

ESSAY-Test 1

निबन्ध-परीक्षा 1

CSE 2024

कार्यालय के प्रयोग हेतु
For Office Use

निर्धारित समय: तीन घंटे

Time Allowed: Three Hours

अधिकतम अंक: 250

Maximum Marks: 250

General Instructions

This question-cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet contains 32 pages. Question Paper in detachable form is available at the end of the QCA Booklet which can be taken away by the candidate after examination.

Two blank pages (Page Nos. 31-32) have been provided for rough work.

On receipt of the Booklet, please check that this QCA Booklet does not have any shortcomings, torn or missing pages, etc. If so, get it replaced with a fresh QCA Booklet.

सामान्य अनुदेश

इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू० सी० ए०) पुस्तिका में 32 पृष्ठ हैं। प्रश्न-पत्र क्यू० सी० ए० पुस्तिका के अन्त में संलग्न है, जो अलग (वियोज्य) किया जा सकता है और उम्मीदवार परीक्षा के उपरान्त अपने साथ ले जा सकते हैं।

रफ़ कार्य के लिए दो खाली पृष्ठ (पृष्ठ सं० 31-32) दिए गए हैं।

पुस्तिका प्राप्त होने पर, कृपया यह जाँच कर लें कि इस क्यू० सी० ए० पुस्तिका में कोई कमी न हो, फटा हुआ पृष्ठ न हो अथवा कोई पृष्ठ गायब न हो इत्यादि। यदि ऐसा हो, तो इसके बदले नई क्यू० सी० ए० पुस्तिका प्राप्त कर लें।

(To be filled by candidate)

All fields mandatory

(Inaccurate/Incomplete information may lead to delay in the evaluation process)

Name of Candidate : VAIBHAV KUMAR

Next IAS Roll No. : NIS 202366287

Test Code → TC- 061 Date of Examination :

Exam Centre : Old Rajinder Nagar ☐ Jaipur ☐ Prayagraj ☐ Online ☒

निरीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर
Invigilator's Signature

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Student's Queries for the Evaluator (if any write them below)

Evaluator's response

प्राप्तांक के विवरण (परीक्षक द्वारा भरा जाए) / Marks Details [To be filled by the Examiner(s)]

	निबन्ध विषय सं० Essay Topic No.	अंक Marks	
खण्ड-A Section-A			
खण्ड-B Section-B			
सकल योग / Grand Total			

Your performance vis-a-vis other examinees-

Front Runner	Achiever	Aspirant

EVALUATOR'S FEEDBACK ESSAY SECTION A

Parameters	<i>Exemplary</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Needs Improvement</i>
Understanding				
Coherence				
Lucidity				
Structuring				
Presentation				

Parameters	<i>Exemplary</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Needs Improvement</i>
Understanding				
Coherence				
Lucidity				
Structuring				
Presentation				

खण्ड-A / Section-A

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- Q.1 If it costs you your peace, it is too expensive.
यदि इससे आपकी शांति छिनती है, तो यह बहुत महँगी है।
- Q.2 In the flood of data, the thirst still remains.
ऑकड़ों की बाढ़ में, प्यास अब भी बाकी है।
- Q.3 A star has to burn to give light to others but that's what stars are meant for.
एक सितारे को दूसरों को रोशनी देने के लिए जलना पड़ता है, लेकिन सितारे इसी के लिए बने हैं।
- Q.4 The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.
किसी व्यक्ति का अंतिम मापदंड यह नहीं है कि वह आराम और सुविधा के क्षणों में कहाँ खड़ा है, बल्कि यह है कि वह चुनौती और विवाद के समय कहाँ खड़ा है।

THE ULTIMATE MEASURE OF A MAN IS
NOT WHERE HE STANDS IN MOMENTS
OF COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE, BUT
WHERE HE STANDS AT TIMES OF
CHALLENGE AND CONTROVERSY

Vasili Arkhipov was onboard a
Soviet submarine in the Caribbean Sea.
Considering the nuclear missiles on the
submarine, he was comfortable. However,
a US aircraft carrier cornered them
and started dropping bombs. Suddenly,
it was a panic situation. 3 of the
4 generals decided in favour of firing

the nuclear warhead onboard. Arkhipov rejected the idea despite the precarious situation knowing that a possible World War III can be triggered.

Arkhipov could have went with the more convenient decision of favouring the nuclear attack. As 3 out of 4 were in favour, it was the more comfortable choice. Arkhipov being a wise man, he stood up with courage in face of controversy. It was this moment of challenge which put forward the ultimate measure of Arkhipov's personality as a man.

The Chinese philosophy of Ying-Yang says that all things are in constant flux between binary opposites. While there is good, so is evil in society. For every easy task we end up facing a difficult task. Similarly, in the flow of time in our lives humans are constantly juggling with twin states of comfort and convenience going hand in hand with challenge and controversy.

But it is under challenge and controversy that human characters are determined. Under the ambit of controversy and challenges is the ultimate measure of a man ascertained,

In this essay, we will firstly discuss what we mean by challenges, comforts in life. This will be followed by understanding the phrase "ultimate measures of man". Next we will look at how challenge and controversy determine ultimate measure. Thereafter, we would ascertain whether comfort can also be a test. Finally, we would discuss if ultimate measure of man can be decided without the said circumstances.

4C's of ULTIMATE MEASURE

Challenge, controversy, comfort, convenience—these are four terms applicable on any point in our lives. They ~~can be~~ said to be the basis of life. A tiger out for predation on finding a deer would consider it as comfort, ~~and~~ At the same time, the deer would be in for a challenge.

Everyday and every circumstance has varied interpretations. It is the looking glass which determines the

outcome. For a materialist person, going to a village with no electricity would be challenging. On the other spectrum, a nature lover would be comfortable as this would give them apt chance to be one with surroundings.

Under some conditions, these can also be simulated as an experiment. Sports, reality shows are based on the same premise. "Big boss" is a show known to make people comfortable. Later, they spark controversy by giving them challenging situation.

WHAT ARE THE ULTIMATE MEASURES OF MAN

Human virtues had been considered the ultimate measures of ethics in human life. They can be the "objective measures" for understanding these measures. Prudence, temperance, justice, equality when shown by human actions ensure a holistic personality.

At the same time, subjectivity

exists also in equal level. Public exercise of power and authority ensure comfort and convenience. At same time, they may be controversial. Classical example is demolition of slums. While the clearing of these areas shows public personall personell with non-partisanship, trustworthiness in their actions. Unfortunately, those whose houses were razed will look at them as with apathetic, corrupt personnel.

CHALLENGE AND CONTROVERSY ARE THE ULTIMATE MEASURE

"HARD TIMES CREATE STRONG MEN"

Conventional media has pushed the above idea that when humans are pushed into a corner do we see their real side. Today movies like Rocky, Bhaag Milkha Bhaag follow the above troupe.

Our epics like Ramayana, Mahabharata also follow along the same lines where in the central characters

undergo rigorous difficulties under controversial circumstances but end up building characters. Today "Sri Ram" is considered "Maryada Purshottam" due to this reason.

Difficult circumstances have been due to this very reason highlighted as basis for long-term human growth. Our socialisation had stages like walking, speaking which were once difficult. Examinations like UPSC are made difficult in order to ensure candidates develop fortitude, courage. All this would ensure ability to face any juggernaut thrown at them.

The continuum of adaptation to these challenges also means using unethical ways. For every Sri Ram, we have a Duryodhana adopting unethical war methods to ensure Abhimanyu's death. This shows that composure, balanced approach are not easy to come. This is easier said than done making challenges the ultimate measure of man.

COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE $\Rightarrow$ EQUALLY VALID
MEASURE TO MAN'S SPIRIT

"IT'S NOT THE SIZE OF THE DOG IN THE FIGHT,
IT'S THE SIZE OF THE FIGHT IN THE DOG"

— Mark Twain

The above quote relates to human ability of persistence, courage to keep on continuing despite challenges. Here is why comfort, convenience mean that people lack the "fight" making them soft in their actions. Together this contributes to men with undesired characters. Classic examples are so many Mughal emperors post Aurangzeb who brought decline.

This is the reason which makes men who despite comfort and convenience are able to act in life. ~~Mr~~ Gautam Buddha's ability to renounce the pleasures of life to ensure that he is able to get enlightenment. It shows the mettle of his character.

Sometimes post-challenges are men able to attain conveniences in life. How they react to such a

position shows their real values and morals.

No wonder Abraham Lincoln famously quoted

"Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely"

LIFE IS NOT LIVED IN BINARY OPPOSITION

Testing the "ultimate measures" through either comfort or via challenge is evident.

At the same time, we can also adapt a non-exclusive path in our lives.

The ideology of 'stithpragya' or absolute stillness also shows humans who aren't bothered by changing circumstances. This is also an equally valid way of living.

Immanuel Kant's Duty bound life or Krishna's ~~ka~~ "Nishkam Karma"

present alternative views. A man who is bound by his duty and keeps taking actions. Isn't that the ultimate measure as his/her decisions won't be affected by worldly views. Rather the

Notion of duty is the only guiding force of life.

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The constant churn of time and evolution of non-material and material circumstances throws many curveballs. When faced with controversial or comfortable scenarios, a good way to judge our actions is to follow Gandhi's Talisman of "Antyodaya se Sarvodaya", i.e. effect of our actions on the even the lowest person in social hierarchy. This would ensure that as men we bring compassion in our action. The judgement for "ultimate measure" is every evoking but compassion, one means we do good for maximum without harming others.

So when Arkhipov went against firing the nuclear bomb, many hardliners judged him as a soft, unpatriotic Russian. The globalized world looked

at him as a hero whose courage
meant saving lives from of millions.

Standing steadfast to do welfare
of humanity is the ultimate measure
& and despite setbacks, we keep striving
for it as:

"It is the courage to continue that counts"
— Winston Churchill

character, realization,

Space for Rough Work

Ultimate measure of man.

Anecdote → Vassili Arkhipov → Cuban missile crisis

connect w/ anecdote → courage, resilience

Introd. → Life = Ying - Yang → Good v/s evil
easy v/s difficult → constant flux

Comfort v/s challenges → Basis of life → determine human character.

Discuss topics Introduction

① Challenge & Controversy v/s comfort & convenience

larger domain to describe circumstance → materialism
everyday diff. → spiritual.
Adaptation → Disillusion → new challenge
everyday.
Sports → test of seen character

② Why CBC → tests are ultimate measure

Virtues & Exercises → Good times v/s bad times = Pushed into a corner.

↳ eg Subroto Roy, Vijay Malya. v/s.

↳ Basis for human long-term growth → basic personality via hardships.
↳ Positive & -ve outcome of measure → Composure, balanced approach: easier said than done.
↳ eg LGBTQ.

③ What are the ultimate measures of a man?

• Virtues. • Public exercise of power, authority.
• Showing empathy → compassion @ tough times.
↳ "Hard times, strong men"

④ 'Life doesn't have Black & white'

↳ Ultimate measure: 'stithpragya' → Karma yoga.

↳ Duty bound lifestyle.

⑤ Comfort & Convenience → also test ultimate measure.
→ Also a measure of man.

• Resist temptation → easier said than done. → Buddha
• Those post tribulations → unfettered power = Quote
• Bill Gates → Not giving child his wealth

Pre-conc ∴ Gandhi's talisman: Antoyadaya → ⑤ tally

• Personally: Ensuring welfare

• Varsile →

Conc. → Churchill Quote: Courage to continue

खण्ड-B / Section-B

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- Q.5 Civilization begins with order, grows with liberty, and dies with chaos.
सभ्यता व्यवस्था के साथ प्रारंभ होती है, स्वतंत्रता के साथ बढ़ती है, और अराजकता के साथ समाप्त हो जाती है।
- Q.6 A single drop never feels responsible for the flood.
एक बूँद कभी भी बाढ़ के लिए खुद को उत्तरदायी नहीं मानती।
- Q.7 Never does nature say one thing and wisdom another.
प्रकृति और बुद्धि अलग-अलग बात नहीं कहते।
- Q.8 Present demonstrates the lessons of history, albeit the hard way.
वर्तमान इतिहास के सबक को दर्शाता है, यद्यपि कठिन तरीके से।

Q.6 A SINGLE DROP NEVER FEELS RESPONSIBLE
FOR THE FLOOD

Elmer Bendiner was a navigator in B-17 bomber aircraft during WWII. One fine day he was flying over Nazi occupied territory. Suddenly, his plane was hit with barrage of anti-aircraft fire. Fortunately he survived. On later investigation he found that the shells that hit him were empty with no explosives. Rather they had a note "This is all we can do" in czech.

Doing an act of courage, they never knew the outcome, if anyone would ever read the note. But in a gentle way the shook the world around him. As a single drop which never felt responsible. But similar act together thwarted the Nazi war machine bringing the flood.

Time is described as flowing. Similar to the flow of water, it is simply undulating in its passage, always continuous. So every action in time has an outcome. An "unknown" outcome. If this outcome is a flood, cornering a single action in time for it is also impossible. Simply because time is continuous with every point having a preceeding action.

The above summarizes the reason why a single human action, a single drop never feels responsible

the flood, for it never knows what will be the outcome of it. Case in point is the action of a Britisher to throw Mahatma Gandhi from the train. It triggered movements that shook colonial regimes in two continents. The single Britisher is not pointed out for removing colonialism. He never felt responsible for the flood.

In this ~~way~~ essay, we all discuss the dimensions of why humans are never feeling responsible for the flood, Floods come in form of barrage of drops, i.e. multiple actions lead to change. Next we would see how a single drop can be the last drop to trigger floods. Finally, forecasting possible floods to take preventive measures.

WHY DROPS ARE FREE OF GUILT

Any activity in ordinary life is judged based upon its cause-effect relation. As humans we know the simple law of "every action having an opposite reaction". So when we follow traffic rules, we do it with simple view of being obedient citizens. It's double effects of ensuring ethics in society, saving people's lives is uncomprehensible.

So long is the chain of results, that upcoming flood can never be judged. Things done for best of intentions can have negative effects also.

Bhishma Pitamah's vow of celibacy to ensure his duty as a son was one which must be revered.

Little did he know that it would lead to a 'Mahabharata'. This shows drops becoming floods are not related to following ethics or not. As any action could lead to flood. Thus ensuring that drops can't be responsible for floods.

A BARRAGE OF DROPS BECOMES THE FLOOD

"United we stand, divided we fall"

On the same lines, it is combination of multiple single drops that cause flood. The drops are greater than sum of their parts. Climate change in 20th century was looked as solitary events. These solitary events with their combined forced wreak havoc in today's time. No action for these solitary events was taken. Today controlling the challenge of

controlling its rise seem impossible.

Society is a mirror for most worldly phenomena. Our socialization is aimed at ensuring that single drops don't lead to large scale damage. Growing up everytime we were taught not to do this, not to do that.

Today we know the reason. If any immoral action is not cut at its bud, its ramifications are uncontrollable.

Criminal psychology calls this the "Broken Window Theory". When the smallest of crimes are ignored, in long term its scale is uncontrollable. Unfortunate incidents like Delhi Rape Case bring this to light.

THE DROP IS THE CAST STRAW

It in a particular scenario

the tipping point has been reached. Under those circumstances, even a single action can trigger an avalanche.

Our National Freedom Movement had many actions which slowly lead to it. From 1857 Revolt to the the Quit India movement, the reservoir had slowly risen. However it was the INA Revolts ~~*~~ and RIN Ratings revolts which caused proverbial doom for British. Again single drops, but caused a flood that was last nail in the coffin.

An alternate scenario occurs when reservoir of acceptance drops.

When society is put under extreme circumstances, its ability to absorb goes down. It acts as trigger points

for change in the ways of world.
"Black lives matter" movement happened
when people couldn't any more accept
discrimination. The unjust death of a
black person was the single drop
to provoke the fury of people.

FORECASTING FLOODS

Our world is built on judging
actions to better adapt and prepare
ourselves. Protecting the world
from domino effect of any action is
what social institutions are present for.
This can be seen well in action
with the "Rise of AI". AI technologies
are not ready to displace humans.
However we know the flood
will come. Everyday precautions

are being raised ~~to~~ and strategies are being formed. Missions are being implemented to ensure the flood is converted into streams of opportunities.

Medicine 3.0 is working with a similar view in my mind. From curing diseases we want to move towards preventing them. We want a healthy body through which floods of diseases are controlled rather than a drop of curry causing potential doctor visit.

As one of 8 billion on this earth, humans can't be responsible for any long term action as they don't even know the immediate result. A great way to then live a life

that is duty bound. Following "Nishkan Karma" ensures we ensure our actions uphold the highest value of society. Our actions are guided by care ethics of love and compassion. Final goal must be strive that "unto the last person" our benefits of our action ensured.

So when the Czech individual was removing explosives to make empty shells, he/she never knew their single drop of courage would lead to lead more than 75 years later, inspiring generations.

It is not for us to judge the repercussions of our actions in long term. Our actions must be

guided knowing their immediate
potential knowing that not everyone
gets to live our life.

"Past is history,
Tomorrow is mystery,
Today is a gift, that is why we
call it a present"

So, we must ensure our actions are
guided with best intentions and effort.
Whether the drop leads to a flood,
it is upto the wheels of Time.

A single drop never feels responsible for the flood.

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Anecdote & Nur Bendiner

Space for Rough Work

Connect w/ topic.

Introd.ⁿ: Time → ~ → chain of events → unknown outcome.

Starting @ chain → unknown.

Case → Gandhi thrown from Train.

Such is the power of the smallest events to shake time

Discuss all dimensions →

① No resp. for flood: Caus-effect rel.ⁿ ⇒ past history, tomorrow Action = opp. react.ⁿ
⇒ double effect unknown.
eg Mahabharat ⇒ Bhishma Pitamah celibacy vow ⇒ greater war.
Human actions judged based on ethical norms
⇒ At time no large effect

② Barrage of drops → flood is known

⇒ similar @ changes → outcome known eg. Glob. 2ⁿ. & its after effects on trad.ⁿ
⇒ individual → Pushed to horizon → Difficult → Mental breakdown eg. SSR brink. pushed.
⇒ Global par. eq. post war → Climate & Env.ⁿ → Pushed to brink.
⇒ Criminal: Broken Window in @ ty
⇒ outcome is wrath, heatwaves, "Floods"

③ Forecasting possible outcomes / flood

- We know imped. output ⇒ Domino effect. ⇒ Right protective steps.

eg. Solving refugee crisis in India ⇒ Prot.

- Liberty, Eq. & eq. changes → we can't

- Healthy & medicine.

When single reservoir single drop is last straw

⇒ Reservoir is slowly filled → Drop by drop → steady rise

⇒ Nat.ⁿ Mvmt. & INA trials was that drop.

⇒ @ acceptance goes as haywire → levels of acceptance dropped → Black lines matter in USA

⇒ Building blocks Tech. has slow rise → Neural Networks → jigsaw comp.

Prem Conc

As human, one of 8 billion → can't be responsible for any action.

Idea of life → Duty bound - Nishkam Karma. → life of societal welfare & care ethics →

← connect to anecdote →

Conc.

"Past is history, Tomorrow mystery,
Today is gift = We call it present"