

Roll No. \_\_\_\_\_

## ESSAY

Time Allowed: 3 hrs.

Max. Marks: 250

### Instructions to Candidate

- Both sections are compulsory.
- Attempt an essay from each section.
- Each essay carries 125 marks.
- Write each essay in about 1000-1200 words.
- After finishing the first essay, attempt the next on a fresh Page.
- Any page left blank in the answer-book must be crossed out clearly.

*(Examiner will pay special attention to the candidate's grasp of his/her material, its relevance to the subject chosen, and to his/ her ability to think constructively and to present his/her ideas concisely, logically and effectively).*

### Remarks

66 + 60

Mang

1. Invigilator Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
2. Invigilator Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name MIRANT PARIKH.  
Mobile No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Date 2/11/16  
Signature Mirant

**SECTION - A**

- ✓ 1. Health is not valued till sickness comes.
2. Everything is funny, as long as it is happening to somebody else.
3. Where words fail, music speaks. ✗
4. Mistakes are always forgivable, if one has the courage to admit them. ✗

**SECTION - B**

1. The question isn't who is going to let me; it's who is going to stop me.
2. Achieving life is not the equivalent of avoiding death.
3. The ladder of success is best climbed by stepping on the rungs of opportunity.
- ✓ 4. Never interrupt your enemy when he is making a mistake.

Remarks

1) Health is not valued till sickness  
comes

"All days are not the same. Good experiences are followed by bad experiences & bad by good. But it is the bad experiences that make shapes our character and makes us one with God"

— Zarathustra in Zend Avesta

The circle of life moves in Health det.

an incessant manner. It determines the context & the consequences of one's life and also helps in shaping one's life.

Many scholars & philosophers have tried to discern the meaning of good life (Health) and the means to tackle the times when life gives you its worst (Sickness)

But there is no standard template to

Remarks

determine what constitutes a good health & what constitutes sickness.

Let us first try to define what the meaning of health & sickness is in the given context —

Health here points towards the days of happiness, meaningfulness & self-actualization of one's soul. One feels happy & satisfied with the circumstances that he finds himself in. Different people have different characterisation of good life. but having a secured job and a source of income, family<sup>life</sup> stability & predictability in life is constituted by majority as a definition of living a good life or a healthy life.

Remarks

To some being one with the Omniscient & the omnipotent, being self-actualized and achieving nirvana can be constituted as a good life.

For instance, Buddha had the best of material world like wealth, family, comforts, power et al but he still ~~went for~~ left all these material ~~comfor~~ comforts and ~~left~~ his palace in search of the ultimate truth.

Sickness on the other hand is ~~there~~ the phases of sadness, depression & pessimism. A phase where all those things that you love or cherish falls apart and you can do nothing but watch ~~it~~ disperse with the sands of time.

Remarks

## Why we don't Value Health?

Sigmund Freud in his study of human psychology has pointed out many interesting facts about the dichotomous ~~and~~ character of the human nature. According to him a Prince or a person born with a Silver spoon is not capable enough to understand or comprehend the luxuries that he/she has been endowed with. ~~He~~ she considers it to be natural and has no real sense of the sheer hardship that her other less lucky fellow beings have to go through. A son of a rich businessman is not ~~A son~~ bound to understand the difficulties that his father had

Remarks

to go through to acquire the wealth & position in the society.

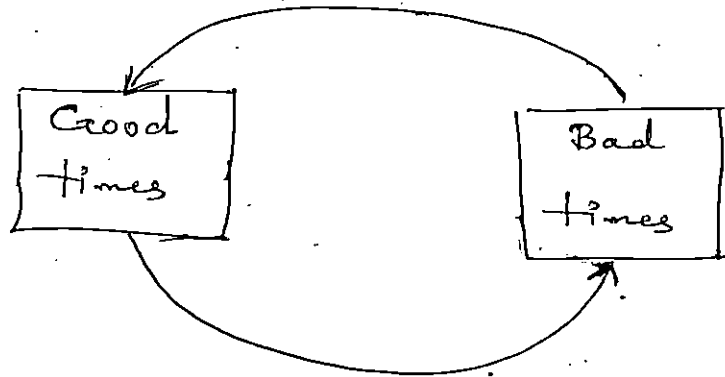
Even Kautilya in Arthashastra has mentioned that a good king should not only listen to what his ministers have to say. A good king must roam around in disguise in his kingdom to understand the discontent brewing in his kingdom due to the unreasonable policies of the kingdom. Just looking at the nicer tenets of the policies & the minister may make the king complacent and will jeopardize the existence of his kingdom.

→ Vicious or Virtuous cycle?

The circle of life is moving incessantly. Neither the good times nor the

Remarks

bad times are permanent. It depends on a person to make this circle of life - vicious or virtuous.



**CIRCLE OF LIFE: VICIOUS OR VIRTUOUS?**

As has been mentioned in the title 'Health is not valued till sickness comes', human life passes through this cycle of boom & bust. ~~It~~ What defines a person's character is how he decides to interpret it. Whether he'll get bogged down by the sheer

Remarks



pessimism or cynicism that accompanies  
 bad times or will he be able to  
 tackle the vicissitudes of the bad times  
 & rise like a phoenix from fire.

So, it is a person's grit,  
 determination & ethical foundation that  
 determines whether he ~~determines~~ transforms  
 this cycle of life into a virtuous  
 cycle or a vicious cycle.

Is it always the case?

The argument that to value  
 health one has to be sick cannot be  
declared as Universal. Though this  
 adage applies to the majority of  
 cases but as they say so there are  
 exceptions everywhere.

Remarks

History is replete with cases where kings and as well as ordinary people have valued happiness without having to go through the phase of sadness. ~~Then~~ A person can skip this phase by two means —

- ① Having a good teacher.
- ② Studying history & understanding from someone else's experience.

Chandragupta Maurya after acquiring the throne of Magadh from Dhananda had never had to go through bad times because he had a knowledgeable teacher in the form of Kautilya. It is because of Kautilya's sharp intellect that the then Greek king Seleucus Nicator could

Remarks

not annex Magadha. Due to Kautilya's reason sharp intellect Chandragupta was able to take pre-emptive measures to thwart any transgressions.

It was by studying the history of 1857 War, that the freedom fighters did not commit the mistakes that were committed during the 1857 war. Basic strategic mistakes like lack of planning, lack of leadership, improper communication led to the failure of 1857 revolution but these mistakes were not repeated during our National freedom movement.

Trust with Destiny:

Pandit Nehru in his famous Trust of Destiny speech on the eve

Remarks

of independence said that "Today a long suppressed soul has found utterance".

He has described the history of India in his book, 'The Discovery of India'.

If we juxtapose to his 'Trust with Destiny' & 'The Discovery of India', we can extract the fact that India has gone through this cycle of good & bad days in a very comprehensive manner. From being the superpower in the 1700s to being a British colony to again being a country marching on the path of being a superpower.

Today, many vices like disunity, communalism, regionalism threatens to disintegrate the our country in the same manner in the past & which led to our subjugation.

Remarks

Even our fundamental Constitution exhorts its citizens to take lessons from the past & to strive towards excellence in Part IV - A - The Fundamental Duties.

Thus, India should not be a 'Prisoner of History' but should never neglect history because it holds lessons of our ~~flaws~~ flailings failures.

Thus, the lessons that one can take from our deprecating times is to make it a strength rather than a weakness. ~~Nothing~~ Nothing would be more apt to conclude this topic than this pearls of wisdom given by Confucius ~~Confucius~~ —

"Love thy life light because they

Remarks

will but fade while what'll remain  
of you in this world is the  
struggles you faced".

x ————— x ————— x ————— x

Excellent.

- ✓ any remark is to improve articulation.
- ✓ Concept & grasp of topic is very good

bb

Maya

Remarks

4) Never interrupt your enemy when he is making a mistake.

"Best strategy in warfare is the one where you don't have to go to the battlefield"

Sun Tzu in 'Art of War'

The ancient Chinese military strategist Sun Tzu was an expert in 'Psychological Warfare'. In his military warfare treatise, 'Art of War', he has elaborately explained the methods of indulging the enemy into mind-games & letting him commit his own mistakes and disintegrate internally, so that the battle can be won without shedding a single drop of blood.

Remarks

Back home in India, we had a master strategist in the form of Kautilya who by some accounts was even shrewder than Sun Tzu in psychological warfare. He allowed Dhananda to commit his own mistakes by sowing the seeds of discontent + to ensure that his protégé Chandragupta Maurya acquires the throne.

We will start by first answering the questions - 'Who exactly is this enemy?' and 'What mistakes are we talking about?'

Any entity be it a person or an organisation or a country which is detrimental to the well-being, <sup>pro</sup>existence & progress of another person, organization

Remarks



or a country can be called as enemy.

The enemy can be everywhere, 'inter-state' or 'intra-state' as well as 'inter-personal' or 'intra-personal'.

Inter-state enemy constitutes the rivalry between & animosity between the two countries while intra-state enemy constitutes the internal security threats like Marxism, communalism, regionalism, organised crime, etc.

While on the other hand inter-personal enemy refers to a person who can harm me in one way or the other or

intra-personal enemy which refers to the enemy within like prejudices, bigotry, stereotypes, etc.

Let us now talk about the mistakes that our enemy might commit.

Remarks

The mistakes refer to the folly that our <sup>enemy</sup> might commit in the form of under-estimating us, creating a blunderous strategy or might take decisions ~~to~~ that'll result in the enemies implosion.

The strategy of not stopping our enemies is a time tested one and will result into minimum collateral damage not only to us but to our enemy as well. For instance, in an inter-state dispute, we can avoid going to war & save the precious lives of our soldiers by letting the enemy commit a mistake. Similarly in case of inter-state disputes we can use the mistakes committed by our enemy to our advantage by using the

Remarks

policy of 'divide-and-rule' to ensure that the enemy scuttles & we can ride our country of our internal security problems.

⇒ A Time-Tested Policy:

History has been replete with many an examples of wars being won by an army without going to the battlefield by just letting the enemy commit one mistake after the other & to add fuel to the fire if the need be.

Our freedom struggle is a classical example of letting the enemy bleed. Lokmanya Tilak, through his fiery articles in 'Kesari' rattled the British government which led to the British to implement Vernacular Press act and

Remarks

to Indulge in naked repression which hastened the fall of British empire

Gandhiji is considered as a master strategist. Through his weapons of Satyagraha & Ahimsa he put British into catch 22 "Damned if I do & Damned if I don't" kind of a situation which led the British to commit the mistake of arresting Gandhi & thus the <sup>surge</sup> increase in the people of Gandhiji & the fall of the British reg.

Can the strategy Backfire? :-

Gandhiji while fighting for India's cause against the British exhorted his followers to follow this simple mantra, "Hate the evil & not

Remarks

the evil does." This ~~was~~ advice from Gandhiji has a metaphysical implication. According to him by letting the enemy commit his mistake would lead to a ~~a~~ circumstance where the enemy might 'implode' & might cause destruction ~~to~~ <sup>not only</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>but</sup> itself and to us as well. By imploding, the country might turn berserk & unpredictable as compared to earlier & would make it tough for us to manage the situation. For instance, by letting Pakistan harbour mujahideens & terrorists to fight the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979 by the US led to the instability in Pakistan & Afghanistan. It were the same terrorists which who were harboured by the US who ~~to~~ perpetuated the terrorist act of 9/11.

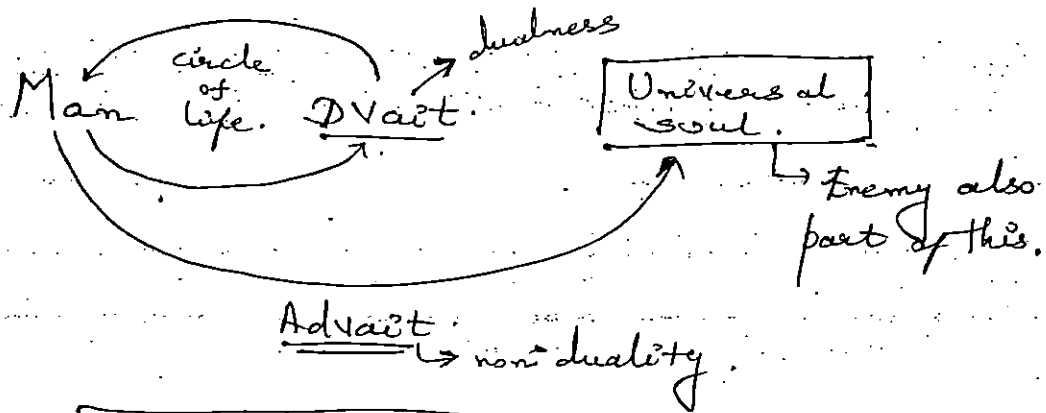
Remarks

⇒ Moral dilemma & backlash?

Taking into consideration the philosophical & the ethical foundation, letting our enemy commit a mistake even though we were aware of its negative repercussions might lead to the erosion & tainting of our character & moral values.

As per the theory of Advait & dvait, our enemy and ~~us~~ <sup>we</sup> have the same soul, we both are the part of the universal being/soul. It is our ignorance that makes us to differentiate between ~~I~~ & US. It is only by being one with the universal soul through 'Advait' that we can truly become ~~the~~ one with the humanity & escape the circle of life.

Remarks



BEING ONE WITH OUR ENEMY

Thus, ~~if~~ as the society as well as the world is reciprocal, what hits our enemy would come to trouble us eventually.

⇒ Relevance in Contemporary times:

In ~~the~~ today's world of 'Complex interdependence', we cannot let our ~~country~~ <sup>enemy</sup> to commit a mistake because 'what goes around comes around'.

After the globalization, the interdependence ~~has~~ between countries have increased to a substantial level. The economy, society,

Remarks

Cultures & polity of all ~~are~~ countries are inseparably intertwined. For instance, the Global Financial Crisis in 2008 which was initiated by the fall of Lehman Brothers started in the US but it had its negative repercussions in Europe ~~and~~ as well as every nook & corner of the world. The rise of ISIS in Syria & the failure of the world to ~~map~~ contain it in its infancy has resulted into it turning into a Frankenstein monster.

Today the global problems have become of such a magnitude that ~~one~~ no one country has the resources & the capacity to ~~can~~ tackle it. Climate change if not handled effectively can lead to the wiping out of almost every species on the earth.

Remarks



The world as a whole cannot allow a few countries to commit the mistake of releasing Green House gases, desertification, pollution, & destruction of the ecology to satisfy its own narrow material needs.

The COP21 that met in Paris in 2016 to tackle climate change is a glaring example about the fatal falsification of letting our enemy commit his mistakes. Countries like US & Russia as well as ~~India & Pakistan~~ who don't ~~look~~ at each other eye to eye come together on the global stage & arrived at a consensus.

Institutions like UN, World Bank, IMF & WTO are established so that mistake by one nation does not affect the well-being and

Remarks

The stability in another nation.

Thus, in today's globalized world not only only is our economy interlinked but even our Destinies are intertwined in a substantial way.

Our future is facing many troubles & it will only be through common efforts & commitments that we will be able to solve the problems plaguing our prosperity and welfare of all our existence. This feeling is well-ingrained in our theory of 'Vasudhaiv Kutumbakam'. To conclude, it ~~is~~ was Shankaracharya who in his theory of 'Tatvam Asi' projected that "Every soul in the Universe is the same. It is the ignorance of human conscience that we

Remarks

make enemies. And the pain of others should be over pain & trying to remove that pain should be over moral objective!!

x ————— x ————— x ————— x

# Good idea but overemphasis on examples and illustrations kills the scope of main idea.

# grasp & understanding is good.

# Maintain a balance between  
Main idea — explanation — illustrations

66

*Remarks*

*Remarks*

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*Remarks*

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*Remarks*

~~Conclusion:~~

~~→ climate change → common resp. → cannot  
allow one to commit mistake.~~

~~↓~~

~~our destinies intertwined.~~

Conclusion:

our destinies tied

↓

one universal soul

↓

Hegel Universal soul theory

↓

same god.

~~↳ Advait theory:~~

Shankaracharya → Tatva Axi

Every soul is the same.

We are ignorant so enemy.

If enemy gets hurt we also  
feel the pain.

Remarks

Sec b Never intercept enemy when he is making a mistake.

"Wars are ~~won~~ not on battlefield but in the minds of the enemy" - Sun Tzu, Art of War

→ Describe Sun Tzu & his tactics & then Machiavelli, or Kautilya.

→ Who is the enemy?

↳ What mistakes? → ~~can save lives.~~

↳ Why we should not stop?

enemy might implode (Pakistan)

→ should it always be the case?

↳ Gandhiji → hate the evil not the evil-doer

Philosophical angle

our character & moral might get tainted

If we don't stop → might affect us.

might be accused of sadistic behaviour

IR angle

Complex interdependency

one country fails other fail.

Even Mac. said that a good prince should not

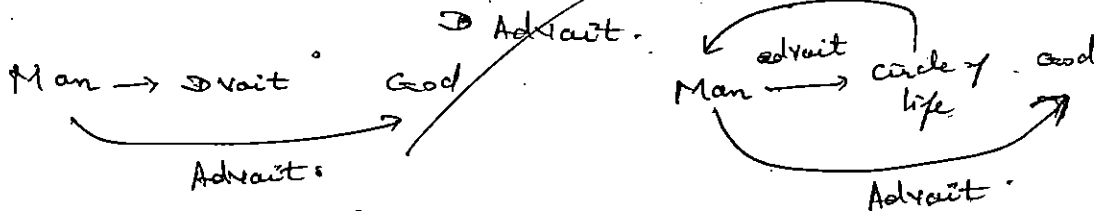
2008 GFC → Lehmann brothers.

dualism → Advait → Advait theory

Man → Advait → couple of God + Man → God

shankaracharya

Remarks



Experiences biggest teacher

Nehru, Tagore, with Dostoyevsky speech.

↳ we can appreciate better

↳ long suppressed <sup>social</sup> goal finds utterance.

We want undermine democracy.

S-T-S strategy

↳ S-V strategy.

↳ Constitution → Fun. Duties

↳ strive to be a

better person → moral

Character → not to forget the past.

Conclusion

Confucius theory,  
or  
Shakespeare.

love thy <sup>good life</sup> ~~days~~ light because they ~~are~~ <sup>will</sup> but fade white what'll remain of you <sup>In this world</sup> is the struggles you faced."

Remarks



Sec A) Health is not valued till sickness comes..

"All days are not same. Good days followed by bad & ... But it's the bad days that test our character & makes good days worth living"

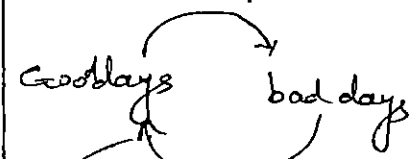
- Zeno, Avastha, Zarathustra.

Asoka eg:  
learning by experience  
Influence of teacher  
Is it always the case?  
If not why?  
Some cases they've understood the value by themselves.  
Scandinavian countries

Define Health → Happy days.  
→ Stability.

Sickness → Bad days.  
→ Instability.

Why we don't value? → repercussions.  
→ silver spoon.  
↳ no capacity to appreciate eg - of prince.



visious or virtuous cycle?

regains everything back.  
↳ now understands same for businessmen

→ ~~Get~~ → Impact of bad days in our life?  
character building, understanding subtleties of life,

Remarks