

# **G|SCORE**

**An Institute for Civil Services**

---

## **IAS TOPPER'S**

## **TEST COPY**

# **MANIYA VERMA**

**AIR - 258  
(CSE 2022)**

## **ESSAY**



**8448496262**



**www.iasscore.in**

# GS SCORE

## ESSAY TEST - 2

Roll No. 41827

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 Manya Verma

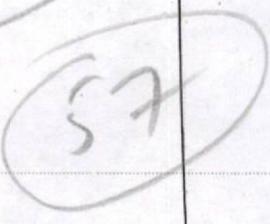
Mobile No. \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Remarks
Sub A  Sub B 
 <i>MV</i>

**SECTION - A**

1. *Should students on campus be indulged in politics?*
2. *At his best, man is the noblest of all animals; separated from law and justice, he is the worst.*

**SECTION - B**

1. *'Vocal for local' has a good intent, but it has many challenges.*
2. *In the era of post truth fact depends entirely on the power of man who can fabricate it.*

P.T.O

## SECTION-A

2. AT HIS BEST, MAN IS THE NOBLEST OF ALL ANIMALS ; SEPARATED FROM LAW & JUSTICE, HE IS THE WORST.

'At his best, man is the noblest of all animals; separated from law and justice, he is the worst', as stated by Aristotle, which deals essentially with the question of human nature. However before we dwelve deep into the fathomness of the quotation, I would like to raise a few questions: Is mankind essentially good, by virtue of its intrinsic being, or do we have a natural inclination towards vice? Are we born virtuous, or must we depend on the societal structures we have created? This has since time immemorial remained the bone of contention between philosophers. Human nature can be described to be existing in a continuum with nobility at one end and vice at the other extreme end, however the space in between is dynamic and has been varying spatially as well as temporally.

Remarks

Apt use  
of quote,  
philosophy  
to introduce  
the question

'Law and justice' as an institution has been created in the society by humans to maintain solidarity.

*while  
this is  
relevant,  
it is safe  
to assume  
that laws  
and customs  
have existed for  
as long  
as human  
beings have been  
together*

On the age of Antiquity, it was believed that the free citizens are good citizens if they fulfill their obligation of abiding by the rules of the state & respecting the political leaders. Any citizen who went against the state was held guilty. Socrates was sentenced to death on similar charges of corrupting the youth, for speaking against democracy (state).

Moving forward towards the Middle Ages, the political role of state was taken over by religion. The Pope and the clergy believed 'human to be a sinful body' which could only be cleansed through the mercy of God. Hence the Church became a moral obligation for the people and anyone who spoke against it was declared a traitor. For instance Galileo dared to speak against the geocentric prophecy of the church and he was as a result sentenced to life imprisonment for his heliocentric theory.

Remarks

The religious orthodoxy was however questioned during the age of enlightenment or the renaissance period when it was believed that God created humans in his own image. The ideals of

liberty, equality and fraternity sought to replace the long standing institutions. Democracy as a form of governance was emphasised upon. As Immanuel Kant points out focus was shifted from the society to the individuals who made the society.

Social institutions are hence a manifestation of the human mind. 'Law and justice' as an institution to check the arbitrariness of the individual and the tyranny of the state, is best served when its ideals are implemented in the true sense. For whenever there are contradictions, conflict occurs which advocates change as a means to stabilize the society. As Darwin's theory of evolution based on 'survival of the fittest' tries to explain human evolution, a similar analogy in the society keeps the society moving forward.

Remarks

Misreading  
of the  
theory  
of Natural  
selection cannot  
explain evolution of  
society

Man is creative by nature and the ability to think and analyse the situation is what differs them from mere animals. As Karl Marx puts it, creativity & imagination are human's forte, however when humans are entangled in the mediocrities of life coupled with institutions whose origin are unknown to him, he tends to get alienated from his potential to excel.

Rousseau refers to 'noble savage' who is free from the clutches of the rules laid down by the society and is thus able to attain perfection with freedom of thought and expression. His view is however countered by Thomas Hobbes who believes that a civilisation exists only when guided by institutions (law & justice).

The transition from society to individual has also been reflected in the art and architecture. While primitive themes glorify society, religion, for eg 'The Last Supper', the relatively modern theme extol humans as can be depicted in the work of Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci & (Mona Lisa). work

Need  
not  
drag  
the  
philosophy  
analytic  
of law  
and justice

Remarks

Deviation from social structures has had devastating impact on society and further led to devaluation of morals and highlighted the demonic nature of man. For instance World Wars, Holocaust et al as means to fulfill human vices as against the principles of law and equality. The main issue here is that people who are at no fault have to suffer the most. Thus, the circulation of values in the society leads to phased degradation and amelioration.

The society improves in the sense that in order to repeat the losses made, new avenues are opened. For instance the World wars were followed by the avenue of Picasso's Cubism, Joyce's stream of consciousness and philosophy of gradual dismissal of normative stances. When allowed to work under free will, under social structures driven by value consensus of the society at large, man emerges out as the noblest of all animals.

Remarks

Your narrative on the evolution of law & justice is simplistic & needs to discuss other aspects as well.

The puzzle, however remains, around human nature as to how it should be judged. Should it be judged with reference to the social structures? Should it be judged with respect to human virtues?

for eg, humans are to be blamed for inequality, war, poverty, climate change, ethnic clashes etc but the same group of humans are coming forward to promote peace, tackle climate change, funding to end poverty, malnutrition (FAO). Is human noble or worse thus remains contradictory.

The wish for stability & safety, meaning and purpose; all these things are basic human sentiments facilitated through the organisation of state. Aristotle's 'law & justice' retain meaning only through carrying out this function. But what about nations like North Korea or Iran which don't fulfill this responsibility.

Whether these states make the nobles of all animals through their legal status or suppress the very creativity and uniqueness which allowed Aristotle to claim the

Remarks

noble position of humanity remains doubted.

There is a continuum of human nature. When temptations, vices, greed for power takes over logic and reasoning, humans display their worst nature. Consider Nirav Modi, Vijay Mallya, terrorist groups like Lt, JeM who have downgraded humanity to a minimum low, a rank which stands at the terminating end of the hierarchy of all animals.

However at the other extreme end are humans who have devoted their life to others, who are trying to undo the wrongs committed by the former category.

Gandhi Ji, Azim Premji, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Warren Buffet are few names to exalt human deeds who have made attempts to reclaim man as the noblest of all animals. The rest of humans which lie in between the two ends are either driven by the social structure or their conscience & in any way take inspiration to choose their own end as either the former or the latter category.

Valid argument

could avoid  
deifying  
the people  
mentioned  
above

Remarks

Modernity is accompanied with globalisation which is leading to assimilation of the global order.

Social structures are getting blurred out and paving way for individual agency. It thus becomes important to reinforce global superstructures to regulate human conduct. The superstructures must be conducive to humans and promote liberal thinking. Innovation, entrepreneurship and free thinking driven by the purpose of social development must be encouraged.

You may be exaggerating here

However strict conformity, religious orthodoxy, absolutist tendency, nepotism are factors hindering true progress. As Robert Michel points out the 'Iron law of oligarchy' which perpetuates elitist rule and despotism leading to stark inequality. In such cases the social structures are operated for personal gains and thus favours degrading tendencies which are further escalated as a shortcut to achieve the ends, whatever be the means!

Remarks

The judiciary thus comes to action to control the deviating tendency of human conduct. Judiciary is the harbinger of law and justice; it is the guarantor of the provisions of the Constitution. It has helped maintain the nobility of man by sidelining unfavourable behaviour in the society. The judiciary must be made more efficient and effective, more accessible and speedy in order to accentuate progress.

*Discuss  
how laws  
don't always  
guarantee  
justice*

When given the appropriate amenity, man has proven by its deed, its noble character. For instance invention of light bulb, electric vehicles, printing press, steam engine, X-Ray, healthcare infrastructure has made life easier and more enduring. Man is perfected simply when he is allowed to be man; when he is allowed to express his imagination.

Good governance comes into play here. Whenever the policies are in favour of people, progress is made much more easier. Skill India Programme, Standup

Remarks

India, Smart City Mission, Swachha Bharat Abhiyan are some policies which aim at developing an accessible and enabling environment.

Man is the noblest of all animals or not remain to be judged by first analysing conditions that lead him to his best. Also the laws that guarantee justice must be interpretable and avoid contradictions such as RTI (2005) which promotes transparency & Official Secrets Act (1923) which upholds secrecy.

~~For a law is as good as its executor and a nation is as good as its people.~~

57

- ~~Answer good reading of the question but you needed to condense some aspects and spend more time on the others.~~
- ~~Engage with the keywords.~~
  - ↳ what is law? what is justice?
  - ↳ Laws don't always bring justice
- ~~Mentioned the best and worst sides of humans~~

#### Remarks

- Alluded to why laws are important

## SECTION - B

I. 'VOCAL FOR LOCAL' HAS A GOOD INTENT, BUT IT HAS MANY CHALLENGES.

The trend #Vocalforlocal may be a new one, but the idea behind it can be traced back in history.

Ancient India or Bharata was a self-sustaining village and all that was in use was local and people were very vocal about their culture, heritage, customs, goods.

The Jaymali system kept the village economy intact and self-sufficiency was promoted.

From hunter gatherers to pastoralist to agriculture, India had been self sustaining throughout. When colonialists arrived in India, they were astonished to see the independent economy of the villages that made India. Henry Maine called the villages to be 'little republic' driven by self subsistence and acknowledged this reason for the existence of India as a rich & prosperous country (sone ki chidiya - India as a bird made up

good use  
history  
To open  
the essay

Remarks

of gold).

As the sea voyages began, new trade routes were discovered, new countries were discovered. With this came the desire for imperialism, colonialism and mercantilism. Though trade is the wheel of the global machinery, and India had been engaged in barter exchange of goods since time immemorial, India was however always a trade surplus country and the imported goods were mostly luxury items.

For instance, the Indus valley civilisation, Mughals, Mauryan empire; imported items were mostly gold, silver, the fine muslin cloth, perfume and all such royal fancies. But with the rise of mercantilism and colonialisation of India fuelled by Industrial Revolution, the economy of the Indian villages was ruptured by the British and India was henceforth used as a dumping ground for British products.

Remarks

Don't get carried away with simplistic histories & narratives.

simply address the question

Post industrial era, trade became a necessity and all those nations not engaged in the global logistics became stagnant societies. For instance, India in the post independent era compared with India after the LPG reforms of 1992 depicts an explicit picture of the necessity as well as the advancement made through trade.

However one must remember that trade is not a panacea for economic advancement. Overdependency on others is always detrimental for an individual as well as for a society as it leads to weakening of the self. Trade must be augmented to reinforce infrastructure, technology and should be a means to develop self sustenance rather than prolonged dependence on others; for the ultimate aim is to be vocal for local. — *Shouldn't take this long to address the key concept*

Remarks

Testing times act as a measure to gauge the vulnerability of countries at times of distress and their resilience to function better than before. The countries over dependent on others are likely to fail here. The Sub prime crisis of 2008 is a valid example where the global economy was shaken due to economic recession in USA which highlighted the need for countries to be vocal for local.

War, epidemic outbreak, natural calamity are other instances where the local infrastructure's power of buoyancy is tested. The Corona (COVID-19) pandemic has revealed the true state of all nations. Developed countries were worst affected and all those dependent on them were devastated. India has fared no better. With the GDP declining by 23.9%, disruptions in supply chain and the embarrassing state of the healthcare infrastructure coupled with 10 million job loss and 97% household income decline (as per Centre for Monitoring Indian economy (CMIE))

Relevant dimension

Remarks

the goal to double farmers income by 2022 and make India a \$5 trillion economy remains a distant dream. As Gandhi Ji advocated aatmanirbharta (self-dependence), the present scenario demanded his ideals to be practiced in reality. The deterioration of the informal sector, manufacturing sector, job loss in the service sector accompanied by threat to Indian security at it's borders has highlighted the need to empower the very people that make India incredible by augmenting rural infrastructure, easy and accessible loans for all and healthy environment. This is infact the duty bestowed on us by our Constitution makers which highlights the need for equitable development along with a sound environment in the DPSP. Gandhi Ji's <sup>dream</sup> of village self sustinance, his call for 'swadeshi' and boosting India with the help of Indians is the need of the hour.

Remarks

good argument

The call for 'Vocal for local' by the prime minister is thus a commendable step, however it carries with it certain challenges. India is a developing country and it is through FDI, exports, technology transfer that it is able to compete. Neo-liberal

Valid argument

policy favours open trade, however by being vocal for local, India can be thought of as promoting protectionism, trade war with its neighbours and going against the tenets of World Trade Organisation.

Globalisation has fostered inter-connectedness, competitiveness, consumerism. It helps in accentuating countries by strengthening potential, resource sharing. It also helps in maintaining a check and balance approach to counter selfish vested interests of nations via global platforms and by means of sanctions, trade embargo, boycott.

Remarks

It is good to strengthen one's resources, potential, culture, tradition and practices, however, by not shutting the door for others, but by reinforcing the hinges. Quality and not quantity, effectiveness and efficiency, best practices from others in the field of manufacturing, healthcare, technology should be emphasised, though the impetus for the same should be led by the local community and attempt must be made to make Indian products competitive vis-a-vis global brands.

*To  
list  
more  
challenges  
and  
proposed  
benefits*

For long, India has been relying on global products eg Nestle, Reebok, Cadbury, Ford, e-commerce sites Amazon and Google. It is contested that the abrupt transition from global to local would not be as easy as it seems by a mere catchphrase. Mindset of free India should be 'vocal for local'. We should appreciate our local products. If we don't do this then our products will not get the opportunity to do better and will not get encouraged.

**Remarks**

The demographic strength of the country must be utilised. Education, skill development, innovation, vocational training should not be mere repeated strategies for all sectors which demand improvement, rather efforts must be made to implement it in the real sense. Also, focus should be on development of society, living standard, enhancing human capacity.

Japan is a striking example. Japan was shattered completely and turned to ashes after World War II.

The geography of Japan is such that it had minimal communication with other nations in the 20<sup>th</sup> CE.

With virtually, no major natural resources, Japan was still able to reconstruct itself because of their culture of being industrious, efficient, committed, disciplined & dedicated to their work and stands today as one of the Top 5 global economies and is virtually spread throughout the world via its products. e.g. Honda, Panasonic, Canon, Toshiba, Miniso et al.

Remarks

Section  
could be  
shorter

'Vocal for local' can only be achieved via local attitude, exalting local practices. In a world of McDonaldisation, says Ritzer, it is becoming difficult to preserve one's culture, traditions. The Melting pot subsumes the local traditions and replaces them by the dominant culture. Thus Indianisation of modernity as stated by Yogenдра Singh is needed to complement modernity with local advancement.

Admissible dimension

Finland is the world's most happiest country and it attributes the same to its education system which is also the best in the world. Community driven actions, allegiance to the ethos of the state, respect for each other, measures for upliftment of culture and promotion of local tradition is what distinguishes Finland from the rest of the world. While India ranks 139 out of 149 countries assessed in the world Happiness Index, it needs to learn from the global best practices and

Remarks

22  
 inculcating community driven values, respect for the state & the Constitution, taking pride in the local culture from Kanchipuram sarees of Tamil Nadu to Kathakali dance form of Kerala, pashmina shawls of J&K to Bandhej silk sarees of Rajasthan among others must be encouraged from the grass root level in children.

The world is a common dwelling place, divided by boundaries created by humans. While being vocal for local can fulfill the short term goal of self-sustenance, economic advancement; however the longterm goal remains in building solidarity to tackle the global risks and foster cooperation in developing a peaceful and sustainable world order. After all, as the Hindu mythology holds 'the world is one big family' —

Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam.

- Delineate your essay using subheadings, then offer

Remarks *different arguments, spend more time on the important aspects of going vocal for local challenges like lack of infra, quality & cost, underdeveloped social sector, pressures on banks*

- Offer concrete arguments instead of only musings.