



An Institute for Civil Services

IAS TOPPER'S

TEST COPY

ANIL BASAK

RANK - 45

ESSAY MOCK - 1

GS SCORE

ESSAY MOCK TEST - 1

Roll No. _____

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).

Remarks

Section A - 56/125

Section B - 55/125

Name ANIL BASAK

Mobile No. _____

Date _____

Signature Anil Basak

1. Invigilator Signature _____

2. Invigilator Signature _____

SECTION - A

1. Child labour and poverty are inevitably bound together.
2. The current patterns of natural disasters clearly indicate inadequacies of development models.
3. Social media is about sociology and psychology more than technology.
4. The education system in India needs a grand overhaul to suit the requirements of the modern age. ←

SECTION - B

1. Conscience is an impractical guide to our life actions.
2. A reader is best when people barely know s/he exists.
3. Life without emotions is lifeless.
4. Birds born in cages think flying is a disease.

U.P.S.C.

①

इस भाग में कुछ
न लिखें
अपनी कोशिश में लिखें

Social media is about sociology and psychology more than technology

"Social media is a double-edged sword".

The above quote can be best understood from the following two scenarios:-

Scenario 1

The government launched "Selfie with daughter" ^{on social media} Campaign, under Beti-Bachao-Beti Padhao Abhiyan.

This encouraged people to realise the value of a daughter.

Scenario 2

Rumours of cattle-slaughter, ^{in social media} have led to many lynching incidents in the recent past.

Both the cases together highlight that social media can be used to bring a social change or to kill someone mercilessly. ☹

good use of
quote to
open the essay.

So, the question arises, what determines that social media will be used for a social change or to create disharmony in the society?

Is it related to sociology and psychology? Is ~~it~~ ~~ma~~ social media mainly determined by technology? Let us evaluate these questions.

Media : a form of technology

Technology refers to the use of science or innovation for the betterment of mankind. Humans have become the most powerful creature on earth due to continuous developments in technology. e.g. Humans have tamed the mightiest of creatures like lion by using technology.

~~So~~, Media is another product of technology. with the

adequate
definition of
technology.

U.P.S.C.

②

इस भाग में कुछ
न लिखें
(Don't write anything
in this part)

development of printing press, print media like newspapers and magazines developed. With the invention of radio and television, mass media evolved. And finally with the coming up of internet, social media came into being post 2000s.

Social media ~~basically~~ refers to use of various social networking sites or apps like Facebook, whatsapp, Twitter etc. to connect with people using internet. Social media has virtually transcended physical distances between us. We are living in a connected world where we can interact or communicate with anyone living in any part of the world.

~~It~~ It is quite natural to ask what exactly is Social media about? How Sociology is more important than technology for Social media?

Adequate definition of social media.

Sub-heading makes
little sense

Social media: Sociology triumphs technology

The good or bad use of social media is closely related with sociology. Social media has reached to the remotest part of societies.

Social media has become part and parcel of almost every society.

The views of a particular social society can be judged from social media e.g. checking the region based pages or groups on facebook.

Social media has led to many positive changes in the society. Ideas of gender equality, respect for personal liberty etc. have reached to many societies. Societies are becoming more tolerant to others' ideas.

Social media has also led to emancipation of women. Women are breaking the shackles of patriarchy.

and glass ceiling by getting inspired from role models on social media e.g. Kiran Bedi, Kamala Harris, Dangal girls etc. Another example of women empowerment is the me too movement against sexual harassment has given voice to many.

Social media has become a vital tool for the rising number of nuclear families (post globalisation) to remain connected with their ~~extended~~ relatives living far away. Faraway grandparents can video call their grandchildren using Whatsapp or Facebook.

Social media has given voice to many socially marginalised sections like transgenders or Scheduled castes / Scheduled tribes to raise their voice against injustices. Many a times their stories trend on social media and the

good enough
examination
of how
social
media
positively
affects
society.

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Concerned authorities are bound to solve their grievances.

However, many a times social media has been used for vested interests or for sinister motives for instance, social media is often used to create communal disharmony through fake posts and videos. e.g. Misuse of social media during anti-Citizenship Amendment Act in 2020 to flare communal tensions.

Social media is also used to spread nudity or child pornography which greatly damages the dignity of women and children. The content on social media spreads like a wildfire.

Other misuse of social media include character assassination, media trial, rumour mongering, hate speeches etc.

Relevant dimension

U.P.S.C.

7

प्रश्न पत्र में कुछ
न लिखें
समस्त बातें स्पष्ट
रूप में करें

Hence, whether social media will be used to make mankind better or worse depends on ~~society~~ societal attitude.

The role of technology in shaping social media ^{seems to be} lower compared to sociology.

Another important determinant of ~~society~~ social media is psychology. Let us evaluate the linkages between the two:-

Social media: Psychology triumphs technology

The psychology of an individual or a group greatly determines the use or misuse of social media. For instance, if an individual cares about environment he can encourage others through social media e.g. Uploading pictures of tree plantation drive on social media. Many a times in government departments if the internal grievance redressal mechanism is not efficient

Could also discuss changing social relationships in a digital world.

Social media can also influence our psychology. This is the key question.

U.P.S.C.

to solve corruption or bribery incidents then people may take the matter to social media. A pressure is built on other government departments to improve their public service delivery. Here, the mental attitude of raising the voice through social media does wonders.

Social media is filled with many motivational videos which help people during loneliness and depression. The stress created by modern life gets somewhat relieved by watching soothing or humorous videos.

Social media has broaden our mental horizon. We learn various dimensions of an issue and then create a well informed opinion.

However, if the psychology part is wrongly used

This may
not be
suited to
psychology

then Social media can become a deadly weapon. Social media has increased the phenomenon of fear of missing out, leading to anxiety, stress and depression. People are unable to appreciate what they have in their own life. They keep feeling low by seeing others.

relevant argument

Social media has become a potent tool to radicalise the vulnerable youths from minority communities as seen in Kerala by ISIS. Youths get readily influenced with online material and videos on social media. Brainwashing has become easy for the terrorist masterminds through social media.

Teenage children who remain isolated from real world get into the trap of dangerous online games like Blue whale challenge. The loneliness and feeling of worthlessness lead

push children into such games. Having analysed how sociology and psychology influences social media, let us see the role of technology in social media.

Technology controlling social media

With the advancement in technology from 2G to 3G, 4G and now 5G, social media's reach and usage has increased significantly. Each generation (2G, 3G, 4G or 5G) is much better than the previous one in terms of speed and latency. With this social media also rises.

As the mobile handset; tablets or computers are getting affordable social media is becoming reaching to poorer sections of the society as well. Electronic goods have become necessary goods and hence social media is becoming necessary for people.

This aspect
needed to be
more interesting

Section to be
needs to be
shorter

U.P.S.C.

With the coming up of artificial intelligence, big data etc. social media interface is getting more and more user friendly.

However, there are issues with technology as well. e.g. cybercrime, cyberbullying and cyberfraud has also increased with social media. Also individual's personal sensitive details are sometimes leaked on social media.

Often the social media giants ^(like facebook) violate the privacy of individuals. ~~They~~ ^{Companies} store the personal data of individuals without informed consent of individuals.

So, the natural question arises how to effectively use sociology, technology, psychology and technology in social media for the maximum welfare of all?

These arguments needed to be discussed under the aspect of 'psychology'.

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Social Media: The way ahead

There is need to create societal awareness and sensitisation regarding ethical use of social media. The social media companies need to sensitise their users regularly. Government can leverage the advertisement campaign by public figures.

Psychological mindset of vulnerable youths needs to be understood and thereby giving appropriate counselling services etc. Positive association should be given to good acts on social media.

Technological advancements should ensure that social media becomes accessible and affordable to all. However,

Social media is like a motorcycle whose handles are sociology and psychology while technology is the main engine. Thus, smooth ride is ensured by the handles.

Social media companies need to be more transparent with respect to privacy.

Passable conclusion

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13

एक वाक्य में उत्तर
न लिखें
(Don't write anything
in this part)

Life without emotions is lifeless

We know that both an insect (say an ant) and a human are living beings. But apart from anatomy and other biological differences what distinguishes between the two? Can

We think the difference between the two lies in cognitive abilities?

On one hand human beings have one of most developed brains ~~not~~ having the capacity to

have emotions, ~~while~~ ^{on the other hand} many ~~other~~

living beings largely lack emotional capabilities.

Though humans have emotional capabilities but if a person is without emotions then he is no different from a stone, that is, dead.

Humans who do not understand their own emotions and those of others are of no significance to the mankind and nature. A man person with emotions becomes

Avoid
pointless
sentences

Questionable
argument

Humans need not be viewed as resources.
a resource for the society.
Let us evaluate the close linkage of life with emotions.

Life and emotions: interplay of the two

Emotional capabilities are present in many animals as well. For instance, in an elephant herd, when an elephant dies, the other elephants of the group mourn the death. Similarly, birds and ~~other~~ ~~many~~ animals take care of their young ones.

Define emotions before you begin your analysis.
Humans of present day evolved from a caveman. The development of mind and body was accompanied with the development of emotions like love, care, sympathy, empathy, courage etc. Humans are social animals mainly because of rich variety of emotions it possess. Some emotions can be called as positive or desirable.

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इस भाग में कुछ
न लिखें
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in this part)

like love, care, generosity etc. while some emotions can be called as negative or not-desirable like hate, anger, jealousy etc. For a person to become morally good he/she should maximise positive emotions and minimise the negative ones.

So, the natural question arises how do we acquire all these emotions?

Determinants of emotions

When we are born we develop the feeling of love from our parents. As we grow older we develop the emotions of cooperation, respect for elders etc.

Similarly, in school we develop the emotions of friendship, respect towards teachers etc. At later stage of school we may even develop the emotion of attraction towards opposite sex.

Religion also influences

Even negative emotions make us human.
To be a machine is to be apathetic
To be human is to be emotional.

Emotions are innate so this section may not be relevant

our emotions. For example, we develop the emotions of universal brotherhood, service and spiritual happiness.

All the major religions ~~to~~ inculcate more or less the same core emotions as mentioned above.

Electronic media through various films and documentaries instill the emotions of courage, being morally upright and upholding the truth. Similarly, social media websites and apps like Youtube, Facebook also show various acts of humanity and charity and thereby building such emotions in us.

Lack of emotions in humans has many consequences. We can analyse this through various examples.

Absence of emotions: a disaster

Lack of emotions of humanity and equality led to the formation of

check
relevance

U.P.S.C.

13

इस पान में कुछ
न लिखें
Don't write anything
in this part

irrational ^{conflict such as the} system of caste based hierarchy in Indian society since ancient times. People of upper caste had a feeling of apathy and even anti-pathy towards the so called untouchables.

Lack of emotional connect between rulers (be it princes or British government) ~~and~~ and masses during the colonial times led to the degradation of Indian society. Ruling class never sympathised with the masses. As a result India became a backward day by day.

World wars and other wars were fought mainly because of understanding of emotions of others. The rulers lacked the emotions of humanity, peace and brotherhood. This led to death of millions and left even more ~~so~~ without anyone to look after them (orphans & widows).

In the modern

could simply say apathy harms fellow humans

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times, Bureaucratic apathy has led to neglect of weaker sections of the society. Rather than being servants of the people, Some bureaucrats think themselves as the masters. This is mainly because of lack of emotions of empathy and compassion. Civil services machinery becomes lifeless.

Often we read the news of deaths due to manual scavenging. This is also the result of lack of emotions of humanity in middle and rich classes. Contractors do not even sympathise with the death of the cleaners. This is clearly the death of humanity.

The incidents of harassment of women at public places and workplaces have increased in the recent time (NCRB). One of the reason for such increase is the attitude of apathy towards

Section needs to be condensed & over Don't explain multiple examples that make the same point

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18/19

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न लिखें
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in this part)

the crime. People do not raise their voice for the victims. This is mainly because of lack of emotions of courage and empathy. Here, again our life becomes lifeless.

The rising level of environmental degradation is because of lack of emotions of caring for the environment. We often think that ~~something~~ what will happen from our individual effort? But we should realise that environment protection is the duty of all.

Thus, having emotions in us is really essential to avoid bad consequences. So, is lack of emotion always bad?

Emotions: ~~Control~~ why to control them?

Lack of emotions in civil services enhances objectivity and certainty of administration. It minimises the

wrap up
this
section.

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discretion available to a civil servant.
This reduces corruption as well. However
the emotions of empathy and compassion
towards vulnerable section should
be encouraged.

In our life, many a
times we flow with our emotions.
We tend to speak these things which
we shouldn't. We later regret
for such behaviour of ours.

When we are unable
to control our emotions then we
start overthinking. This may lead
to anxiety and stress. This should
be avoided.

Many a times emotions
need to be balanced with
rationality. Merits and demerits
of a particular action should be
duly weighed in before going
for it.

Don't
narrow
down the
discussion to
only civil
services.

relevant
argument

U.P.S.C.

(21)

एन एम से कुछ
न लिखें
Don't write anything
in this card

Now, one would like to balance emotions and ~~to~~ way to do so.

Emotional Intelligence : The way ahead

The concept of emotional intelligence was first given by Daniel Golman.

Emotional intelligence (EI) is the ability to understand one's own emotions.

and those of others and thereby intelligently managing the same.

EI is not the lack of emotions but it is knowing how to manage it effectively. EI is becoming more and more important as the life is becoming more complex. Managing one's emotions is quite essential.

We humans need to understand our own emotions, whether it is happiness or sadness. We need to modify our response as per

- good dimension

Our emotions. We need to inculcate some external emotions like love, care, empathy etc. We need to understand the emotions of others as well. Only then we can help others in an efficient manner.

good
enough
conclusion

The value of emotions in human beings need to be realised particularly in fastly growing urban world. Human can be truly called as human ~~if~~ only when he is humane.

- Always define the keywords (i.e., emotions) before beginning your analysis.
- Discussed apathy and compassion
- Examined emotional intelligence
- Needed to examine
 - ↳ emotions enrich our lives.
 - ↳ they guide actions.

55

Section A

- Defined the keyword
- Discussed impact on society and psychology
 - ↳ Needed to probe algorithms, targeted ads, data breaches etc.
- Examined possible measures. Could have added the need for big companies to have transparent policies on data.

56

प्रश्न संख्या
(Question No.)

U.P.S.C.

(24)
इस स्थान में कुछ
न लिखें
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in this part)

U.P.S.C. 2013

U.P.S.C.

ROUGH WORK

INTRO → used

Social Media
to Support
Anti Corrupt
move

25

INTRO → 1 1/2

what is social media? Sociology? Psychology?

↳ Body
↳ Body

Social media
for
rumors
child
lifting
lynching
Psych
Sociology
>> feel

① Technology

Technology

social media?

Intro then
rise of media
print
social media
TV
Internet

How
SM changes
our society
depends on
tech or
Sociology

③ Social Media

evolution

Benefits

③ Social Media & SOCIO

→ Linkage of Social Media & Sociology

Sociology triumphs technology in Socio

→ Linkage → Psychology triumphs technology

→ Technology still imp
↓ 5G, 4G affordability

SOCIETY

→ Progressive ideas

→ Patriarchy & Liberty

→ modern culture

→ Role models women emp

→ Socioeconomic progress

SM / SOCIOLOGY
Triumphs tech.

Religion /
pages etc.

Me too

→ transgender

→ family

→ Nuclear families

Caste
based
groups

① Essay 4 d

Psychology

Good

→ change making : highlighting poor
PSB

→ ~~Laptop~~ Anticorruption mont

Bad

→ Radical, Extrem, ISIS

→ Brain wash

→ Danger games Blue whale

#

Tech

→ 4G reach ↑, 5G affordable
Digital literacy, affordability
of ~~hand~~ mobile (internet based)

→ Regional languages
text to speech

→ cyber security, data breach
privacy.
(malware)

CONCLUSION

① Awareness + Sensitisation

② Bills pass ✓

③ Informed consent

④ ~~Digi~~ Schemes → PM GDISHA,
Bharatnet,
CSC, Digital
India.

INTRO

Insect vs Human

ROUGHWORK

① → Life vs Meaning life

Attitude

② → why needs emotions

③ → consequences of no emotions

④ → when no emotions is good.

⑤ → How to inculcate emotions

→ family

→ mother → caregiving, responsible, dignified

→ Peer group / school → friendship bond

→ Media → movie, social media →

Good end

→ Religion → finding happiness in service, inner peace through meditation

⑥ → Emotional Intelligence → way to

→ world war
→ ~~Barren~~ apathy
→ Social PHS
(+ treatment, Scavenging)
→ Emul.
disruption

→ attraction towards opposite sex, feeling of respect towards teachers, peers etc.

① → Even animals have emotions. + humans have well developed brains → emotion → connected → problem of friends, stranger

④ → Objectivity ↑, Subjectivity ↓, certainty ↑
→ Do not flow with our emotions → anger / loneliness
→ Overthinking → anxiety
→ Rationalism ↓

⑤ → ② →

