

NEXT IAS



ESSAY-Test 3 निबन्ध-परीक्षा 3 CSE 2025

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 उपरांत अपने साथ ले जा सकते हैं।

रफ 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 : PAKSHAL SECRETARY

Next IAS Roll No. : MTS 25 FLTRA 046 Phone No. :

Test Code → TC- 0 0 3 Date of Examination : 10/07/2025

Exam Centre : Old Rajinder Nagar Jaipur Prayagraj Online

निरीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर
Invigilator's Signature

कार्यालय के प्रयोग हेतु
For Office Use



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

① How to improve flow in the essay

② Role of Heading, whether I can
use?

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				

EVALUATOR'S FEEDBACK: ESSAY SECTION-B

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

खण्ड-A / Section-A

- Q.1 The greatest deception men suffer is from their own opinions.
मनुष्य जिस सबसे बड़े भ्रम का शिकार होता है, वह उसके अपने विचारों से उत्पन्न होता है।
- Q.2 A truly gender equal society would be one, where everyone can be themselves.
सच्चा लैंगिक समान समाज वह होगा, जहाँ प्रत्येक व्यक्ति स्वयं बन सके।
- Q.3 Science is organised knowledge, wisdom is organised life.
विज्ञान संगठित ज्ञान है, प्रज्ञा संगठित जीवन है।
- Q.4 I know not with what weapon World War-III will be fought, but World War-IV will be fought with sticks and stones.
मुझे नहीं पता कि तीसरा विश्व युद्ध किन हथियारों से लड़ा जाएगा, लेकिन चौथा विश्व युद्ध लाठियों और पत्थरों से लड़ा जाएगा।

उम्मीदवारों को
इस भाग में
लिखना पना है।
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

Topic 1 : The greatest deception men
suffer is from their own opinions

Indira Gandhi in her book "The Emergency : A personal memoir", highlights how during the phase of emergency in from 1975-77, the Kitchen Cabinet of Mrs Indira Gandhi (then PM) had two opinions about masses : first, Mrs Gandhi believed that people have by and far developed an acceptance for emergency and her dictatorial rule during the period. Second, she

NEXT IAS

believed that removing emergency and calling election in 1977 would legitimise her 2 year dictatorial rule which lead to gagging of free speech and persecution of opposition leaders

But when the election were held, her opinion turned to be her greatest deception. People elected Janata Party and forced Mrs Gandhi out of her office

Thus, it can be aptly said that the greatest deception men suffer is from their own opinion. In this essay we will explore how our opinion leads to greatest deception? what happen when we go beyond our opinion? and finally how to shape our opinion in a way it doesnot lead to deception.

To start with, opinion are simply value judgement that a

उम्मीदवारों को
इस भाग में
लिखना मना है।
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

NEXT IAS

person have towards any subject or situation. The opinion is shaped by our beliefs, our thinking pattern, our knowledge base and our life long experiences.

As it is rightly said that, "a man is product of his own opinion, what he thinks, he becomes". We ^{all} must have heard the story of a lion cub which is raised by a sheep mother, as the lion cub grows up it starts believing that it is sheep only. This is the extent of deception own opinion and own perception can cause.

History is full of example of people who suffered from the greatest deception of their own ~~do~~ opinion. In our ancient text of Ramayana, Ravana had self

उम्मीदवारों को
इस भाग में
लिखना मना है।
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

opinion of being most powerful, this kind of opinion leads to deception of invincibility. Thus, in the end an army of Vanars (monkey) defeated his powerful army of soldiers and broke his deception.

Similar is the case in the present context with the failed nation of Pakistan. The political leaders and army are of self opinion that the state-sponsored terrorism infrastructure is low cost way of bleeding India, but recent incident like Abotabad ~~now~~ station attack by terrorists, along with the loss Pakistan suffered during operation Sindoor have brought down the greatest deception they are suffering to.

But one may ask, why is self opinion such great deception?

This is because if there is deception caused by others, it can be overcome by more knowledge, rational thinking or by explanation of someone else.

For example till 1991, India lived in deception of excessive socialistic ideas but since the deception was due to borrowed ideas of Fabian Socialism and experience of USSR, we were able to self correct ourselves moving on path of LPGI (liberalisation, Privatisation and globalisation) ushering a new era of economic growth.

But in case of own opinion, it is not very easy to overcome because own opinion becomes rigid and we tend to ignore something contradicting our opinion. To illustrate, take the case of social evils like child marriage prevalent in Indian society. Parents

despite being provided with harms and rational argument against such marriage, continue to marry their children at a young age due to great deception caused by their own opinion in favour of such marriages

Moreover, own opinion causes greatest deception also because own opinion is shaped by our core belief and personal experience and it is not easy to bring change in core values of person. For example, the North Korea of today is living in greatest deception and would fall of fallacies because that are the core values of every North Korean, thus they reject liberal values and ideas

To further add, own opinion also creates a layer of blindness in eyes of person. He is

उम्मीदवारों को
इस भाग में
लिखना नना है।
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

not able to see the complete truth and thus remain stuck in deception. Take the case of developed western countries today they are blinded by their own opinion of consumerism and materialism, unable to see the long term damage their own opinion about nature is causing to the ecosystem and its resources. The climate change is already a reality and if the blindness persists, we won't be able to do anything to mitigate this crisis.

Similarly, during the Hausatlam Project, Oppenheimer was blinded by his own opinion of peaceful use of his research on atom bomb. But it was only after Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombing that his deception and blindness got away, but much of water got flowed by the time.

In the Social sphere, own opinion ~~also~~ causes greatest deception due to preference for status-quoism and resulting orthodoxy due to own opinion. For example, the women of today have become prisoners of patriarchy because of own opinion that they are incapable and are not ~~capable~~ equal to men, leading to a constant life of deception and a falsehood.

This should not ~~not~~ imply that all people live in deception of own opinion, there are people who have broke this vicious cycle of deception.

Take the case of Geeta Phogat, who broke ~~to~~ her own opinion about being incapable and just a shift in opinion lead to she

becoming a wrestler and being medals for her country India

Similarly, despite being like the North Korea in all aspect, South Korea ~~was~~ ~~was~~ the deception to become one of the fastest growing country in the world

As it is rightly said that you can forgive a child afraid of darkness but tragedy occurs when men are afraid of light, own opinion and self-criticism makes us that men only who is afraid of light and overcoming own opinion will help us come out of life of deception and falsehood.

This must not imply that own opinion are always a cause of deception, when shaped properly

and based on values, own opinion turns into guiding light for the world.

History is full with examples from Raja Ram Mohan Roy's own opinion of sati to Gandhiji's own opinion about non-violence how individual opinion can also be a solution to overcoming the greatest deception's of men

To not let our opinion become our deception and remain a guiding light, what we need is to shape and update it regularly. This could be done through several ways.

First comes examination of our opinion. As Socrates used to say unexamined life is not worth living, thus we must regular

NEXT IAS

examine efficacy of our opinion

Second, comes being open to criticism ~~and~~ of own opinion. Accepting and learning from diverse set of opinion is the the key here.

Thirdly, our opinion must be formed on basis of values like compassion, empathy, tolerance, so that our opinion must benefit society at large and not cause any division or violence

Lastly, it is rightly said that change is the only constant. Thus, we also need to change and adapt our opinion with changing times

To conclude, our own opinion causes maximum damage to us and makes us live a life full

उम्मीदवारों को इस भाग में लिखना मना है।
Candidates must not write on this margin

of deception, thus we must not
be rigid and ~~do~~ let our opinion
to evolve and become more
useful for humanity. As

117 APJ Kalam said

" your opinion decide your action
your action make your habit
your habits define your character
your character define your
destiny "

उम्मीदवारों को
इस भाग में
लिखना गना है।
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

खण्ड-B / Section-B

- Q.5 People travel by road or rail, economy travels on infrastructure.
लोग सड़क और रेल से यात्रा करते हैं, लेकिन अर्थव्यवस्था आधारभूत संरचना पर निर्भर होती है।
- Q.6 As you start to walk on the way, the way appears.
जैसे ही आप मार्ग पर चलना आरंभ करते हैं, मार्ग स्वयं प्रकट हो जाता है।
- Q.7 Adopt the pace of nature: her secret is patience.
प्रकृति की गति को अपनाओ: उसका रहस्य धैर्य है।
- Q.8 Everything that life teaches can be summed up in three words: it goes on.
जीवन जो कुछ भी सिखाता है, वह तीन शब्दों में समाहित किया जा सकता है: यह चलता रहता है।

उम्मीदवारों को
इस भाग में
लिखना नना है।
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

Topic 5 : People travel by road or rail,
economy travels on infrastructure

" India announces a major boost
for its infrastructure sector in
Budget 2025-26 , Allocations raised
to Rs 11.2 lakh crore. "

We all must have read this newspaper
headline from The Mint on 2nd
February 2025 , a day after the
presentation of the budget . But why
did a developing country like India
decided to invest 3.4% of its GDP
on infrastructure ? what are its economic

rationale? What could be other rationale for such investment? and is infrastructure enough to keep economy moving? lastly what could ~~be~~ we infer for and adopt as a test case for Indian economy?

In this essay, we would delve deep to answer all such arising question and try to establish that while people travel by road or rail, the economy travel on the infrastructure of the country.

Parag Khanna in his book "Connectography", tells us that in today's world the most powerful economies are one's that are most connected and have world class infrastructure for their people. But why? and more importantly what do we mean by infrastructure?

In simple economic

Infrastructure is of three types, firstly, the physical infrastructure that includes the roads, railway, bridges, buildings etc. Secondly, the social infrastructure that includes the societal capital, freedoms, health and educational outcomes of people. Lastly, infrastructure also includes digital infrastructure like internet penetration, digital literacy and digital connectivity among people.

While people use physical infrastructure like road or rail to travel because they provide ease of travel to passengers, last mile connectivity, faster travel from one place to other and allows people to move at a very low cost.

But the economy travels on trinity of physical, social and digital infrastructure. Now let us see one by one how does economy travel and progress due to infrastructure.

उम्मीदवारों को इस भाग में लिखना मना है।
Candidates must not write on this margin

Firstly starting with physical infrastructure, ~~it~~ it helps economy to travel fast due to its multiplier effect, RBI study shows that every one rupee spent on infrastructure creation has a multiplier effect of 2.45 times in the long run. This multiplier arises due to faster movement of goods, people and ideas (knowledge)

Similarly, for shipping the middle income trap also, the infrastructure creation is important for any country. Recent, World Bank Study in the World Development Report 2024, highlight how infrastructure creation in China in form of Rails & Roads helped it in becoming the 2nd largest economy of the world.

Same was the case with post world war II, Europe. Where once devastated western Europe

quickly saw a turn around due to Marshall Plan of investment on infrastructure upgradation in Europe

Physical infrastructure also helps economy by reduction of logistic cost for movement of goods. This reduction of cost further leads to regional specialisation by some region in some goods and then low cost efficient trade with other nation, so as both benefit from the economies of scale as a result of specialisation

To further add, in a developing country like India, infrastructure is also a major source of job creation. By creating jobs and increasing workers income it creates a demand pull for economy as the workers consumption rise. For example, in the Indian context 11% of our workforce is employed in construction

उम्मीदवारों को इस भाग में लिखना मना है।
Candidates must not write on this margin

sector leading to demand pull of the economy.

lastly for any economy the ultimate aim is to improve the standard of living for household, the physical infrastructure like house, roads etc improve our living standard and thus help in reaching the ultimate goal for any economy.

Now moving on to social infrastructure. As Amartya Sen has written in his book, "Then Argumentative Indian", presence of social infrastructure is important for improving the capability of a person, he argues that as capability improves, human development increases and the economy then automatically moves on to travel to a high equilibrium path.

In addition to this, social infrastructure also creates

उम्मीदवारों को इस भाग में लिखना मना है। Candidates must not write on this margin

and improved trust of people and societal capital. This mutual trust among people improve economic outcomes by reducing the ~~cost~~ opportunity cost of violence in the society, because there is no riot, no violence, no economic damage when social capital is high.

Moreover, The often sited example of Nordic countries show us that how social infrastructure in form of health, education helps in improving sustainability of economic growth. Countries like Finland and Norway today have sustainable economic growth because of human capital, which got created due to social ~~infrastructure~~ infrastructure.

Transitioning further to the digital infrastructure. It is being said that we are in era of digital revolution

उम्मीदवारों को इस भाग में लिखना पना है।
Candidates must not write on this margin

, in this context focus on digital infrastructure becomes more so important.

A recent study by Google and Bain highlights that a 10% increase in internet penetration will drive up economic growth by

3.3%. Thus, like physical & social infrastructure, digital infrastructure is also key for economic movement

To further add, digital infrastructure also improves economic outcomes by improving service delivery and providing last mile delivery of government schemes and policies.

The recent study by PM-EAC member Shamika Ravi, that DBT (Direct benefit transfer) has lead to saving of Rs 1.45 lakh crore for Indian economy is testimony to our argument

Apart from economic benefit, infrastructure also benefits in other arenas. It is also a tool for projection of country's Soft power to the world. ~~And~~ for example, Indian infrastructural projects like Dawatz Friendship Dam or creation of Afghan Parliament in the Afganistan has lead to mutual goodwill and people to people connect.

Similarly, the social outcomes like poverty reduction, improvement in health & educational outcomes etc are well know to us.

But one may ask question that given the huge significance that we discussed, why do economies still don't investment on infrastructure creation?

This is due to nature of investment ~~is~~ required in infrastructure creation. There is a free rider problem.

involved in infrastructure creation, as it is a public good and thus is non-excludable and non-rivalrous in nature.

Secondly, there is huge lump sum capital needed to create infrastructure, which most of the developing countries lack.

Thirdly, also there is higher risk and very very high gestation period of infrastructure investment. The 100 Rs you invest today in infrastructure would give you net positive return only after 10-20 years of time period, which deters private investment in infrastructure sector.

~~So~~ So, is there any solution to all this problems?

Yes, the solution lies in public-private partnership for infrastructure

Question . We need to come up with innovative models like HAM (Hybrid Annuity Model) to support infrastructure creation.

Secondly, As Anantya Sen pointed out in his book "The uncertain glory", focus should be equal on creating social infrastructure like the physical infrastructure.

Thirdly, not mere increasing infrastructure investment will work, we need to improve the ICOR (incremental capital output ratio), so that additional investment turn into output growth for the economy.

lastly, reforms in the Multilateral financing institution like World Bank, are needed so as to ensure continued and sustained finances for infrastructure creation.

उम्मीदवारों को इस भाग में लिखना मना है।
Candidates must not write on this margin

To summarise, infrastructure is the key bridge that moves economy from low equilibrium trap to high equilibrium path of sustained investment and sustained growth. Our Honourable PM Narendra Modi's words while launching IMEC infrastructural project highlight the transformational potential of infrastructure time for any country.

"We are not just creating infrastructure under IMEC. We are sowing seeds for future generation to dream

bigger" - Pm Modi