

GS SCORE

Roll No. _____

ESSAY MOCK TEST

Time Allowed: 3 hrs.

Max. Marks: 250

Instructions to Candidate

- Both sections are compulsory.
- Attempt one 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).

Name KIRAN. SHRUTHI DV

Mobile No. _____

Date 30/08/2017

Signature Kiranshruthi

1. Invigilator Signature _____

2. Invigilator Signature _____

Remarks

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SECTION - A

1. Fighting corruption is not just good governance but also self-defense and patriotism. ✓
2. Politics is the art of choosing between the disastrous and unpalatable.
3. People are sheep. TV is the shepherd.
4. Chanakya may have been from India, but it's Indians who never followed his advice

SECTION - B

1. Life teaches us many lessons, but the final lesson is, there is no final lesson.
2. A Nation can remain free, as long as it continues to be the home of brave.
3. Yesterday's score doesn't win you game today. ✓
4. The true mystery of the world is the visible, and not the invisible.

SECTION - A

FIGHTING CORRUPTION IS NOT JUST GOOD GOVERNANCE BUT ALSO SELF DEFENSE & PATRIOTISM.

Corruption is the abuse of the position, trust, influence placed in the person/individual for the gain of the few rather than the welfare of many. Corruption is a cancer affecting our society and it is necessary that it has to be fought to ensure the survival and growth of a functioning society.

For a governance to be effective and gainful to the people it serves, one of the essential conditions is that it remains corruption free. One of the measures of good governance is the corruption free status of the government. If a government is besieged by claims of corruption its after effects can be felt throughout the entire government machinery and to the society and the individual itself. The effects are not just monetary but also have more pervasive.

Remarks

A government which is corrupt has multiple effects on the society. Politically, the government cannot be counted upon to act in the best interests of the country, society and its citizenry. The activities of the government will always lead to suspicion and mistrust. The government and the people may eventually lead develop a communication gap and this rift may widen. This may lead to large scale protests against the government, if the government no longer seen as fulfilling the ideals and aspirations of the people.

This was seen in Tunisia, when the people revolted against the corrupt government and eventually led to the Jasmine Revolution and Arab Spring.

Economically, the government may put its private gains to its members above the welfare of the many. This leads to substandard infrastructure and poor services to the people. This will also lead to improper utilisation of the taxpayer's contribution. Other countries, investors may be reluctant to invest, hindering prosperity, economic growth.

Corruption through Crony Capitalism Corrodes Economic System

Remarks

corruption, growth of military power & every other sphere of life etc.

invest, partner with the country in its economic ventures. This leads to stagnation/decline of economic growth in the country. Even if the country has avenues of growth it cannot be explored to the maximum due to the prevailing circumstances. The corrupt regimes which once existed in Central America, had dismantled the economic structure of the countries which are still trying to ~~undo~~ rebuild themselves not to mention the havoc on the natural resources.

Corruption undermines the rule of law in a country. When the corrupt get away with their misdeeds and suffer little to no punishment for their actions it creates an unfavourable view of the legal system of the country. Some may go so far as to question the integrity of the judiciary. Also add enough points on corruption and its impact on security.

Corruption undermines the rights - political, human, social of the individuals in a society. In the eyes of the world, corruption erodes the soft power of the country. For a country seeking to play an active role on the global stage it is necessary that it provides good governance to the people. Loyalty of defence forces, their preparedness is impacted by corruption. Defeat of Plassey was because of corruption.

Remarks

Plassey was because of corruption

"As is the king, so are the people".

If the leadership provided by the government and our leaders are corrupt, if the people see that corruption is not something wrong but as a everyday occurrence, the people start developing a tolerance to it. They may be encouraged by the economic gains to indulge in corruption themselves. If corruption becomes all pervasive in a society, it leads to destruction of the society.

A corrupt society encourages people who are most likely to provide more economic gains rather than the person suited for a role. This leads to undermining of the principle of merit. The person may decide that his talents are better appreciated elsewhere and migrates out of the country leading to brain drain.

Corruption also wrecks havoc on the environment, and on the ideals of the equity, justice, gender equality etc. Hence it is necessary to fightback against corruption.

Remarks

Nice
Analysis
and
Connect

Countries which are ranked as corruption free on indices such as Transparency International's Corruption Index such as Denmark, Norway, etc. allows us a glimpse of what a corruption free society entails. All these countries exhibit high levels of growth, rule of law, society which actively participates in governance and high standard of living with social security. These are the standards that any society aspires for.

Hence not just for good governance but also to ensure that the society does not disintegrate it is necessary to fight against corruption. Fighting against corruption is also a form of self-defense. When corruption becomes all pervasive the individual is tempted to be corrupt if it means not getting caught. As the philosophers say, man does want to commit wrongs, if it means not getting caught, it is the fear of punishment and retribution that makes him stick to the right path.

Remarks

When this fear is removed, then man becomes selfish putting his needs above others. Gradually this percolates to other areas of social life and he may disregard public virtue for private gain. He no longer feels allegiance to anyone but himself. His needs become paramount. From a society which looks forward to the collective well being of all its members it deteriorates to a collection of individuals each looking for the private gain of themselves.

This in the long run undermines the very unity of the country and the foundations of the country. The individual no longer feels that he is a part of the cohesive society and feels no attachment to the country or his countrymen. His private gains economic or otherwise become paramount. This leads to the dent in the patriotic feeling in the country. This may lead the country to becoming a failed state with no cohesive policy.

However, as the saying goes "It is the darkest before dawn", there comes a point in which everyone, individuals, society realises that it

Remarks

needs to fightback against the evils pervading the society. They do so not just against the evil of corruption to get good governance but also for the self defense of the society and because they are true patriots.

This can be seen in the Arab Spring, which toppled ineffective and repressive dictatorships in the Middle East for better governance and services and rights. In India, the fight against corruption got an impetus with the India against corruption movement of Anna Hazare. This movement focused the attention of the country on the corruption which was pervasive in the country and the need for effective checks against them. This has led to the review and enactment of legislations which help the common man in fighting against corruption. The legislations such as Lokayukta & Lokpal, The Right to information act, the Whistleblowers Protection Act all point to the fact, that both the government and the society are aware to the perils of the corruption and are taking steps to

Remarks

counter them. This can be seen in our slow but steady rise in the corruption free rankings, with a much more alert and active society and proactive government we are better equipped to combat corruption.

It is not enough to fight corruption from the top down, it is important to fight corruption from the bottom up also. It is necessary to ensure that the future citizens of the country the children, grow up in a corruption free environment. They must be taught the ideals of being honest and truthful at an early age. These ideals should be reinforced by his immediate surroundings (ie) his family, teachers and society. When the children see the benefits of being brought up in a corruption free environment and how the guilty are not rewarded but punished, they will have the added incentive of being ~~top~~ outstanding citizens. They believe that being a functional adult and citizen counts towards the society and they

Remarks

enrich the society. Thus the fightback against corruption is not just to ensure good governance it is also self defence and to ensure that the future of the country is safe and secure and bright.

This fightback ensures that the country does not become regressive and divided, but it becomes progressive and united. Thus to ensure the future of the country it is ~~ness~~ and good standard of living for all its citizens it is necessary to ~~and~~ fightback against corruption.

A corruption free ~~society~~ society ensures that it is as a the principle of equity, looks out for ^{Format} all its members, sets the society on the path for ^{and} sustainable development and gives the country the ^{Content of} moral and political strength necessary to emerge. ^{Conclusion} as a power on the world stage. Hence if we as ^{is good} ~~an individual~~ a society ~~are to~~, a nation, as individual, as a society, as a nation are to succeed and shine then a corruption free society is ~~very~~ ^{very} necessary.

64

125

Remarks

You have attempted this essay in an appreciable manner. You understood the topic well and represented your thoughts in an structured and objective manner.

Take the write up to higher level by

→ Adding 'force' to Communication by PUNCH LINES

→ Adding 'feel' by Choosing appropriate words & idioms / Style.

→ By writing quotes & references suitably.

Remarks

SECTION - B

YESTERDAY'S SCORE DOESN'T WIN YOU GAME TODAY

If it is a well known wisdom that resting on past laurels alone does not get you anywhere. If a person/country wants to continually improve and sustain themselves in today's world it is essential that they do not rest on the laurels of their past.

Everyone is entitled to pride in their past accomplishments. They give confidence to the person and serves as a boost to their next venture. However, if a person relies too much on their previous accomplishments and not move forward they stagnate and eventually they become degenerate.

This is true not just for the person, but also for the country and society as a whole. A country which has accomplished much, cannot

good grasp of the understanding of the core.

Theme

Remarks

hope to sustain its position if it does not constantly improve itself. This can be seen clearly in the history of our glorious country. India was ^{one of} the cradles of ancient civilisations. Our archaeological excavations are testament to our progress in city planning, (e) Harappa. We in science, metallurgy etc. Not just in the architectural field but also in the fields of the science we made huge strides. When the rest of the world, believed that earth is the centre of the universe, we found out it is actually heliocentric. We were far ahead of the rest in modern medicine.

Not just in the science, we had republics & democracy in the Saka republics & Kudavolai system. However, in the middle ages slowly but surely we closed off from the rest of the world. We became more rigid and less open to change. While resting on our laurels we did not improve them by much allowing the rest of the world to catch up to us and outstrip us. We became prone to decadence and superstition. We became convinced that we were a backward society. Though this was reinforced.

Remarks

by the colonial rule of the British, it was also a part of our own aversion to change.

While past laurels got us to this position, it was also the same pride that got us out of there. While rediscovering our past, we realized that we were not as backward as we thought ourselves to be. There can be improvement we realized. Therefore resting on the past accomplishments we took efforts to move forward by becoming more open and working as a society to move forward.

This is true of almost all societies, be it Europe during the Dark Ages or Africa or South America when we let the past overwhelm us and occupy our present we do not move forward. We become open to criticism and failure. Once we decide to improve and move forward based upon the ideals of the future we are able to replicate the success everyday.

~~This~~ Thus past laurels can be a double edged sword. It can be either used to move forward

Remarks -

or it can be used to stagnate in a given position

This does not apply only to our past successes ~~at~~ also equally applies to our shortcomings and defeats. If we do not succeed ~~at something~~ on the first try, it cannot be used as an excuse to not try the activity again. One bad experience should not colour the entire outlook of a person.

Victimhood cannot be used as an excuse to ~~let~~ wallow in our misery. For eg example. the existence of country like Israel gives us hope that the bad experiences of the past ~~can be overcome~~. Founded as a homeland for ~~the Jews~~ after the persecution during the World War, it was a country whose collective conscience was ~~reeling from~~ loss and suffering yet it gathered itself ~~and is~~ one of the most inhospitable terrain it has managed not only to survive but to thrive and grow as a country.

This idea of laurels and defeats not only applies to a country but also to an individual. Today's world thrives on the principle of competition

Remarks

"Adapt or perish" is the byword these days. The person if he does not adapt but still tries to replicate his old success over and over again without reinventing himself perishes in the face of competition.

Not resting on our laurels but moving forward is the principle of INNOVATION. If "Don't fix what is ^{not} broken" may be cautionary but it cannot be a long term pathway for success. Without finding new ways to streamline or refine our existing processes we wouldn't have achieved so much in few years.

It is innovation which led to the industrial revolution from steam to electricity to information technology and the digital age. If man is satisfied with his prior accomplishments and intends to base his life upon what he has already accomplished it leads to stagnation and loss of innovation in the society. Eventually it leads to degeneration and the breakdown of the society.

History has valuable lessons for us and we shouldn't ignore it.

But yes we need to make

Swag, it doesn't become the determining factor in our decisions, & remain merely a tool.

Remarks

Hence the individual, society and the nation while taking pride in their accomplishments, but which they richly deserve, must also work towards ~~improving~~ sustaining their accomplishments.

This not only increases the pride of the individual and that of the society but it also increases the ~~the world~~ standing of the country in the eyes of others. A country which is seen as constantly improving, innovating and succeeding, attracts the attention of others. The best flock to them, be it in terms of economic investments, talent or expertise. They want to learn from them and work with them. This is one of the prime reasons why the best talent from across the world are attracted to the countries of the West. Here not only are the countries trying to improve constantly but also provide countless opportunities for the resourceful to succeed.

And this attitude of constant improvement percolates down to the people and they too look forward in contributing to the different ways in which

Remarks

good
Analysis
and
connected
with
the
core
theme

they can improve the society & country. Other countries of the world have also recognized this and are constantly trying to reinvent themselves so as to attract the best talent and expertise.

Nowhere is this principle better illustrated than in the competitive world of sports. If a team/ player does not constantly try to improve themselves, strengthen their ~~strengths~~ ^{strengths} & strong points, work on their weaknesses and constantly ~~improve~~ improve their strategies they are sure to fail. Hence

Hence as an individual, society, nation while taking the well deserved pride of who we are and where we come from and what we have achieved so far; we should not allow ourselves to become content with what we have achieved so far. We should be constantly seeking ways to improve ourselves. At the same time we should not be constrained by setbacks and

Nice example

Such example provide objection to your arguments

Remarks

adverse outcomes. we should try to learn from the setbacks. ~~see the~~ and adapt. In this world, which operates on the principle of the survival of the fittest it is necessary to ~~can not~~ dwell on the accomplishments of the past, but to use those ¹ accomplishments as a stepping stone to something better.

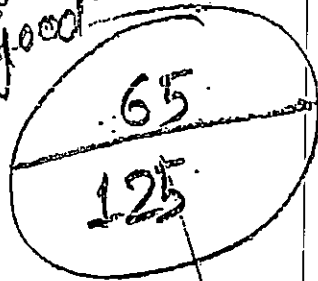
As William Wordsworth mentions in his poem "the glory in the flower" it does not do well to dwell in the glory of the past. It is necessary to move forward while keeping in mind our past glory. Otherwise we would be defunct and ~~and~~ forgotten in the world of today. If we are to assert ourselves and take our rightful place in the world of today it is necessary to ~~we~~ keeping moving progressively.

~~with~~ Thus while yesterday's laurels and score does give you a standing, if it is not augmented by constant work, improvement

Remarks

and innovation, it would definitely not win you today's game.

V. Good



Your overall performance is Very good in this essay. You understood the topic & provided good content with good objectivity.

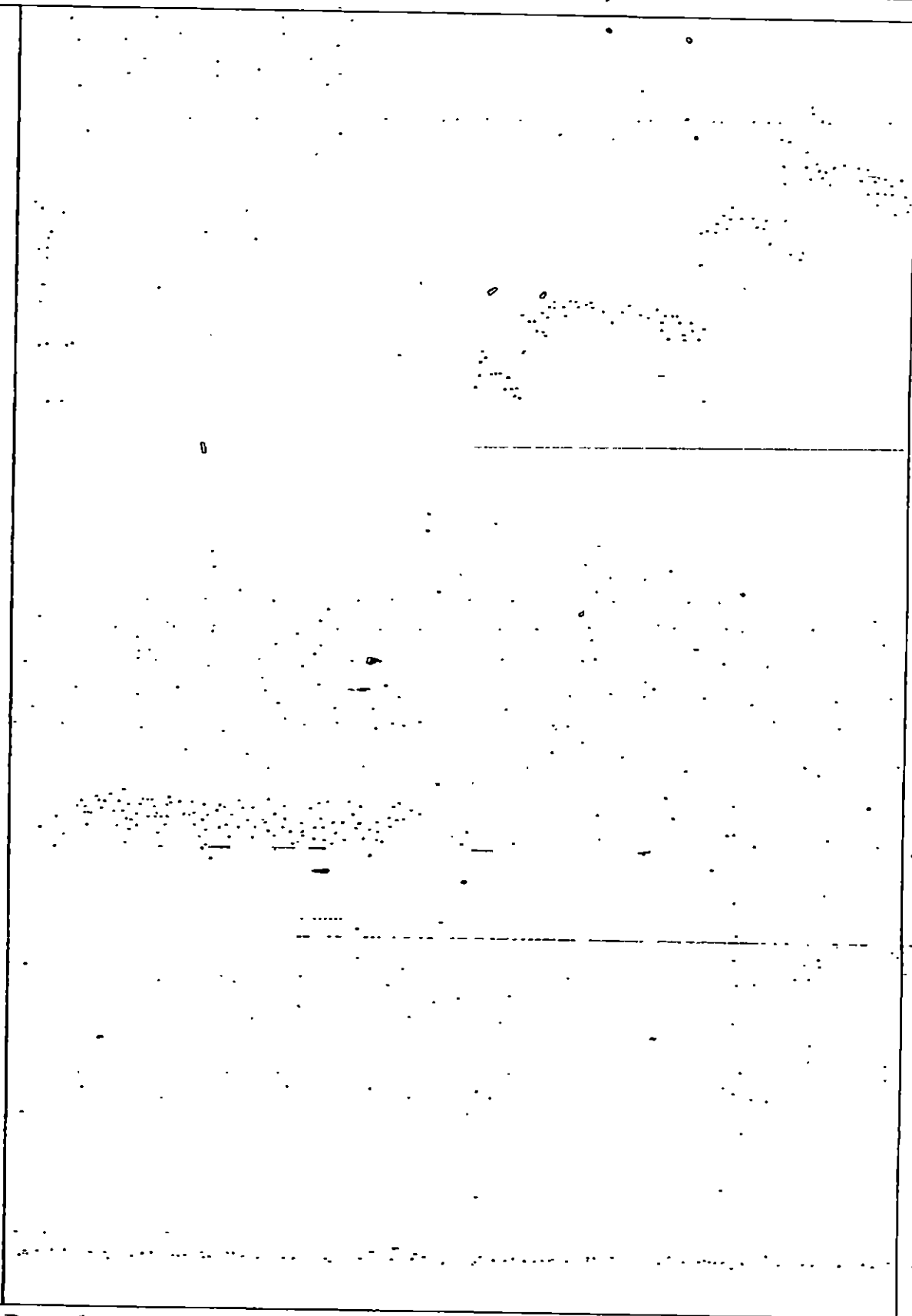
You have provided comprehensive issues & challenges.

• Good writing skill

• Use underlining to enhance visual appeal of your essay.

Remarks

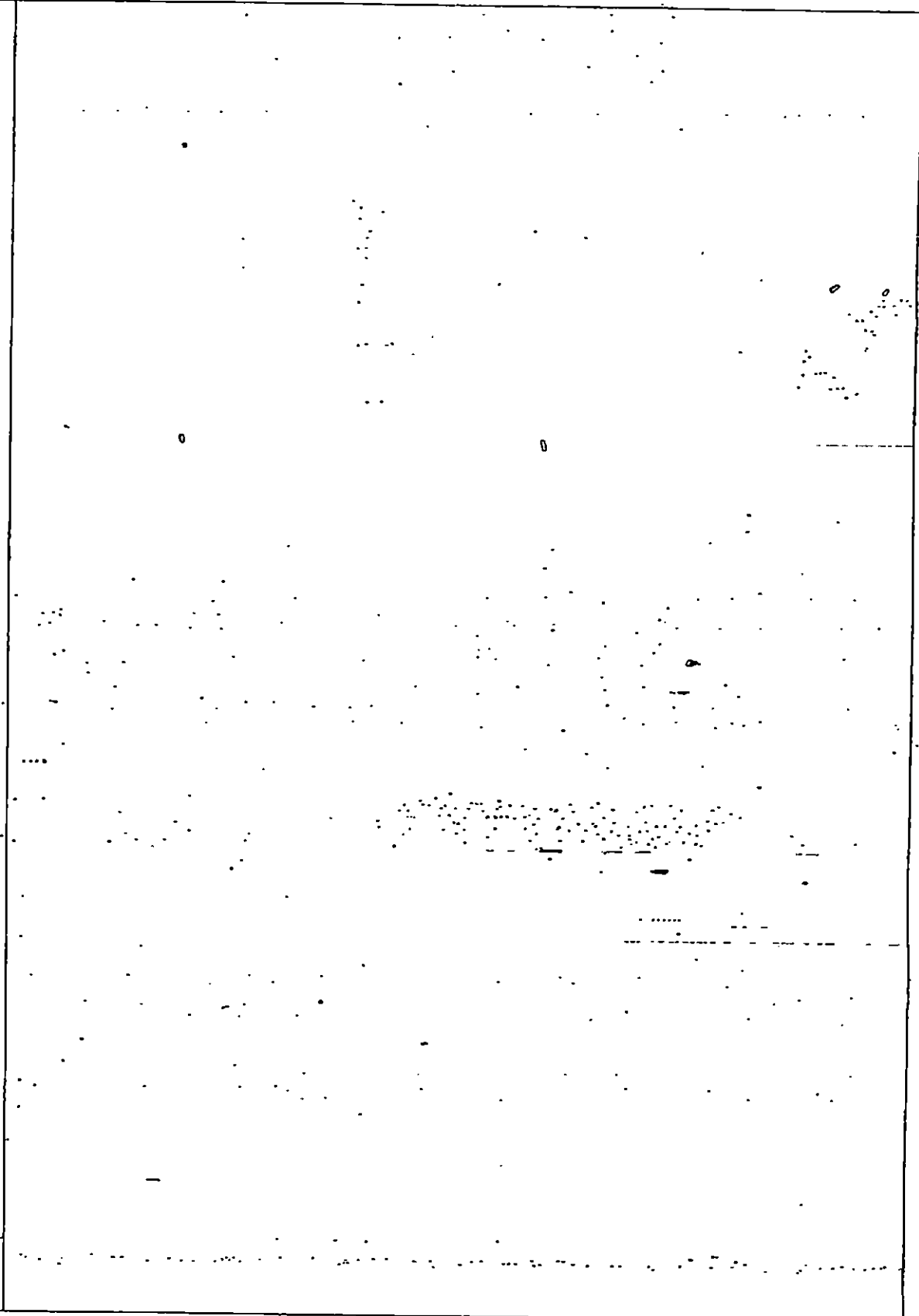
GS SCORE



Remarks

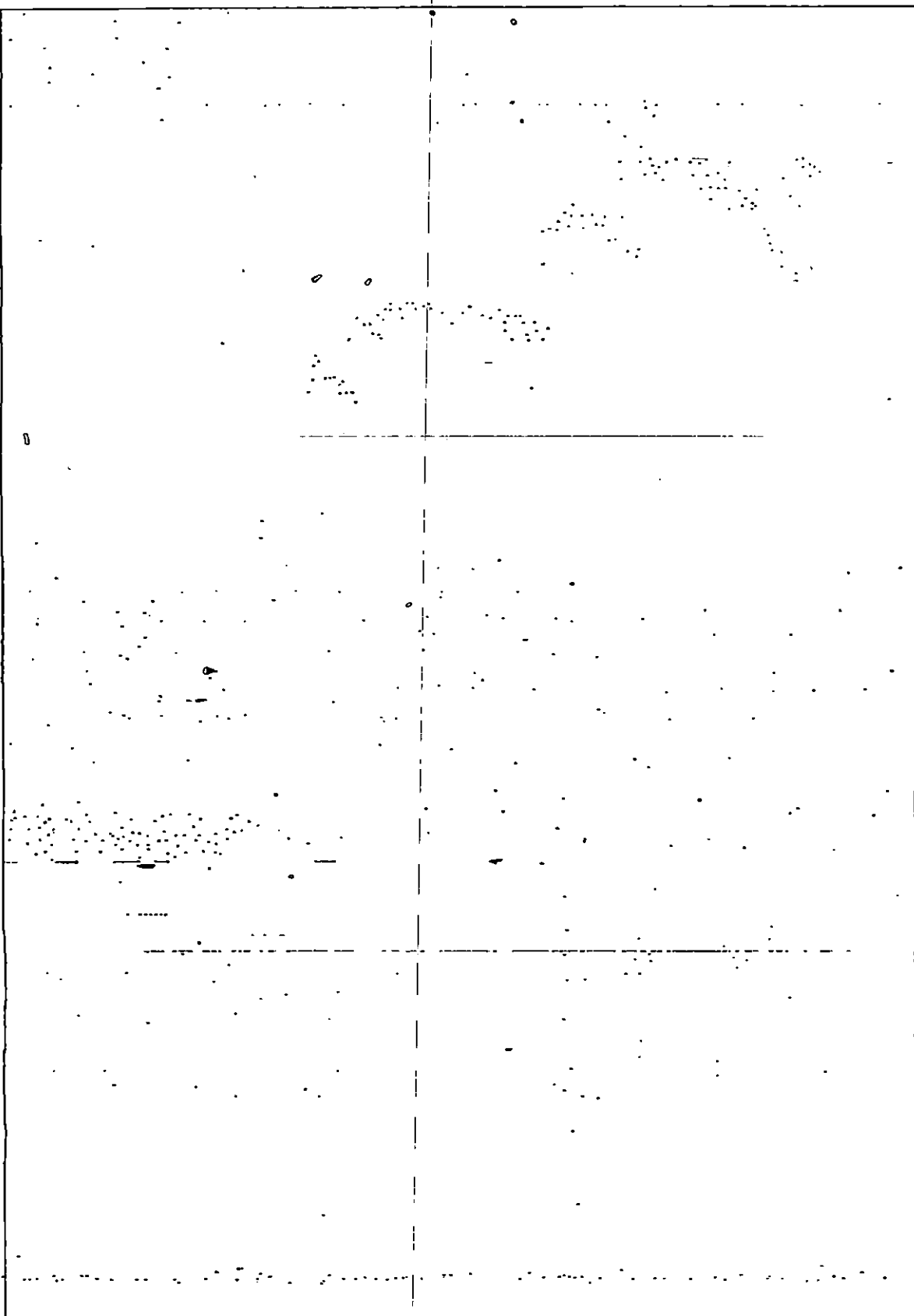
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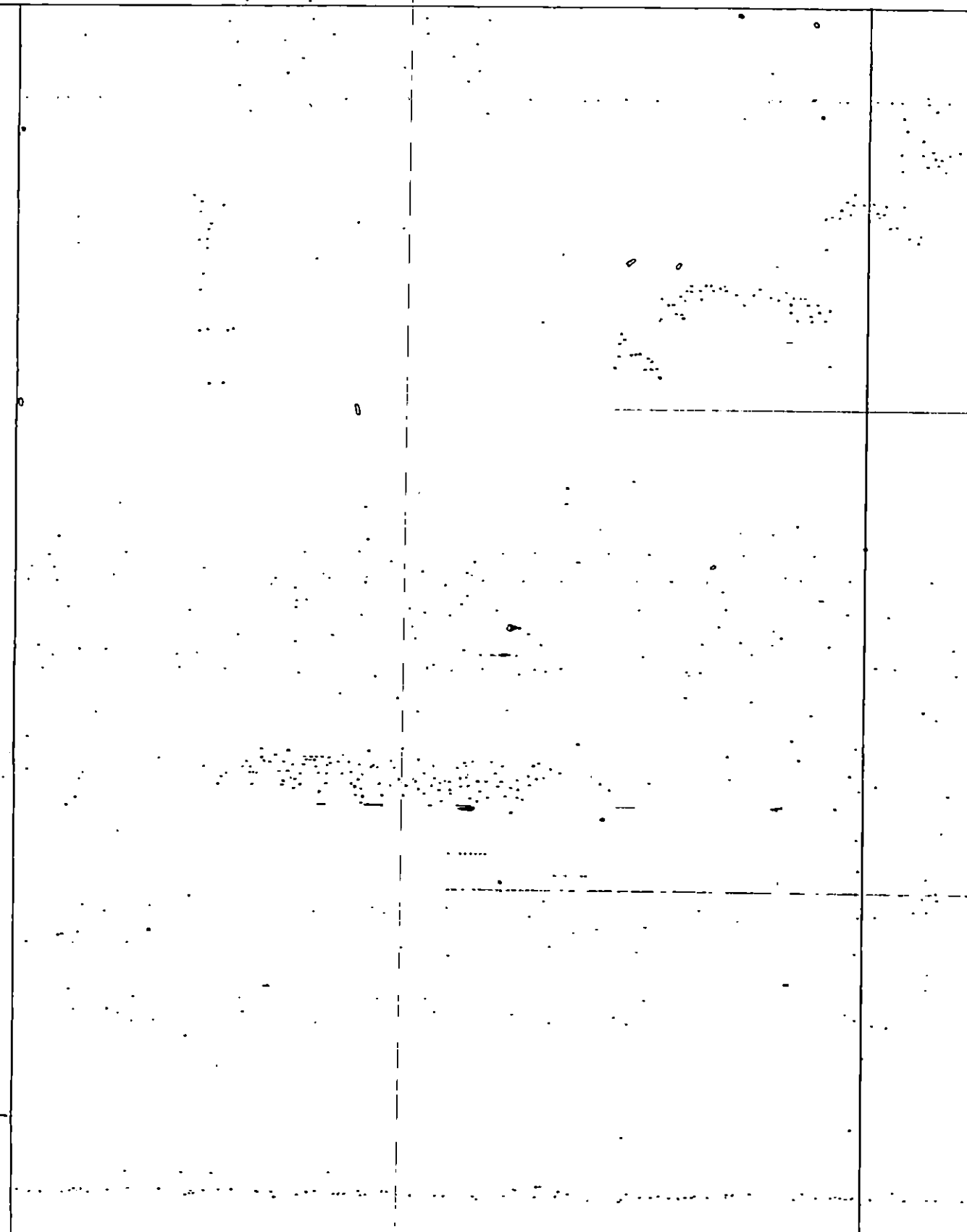
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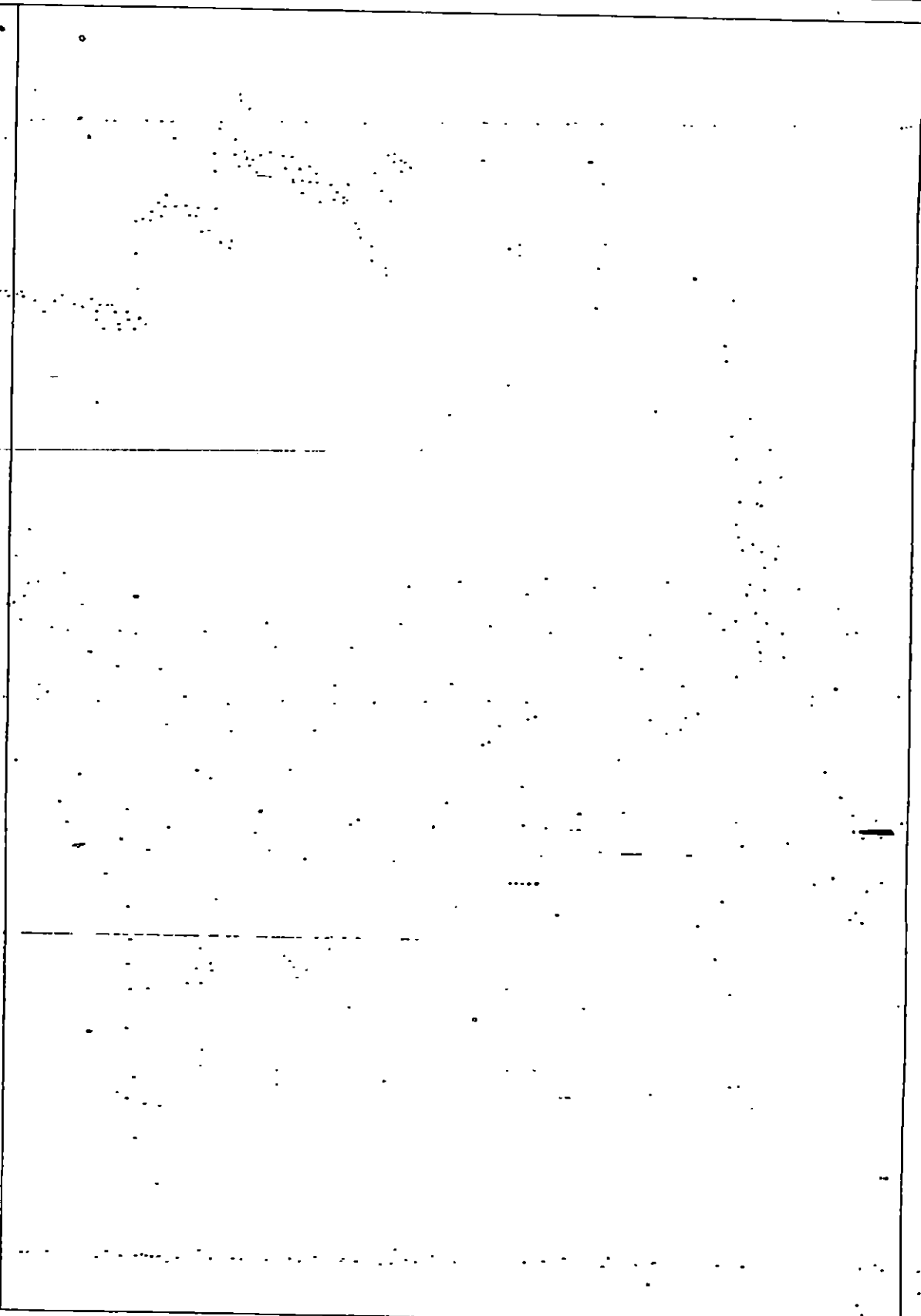
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Remarks

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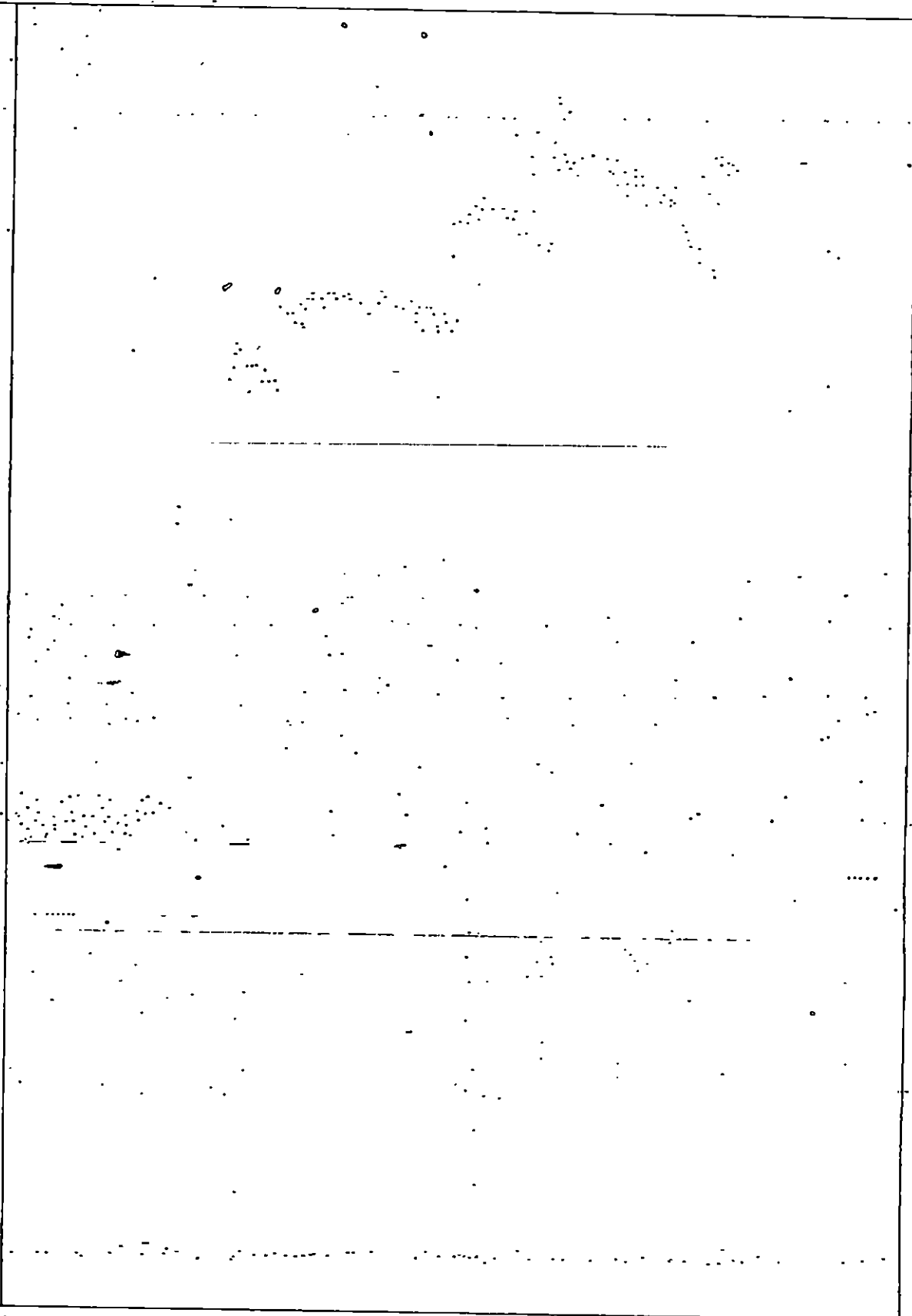
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Remarks

GS SCORE



Remarks

GS SCORE

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Remarks

Yesterday's score doesn't win you today's game.

- Don't rest on past laurels alone
- No need to focus on the present to sustain the success of the past
- Future looks bleak and others are sure to overtake us if we don't do so.

Country:

- once proud country Democracy Saka republic
- India - ancient culture, home of the sciences, early scientific achievements etc.

Buddhism - equality

Hinduism - Yagna etc

Medieval: Lost its way, while looking towards the past lost sight of the future enabled it to believe that Br. are superior towards us

Rediscovery of our past gave us confidence

→ Europe: Dark Ages - Renaissance - current depth

→ change is constant in the society. Adapt or perish mentality

INDIVIDUAL: Adaptability, constant striving to improve yourself. → else stagnation

→ Pride in your accomplishments are welcome
it helps you to get a foothold in the society
but to keep you at the top it takes a lot more

Remarks

→ "glory in the flower" - William Wordsworth

Structure of Essay :

Intro :

- Corruption - what is it?
- o - How it undermines the country?
- Public figure
- How it undermines the society? & the individual?

→ Why should Corruption be fought?

- (1) Pol
- (2) Eco
- (3) Social
- (4) Individual

→ Why corruption - self defense & patriotism

Corruption is the abuse of position, trust, influence placed in the person / institution for the gain of the few rather than the welfare of the many.

Remarks

(1) Fighting corruption is not good governance, but also self-defense & patriotism.

What is corruption?

How corruption becomes inimical to the society.

Corruption at all levels of governance.

Macro-levels:

Ill effects of corruption; loss to the exchequer

Social destruction

politics - undermines democracy & rule of law

economics

erosion of soft power

less faith in system of merit → brain drain

eg. of corruption free: Scandinavia, Nordic countries

corrupt: Somalia, Sudan, Zimbabwe, Kenya, RSA

"As is the king, so are the subjects"

-lack of role models → Corruption becomes the norm he is not

"Corruption is all pervasive"

"Man is free to do as he likes as long as caught"

Self-defense: How corrupt

corruption: erodes the foundation of the country

eg. Greece; ^{Europe} ~~Greece~~

Fightback: India Against Corruption, Tunisia - Jasmine
Rein

Micro-level

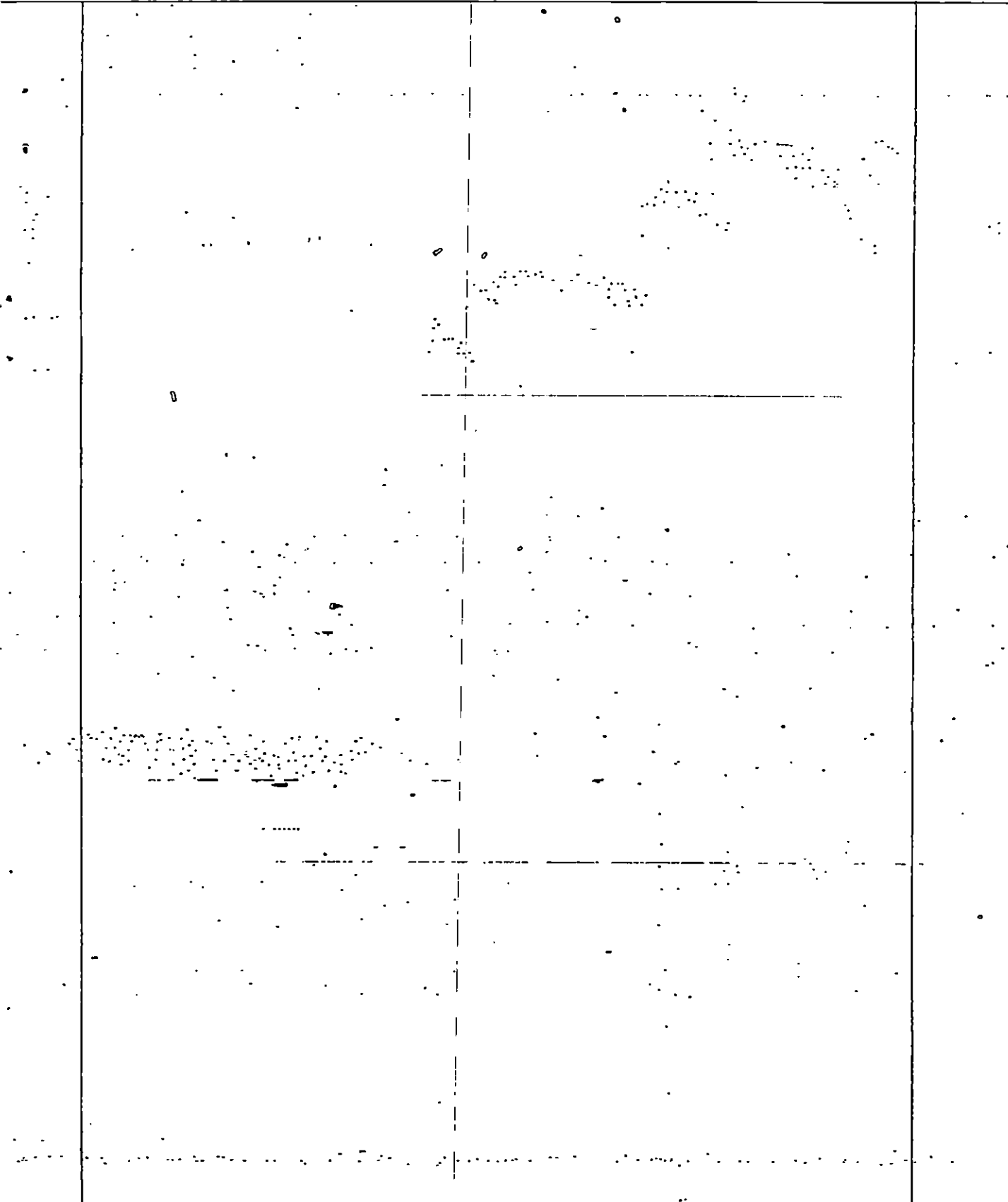
Corruption & the human

→ Becomes selfish

→ Puts himself above the other

→ Ideals are lost

GS SCORE



- *Remarks*

GS SCORE

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Remarks

