

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.

Remarks

(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 SOURYA ANAND

Mobile No. [REDACTED]

Date 31/8/17

Signature Sourya Anand

1. Invigilator Signature [Signature]

2. Invigilator Signature [Signature]

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 its 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

"People are sheep. TV is the shepherd"

The term 'herd mentality' is often used to describe a pliant, easily influenced group of individuals who prefer to not act contrary to the group's behaviour. They are being compared to a herd of sheep; with no individual characteristic, but one common group behaviour of following the shepherd.

The Television represents one such shepherd that has successfully learnt to control its audience. The audience lacks original thought and critical thinking capacity. It unquestioningly believes what it is shown. People adopt the way of life that is shown on the TV and soon it becomes a mass culture that no one is willing to alter.

The colour television first came to India during the 1984 Asian Games. By the mid 90s, they found their

Remarks

way to many urban homes and today have a universal presence throughout the country. What makes the TV more influential than other forms of mass media can be explained through this quote of Greta Garbo 'When the eyes go, the mind goes.' There individual representation has a greater impact than print. This is also the reason why motion pictures in India are pre censored while books are not. Moreover, in a country that still has a large illiterate population, the TV has a universal reach. People watch TV in the privacy of their homes and are thus more connected to it than ever movies.

In this essay, we shall examine how TV influences people in various ways. We shall also analyse the underlying issues that give rise to this scenario both on the demand and supply side. Thereafter, we will see if and how it is possible to find solutions to this situation.

The same thing can be said without I or we

i.e. in Impersonal Way

Remarks

In the world of 24x7 news cycle, perhaps the most important and influential factor is the quality of news. The content of the news is significantly skewed away from problems of health and education, issues of marginalised sections and towards sensationalised political news. This impacts the ability of the people to question the government on aspects that really affect their lives. The way TV society it shapes the national discourse is visible from the greater coverage to Number floods in comparison to Bihar or Assam floods, or opinion leaders' statements of powerful individuals instead of the underlying issue.

Media plays a very important role in this.

A new factor that has emerged for news channels is the lack of distinction between news and views i.e. representing opinions as facts which many unquestioning individuals take at face value. Similarly the era of post-truth and alternate facts further complicates the reality behind news and the audience is left to decipher the truth themselves.

Remarks

In the case of entertainment channels, there is monopoly of regressive content that objectifies women, perpetuates misogyny, glamorizes health hazards like drinking and smoking, etc. Such content is widely viewed in the form of TV shows, movies, music shows, etc. In the name of depicting the reality of society, it ends up shaping the reality instead.

For example, the culture of stalking women in the hope of courting them, has its origins in movies. A judge in Australia recently acquitted an ^{Indian} man accused of stalking when the defense argued that it was under the influence of media. TV therefore dictates the fashion trends, the language, practices etc of a large section of society that has little contact with the ^{poor or urban} world.

A recent trend that has been seen is the influence of sports commercialized through the advert of events like the IPL, and other sporting events in wrestling, badminton, etc. The stakes of this industry have gone high.

Nice
connect
with
the
topic

Remarks

There is a huge role of advertising revenue, sponsors, etc in shaping the sports events which become bigger than the game. People are forced to believe the reality of scripted events that are no different from reality TV shows.

Misleading

advertisements

The TV has even greater influence and misleading on young minds. TV shows for children are rare and are unable to cater to their demands. However, children are rarely supervised under parenting or parental control and are drawn to content not meant for their ages. It also impacts their education and health.

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Even the spiritual sphere of religion is not left untouched and has become commercialised. Sermons by supposed Godmen on TV are often followed by a large audience uncritically of fraud.

Remarks

There are structural issues behind this trend. The funding of the TV channels, especially news and religious channels is by large corporations with cross media ownership and lack of transparency. There is also a role of political funding and affiliations of shows through shell companies giving preference to particular ideologies. As a whole, there is a complete lack of accountability and accuracy of TV channels regarding the regulatory bodies by their content. The Broadcasters Association lacks sufficient power to impose penalties. At the same time, too much government regulation is seen as antithetical to freedom of speech and expression. e.g. NOTV case.

On the demand side, we need to include the role of expansion of market of TV to villages in all corners of India. Therefor, the content that is appreciated and brings revenue is different from the urban elite. Moreover, people use TV to unwind, relax and entertain themselves and therefore demand content that helps them relax. TV shows driven by

Remarks

TRPs and rankings try to cater to this demand.

Hence, TV is not a complete or objective way street and people do exercise media control over the content they should not receive. But overall, the situation is skewed towards the content creators. In order to democratise the scene, there is a need for effective grievance redressal mechanism, where people can point out their problems and they are handled by an independent regulator in a transparent manner. Similar mechanism should be there for fact-checking along with provisions. It should also educate people where if it is needed for penalty.

However, the underlying idea should remain that sunlight is the best disinfectant. Self-regulation should be encouraged and it should be the responsibility of all stakeholders to produce good content.

If there is a requirement to step in, the government should do so in a limited manner. For example, a TV serial recently was accused of degrading children and a petition was signed by citizens after which the TCB ministry ordered a time slot change. Eventually, the show was taken off air.

Entertainment provided by media should be in line of the

Remarks

Social & Cultural heritage of the Country

Nevertheless, TV should not be seen as an evil machine, influencing people only. It is a part of technological revolution and globalisation that should also not make everything in media as true. They should do enquiry from other sources. If the media highlights the right issues, the 'idiot box' can also be educational, progressive and a game changer in social reform. However, people need to be vigilant, participative and critical in their approach to not end up as sheep once again.

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125

* You have good potential & knowledge to write good essay. Just try to cover more dimensions and represent your thoughts in an organized manner.

Remarks

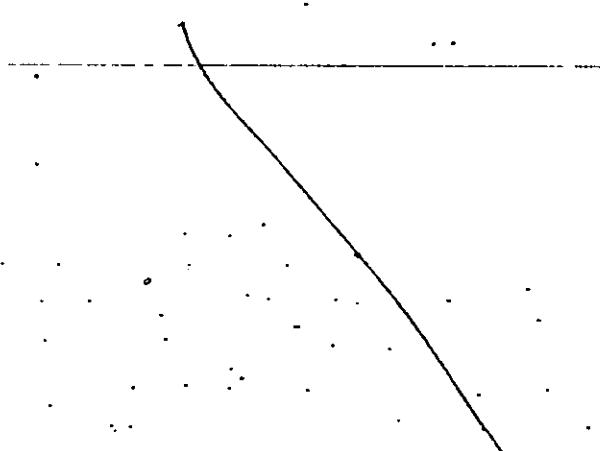
- Language is simple, lucid, easy to understand.

GS SCORE

Remarks

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GIS SCORE

Remarks

SECTION-B

2. A Nation Can Remain Free As Long As it Remains The Home of The Brave

'Long years ago, we made a trust with destiny, and now the time has come to redeem our pledge. Not wholly or in full measure but substantially. A moment comes which comes but rarely to the new and when the soul of the nation, long suppressed finds utterance.'

Former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's historic speech signifies the importance of freedom. He defines freedom as the utterance of India's soul after years of suppression. At the same time, he emphasizes the responsibility of the leaders to utilize the freedom. Hence freedom was not just a right, but a responsibility that fell on the shoulders of the brave. And freedom should not be taken as a gift, but a victory hard fought that needs to be maintained.

quotes
should be
brief
and
Should
be
used for
inference
only

Remarks -

Freedom should not be seen totally solely in its political aspect of liberation from colonial rule. Even before independence, leaders like Ambedkar said that political freedom without social and economic freedom was a contradiction. Gandhi described Slavery as the wiping of tear from each eye. In today's world, it is said that women are still not free as they are held back by the chains of patriarchy.

Neither should we restrict the movement to their physical acts. Mahatma Gandhi exemplified breaking every time out of his counted arrest during his non-violent movements. Sophie Scholl, a German student during World War II became an icon of bravery when she distributed anti-Nazi propaganda at the height of Hitler's power and was able to influence many fellow Germans.

It is true without doubt that no nation can attain freedom without men and women. Bengal was lost

Remarks

to the British during the Battle of Plessey when some men showed great and cowardice and joined hands with the enemy. A few years later, Americans citizens had won against the same British when they bravely violated the government's authority in an event which came to be known as Boston Tea Party.

Good Example

Such examples provide objectivity for your essay.

However, it is even more interesting to analyse how bravery is essential to maintain and expand freedom. America gained political independence in the American War of Independence yet millions of black men and women, female citizens and proprietors. white men still did not have the right to vote. The leadership of brave men like Martin Luther King Jr. or the bravery of Bravery in the feminist movement was essential to end slavery and universal adult franchise.

Explain what is

How

bravery can

In India the importance of the freedom attained was almost forgotten. after a couple of decades. It was the era of emergency that reminded people of their rights. Thousands of brave men and women

help in

ensuring

that

freedom

is protected

were sent to jail, majority of them students who protested against the unjust suspension of rights and ~~but~~ re-established the significance of freedom in people's lives.

In Hence the quality of government and the rights they restore depends on the character of a nation's people. As long as there are men and women who are strong and brave, they can stand up to all unjust practices. However, when a population becomes meek, subservient and greedy it can lead to dangerous consequences for the nation. The best example is Germany, Spain, Italy where the rise of fascism was linked to the decline of righteous behaviour in people who were easily swayed by rhetoric.

A similar situation is visible today in many parts of the western world including ^(UN) UK and US where people have kept their self-interest as superior and politicians have exploited the fears of people, their inherent xenophobic, etc with unintended consequences to the nation and the world as a whole.

Remarks

The significance of brave thought and action should therefore be instilled in children from a young age. They should be taught how to take chances, how to question established orders and how to follow their conscience. They should be given the right role models in all fields, as brave action transcends boundaries of discipline.

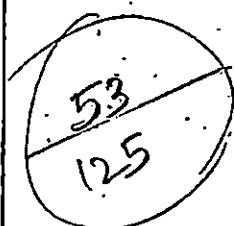
At the same time, it is essential that bravery be protected and rewarded not taken to task. Edward Snowden's actions resulted into the uncovering of several truths regarding the privacy and freedom of people yet the US government is trying to prosecute him. In India, the Whistleblower Bill is not yet passed and men trying to expose corrupt practices are undermined by the system.

Moreover, the idea of freedom should be contextualised and expanded by institutional practices. The SC judgment is fundamental right to privacy is landmark in this context as it provides people with a right they did not know they

Remarks

possess. Similarly, the decision of the Supreme Court to allow PILs provided freedom to millions of Indians in India's jails who lacked access to judicial system.

Bankim Chandra Chatterjee, the prophet of Indian Nationalism, explained freedom as a desire in each one of us. An SIA of India's Constitution declares as a fundamental duty of every citizen to abide by the ideals of the Constitution that inspired the path to freedom. Hence it is a fundamental duty and responsibility of each citizen, as Pandit Nehru so elegantly explained, to follow those noble ideals and maintain our freedom. The path may be full of obstacles, but none that a brave heart can not conquer.



You have represented 'limited' dimension of this essay.

You could have explained in detail, what is freedom and what

are the threats to freedom.

→ Such as Individual weakness amplified by Political, Social and economic weakness

Remarks

GS SCORE**Remarks**

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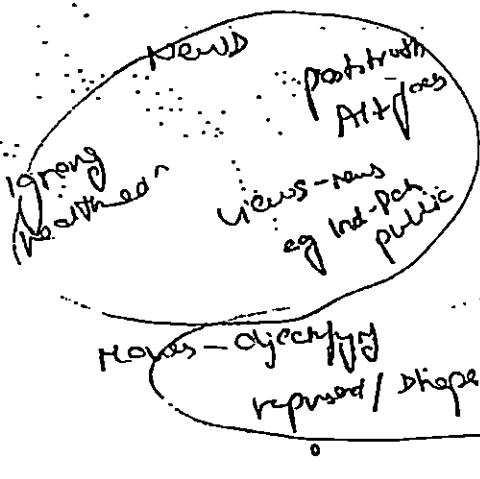
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GS SCORE**Remarks**

People are sheep TV is the shepherd

Fiction - News, etc.
Regiment



sports

Ad's IPL
Creates
Pepsi, etc.

Music
Morality

Children
Shows

Religion

Commercial
Gaming

Intendat

Issues
Supply

- media ownership - corporates
Politics foray - ideology
local objective standards
Local occ

What eyes garnish
Gaze eyes
media imp

Demand → TV program, content of news

Number, TPF

... below below, after it
... goes to India → US
... goes to India → US
... what many unmet

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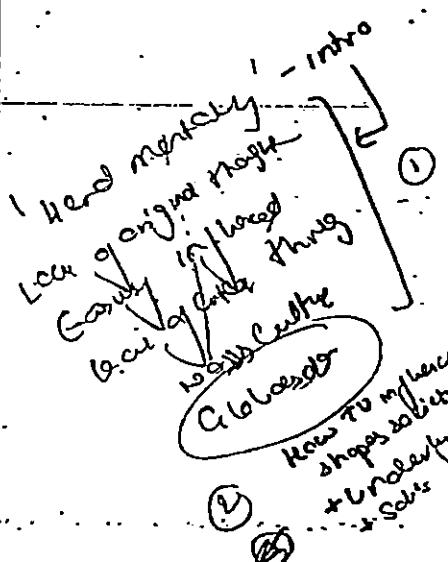
Concr'

Intro'

TV more
imp other other
forms of media

on Film certification

concr → 2012 rule
TV → media highlights,
etc for children



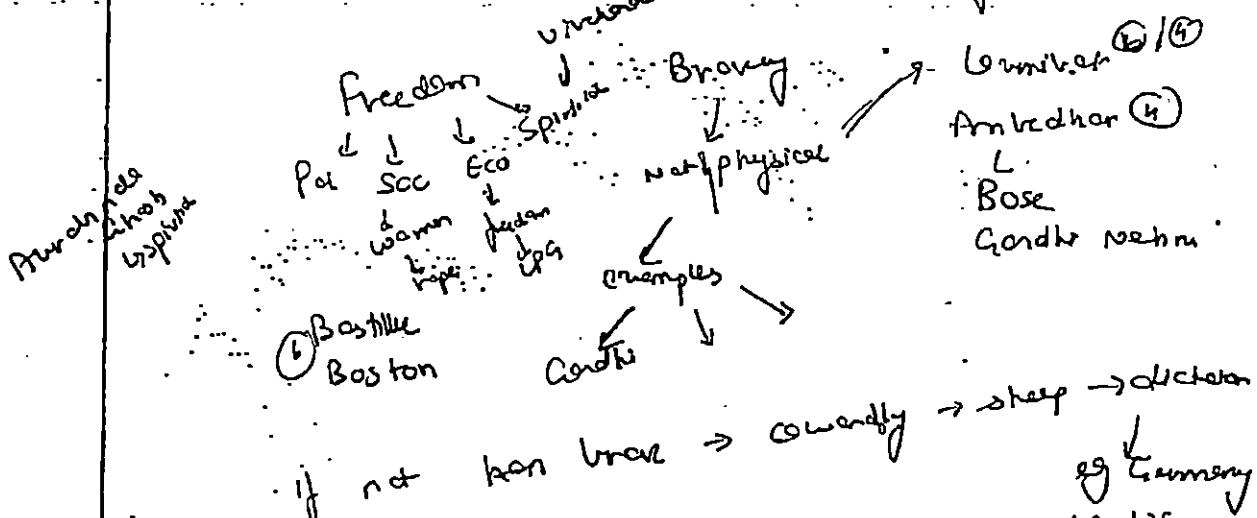
Remarks

Sdr - Standardized regulator
for standards, mechanism for publications
Responsibility of channels to show good content
Court to monitor eg recent Smriti was

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- Remarks

A nation can remain free as long as it continues to be the home of brave.



Try ① with destiny
at the stroke of midnight hour

eg Germany
eg US
Self interest
metaphor
Bismarck

... Need leader : MLK Jr
Abraham Lincoln
↳ Slavery
↳ Industrial

Intro ②

③ Explain

④ Structure

⑤

How brave men brought
freedom

↳ emergency

How brave men maintained
freedom

⑥ What is
freedom

What is
bravery

↳ less of freedom due to
lack of bravery

How to instill bravery

⑦

⑧

Conclusion

Summary

Remarks

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Remarks

Fighting corruption is not just good governance
but also self defence & patriotism

Scand

bcur

↳ defence

National
security

Pof

Democratization
Black May

Chandigarh
↳ no fish/water

Offices battifall

PDS ← G.S

What is C.G
↳ Transparency & Accounting

Intro

- What is Corruption
- Crime - Impacts everywhere
- Not new - Historical

Historical
Spiritual
Political
Economic
Social
Environmental
Internal
Security
Scientific

Good Gov

Self defence

Patriotism

Soldiers Challenges in dealing

Solution

Remarks