mill → History → India Guaveth story

↳ Brahmanism is it always in control. → Abortion v woman's right

⑤ Involuntary factors of selection

Digital world News media Political class

Water → protection Act → women

Security is a speech act

⑥ overcoming fallacies of reality

↳ Secretes (know nothing)

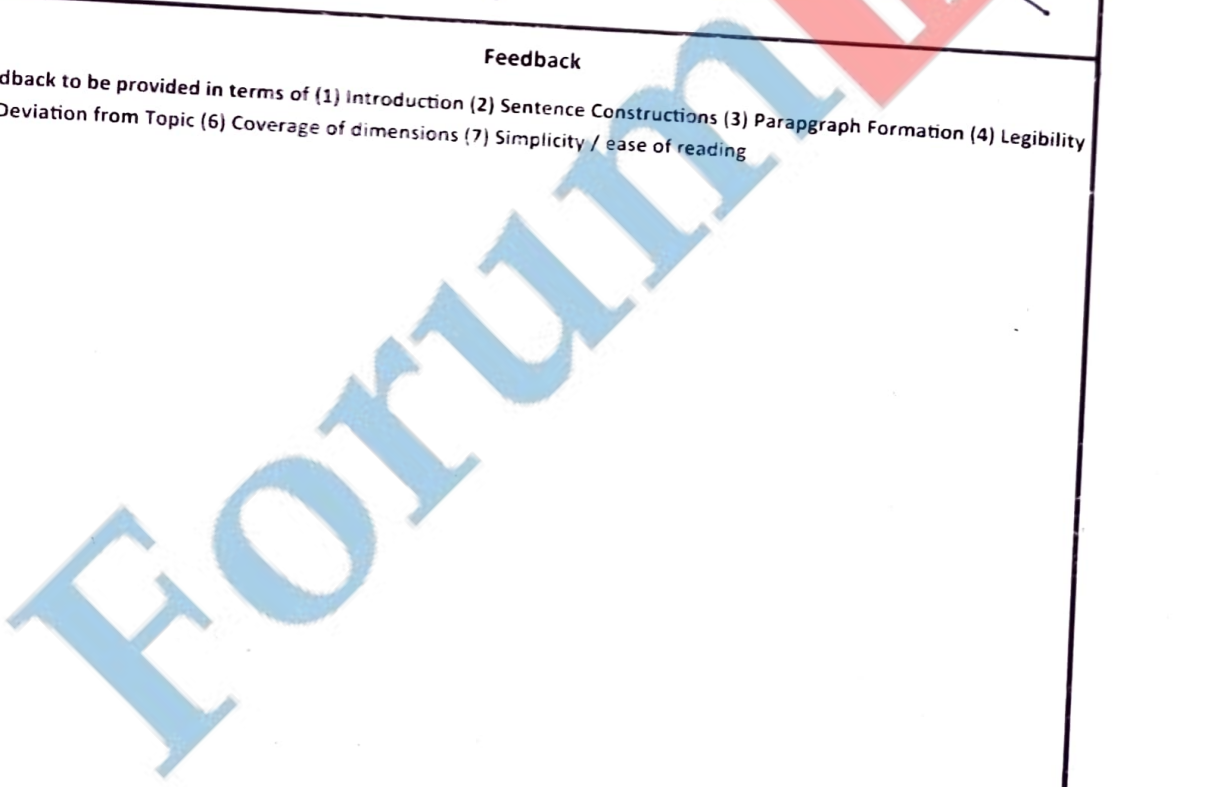
↳ Tolerance

↳ Disconstruct & reconstruct Berrida

⑦ Education digital minimalism

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**

s Are:

1. Digital minimalism - the path towards solving social media paradox.  
डिजिटल न्यूनतावाद - सोशल मीडिया विरोधाभास को हल करने का मार्ग।
2. Big tech - Algorithm without humanity is mental holocaust.  
बड़ी तकनीक - मानवता के बिना एल्गोरिदम मानसिक प्रलय है।
3. Agricultural Revolution: Road to progress and prosperity OR to perdition  
कृषि क्रांति : प्रगति और समृद्धि की राह या विनाश की ओर
4. Work is meaningful when it develops and exercises the talents, capabilities and skills of workers.  
कार्य तब सार्थक होता है जब वह श्रमिकों की प्रतिभा, क्षमताओं और कौशल का विकास और प्रयोग करता है।

Agricultural Revolution : Road to  
progress and prosperity OR to  
perdition

"If agriculture goes wrong nothing else  
will have a chance to go right."

- MS Swaminathan

Agricultural revolution refers to  
radical changes in techniques, methods  
and decisions relating cropping, irrigation

patterns.

In the following essay we will explore the green revolution of 1960s and its positive and negative impacts. We will further explore the reasons for green revolution 2.0. Finally we will explore ways to make this green revolution right so it ensures road to progress and not predition.

The first Agricultural revolution

Historically agriculture has been road to modernisation and prosperity. Indus valley civilisation, the great Mauryan empire all led road to progress due to surplus agricultural production and food security to its people.

The neglect of agriculture under British Raj through absentee landlordism not only impoverished Indian subcontinent but left legacy of underdevelopment that India is yet to recover.

The first attempt to such recovery was made through Intensive Agricultural Production Programme. The policy was based on asymmetrical approach of 'betting on the strong'. Intensive irrigation, HYV seeds and usage of fertilisers was pushed in Punjab, Haryana, Eastern Rajasthan, Western UP, and Andhra Pradesh.

As a result India sloganised Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan. India not only became food secure and self-reliant.

Write in this  
ForumIAS  
every a selective act of  
व्यवस्थापिका अंतर्गत



agricultural economy, but also maintain standard of record grain production almost every successive year.

The economic status of beneficiary states changed and India saw rise of bullock capitalists. But all was not well for long.

### Present status of 'Green revolution'

According to Central Ground Water Authority about 22% of India's ground water has dried or is overexploited. Moreover Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan are 'red zones' in terms of ground water extraction.

According to report of UN, Punjab is likely to become a desert by 2050. Moreover

the overextraction of water has not only led to water crisis but also soil crisis.

Capillary action has led to salinisation of soil and almost extincted its natural productivity leading ~~at~~ farmers into vicious cycle of fertiliser usage.

According to NSSO data this has led to increased cost of production and declined profitability. Thus arise societal crisis,

NCRB data shows large number of farmers suicide especially in green revolution impacted areas.

Use of Bt cotton and associated indebtedness has become prime cause of suicide in Maharashtra's Vidharbha region. This ecological crisis has further led to energy crisis.

Over extraction of groundwater and fertiliser demand exerts pressure on India's oil, gas and coal imports. But, apart from economy human health is also gone. The infamous 'cancer train' of Punjab shows disease burden caused due to unsustainable green revolution.

Thus although India solved immediate problem but only to pave road for a tragedy.

Need of 'Green' in Agricultural Revolution

One must ponder why the term 'revolution' is being used. Our society is at a tipping point which needs



nothing short of revolution to reverse the miseries.

Thomas Friedman in his book Hot

Flat and Crowded : Why we need a

green revolution highlights that USA

can overcome pressure of global warming,  
climate change and loss of food productivity

only through using green methods and  
technology.

The case remains similar for rest of the world, despite record growth around 37% (Niti Nayog MDPI) of India's population remain undernourished.

Climate change has reduced India rain by 7.5% (IMD) moreover fresh droughts,

Heatwaves has further exacerbated the situation. Recent surge in 'lemon prices' and food inflation in India is result of these factors.

70% of India's women workforce is engaged in agriculture. Women hold the prime responsibility of food and fodder collection, they usually have last meal among all family members. Thus we need agricultural revolution for future of mankind and earth.

AGRICULTURAL REVOLUTION :  
Road to progress

In this section let's explore 5 prime questions. 'What should we grow?' How

Should we grow? ; How should we distribute ; What should be role of technology? and finally what should we consume?

What should we grow? -:

Currently system of monocropping or rice-wheat or rice-cotton system dominate. This doesn't give soil time to replenish nutrients. Additionally they require high input cost.

Instead of this crop cycle should be that of multicropping or mixed cropping. Year 2023 has declared as year of millets, it should be used as an opportunity to include miscereals in cropping pattern.



Moreover Economic Survey 2019-20 noted that in India land appropriate farming is done instead of water availability. Sugarcane is grown in dry area of Bundelkhand thus water appropriate cropping pattern is needed.

How should we grow? :-

Micro irrigation has potential of raising farm income by 47%. Similarly use of Zero Budget-Natural farming in Karnataka has helped to improve status of villages. Organic farming in Sikkim has alleviated its economic status.

Natural interventions and traditional methods needs to be revitalised.

How should we distribute :-

This includes post farm marketing, income distribution and agri exports. In

India due to poor farm to fork connectivity we see milk, tomatoes, etc being thrown on roads to overcome price glut.

FPOs, SHG-FPO linkage, Common <sup>cold</sup> storehouse

through PM Sampada scheme need to intensified. Moreover income distribution should be in favour of farmers so that virtuous cycle of investment can be initiated.

Mixed farming, Animal husbandry, aquaculture can enhance bargaining power and rise threshold of farmers. Virtual export of water



through agri experts and buffalo meat  
export needs rethinking.

What should be role of technology? :-

Recent invention of liquid nano wear  
by IFFCO has widened man's imagination.

Micro irrigation, irrigation scheduling  
are other alternatives

Use of waste to energy techniques like  
biogasification and vermicomposting can  
make farms self sufficient.

Satellite, drone technology can be  
used to monitor progress and  
insurance sector

What should we consume? :-



Consumption is last mile of Agri revolution.  
PM Modi's LIFESTYLE approach needs to  
be revised. Vegan meat, food fortification  
stress on pulses and millets is need of the  
hour to tackle India's undernutrition.

Agricultural revolution is not only  
need to progress and prosperity but way  
to build resilience against incoming  
climate crisis. We have entered into  
energy-climate era which can be  
resolved through harmonious nexus between  
food, energy and water and thus  
secure India's 'amrit Kal'.

**Feedback**

(For OFFICE use only)

Structure/  
PresentationQuestion  
Interpretation

Content

Value  
Addition

Total

Length note

Agricultural R<sup>n</sup> : Meaning

Essay structure : Historical context GR

new progress but created disaster and

why we need new green R<sup>n</sup> CC

ways.

Agri → meaning

Structure

Asymmetrical APP : GR<sup>n</sup> IAP<sup>n</sup> using R P H K

P<sup>n</sup> (↑) road to predition Pb 2050 50%

desert- Raj Cotton rice ~~Society divide~~

Cancer train of Pb indebtedness R<sup>n</sup>

Cotton

necessities of time an want of immediate

po. vik. me. m. an. the.

result

Why we need Green revolution : Actual

Green

Thomas fried man Hot flat & crowded

Climate Change - Air - Way to New AR  
Soil

Water insecurity - Sainath - Cerepping  
What we grow

Women & children - How we grow

What we eat

Aid of technology

How we distribute

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

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