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ETHICS Q&A

**Complete
GS Paper 4**

through

**Concept Classes,
Answer Writing
& Mentorship**



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16

JANUARY, 2025

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9:00 AM onwards

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**14 Theme Based Sessions
for Complete Coverage of
GS Paper 4**



Total 15 Tests including:

- 9 Topical Tests
- 3 Case Study Tests
- 3 Full Length Mock Tests



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Mentor: **MANOJ K. JHA**

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MEDHA ANAND

AIR-13 (CSE-2023)

“ I was part of **GS Mains Test Series** and **Manoj Sir** helped me **enhancing my Answer Writing Skills** especially in **GS Paper 4 (Ethics)**. I am **truly grateful** to **Manoj sir** for the **Mentorship** he offered me. ”

140 Marks in **Ethics**

ETHICS TOPPERS *from* GS SCORE

 132 <small>MARKS</small> Swati Sharma (AIR-15)	 130 <small>MARKS</small> Srishti Mishra (AIR-95)	 129 <small>MARKS</small> Divya Mishra (AIR-28)	 127 <small>MARKS</small> Nitesh Kumar Mishra (AIR-158)
 126 <small>MARKS</small> Vidushi Singh (AIR-13)	 125 <small>MARKS</small> Madumita (AIR-86)	 124 <small>MARKS</small> Srushti Deshmukh (AIR-5)	 124 <small>MARKS</small> Shashank Shekhar Singh (AIR-306)
 121 <small>MARKS</small> Karnati Varun Reddy (AIR-7)	 121 <small>MARKS</small> Jayant Nahata (AIR-56)	 115 <small>MARKS</small> Pujya Priyadarshini (AIR-11)	 115 <small>MARKS</small> Priya Rani (AIR-69)

and many more...



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SESSION PLAN



SESSIONS & DATE	TOPIC
<p>SESSION 1 16 FEBRUARY, 2025</p>	<p>Essence of Ethics & Why Ethics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Essence, determinants and consequences of Ethics in-human actions ◦ Understanding the role of Ethics in personal and public life ◦ Dimensions of ethical behaviour: Moral, legal, social, and professional dimensions. ◦ Ethical dilemmas: Real-world examples where conflicting ethical principles are at play. <p>Role of Family, Society, and Educational Institutions in Inculcating Values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Societal norms and values: The influence of culture and society on moral development. ◦ Educational institutions: The role of schools and universities in promoting values education. <p>Answer Writing Practice</p>
<p>TEST 1 19 FEBRUARY, 2025</p>	<p>Essence and Dimension of Ethics</p>
<p>SESSION 2 20 FEBRUARY, 2025</p>	<p>Moral Reasoning & Ethical Theories</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Moral reasoning” refers to the process of using ethical principles, values, and critical thinking to make judgments and decisions about what is morally right or wrong. It involves the application of moral philosophy and ethical theories to analyse ethical dilemmas and resolve moral conflicts.

SESSIONS & DATE	TOPIC
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Ethical Theories: Moral reasoning draws upon various ethical theories, such as utilitarianism, deontology, virtue ethics, and ethical relativism. These theories provide frameworks for evaluating the ethicality of actions based on different criteria. <p>Lessons from the Lives and Teachings of Great Leaders, Reformers, and Administrators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Case studies on leaders and their ethical principles. ◦ How historical figures' values have influenced societal change. <p style="text-align: center;">Answer Writing Practice</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">TEST 2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">23 FEBRUARY, 2025</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Moral Reasoning & Theories</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">SESSION 3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">24 FEBRUARY, 2025</p>	<p>Human Values, Value Crisis & Moral Relativism</p> <p>Application of concepts in various context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Ethical Leadership in Crisis Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The role of ethical values in guiding leaders during crises such as natural disasters, pandemics, or economic downturns. ▶ Ethical considerations in decision-making when lives and livelihoods are at stake. ▶ The impact of leadership values on public trust and confidence in times of crisis. ◦ Values-Based Policymaking for Sustainable Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The integration of ethical values into policymaking for environmental conservation, poverty reduction, and sustainable economic growth. ▶ Balancing economic development with ecological and social responsibility.



SESSIONS & DATE	TOPIC
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The ethical dimensions of intergenerational justice in environmental policies. ◦ Ethics in Humanitarian Interventions and Refugee Rights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Ethical dilemmas in international humanitarian interventions, including the “Responsibility to Protect” principle. ▶ Balancing national interests with ethical obligations to provide refuge and assistance to those in need. ◦ Ethical Values in Healthcare and Medical Decision-Making <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The role of ethical values in patient-centered care and informed consent. ▶ Ethical challenges in end-of-life decisions, organ transplantation, and access to healthcare services. ▶ Ensuring ethical behavior and integrity in medical research and clinical trials ◦ Promoting Ethical Values in Sports and Athletics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Ethical considerations in sportsmanship, fair play, and anti-doping measures. ▶ The role of ethics in addressing issues of athlete well-being, including mental health and injury prevention. ▶ Ethical leadership in sports organizations and the prevention of corruption and misconduct. ◦ Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Ethical Business Practices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The ethical responsibilities of corporations in environmental sustainability, social justice, and community engagement. ▶ Ethical dilemmas in business decision-making, including issues of profit maximization vs. responsible corporate behavior.

SESSIONS & DATE	TOPIC
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ International standards and guidelines for ethical business practices and CSR reporting. <p style="text-align: center;">Answer Writing Practice</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">TEST 3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">27 FEBRUARY, 2025</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Human Values</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">SESSION 4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">28 FEBRUARY, 2025</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Ethics Answer Writing</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">SESSION 5</p> <p style="text-align: center;">29 FEBRUARY, 2025</p>	<p>Integrity, Impartiality, and Non-partisanship</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Dimensions of integrity: Personal, professional, and public integrity. ◦ The importance of impartiality in public service. <p>Objectivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The role of objectivity in decision-making. ◦ Avoiding bias and subjectivity in public administration. <p>Dedication to Public Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The commitment to serving the public interest. ◦ Sacrifices and challenges associated with public service. <p>Empathy, Tolerance, and Compassion towards the weaker sections</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Understanding the needs and perspectives of marginalized groups. ◦ Promoting social justice and inclusivity in public service. <p>Application of various concepts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Diversity and Inclusion in Civil Service Leadership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The ethical imperative of promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in civil service recruitment, promotion, and decision-making.



SESSIONS & DATE	TOPIC
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Strategies for ensuring representation of marginalized communities in government agencies. ▶ Ethical considerations in addressing systemic bias and discrimination within civil service institutions. ◦ Ethical Challenges in Public Sector Reform <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Ethical considerations in government efforts to reform public administration, improve efficiency, and reduce bureaucracy. ▶ Balancing the need for reform with ethical concerns about job security and service delivery. ▶ Promoting ethical behavior and accountability during public sector transformation.
<p style="text-align: center;">TEST 4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">02 FEBRUARY, 2025</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Aptitude & Foundational Values for Civil Services</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">SESSION 6</p> <p style="text-align: center;">03 FEBRUARY, 2025</p>	<p>Concepts and their Utilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Components of emotional intelligence: Self-awareness, self-regulation, empathy, social skills, motivation. ◦ How emotional intelligence enhances leadership and interpersonal relationships. <p>Application in Administration and Governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Emotional intelligence in conflict resolution. ◦ Building rapport and trust in governance. <p>EI in Crisis Communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The role of emotional intelligence in effective communication during crises, such as natural disasters, public health emergencies, or social unrest. ◦ Ethical considerations in conveying empathy, reassurance, and accurate information to the public.

SESSIONS & DATE	TOPIC
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Addressing the psychological impact of crises through emotionally intelligent leadership <p>EI in Healthcare Leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The importance of emotional intelligence for healthcare administrators and leaders in managing healthcare teams and addressing staff burnout. ◦ Ethical considerations in balancing the emotional needs of healthcare providers with patient care. ◦ Promoting a culture of empathy and emotional support in healthcare organizations. <p>EI in Diplomacy and International Relations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The significance of emotional intelligence in diplomatic negotiations, conflict mediation, and international cooperation. ◦ Ethical considerations in building trust and rapport with foreign counterparts in pursuit of diplomatic goals. ◦ The role of emotional intelligence in addressing global challenges such as climate change and refugee crises. <p>EI in Disaster Response and Humanitarian Aid</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The importance of emotional intelligence in providing emotional support to disaster survivors and aid workers. ◦ Ethical dilemmas in allocating resources and assistance during humanitarian crises. ◦ The role of emotionally intelligent leadership in coordinating international disaster relief efforts. <p>EI in Leadership and Decision-Making</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The ethical imperative of emotionally intelligent leadership in guiding organizations, government agencies, and institutions.



SESSIONS & DATE	TOPIC
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Balancing emotional intelligence with data-driven decision-making and ethical considerations. ◦ Strategies for developing and fostering emotional intelligence in leadership roles. <p>EI in Education and Student Well-being</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Emotional Intelligence in Education and Student Well-being ◦ The role of emotional intelligence in creating a supportive and emotionally safe learning environment for students. ◦ Ethical challenges in addressing student mental health, stress, and academic pressure. ◦ Promoting emotional intelligence as a crucial life skill in educational curricula. <p>EI in Law Enforcement and Community Policing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The ethical role of emotional intelligence in community engagement, de-escalation techniques, and building trust between law enforcement and communities. ◦ Ethical considerations in addressing tensions, protests, and social justice issues through emotionally intelligent policing. ◦ Promoting emotional intelligence training for law enforcement officers and agencies. <p style="text-align: center;">Answer Writing Practice</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">TEST 5</p> <p style="text-align: center;">06 FEBRUARY, 2025</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Emotional Intelligence</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">SESSION 7</p> <p style="text-align: center;">07 FEBRUARY, 2025</p>	<p>Content, Structure, Function of Attitude</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Components of attitude: Affective, cognitive, and behavioral components. ◦ How attitudes are formed and maintained. ◦ The role of attitude in decision-making.

SESSIONS & DATE	TOPIC
	<p>Influence & Relation with Thought and Behavior</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Attitude-behavior consistency: Examining whether attitudes predict behavior. ◦ Cognitive dissonance: The discomfort that arises from conflicting attitudes and behavior <p>Moral & Political Attitudes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Ethical Attitudes: Attitudes towards right and wrong. ◦ Political Attitudes: Attitudes towards political ideologies and issues <p>Social Influence and Persuasion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Social Norms and Conformity: How societal expectations influence attitudes. ◦ Persuasion Techniques: The art of influencing attitudes and behavior. <p>Application of Attitude</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Attitudinal Challenges in Promoting Gender Equality and Diversity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Ethical considerations in addressing gender bias, discrimination, and sexism in society and the workplace. ▶ The role of attitudes in creating inclusive environments that value diversity and foster equal opportunities. ▶ Ethical leadership in promoting gender equity and diversity in organizations and institutions. ◦ Attitudes Towards Emerging Technologies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Ethical considerations in public attitudes towards emerging technologies like artificial intelligence, biotechnology, and autonomous vehicles. ▶ The role of attitudes in shaping regulatory policies and ethical guidelines for technology development and deployment.



SESSIONS & DATE	TOPIC
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The ethical implications of public trust and skepticism in technological advancements. ◦ Ethical Attitudes in Political Decision-Making <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Ethical dilemmas in political leadership, including issues of honesty, transparency, and accountability. ▶ The role of public attitudes in holding political leaders accountable for ethical behavior and integrity. ▶ Ethical considerations in campaign ethics, political advertising, and the influence of money in politics. ◦ Attitudes in Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Ethical attitudes in policing, including use of force, community policing, and racial profiling. ▶ The role of public attitudes in advocating for criminal justice reform and the abolition of punitive practices. ▶ Ethical challenges in addressing corruption and misconduct within law enforcement agencies. ◦ Attitudes Towards Health and Wellness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Ethical considerations in public attitudes towards mental health, addiction, and destigmatizing these issues. ▶ The role of attitudes in promoting healthy behaviors, preventive healthcare, and healthcare-seeking behavior. ▶ Ethical dilemmas in healthcare rationing and end-of-life decisions influenced by patient and family attitudes. <p style="text-align: center;">Answer Writing Practice</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">TEST 6</p> <p style="text-align: center;">09 FEBRUARY, 2025</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Attitude</p>

SESSIONS & DATE

TOPIC

SESSION 8

10 FEBRUARY, 2025

Key Concepts:

- Ethical Philosophy: The systematic study of ethics and morality, examining questions of right and wrong, good and evil, and the principles that guide human behavior.
- Moral Thinkers: Individuals who have made significant intellectual contributions to moral philosophy and have influenced the development of ethical thought.

Implications & Relevance:

- Ethical Guidance: The teachings and philosophies of these thinkers provide valuable guidance on ethical decision-making, personal values, and social justice.
- Cross-Cultural Understanding: Exploring the contributions of thinkers from diverse cultural backgrounds helps foster cross-cultural understanding and appreciation of different ethical perspectives.
- Contemporary Ethics: Many of the moral principles and concepts developed by these thinkers continue to shape contemporary ethical discourse, policy-making, and moral education.
- Moral Leadership: The insights of these thinkers remain relevant for individuals and leaders seeking to navigate complex moral dilemmas and promote ethical behavior.

Examples

- **Confucian Ethics and the Doctrine of the Mean:**
 - ▶ Exploring Confucian ethical values of benevolence, righteousness, and the importance of balanced conduct.
 - ▶ Ethical dilemmas in balancing individual interests with the well-being of society.
 - ▶ The role of Confucian ethics in leadership, family values, and community harmony.



SESSIONS & DATE	TOPIC
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Dharma and Karma in Indian Philosophy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Understanding the ethical principles of dharma (duty) and karma (action and consequences) in Indian philosophy. ▶ Ethical considerations in making morally responsible choices and fulfilling one’s duty. ▶ The role of dharma and karma in ethics, spirituality, and personal development. ◦ Existentialism and Individual Freedom: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Examining existentialist philosophers like Jean-Paul Sartre and their emphasis on individual freedom and responsibility. ▶ Ethical dilemmas in the context of existentialist ethics, including issues of authenticity, choice, and existential angst. ▶ The role of existentialism in personal ethics, authenticity, and self-examination. ◦ Pragmatism and Ethical Problem-Solving: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Examining pragmatist philosophers like John Dewey and their focus on practical problem-solving and ethical experimentation. ▶ Ethical dilemmas in the context of pragmatic ethics, including issues of social reform, education, and democracy. ▶ The role of pragmatism in ethical decision-making, social progress, and adaptability <p>Note: *Class will cover details of various thinkers of India and world and its application in contemporary context</p>
<p>TEST 7 13 FEBRUARY, 2025</p>	<p>Thinkers</p>
<p>SESSION 9 14 FEBRUARY, 2025</p>	<p>Leadership</p>

SESSIONS & DATE

TOPIC

SESSION 10

14 FEBRUARY, 2025

Ethics in Governance**Ethical Challenges in Bureaucratic Neutrality:**

- Ethical considerations in maintaining political neutrality and impartiality in public service.
- Balancing civil servants' duty to implement government policies with ethical principles of fairness and justice.

Whistleblowing and Ethical Accountability:

- Ethical dilemmas in whistleblowing, including issues of loyalty, confidentiality, and retaliation.
- Ensuring protection and support for whistleblowers who expose unethical behavior and corruption.
- The role of whistleblowing in promoting transparency, accountability, and ethical governance.

Ethical Challenges in Government Procurement and Contracting:

- Ethical considerations in public procurement practices, including issues of fairness, competition, and integrity.
- Balancing cost-effectiveness with ethical procurement principles and avoiding conflicts of interest.
- Strategies for preventing corruption and unethical practices in government contracts.

Ethical Decision-Making in Public Policy Formulation:

- The role of ethical principles in shaping public policies that address societal needs, equity, and justice.
- Ethical dilemmas in policy trade-offs, resource allocation, and the impact on vulnerable populations.



SESSIONS & DATE	TOPIC
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Promoting transparency, stakeholder engagement, and ethical analysis in policy development. <p>Ethical Challenges in Administrative Discretion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Ethical considerations in administrative discretion, including issues of fairness, consistency, and accountability. ◦ Balancing administrative autonomy with ethical constraints and legal boundaries. ◦ The role of ethical guidelines and training in improving administrative decision-making. ◦ Ensuring ethical governance in PPP projects and contractual relationships. <p>Ethical Challenges in Public Engagement and Citizen Participation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Ethical considerations in involving citizens in decision-making processes and public consultations. ◦ Balancing citizen interests, values, and preferences with ethical governance principles. ◦ The role of ethics in promoting inclusive, responsive, and accountable public administration. <p>Ethics in Crisis Management and Emergency Response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Ethical dilemmas in crisis response, resource allocation, and emergency measures. ◦ Ensuring ethical behavior and decision-making during natural disasters, pandemics, and emergencies. ◦ Promoting ethical leadership, transparency, and public trust in crisis situations. <p>Digital Ethics & E-Governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Ethical considerations in digital governance, data privacy, and cybersecurity. ◦ Balancing technological advancements with ethical principles of transparency, accountability, and citizen rights.

SESSIONS & DATE	TOPIC
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The role of digital ethics in promoting trust in government services and protecting digital identities. ◦ The Ethical Foundations of Public Service: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Exploring the philosophical and ethical basis of public service and the importance of probity. ▶ Ethical considerations in the public service ethos, including impartiality, accountability, and transparency. ▶ The role of probity in fostering public trust and confidence in government institutions. Transparency and Right to Information (RTI) Act: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The ethical imperative of transparency in government operations, decision-making, and public access to information. ◦ Strategies for preventing, detecting, and addressing corruption through ethical governance. ◦ The role of anti-corruption agencies, ethics committees, and whistleblower protection in fighting corruption. Public Sector Work Culture and Ethical Behavior: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Ethical considerations in shaping organizational culture, work ethics, and employee conduct in the public sector. ◦ Balancing efficiency and productivity with ethical principles, integrity, and work-life balance. ◦ Strategies for promoting a culture of ethics, accountability, and professionalism in government agencies. Probity and Ethical Decision-Making in Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Ethical challenges in PPPs, including issues of accountability, conflict of interest, and regulatory compliance.



SESSIONS & DATE	TOPIC
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Ensuring probity and ethical governance in PPP projects, contracts, and stakeholder engagement. ◦ Strategies for addressing ethical concerns and ensuring transparency in PPP initiatives. <p>Global Ethics and International Relations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Ethical dilemmas in international relations, diplomacy, and foreign policy. ◦ Promoting ethical principles of justice, peace, and cooperation in global governance. ◦ The role of ethical foreign policy in addressing global challenges, conflicts, and humanitarian crises. <p>Evaluating Ethical Governance and Strengthening Probity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Ethical frameworks and indicators for evaluating the quality of ethical governance in public administration. ◦ Strategies for strengthening probity, accountability, and ethical behavior in government institutions. ◦ The role of civil society, media, and public engagement in holding governments accountable for ethical governance. <p style="text-align: center;">Answer Writing Practice</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">SESSION 11</p> <p style="text-align: center;">14 FEBRUARY, 2025</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Administrative Issues</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">TEST 8</p> <p style="text-align: center;">16 FEBRUARY, 2025</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Ethics in Administration</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">SESSION 12 & 13</p> <p style="text-align: center;">17 FEBRUARY, 2025</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Applied Ethics</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">TEST 9</p> <p style="text-align: center;">19 FEBRUARY, 2025</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Applied Ethics</p>

SESSIONS & DATE	TOPIC
SESSION 14 20 FEBRUARY, 2025	Case Study Session
TEST 10 21 FEBRUARY, 2025	Case Study-1
TEST 11 22 FEBRUARY, 2025	Case Study-2
TEST 12 23 FEBRUARY, 2025	Case Study-3
MOCK TESTS	
TEST 13 25 FEBRUARY, 2025	Full Mock Test - 1
TEST 14 26 FEBRUARY, 2025	Full Mock Test - 2
TEST 15 27 FEBRUARY, 2025	Full Mock Test - 3





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