



Drishti Mentorship Program Mains-2023

ANSWER BOOKLET

Time allowed: 2 Hours 20 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 200

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Medium: English

Subject: Essay Test II

Centre: Karol Bagh

Date: 28/08/23

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Question Paper Specific Instructions

Please read each of the following instruction carefully before attempting questions:

All the questions are compulsory.

Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Answer Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in a medium other than the authorized one.

Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.

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

(To be filled by Evaluator only)

Question Number	Marks	Question Number	Marks
1.		11.	
2.		12.	
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| 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) |
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Section - A

If you can cut people off from their history,
then they can easily be persuaded

Bakhtyar Khelji, one of the
commanders of Muhammad Ghori was tasked
to conquer east India. On his tryst to
conquer Bengal, on the way he destroyed
Nalanda university. Some people argue that
it was because he mistook Nalanda to
be a military garrison. Yet another school
believes that it was no mistake but a
part of his plan. A plan to rule India
and subdue her culture, in which, it was
of prime importance to demolish universities
like Nalanda and Vikramshila. According
to Khelji a country as advanced and
diverse as India could be conquered only

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if the link of her population can be cut off from her past and glorious heritage, culture, knowledge and history. This was further verified by the mass murders of teachers, students and Buddhist monks that followed in Nalanda.

Therefore, the above incident evidently prove as to how cutting off people from history leads to any humanism and further subordination. However, this is just only a part of the analysis. Many more dimensions are explored under the following parts of essay.

Cutting people off from their history

People can be cut off from their history by a variety of methods. For instance attack on their historical art and architecture and its destruction. Second



2. way could be to furnish them facts about their history which are selective and half cooked. For example - Instances of religious tolerance of Akbar, or instances of Gupta rule being golden age of the country.

Another, method could be to remodel, rewrite and ban the history and the way it is taught to propagate an ideology. For example many contemporary people argue that Indian history is more Marxist than Indian. These ways could sever a person's link with their history.

To elaborate the facts presented above we shall look at few examples. Firstly the same method of attacking history and heritage was adopted by British over India. British successfully attacked and demeaned

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India's history, education tradition and indigenous methods of life. This was followed by enforced British education and sciences on Indians.

Second example, is visible in the Indian society when one clearly observes the Caste system. It is clearly visible that upper castes kept the lower castes away from their history and their ways of life. This was ensured by not letting lower castes study history and acquire knowledge.

Another example, could be of how history and facts' misinterpretation could impact people's understanding of same. Max Mueller, David, the Theory of Aryan Invasion² to explain India's history. This wrong theory led to many

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people believe that they as Arjuns were also outsiders, hence British as outsiders were also good.

On similar lines, the British even cut off ties that the craftsmen and artisans had with their history and their craft by brand policies. They ~~deliberately~~ deliberately ensured that the techniques could be wiped off so that their products can be seen as better.

Conclusion

Furthermore, many Indian historians serve half facts. For instance, in the textbooks of class till 10, it is widely told that Babur won the 1st Battle of Panipat. It is portrayed as to if Indian rulers were the weaker ones, and some sort of red carpet was laid to invite Babur to India. However, the fact that many

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Indian rulers, defeated Babur and kept him at bay for years is skipped. This leaves a rather weak and sad image of Indian rulers on kids who carry this with them for their lifetime.

The above part deals with the methods and examples of how people can be cut off from their history. Its effect on them and the case of persuasion thereafter will be discussed in following section.

Severed from history → Easy to persuade?

Persuasion for say refers to the act of influencing people to believe what one believes or preaches. It is a very important ^{part} of marketing and governance in all parts of the world.

It is widely accepted fact that uncertainty makes it easy to persuade people. Therefore, when people's link with

their history are sewed and they become uncertain in life about things it becomes quite easy to permeate them. This could be understood from a list of examples where sewing history made permanent simple and easy.

For instance, after British cut off India's people's link from their history of riches and heritage, it was easy to permeate Indian people about 'European Supremacy', Indian way of life as barbaric and backward, and, most importantly the concept of 'White Man's Burden' to civilize Indians.

Yet another, evidence is available when upper castes limit lower castes about history. This helped upper castes to subordinate and suppress the

lower castes into serving them. Upper castes rarely permitted lower castes that if they did serve ^{upper} castes in present birth, their fate will improve and in next life they will be born upper caste.

On the similar lines, condition of Indian craftsmen ~~and~~ was a result of permanence that was simplified once historical transmission of knowledge of crafts was discontinued. This discontinuity, helped British permade people that machine made goods were better and perfect.

Therefore, the above parts, in short argue that once someone's connection to history is cut off, the act of permanence becomes easy. Someone could be an individual, society or nation. However,

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5. this is just one side of the coin. To understand it completely we need to look into other side as well.

The other side of the coin

Contrary to the arguments in the former parts the act of cutting of from history or the act of permanen are not so straight and simple. let us understand this in brief.

The act of cutting off people from history is not easy and holistically not possible. This is because our time history, becomes part of culture and culture becomes a way of life. It is very difficult to completely dissociate people from their way of life and hence history. However, by remodelling and misrepresentation

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doubts can be created which can aid the permanence process.

It is also interesting to see that permanence is multifactor process. Just severing history doesn't make permanence process easy. This is because permanence requires systematic approach, hard facts, clarity, good representation and good orator. Therefore, cutting people off their history will make permanence easier and not 'easy'.

Also, it is to note that, permanence doesn't always require ^{deliberate} cutting off from history. This is because, people as whole are usually too ignorant to learn from history or have short memory about past events.

In a nutshell, it is important ~~that~~ to note that history is an integral

6. part of individual's, society's, country's or region's life. It helps people reflect back upon their life events, draw conclusions and if possible make amends. Also, history is necessary link from past to present which provides one with heritage, confidence and self-esteem in challenging times. However, once misinterpreted and mis-represented it could destroy links and lead to decreased self-esteem and uncertainty about past. Moreover, it would reduce the chances to learn from mistakes, which could lead to making the same mistakes again, when similar events return and repeat.

As Marx says -

"History repeats itself - first as tragedy, then as a farce"

It would repeat a number of times, but due to disassociation from history, results would be haphazard.

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Section - B

The greatest threat to our planet is that someone else will save it

Surely everyone would have read the story of the sparrow and the farmer. In the story, a sparrow with her kids lived in a farm which was ready to be harvested. Her ~~nest~~ nest was on the ground. The kids one day told their mother that farmer had asked his brother to harvest the crop and therefore they all should relocate their nest. The sparrow told her children not to worry and not shift their home. Following days, kids would hear farmer requesting his other relatives to harvest the field and conversation would repeat the same between sparrow and her kids.

However, one day kids overheard the farmer saying that tomorrow he would himself

harvest the fields. When informed about this the sparrow immediately instructed her kids to leave the nest and fly away. But what ^{happened} ~~happened~~ suddenly? asked the kids.

To this, the sparrow replied, until former requested others to do his task they needn't worry, but the day he decided to do it himself, they need to act. What inference can ~~we~~ ^{one} draw out of the story and how can one apply it in their life?

The answer to ~~above~~ question is that one needs to learn that until they depend ^{upon} or believe in someone else to do their work, it will not result into anything. But once they themselves work on it, results would be very different.

This teaching needs to be applied by one and all ^{is} with respect to

State of our environment and the threats it faces. It is widely accepted that Earth is in a state of climate emergency and, one day someone will save it. The question that remains, is just who will be that Someone else?

In this essay we would understand, the threats and the greatest threat to our planet and problem of depending on leaving on Someone else the task to save the planet.

Greatest Threat : Someone else will Save

It is evident from various thesis, reports and facts that planet Earth is largely becoming unhabitable. It is also very clear about the unsuitability of the planet in near future by the numbers and frequency of disasters, land degradation,

productivity decrease, climate change etc

Interestingly, most of the people, country, societies, etc have the firm belief that someone else will come and do our part to save the planet. Or, someone will come with a magic wand, will wave it and 'Abracadabra' everything will fall right into its place.

However, this won't happen, because this is no movie, or children's fantasy book. This is reality, where real actors like you, me, anyone will have to make efforts in reality to usher a real change.

But quite contrastingly, one finds that what is happening is just the opposite. People on their part are inactive and depend on someone else. This dependence and inactivity has following

dimensions.

Firstly, at the international level

One finds that even after international groupings and targets results are not positive.

On the top of that many countries like USA, Russia, Canada etc have not fulfilled their Kyoto Targets or have pulled out of Paris Agreement.

What can be ~~concluded~~ understood from above act? The only fair conclusion would be that, they believe that someone else would save the Earth for them.

Second, at the national level, countries are still indulged in Developing - Developed dichotomy and debate. In the grip of making his ~~best~~ career and development they continue to lead the planet as a whole to a miserable

8. State. What could be the possible reason of mindless action. If not, someone else would Save the Earth, then what else could it be?

Third, when analysing the problem at level of society, one finds that the modern societies continue to waste resources like water, dump, garbage in open, cut trees etc. On the other hand traditional societies try to promote cooperation with each other and co-existence with nature.

However, the modern societies have firm belief that it would be traditional societies who would conserve the environment, or it would be someone else. Because their action don't show any effort to do the same.

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Lastly, at level of family and individual one finds out lack of environmental keeper. Families and people continuously in the name of luxury use plastic, dispose it in open, waste fuel to show off vehicles etc. It is understood by now, that, at large each family and individual either believe that it's not their job to save the planet or that alone their efforts wouldn't help.

However, what people at all level fail to realise is that humans being the most able species intellectually has this important task to save the planet. But quite opposite, their belief of depending on someone else and ^{thus} induced inactivity becomes a far more greatest concern and threat for the planet.

But since, every thing has a multiple points of view, there is another side to this topic as well.

The other side and other threats

While it is not to be argued that humans are ^{one of} the biggest threats to the planet, it is to be noted that they are 'A' Threat and not 'THE' Threat. The other threats cannot be ignored when considering the fact that if human's belief of someone else saving the planet is greatest or not?

It needs to be emphasised upon that greatest threat to nature could be much larger than inactivity. They can be weapons of mass destruction, huge volcanoes eruptions, high intensity natural earthquakes, meteor showers etc.

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Furthermore, pollution (both natural and manmade), nuclear bomb, Solar storm, tsunami etc can also be great threats.

However, all the other threats except few are human-made or human-controlled. Therefore by large the greatest threat is humans, their actions and their inactivity combined.

On a concluding note with the increasing vents of adversity and rising global temperatures one needs to accept that it is high time to get up and respond to the ailing calls of Mother Earth. It is required that one realises the importance of their own efforts and also understand that someone else will play their part not theirs or ours. It is therefore necessary that everyone on

the planet put their hands forward and each one rise upto the occasion. From the belief that Someone else would, humans need to switch to that "no-one else would" and that's exactly why it is important for everyone to act. First individual, should motivate, forcing the family to act, leading to country's effort and finally humanity as a whole to act. Because,

"It only starts with us",

And,

"We just have one Earth"