

ESSAY-Test 2 निबन्ध-परिक्षा 2 CSE 2024

कार्यालय के प्रयोग हेतु
For Office Use

निर्धारित समय: तीन घंटे
Time Allowed: Three Hours

अधिकतम अंक: 250
Maximum Marks: 250

General Instructions

This question-cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet contains 32 pages. Question Paper in detachable form is available at the end of the QCA Booklet which can be taken away by the candidate after examination.

Two blank pages (Page Nos. 31-32) have been provided for rough work.

On receipt of the Booklet, please check that this QCA Booklet does not have any shortcomings, torn or missing pages, etc. If so, get it replaced with a fresh QCA Booklet.

सामान्य अनुदेश

इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू० सी० ए०) पुस्तिका में 32 पृष्ठ हैं। प्रश्न-पत्र क्यू० सी० ए० पुस्तिका के अन्त में संलग्न है, जो अलग (वियोज्य) किया जा सकता है और उम्मीदवार परीक्षा के उपरांत अपने साथ ले जा सकते हैं।

रफ़ कार्य के लिए दो खाली पृष्ठ (पृष्ठ सं० 31-32) दिए गए हैं।

पुस्तिका प्राप्त होने पर, कृपया यह जाँच कर लें कि इस क्यू० सी० ए० पुस्तिका में कोई कमी न हो, फटा हुआ पृष्ठ न हो अथवा कोई पृष्ठ गायब न हो इत्यादि। यदि ऐसा हो, तो इसके बदले नई क्यू० सी० ए० पुस्तिका प्राप्त कर लें।

(To be filled by candidate)

All fields mandatory

(Inaccurate/Incomplete information may lead to delay in the evaluation process)

Name of Candidate : SRAJIT KUMAR

Next IAS Roll No. : Phone No. :

Test Code → TC- 062 Date of Examination : 4/8/24

Exam Centre : Old Rajinder Nagar Jaipur Prayagraj Online

निरीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर
Invigilator's Signature

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Student's Queries for the Evaluator (if any write them below)

a) Do I need to increase underlining?

(b) Do I need to add headings?

Evaluator's response



प्राप्तांक के विवरण (परीक्षक द्वारा भरा जाए) / Marks Details [To be filled by the Examiner(s)]

	निबन्ध विषय सं० Essay Topic No.	अंक Marks	
खण्ड-A Section-A			
खण्ड-B Section-B			
सकल योग / Grand Total			

Your performance vis-a-vis other examinees-

Front Runner	Achiever	Aspirant

EVALUATOR'S FEEDBACK: ESSAY SECTION A

Parameters	<i>Exemplary</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Needs Improvement</i>
Understanding				
Coherence				
Lucidity				
Structuring				
Presentation				



EVALUATOR'S FEEDBACK: ESSAY SECTION-B

Parameters	<i>Exemplary</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Needs Improvement</i>
Understanding				
Coherence				
Lucidity				
Structuring				
Presentation				



खण्ड-A / Section-A

- Q.1** The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically.
शिक्षा का कार्य व्यक्ति को गहनता और आलोचनात्मक ढंग से सोचना सिखाना है।
- Q.2** Life is what happens when you're busy making other plans.
जब आप अन्य योजनाएँ बनाने में व्यस्त होते हैं, तब जो घटित होता है, वही जीवन है।
- Q.3** The heaviest penalty for declining to rule is to be ruled by someone inferior.
शासन करने से इनकार करने की सबसे बड़ी सजा किसी निम्नतर व्यक्ति द्वारा शासित होना है।
- Q.4** Competition is the law of the jungle, but cooperation is the law of civilization.
प्रतिस्पर्धा, जंगल का कानून है और सहयोग, सभ्यता का कानून है।

उम्मीदवारों को
इस भाग में
लिखना मना है।
**Candidates
must not
write on
this margin**

Topic 2 Life is what happens when you're busy making other plans.

We all know Steve Jobs, the founder of Apple as a great visionary. We know him as a master inventor, orator, salesman who changed the world with his great & ahead of time products. But on his death bed he had something interesting to say.

He mentioned about his most cherished times to not showing new products to the world. He cherished the times with Steve Wozniak building the product. He believed that human relations are the final goal of human life & no money or fame can replace it.

Steve Jobs also gave the famous concept of connecting the dots backwards. He said that we can never understand life looking in front, but only looking it backwards.

In this essay, we will discuss about why Jobs cherished the times he was working ~~than~~ more than the moments of success? We will look at how this translated to different phases of human life. Next, we look at why does one believe in life is one that is going to happen to them and not what is already happening. After looking at the utility of the quote, we will focus on the important question

"Is it worth it to find your Purpose?"

Life passing - second by second

Humans were blessed with ability to think about future and imaginative situations. We think about heaven & hell, about lots of riches & so on. But as Yuval Noah Harari says - you cannot convince to give up a banana in promise of thousands of them after he dies..

During our childhood, we are busy making plans about growing up. We are envious of all the freedoms grown ups enjoy, whereas we have to get ready for school every morning. However, today none of those plans matter. What matters is the memories of school & playing without a care in the world. Our childhood plans of buying expensive toys once we

grow up are lost, but not our "life" in those years.

During our youth, we are busy making plans about earning money and loving someone. Often, unrequited love is a constant source of agony. We are busy making plans about how in future we would marry who we love and earn a lot of money. However, none of those plans matter. Our freedom in the moment and all the memories we make are our lives. Hence, memories and not abstract plans are the building blocks of life.

Psychologists have recently discovered general sadness among people aged 40-55 yrs. They attribute this sadness to 'inability' to make 'plans'. At this stage, one knows that all the grand plans we have made

All needs are no longer going to be completed. Our career; relationships are too rigid to change them drastically. This ability to have no plans, induces sadness where the actual life passes second by second. This is the reason that all religions in the world teach to be contented in what you have, and not what you aspire to possess.

The good news is that by the age of 55 yrs, one realises that all the plans are futile. He accepts ~~to stay~~ the situation he is in and becomes happy. So, all in all this quote is a lesson, that most people learn at 55 to 60 years of age. This is also a reason why more spirituality is observed among elderly.

In the last section we saw the trajectory of our association with life in its plans. But every phenomena in this world has some function. The function of looking forwards to plans are also manifold.

Firstly, it allows us to persevere through tough time. The very thought that there is light at the end of the tunnel, makes it easier for us to travel through it. Human life is also full of suffering, ~~the~~ but the 'promised' la la land allows us to endure the sufferings.

Secondly, it allows us to make ~~an~~ a concentrated efforts towards a goal. Lakhs of students in India give competitive exam every year. The promised security

allows them to work hard. Hence, the belief in one's plan allows us to become the best version of ourselves.

Thirdly, it allows ~~us~~ to the humanity as a whole to coordinate. Humans moved out of savannahs of Africa to Moon, all because ~~had~~ had big plans. This allows us to work together towards a goal. If ~~we~~ ~~not~~ everyone started enjoying life as it is, without thinking about goals, no social change is possible. Indian Mass movement against British was possible because everyone believed there is light at the end of tunnel.

Purpose of Humanity?

Nihilism believes that there is no purpose of human life. We are just a bunch of arranged

biomolecules that are floating in the air. Therefore, instead of finding a purpose, one should enjoy life as one goes through it. There is no need of grand plans about changing the world, ending hunger etc. One should just enjoy the moment.

Nihilism is often associated with hedonism, egoism and also optimism. They believe that if every person thinks about maximising one's pleasure, the world would be a better place. After all, cherishing the current moment, where the sun is high, we are alive and doing things that we want is the best scenario. Instead of waiting for a future plan to fulfil that

no one is sure of why don't we just enjoy today?

Accordingly, the believe that "purpose in life" is a human & cultural construct. Interestingly, this concept of purpose is not universal, but limited to more advanced societies. Primitive societies have no such concept.

Hopi Indians is a tribe that have a cyclic understanding of time. Our understanding of time is linear, with a clear past, present and future. In our cognition, no moment returns. However, Hopi Indians believe that time is cyclic and returns at a frequency of a day, month or year. This constant

feeling of time slipping away is a source of agony for ~~us~~^{us}. However, when research was conducted on ~~them~~, Hopis, they were way more happier & content than us. They made no great plans about future and focussed on living in present. Hence, this entire view of "purpose of life" or "time wasting" or a "great future is waiting" is just a ~~how~~ cultural construct.

Nihilism, as seen above is opposite of ententialism. Ententialism states that finding one's purpose is the way to maximise happiness. We cannot just live life keeping today in mind. One has to also be pragmatic when living. We need

to have plans about future to allow any of our efforts to pay off. Making plans allows us to live a more disciplined life. We cannot just rely on today — today's mood, today's situation and today's motivation. Motivation is fickle, discipline is the main driving force. Hence, relying solely on today, without a worry about future is catastrophic.

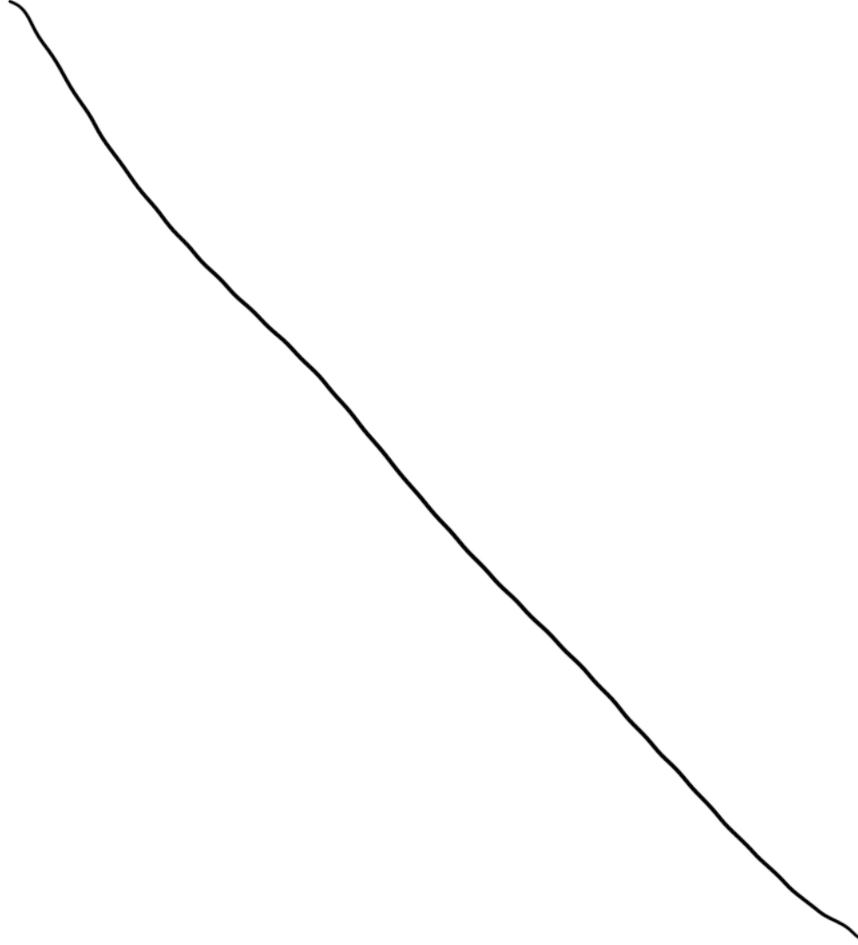
There needs to be a balance between enjoying life at the moment and making plans. If one needs to have a good food, ~~at~~ one should also enjoy the process of making it. Only then the food would be worth it. If

either we hate making the food
(~~enjoying~~ ^{hating} the present) or we don't
plan to make something delicious
(no plans about future) in both
case it defeats the purpose. Hence,
to ~~en~~ extract most out of your
life, one should enjoy the moment,
also having something in future
to look forward to.

खण्ड-B / Section-B

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- Q.5** Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced.
सामना की जाने वाली हर चीज को परिवर्तित नहीं किया जा सकता, किंतु जब तक सामना न किया जाए,
तब तक कुछ भी बदला नहीं जा सकता।
- Q.6** The road to success and the road to failure are almost exactly the same.
सफलता की राह और असफलता का मार्ग लगभग एक ही है।
- Q.7** To be or not to be, that is the question.
होना या न होना, यही प्रश्न है।
- Q.8** Wisdom is to live in tune with the mode of the changing world.
बुद्धिमानी बदलती दुनिया के साथ तालमेल बिठाकर जीने में ही है।



2

Q5 Not everything that is faced can be changed,
~~but~~ nothing can be changed until it is faced.

Alfred Nobel had invented dynamite in late 19th century. His invention was being used for a range of purpose — blowing mountains to lay roads to killing people. One morning, he received a newspaper with a headline "The Merchant of Death died". Apparently, there was some rumour which the newspaper published. Nobel was shocked. He thought that this is how the ~~fast~~ future generation was going to remember him. He started philanthropy and constituted Nobel Prize, particularly Nobel Peace Prize. Today, the world knows only about Nobel Prizes, and not about him

1

being inventor of dynamite.

Nobel was able to change his character and his perception only when he faced the situation first hand. Had he actually died with getting such a newspaper, he wouldn't have changed a thing. On the other hand, ^{he} still couldn't change the dynamite's use in weapons. Hence, not everything can be changed, but nothing is changed until it is faced.

In this essay, we discuss about why is one unable to make changes until adversity is faced. ~~It~~ what dimensions does this apply to? When in face of adversity, how can we distinguish between what can be changed & what cannot?

Next we ponder upon the question that is it even feasible or desirable to make changes before it is faced?

Lastly, we talk about the change we make, does it goes unacknowledged until the adversity.

Changing in anticipation - a myth

In this section, we discuss ~~if~~ why not everything can be changed? Some times the events or phenomena is out of our control. No matter how well prepared one is, you cannot change it.

When faced with a cyclone or natural disaster, one cannot change the fact that it has happened.

However, with increasing strength of such disasters, we would look to mend our ways like

tackling climate change.

Humans have evolved out of savannah. We have our ancestry in ancient primates, who didn't have the capacity to think about much in future. Consequently, humans have very limited ability to foresee the challenges of future.

One or two individuals may have the ability, but humanity as a whole is too distraught. We don't have the mental capacity to worry about challenges of future.

USA in 1980s armed terrorists in Afghanistan against Soviets. Only when they faced the 9/11 attack, they changed their attitude and attacked the Taliban.

Humans find their origin in small tribes, disconnected with the world. We had no clue or worry about the humans on other continents. This has created a feeling of "us" among the humans. We are only able to associate with our tribe. For example people in Brazil won't have any worry about war between Russia & Ukraine. Only if a similar war breaks out in their surroundings, they would be alert about the changes needed.

Next, we should discuss that standing in the face of adversity, how does one ensure that we focus on things that can be changed. The very survival of in any situation depends on

Carefully identifying what can be changed.

First, and most important thing to identify is humility. Humans often ~~too~~ turn too arrogant. During COVID-19, when everyone was in isolation, a few US politicians encouraged gatherings, and said that covid was a hoax. With humility, one should accept that the change needed was to stay in isolation; and not to challenge the disease.

Second factor is wisdom. Wisdom guides us from experience, about what should one do. Mostly, the things are more internal - character/habit for humans, social institutions for society, political decisions for a country can be changed. Kerala floods in 2017 were

caused when it rained heavily and dams were already filled till brim before rains. Instead of changing rain pattern or worshipping the god, their govt reduced levels in dam. This has reduced their vulnerability manifold.

Emotional Intelligence is also required to not allow emotions to take over during such critical situations. It is also important to convince people towards a collected efforts. Not everything can be changed by one person, but ~~only~~ some situations need team work.

Are prior changes desirable?

In last section we discussed how does one decide what can be changed & what cannot. However, is it even necessary to make

changes before we face adversity.

Let's find the answer in Evolution. Evolution as per Darwin is the 'survival of the fittest'.

Due to changing conditions, every species faces threats. However, only those species survive that change themselves easily. It is said that not the largest or strongest survive, but only the fittest survive. Fitness is defined by the ability to cope with changing conditions. Therefore, a species doesn't really need to prepare for certain change in advance. As long as they are changing with the adversity, they will survive.

Furthermore, it is impossible to anticipate the kind of ^{adversity} changes that would come up in

future. If a species anticipates global warming and adapts for it; it would perish in case of advent of Ice Age.

Hence, the answer is - NO! It is not ~~no~~ desirable to change before one faces something. But not always -

Changing without facing

Despite ~~of~~ concluding in last section that prior changes are not desirable, we will also try to find exceptions.

General trajectory of path for all humans in a society is similar. We take birth, go to school, get a job, get married and eventually retire. In ~~the~~ such cases, we don't really need to face everything, we can judge from experiences of others. For example if a person is involved in drug abuse,

the general trend is a horrible life after. In cases where the dataset of people facing certain challenges is large, we don't need to face such challenges ourselves. We should learn from them.

Sometimes, a few visionary leaders are also able to predict future. India after independence chose secularism, whereas Pakistan chose Islam as state religion. In ~~the~~ world, only Israel & Pakistan are countries formed on the basis of religion & hence, the dataset was small. Still our leaders were visionary enough to ~~choose~~ choose the correct path for India.

Least, but not the least
Sometimes changes are inherent

which may not be considered significant as the adversity never came. For example, if a person finds problem in construction with Nuclear power plant and flagged it. Later, the design was rectified and no industrial disaster happened.

Although this change ^{was} very significant but it won't be acknowledged.

So, we cannot be very sure if we cannot change until adversity is faced. It is possible that certain change averted a ~~challenge~~ challenge but not acknowledged.

- Not only humans, but every species on this planet survives by a acknowledging the importance of change, when an ~~adversity~~

adversity is faced. If humans
don't practice humility in
deciding what can be changed
and what cannot be,
"Survival of fittest" will teach
it to them.