



DRISHTI MENTORSHIP ESSAY TEST-4
[ESSAY: 8 Questions]

निर्धारित समय: 3 घंटे
Time allowed: 3 Hours

अधिकतम अंक: 250
Maximum Marks: 250

Name: Rupam Aroora Mobile Number (as registered on DLA): _____
Medium (English/Hindi): English Reg. Number: DKBG 6870
Center & Date: Karol Bagh UPSC Roll No. (If allotted): 0803879
20/7/20

प्रश्न-पत्र के लिये विशिष्ट अनुदेश

(प्रश्नों के उत्तर देने से पहले निम्नलिखित प्रत्येक अनुदेश को कृपया ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ें)

प्रवेश-पत्र में प्राधिकृत माध्यम में निबंध लिखना आवश्यक है तथा इस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू. सी. ए.) पुस्तिका के मुखपृष्ठ पर निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर करना आवश्यक है। प्राधिकृत माध्यम के अलावा अन्य माध्यम में लिखे गए उत्तरों को अंक नहीं दिये जाएंगे।

प्रश्नों के उत्तर निर्दिष्ट शब्द-संख्या के अनुसार होने चाहिये।

प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गए किसी पृष्ठ अथवा पृष्ठ के भाग को पूर्णतः काट दीजिये।

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

(Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions)

The ESSAY 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. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one.

Word limit, as specified, should be adhered to.

Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

केवल मूल्यांकनकर्ता द्वारा भरा जाए (To be filled by Evaluator only)

	निबंध विषय संख्या (Essay Topic No.)	अंक (Marks)
खंड-A Section-A		
खंड-B Section-B		
Grand Total (सकल योग)		

मूल्यांकनकर्ता (हस्ताक्षर)
Evaluator (Signature)

पुनरीक्षणकर्ता (हस्ताक्षर)
Reviewer (Signature)



Feedback

1. Context Proficiency (संदर्भ दक्षता)
 2. Introduction Proficiency (परिचय दक्षता)
 3. Content Proficiency (विषय-वस्तु दक्षता)
 4. Language/Flow (भाषा/प्रवाह)
 5. Conclusion Proficiency (निष्कर्ष दक्षता)
 6. Presentation Proficiency (प्रस्तुति दक्षता)
-



खंड A और B में प्रत्येक से एक विषय चुनकर दो निबंध लिखिये, जो प्रत्येक लगभग 1000–1200 शब्दों का हो:

125 × 2 = 250

Write TWO Essays, choosing ONE from each of the Section A and B, in about 1000–1200 words each:

125 × 2 = 250

उम्मीदवार को इस हाशिये में नहीं लिखना चाहिये।

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खंड-A/ Section-A

1. सुख की तलाश, स्वयं सुख से भी अधिक रहस्यमयी है।
The pursuit of happiness is more elusive than happiness itself.
2. मौन, कभी-कभी सबसे मुखर आर्तनाद होता है।
Silence is sometimes the loudest scream.
3. चरित्र ही भाग्य है।
Character is destiny.
4. संकट चरित्र का निर्माण नहीं करता, बल्कि उसे उजागर करता है।
Crisis does not build character; it reveals it.

खंड-B / Section-B

5. सोशल मीडिया राजनीतिक वैधता का नया रणक्षेत्र बन गया है।
Social media has become the new battlefield of political legitimacy.
6. लैंगिक समानता केवल महिलाओं का मुद्दा नहीं है, यह एक मानवीय मुद्दा है।
Gender equality is not a women's issue; it's a human issue.
7. सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य केवल अस्पतालों तक सीमित नहीं है, बल्कि यह पूरे समाज से जुड़ा हुआ है।
Public health is not just about hospitals, but about society as a whole.
8. रोज़गार योग्य शिक्षा: भारत के सीखने के परिणामों पर पुनर्विचार।
Education for employability: Rethinking India's learning outcomes.



खंड-A/ Section-A

1. सुख की तलाश, स्वयं सुख से भी अधिक रहस्यमयी है।
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चाहिये।

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CRISIS DOES NOT BUILD
CHARACTER, IT REVEALS IT.

While thinking about this topic, I remembered the true instance of my society, which fills the hearts of all residents with pride. Hindus & Sikhs have lived in harmony as a community ever since India's partition. Families had experienced the are develop from a refugee camp to a full fledged colony, and built strong community ties. Suddenly one day, following the assassination of former PM Indira Gandhi, the sentiments of Hindus & Sikhs were turned



against each other in whole of north India with major citings of Hindu-Sikh riots. Even in such times of crisis, the residents of my society protected each others. Sikhs were provided safe hiding spaces in Hindu households, while people diplomatically swayed rioters away. Such morals & resilient character of the society are passed down to younger generations like mine in stories & hear-say. Till date, the character & bond of the community stays strong.

Such instances reiterate that characters of an individual, society & even nations are showcased and revealed in times of crisis, but built, usually in times of peace & regular circumstances. In this essay, we will discuss about character, character building, crisis (which are inevitable) and their relationship which results in showcase of one's character.

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Let us take up Character as our first aspect of discussion. It is referred to as the amalgamation of ethical & moral values of a person, society, organisation & even nations. Display of character reflects scale of morality, honesty, integrity, kindness & many other qualities through one's actions.

A strong character guides actions consistent with one's morality even in challenging times.

To understand the reflection of one's character through actions, it becomes significant to understand ways & means of Character Building.

Character of an individual or society are built through ethical guidances, historical & mythological stories and examples, training, inducing accountability and responsibility, influence of reference group, family, media and also through formal education.

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The above-mentioned means and structures of character building along with innumerable other aspects make up an individual's character. Characters of many individuals make up the same for a society and ultimately of a nation & humanity as a whole.

Display of character, especially good character is easy in regular circumstances but the real test lies in times of Crisis.

Crisis is a beyond normal situation, which throws at us challenging times, circumstances, scarcity of resources, situations of ethical dilemma, and often necessities of quick and autonomous decision making. There can be various types of crisis like monetary, ethical, medical, national, wars, riots and many more. COVID19 is an example of medical crisis affecting practically all of humanity.



Therefore, it is fair to say that times of crisis reveal the true character of an individual, society & community. This revelation is indeed based on the character built in normal & regular circumstances. Let us substantiate the argument with some instances.

At an individual level, we face crisis many times in different forms. A school going boy struggling in an exam represents ~~his~~ their crisis. In such situation, we see some kids trying to cheat at suitable intervals while some do not & try to firefight through the exam. At an intellectual level, the choices they made to cheat or stay honest reflects their character, ~~more~~ which is more important than the marks they score in the test.

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Individual characters are also shown in times of most serious crisis. The famous story of Neerja Bhanot is a fine example. It is both eye-watering & spine chilling to imagine oneself in her place as she continues to follow her duty and 'dharma' of ~~being~~ an airhostess, tending to injured passengers in a hijacked plane. She was shot by the barbaric hijackers but many passengers publicly state that they owe their lives to her. Neerja ~~showed~~ chose death, but her character didn't surrender to the crisis.

The recent India-Pakistan conflict under Operation ~~Sindoor~~ reflected character in crisis across various levels. Citizens displayed character by following guidelines of the state, The remarkable political consensus across political parties, supporting the government's decisions

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displayed the strong values of anti-terrorism beyond political differences. Our armed forces showcased great strength of character by not targeting civilians and responding to aggression in a measured & precise manner. On the other hand, we witnessed partial loss of character ~~to~~ across media, who spread false & unverified news like Indian navy's actions on Karachi Post (false news). It hampered media's image of being the fourth pillar of democracy and must act as a wake-up call.

As regards nation, characters often continue with ethics and morality through history (and mythology). A very interesting similarity is seen in Vanar Sena, from Ramayana, India's cultural heritage & Indian Army from Kargil war. The two armies in both cases cremated the mortal remains

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of enemy troops with full respect, honour and suitable religious procedures. The characters are strikingly opposite to ~~the~~ example's like Pakistani army who refused to even acknowledge their own martyred soldiers.

India's Vaccine Maitri diplomacy during COVID-19 crisis shows strength of character and deep rooted values of 'Vasudeva Kutumbakam' and 'Satve Bhavantu Sukhinah' by helping almost all nations & whole of humanity and not just ourselves.

There are on the other hand contrary examples of nations like Turkey, and ~~Azerbaijan~~ ~~who~~ ~~supported~~ held an anti-India stance even when India provided maximum humanitarian help via Operation Dost during devastating earthquake. Such display of characters sow the seeds of suspicion & realist principles of foreign policy across the world.

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While many individuals and communities reveal their characters by taking noticeable decisions in times of crisis, there is still another set of people who do not reflect any character and just follow the herd mentality. For instance, most societies & individuals affected during the Hindu-Sikh riots mentioned above would follow ~~the~~ what the masses & societies around them are doing, either saving themselves, or being indifferent towards others' sufferings or being the one who participate in the riots.

The situation & example above is very common as ~~maximum~~ not many people & community would take an extra step in crisis. But the point to be noted is that even following the herd mentality showcases a their character. It is hence correct that it takes a strong character to think righteously not only for yourself, but for all.

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Another argument that comes up here is that ~~the~~ crisis not only just reveals characters but sometimes even build them.

I once came across a ten year old boy in school uniform selling socks on the road. Upon talking to him, he told me that his father lost both legs in an accident, mother passed away and hence had to take up to selling socks (and not beg) to support his father's recovery and household expenses.

In this case, we see that a sudden crisis changed the boy's life and so began his character development in a totally different direction than what he imagined.

Hence, crisis makes us grow,
challenges make us strong and a good
character make us human. In this world,



There might be very few whose life ~~is~~ pass smoothly and have no challenges. We all have to face challenges and crisis many times in our lifetime.

Having discussed the relationship of character and crisis comprehensively, we can conclude by remembering that our values & morals set our character and our character defines us as humans.

The way we act is how we pass on our morality to the next generation. Characters of individuals make up ~~the~~ character of a society and hence the nation. Challenges are everywhere, we must ensure to keep our character intact. ~~As~~ In words of famous poet Nida Fazli,

'Safar me dhoop to hogi, jo chal sake to chalo'
(You'll meet many challenges in life,
the one's ready to face them shall go on.)

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खंड-B / Section-B

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GENDER EQUALITY IS NOT
A WOMEN'S ISSUE;
IT'S A HUMAN ISSUE.

One day, at a Diwali get-together at a friend's house, there were discussions revolving around the role of men and women. It was almost as if there were two teams debating each other, with arguments & counter-arguments flowing in the air. Suddenly my friend's aunt asked a question to the

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so called 'modern girls' in a taunting manner.

"So girls, what do you call it when girls these days focus on their career so much and delay having a baby, as if they are boys!"

The way she shouted, everybody fell silent. An old yet strong voice was heard replying to her.

"We call it their choice". It was my friend's grandfather. Young girls hooted and clapped as though they won the debate.

That day, looking at a patriarchal woman and a feminist grandfather, I realised that Gender Equality is indeed not just a woman issue, but a human issue. The discussion in this essay will consider the various aspect of gender equality, ~~the~~ feminism and it being an issue regarding all humans & not just women.

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The debate on gender equality, although sporadic since times immemorial took the contemporary solid form with the rise in consciousness of Feminism, with its many waves and demands. As it is always in debate for various reasons, it becomes essential to ~~have a discussion~~ take up Feminism as our first aspect of discussion.

Rising from a critique of universal male dominance in all systems and structures (called Patriarchy), Feminism as a politico-socio-psychological thought challenges the notion of male superiority.

Feminists raise the distinction of sex & gender, personal & political. They accuse

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men of assigning gendered roles to each sex
and treating females as the 'second sex'.

Accepting the biological differences of males &
females, they accept sex differences but are
critical of chivalry and genderisation of sexes.

As a famous statement they believe that
'women are ~~to~~ not born, women are made.'

A core demand raised by Feminists
is that of Gender Equality, which brings us
to the next aspect of discussion.

Gender Equality refers to equal treatment,
considerations & opportunities across genders,
breaking the chains of mentality of male
dominance as natural.

Going by the meaning of it, it is natural
to assume that Gender Equality is a

women issue as they are the ones who need to fight for their emancipation & empowerment. However a holistic understanding of the cause helps us realise that it is not just a concern for women but equally of men as well.

Here, the mention of J.S. Mill becomes important who is considered as the first modern feminist of the west. He was the first philosopher to call for women empowerment, divorce rights, property rights, and right to work, along with sharing of domestic responsibilities by men. Surprisingly many of his critiques were women.

Even the example of my friend's grandfather raise a ~~concern~~ widely seen phenomenon of patroschal women and feminist men.

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This suggests that gender inequality & male dominance is deep rooted in traditional cultures, across the societies. It is therefore important that mindsets of not only women but men change.

A relevant example of Mahaveer Phogat, father of Geeta Phogat, popular Indian medalist wrestler (popular representation in movie 'Dangal') comes to mind where he challenges not only his wife's mindset but his village as well by envisioning his daughters to be gold medal wrestlers.

The famous dialogue

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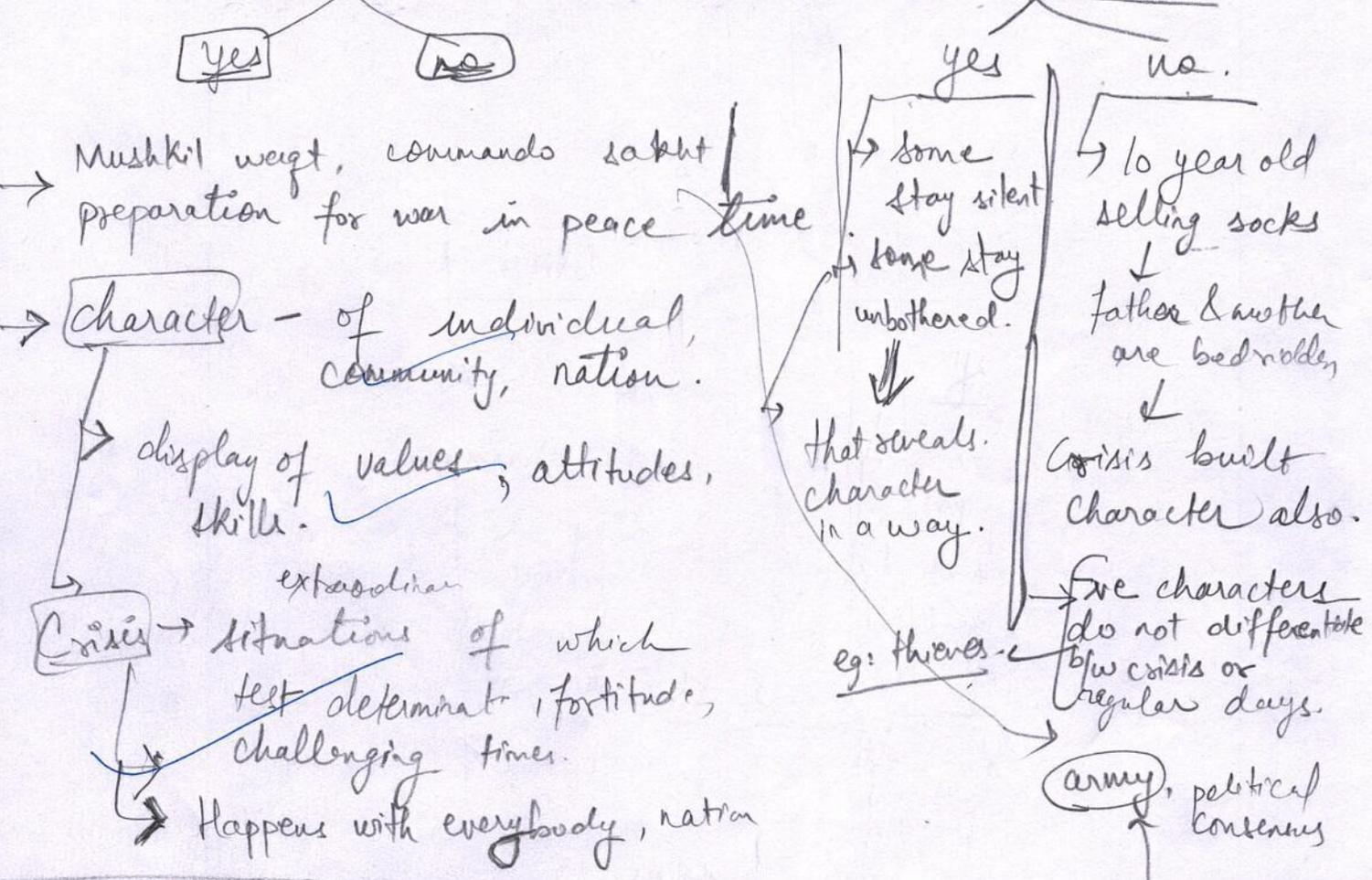
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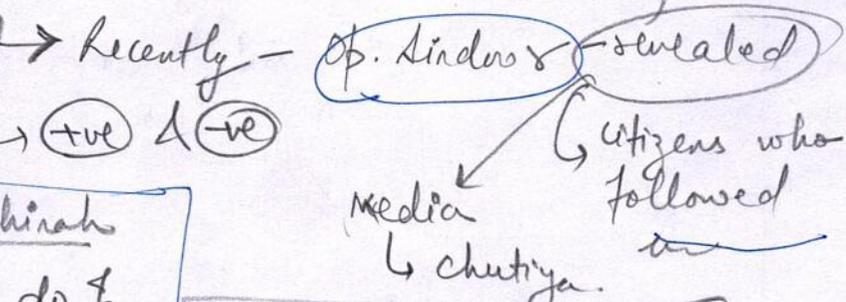


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CRISIS Does not build character ; it reveals it.



Crisis Reveals Character



Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah

→ If I am hurt, do I want others to be hurt?

Neeraj - air hostess

Character Building

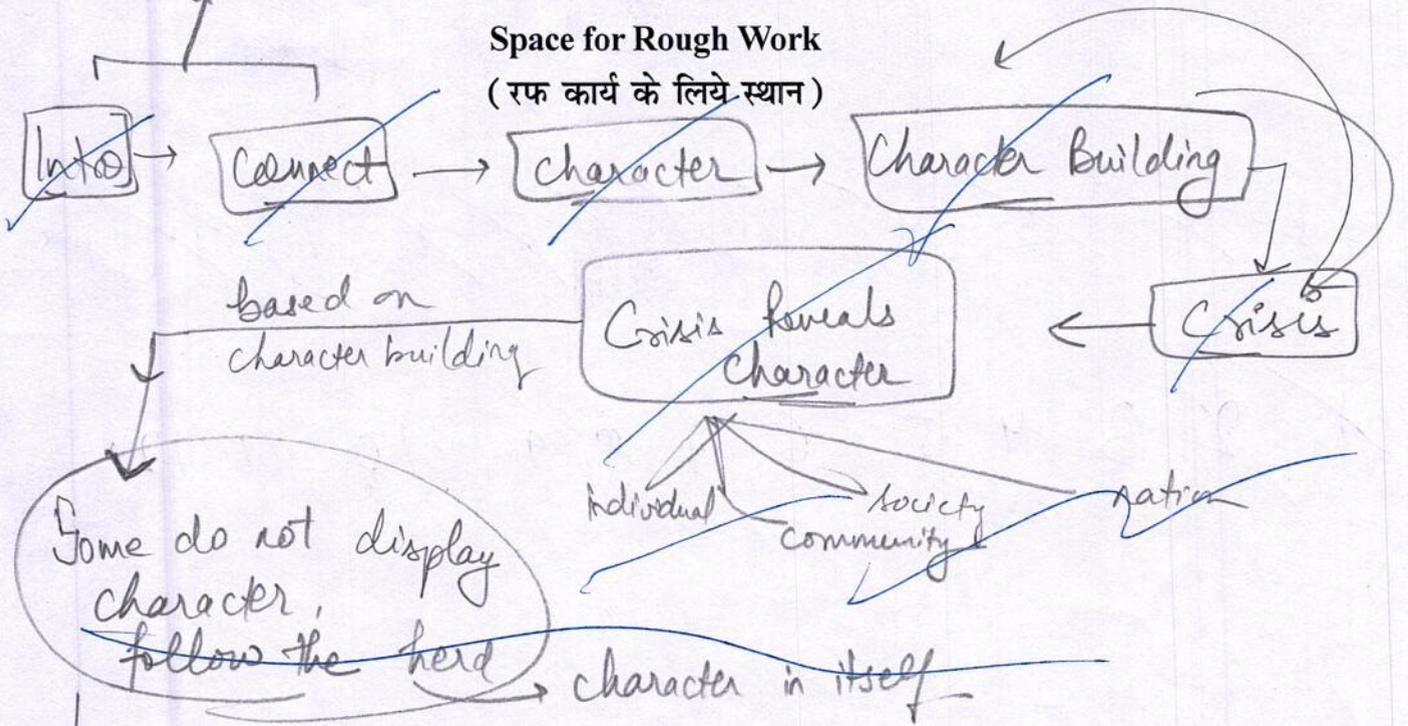
→ stories, history, examples, reference groups, training, responsibility.

Indian army cremating/ Vihar Sena cremating enemy troops bodies. whereas - Pak did not accept. -28

2 pages



Space for Rough Work
(रफ कार्य के लिये स्थान)



~~No~~ → ~~Story of sock seller.~~

→ Conclusion connection

→ Conclusion — Quote / excerpt.

→ sock seller.
said something.

Abhi pyaar nahi lagi hogi.
(maybe)

2:45 — 3:15 — 3:45 — 4:15 — 4:45
4:30
5:45 — 5:15



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