

# **GSSCORE**

**An Institute for Civil Services**

## **IAS TOPPER'S**

**TEST COPY**

**RAHUL DEV BOORA**

**RANK - 76**

**ESSAY MOCK - 2**



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**GS SCORE**

**ESSAY MOCK TEST - 2**

508

UPSC 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).

Name Rahul Dev Bora

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

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature Rahul

1. Invigilator Signature [Signature]

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

**Remarks**

E I - 52

E II - 54

## SECTION - A

1. None other than we are responsible for peace and happiness.
2. "Being" gives more satisfaction than "winning".
3. Intelligence means our ability to respond to the present.
4. Life is a success when we realise its potential; it becomes beautiful when we feel it; and divine when we give.

## SECTION - B

1. Suicide is a permanent surrender before a temporary problem.
2. Universal basic income is a beautiful idea, but it has its own moral hazards.
3. Value based politics is an unrealisable goal.
4. Industrial societies are lonely and poor.

## Section A

Life is a success when we realise its potential; it becomes beautiful when we feel it; and divine when we give.

"Best Great lives are one those who live for others" — Swami Vivekananda.

In Modern digital and social media age, we often see posts. "Life is beautiful", 'Hakuna Matata' (No Tensions), Good Vibes, 'Aham Brahmasmi' etc. Though posts are written casually but almost many of them are driven by wrong and misunderstood meaning of life; success, beauty & divinity. In fact many of the posts which actual hold true meaning don't label themselves such things because

The intro  
must  
bring  
out  
the  
meaning  
of  
the  
topic

they understand true meaning is not to selflessly service ~~for~~ others. This is what Swami Vivekananda have said which describe the true meaning of essay.

good  
format  
for  
intw

To get deeper in the topic first we will try to understand the meaning of life, success, beauty in life, potential of life, etc. Then we will see how to achieve the real goal i.e. to realize its potential, to create beauty in our life and at last to make the life great/divine as many great leaders have done.

What is life? Mostly we all it as a culmination of events like birth, youth, old, death. - We feel that with death life is finished. But this layman meaning. There are persons who people

are left tools i.e. force essa beat one tim

What birth exp make next do. on sc

Remarks

Remarks

are still living even after death. They left behind their immortal ideas, acts, tools etc. Truly this is meaning of life, i.e. to live as world remembers you forever. Otherwise, within hour of this essay reading of yours, many ~~lives~~ heart beats would become silent, which no one remember except close ones for some time.

Relevants  
def'n of  
key  
term

↓

keep  
it  
brief

This brings us to potential of life. What we can achieve within this birth-death cycle of say 65 yrs (Avg. life expectancy). Well, we can make friends, make our body strong, give rise to next generation in which typically everyone does. True potential lies in bringing change on ground - in political, economic, intellectual, social, environment, technological sphere.

Remarks

~~Only when we~~  
 Now, what we mean success. A success  
 for one, would not be one for others. Our  
 success to ~~is~~ fold nature as per our needs  
 is creating failure in life expectancy, health,  
 household, income etc. due to Climate Change.

Though this was a change & those who  
 brought this change really realize potential  
 of their life in intellectual & economic  
 sphere and might have ~~lived~~ created a good life  
 for oneself but it was at cost of others.

Most often this is meaning of

success - to bring change for good of oneself.  
 We then say, that person have realized its  
 potential of life. But there is other side of  
 it. Modern ~~thinker~~ people might say  
 an <sup>poor</sup> organic farmer, an uneducated but  
 caring mother etc. as unsuccessful. But  
 they have preserved environment and created

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Remarks

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Remarks

a capable next generation which is often overlooked - there life is successful too. So, success a relative term must be viewed from multiple views but it is true to say those who bring change are successful in their purpose.

When we see our life is beautiful. Most oftenly we equate it with happiness, wisdom, being healthy & educated, etc. being wealthy, going on exotic destinations etc. Well yes true meaning is in happiness but other terms have to be looked in light of this. Wealthy & educated people have done suicide which is taken only when no beauty is left in life.

Thus, what brings happiness is not just accumulation of wealth, rote learning, steroids to build body etc. which is often seen today.

discuss  
how  
realising  
what one's  
potential  
is, is  
necessary  
for  
success.

Remarks

discuss  
the  
need to  
feel our  
emotions!

This short term things lead only to short term beauty often called 'fun' but but realy beauty with eternal happy state of mind & body is achieved when we bring change in our life & life of others. Albert Einstein, Edison, Newton etc. whose discoveries made life of people easy do well have felt the beauty of life.

The ~~better~~<sup>beauty</sup> of life starts ~~becoming~~  
when we ~~realize~~ feel what life is about i.e. to bring change for good - for oneself, & nearones, society etc. When we start feeling ourselves as agent of change, we start feeling empowered, intellectual & experience the beauty of life.

Now, comes the almighty or greatness as equivalent to god. Who do we say god - one that cares for us, one who

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Remarks

Remarks

do away our hardship i.e. one who is capable in itself & is selflessly devoting to good of others without asking anything in return. These are the values, which makes one great. ~~As leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, Nelson Mandela, Martin Luther King, Varghese Kurien etc.~~

have taken up practised this and that's why we call them great / divine.

Thus, divinity lies in giving. It is free ; it feels so good when one feed an hungry, educate a poor, empower a women, support a noble cause. You will really feel divinity in you. "Practise it & feel it" - is the noble Mantra which

need to be followed. When all become divine by giving, world will become heaven.

suitable discussion



can explore the idea of 'giving' more!

Link  
your  
points  
to  
the topic  
clearly

Now, how to achieve success,  
beauty & dignity in life & how to  
make these things en masse possible.

To be successful, we need to build  
capabilities of all - as illustrated by

Amarya Sen. Thus, development models  
should focus on mass education, skilling,  
health etc. as capable people are one  
who become successful.

This also calls for removing  
restrictions - social, economical, political etc.  
If we want women to realize their potential  
& be successful in life we need to break  
the patriarchal barriers, allow her to  
explore world, educate her to less question,  
to become change agent not just for her  
but rather to become role model. This calls  
will lead to realizing our transformation

Remarks

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Remarks

from Women Development to 'Women led development'

When people starts feeling themselves as empowered they start feeling beauty of life. They will start working to improve their conditions, this will lead to further beauty - a virtuous cycle. But at this time they need to realized that true goal of life i.e. divinity is to bring beauty in life of others. This calls for education & societal norms which promotes minimalism, trustworthiness, helping nature, selflessness etc. Truly our society miss them.

It is due to absence of these principles we today see poverty, crimes, hunger, suicides etc. We often overlook

Remarks

The point  
is  
suitable  
but brief

these news in newspaper in just seconds.  
But what these shows is failure of  
own life, failure of humanity in total.  
One is poor because other have exploited  
him, one does suicide because someone  
have bullied him & we don't approach  
him with our compassionate heart.

When we starts pondering in  
this way, we take our first step to  
divinity i.e. to become empathetic about  
social problems. They are not problem of  
others but ourselves only. So, come the  
second step of compassion with selflessness.

To bring out urge in ourselves to help  
others. Also, join the others who are  
helping - this is how noble charities, NGOs,  
trusts develops which are creating great change.

Remarks

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When we develop this feeling we starts feeling divinity. We starts feeling that whole world belongs to me & I am responsible for it. Recently, World food programme is awarded Noble Prize

Avoid repetition of ideas  
↓

for Peace : Aim of the institution truly reflects this divinity - no child to be hungry, no matter where, no matter to what Caste, no matter what religion.

Stay aware of the word limit

(900-1200)

Artha, Kama, Dharma in our literary philosophical texts reflects these principle of success, beauty, material

of life. And in the end come 'Moksha' - i.e. to unite with god. No, we don't

have to go beyond this world to be united with god.

Relevant conclusions  
 ↓  
 can also include a brief summary of the discussion

We can achieve it here only.  
 Practise empathy, compassion, sharing spirit.  
 let go away feeling of ego, hate, my-own etc. Help others, bring beauty in their life & beauty lies to comes to you — the reciprocity principle will kick in the virtuous cycle.

These ideals will lead to divinity in oneself & will create heaven on earth as envisaged by Mohandas Rabindra Nath Tagore. Also, it will lead to our development goals of Inclusive and Sustainable Development (Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas, Satat Vikas) in our vision of New India.

Remarks

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Remark:

## Section B

Value Based Politics is an unrealisable goal

Modern era has seen the rise of 'Welfare State' concept. With its role & responsibilities of government / state have increased manifold. It is now omnipresent in private & public and even private sphere too. This all-encompassing nature of government makes it the biggest 'agent of change': ~~as well as~~ But, for few, this means of change is also seen viewed as an end itself to become all powerful & dictating in society. These different views arise all because of difference of values, which we sadly lost somewhere !!

The intro must not be vague  
 ↓  
 must clearly bring out the meaning

Good  
format

To dwell further in topic, we first need to know the true meaning of politics? Also, what values it need to have for true meaning & purpose of it? Are the values at all necessary? Then, we will see what if values are lost from politics - as in present state. At the end, we will try to see some possible solutions to come out <sup>of</sup> this labyrinth of "Politics Without Principles".

Concepts of Ramrajya, Swaraj, Swaraj, duties of king as laid down in Arthashastra - "Yogakshema", & values prescribed for private & public life in Bhagwata Gita are rich treatise which gave us true meaning of Politics. They see politics as value laden. They see

Remarks

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Remark

politics for the well-being of all citizens in a region. They see this as the most "powerful mean" to bring change en masse. The values they prescribe are inclusivity, pluralism, democracy (debate & negotiations), humanism (respect of human rights), objectivity, transparency and accountability, welfare approach, to live for others, giving spirit.

*more suitable as part of way forward*

This value laden concept of politics as means to change people's life is equally shared in Western philosophy too. Plato, Aristotle equally emphasized this. 'Social contract' theories also build up on this which <sup>propose</sup> that legitimate government is one that protect people, provide basic needs, build capabilities & make them empowered.

*Relevant point*

missed  
draggry  
the  
point

Stitable  
discussions  
of the  
current  
scenario

True potential of something is realized only in absence of something. This is true for values importance in politics too. When values are lost, meaning itself of politics is changed. It become tools to capture power. This is what people thinks now a days.

Modern meaning is to form government - by hook or crook, legit or illegitimate means. Make false promises in election manifesto, rally people around you, use Money & muscle power (Seths & goondas), attack on opposition wherever possible, create divide in society (caste, religion, wealth), use modern technological tools to capture narrative, erode watchdog institutions & job done. You have 5 years, pay back to those who helped & forget others!!

Remarks

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Remarks

What this leads to, can be seen well in India. India continue to grapple with evils of poverty (29<sup>th</sup> multidimensionally poor), hunger (102 rank in Hunger Index), Inequality (Top 10% accounts for 75% wealth), Anarchy (Crimes, protests, rapes) etc. Social reforms takes backseat (Women, SC/ST continue to suffer) & nepotism, money game, inefficiency & scams flourish. Once called Heaven on Earth (Kashmir) became hell on earth. All this, once again takes us to visionary nature of Mahatama Gandhi who rightly said

"Politics without Principle is Sin".

Now, come the most important question that is it possible to have politics with values. Counter arguments are strong as it is very difficult in present situation to have value laden politics. Even, some philosophers like

link your  
points  
to the  
topic  
clearly

can give  
examples  
of leaders  
you  
valued  
'ethics'

Machiavelli have justified in 'The Prince' the corruptability of Politics. But within these we have hope too. Some countries have achieved this too - Japan, Nordic Countries followed values & achieved great results. Same needs to be done in India to achieve Ramrajya, but from where to start??

This difficult task and level of value erosion, calls for holistic intervention at multiple levels. Perhaps, firstly political parties themselves have to realize importance of it. They need to look at history, how their short term gains harmed them in long term. Even when they captured power, beast still haunts them by destabilizing govt. by defections.

point  
not  
clear

Remarks

A process should start between political parties to reform the nature of politics. This require great leadership and we don't have dearth of it. In the past, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Abdul Kalem Azad have tried for it. Other parties should respect this & join the process when started. This is the most ideal situation, reform of culprit itself.

what  
reform?

Reform within might take time to start & long time to finish. To hasten this process, we need to have watchdog institutions. We do have Election Commission of India (ECI), Diligent Judiciary (SC, HC etc.). What is needed is their proactiveness & strengthening. ECI had to given more power for enforcing the Model Code of Conduct (MCC), which truly represents the values of politics. When someone violates <sup>rules</sup> it will make him immediately falls in line.

Relevant point

These external institutions will help in breaking the vicious cycle of corrupt politics, which can As one corrupt act encourage another, so no single act should go unpunished.

Avoid such long discussions

Politics is not just about elections. Real politics start when majority government starts functioning. Parliamentary rules & values of debate, discussions, inclusive solution, respecting opposition & taking it in confidence should be adhered to. This only will lead to value based laws which promise valued development - inclusive & sustainable. Position of Speaker need to be neutral, so is the position of governor & President. It is necessary that persons at ~~these~~ posts are selected by consensus which are persons of strong integrity & objectivity.

Remarks

Values erode when power concentrates.  
 For a democratic govt. can become authoritarian, as we have seen in Emergency period. It calls for decentralization of power to grassroots levels. Panchayati Raj Institutions & Municipalities should be provided with adequate funds, functions & functioning. This will empower people to be participative in development journey & value of pluralism flourish.

Secrecy is the key vice where corruption, nepotism, inefficiency, selfishness etc. flourish. This needs to be minimized by transparency & accountability tools. RTI, Social audits, e-governance, SWD, Moto disclosures, citizen charters, grievance redressal mechanisms are the key tools which should be popularized to bring values back in governance.

suitable way forward but make to the point arguments

discuss  
the  
need  
for  
people  
to  
Choose  
wisely

Values flourish when people put large demands for it. & If not all, then we have to make sure that atleast those who demand for it are not punished or threatened. as we have seen recently like Brashant Bhuisan, Gauri Lankesh etc. There is need to take serious review of draconian laws like Sedition (sec 124A, IPC), National Security Act, Contempt of Courts Act, etc.

Any change is sustainable in long term, when it is deeply rooted in society. So, values must be imbibed in each & everyone. This calls out for two things. Firstly, we need to make people all empower enough that they all values each other & trust each other & in values.

Remarks

Unless, we don't liberate poors from economic poverty, sc/st from social constraints, women from patriarchal norms, we can't make them to believe in us & our values.

Good thing is that this is virtuous cycle. As we become good in values, they get liberated so do the social capital develops.

Second, and perhaps the most important thing, is education. Mahatma Gandhi, Einstein, Theodore Roosevelt, Margaret Mead etc. all great thinkers have emphasized the true meaning of education which is

"Education is one that promotes character"

Thus, content of our education, teaching methods, thoughts & beliefs taught in

Prioritize your points as you need to stay within the word limit

School should all aims to promote character as "Shilam Param Bhudham" (Character is best virtue). ~~Children of tomorrow today~~ will participate in politics tomorrow & if they are value laden so will be the politics.

Thus task of clearing politics is a difficult one. It requires interventions at institutional, economic, social, educational levels all with coherent vision to build public spirited citizens & so do politicians. But indeed the fruits of "Ramrajya" will be sweet too. So, the process of Values / Principle based Politics must start as soon as possible.

— X —

Remarks

All humanity in India life.

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Value based politics is an unrealisable goal.

Q. What is politics — True/May, false/May ✓

Agent of Change.

Not just election.

Present

Is value Necessary

Machiavelli

Q. Values in politics

- Welfare — Transparency & Acc.
- Democracy — Debate, Dissent — Promises kept.
- Plurality, Inclusivity — Pluralism — Objectivity.
- Honesty — Transparency — Integrity.

Ought to be.

(A) Hazard of No Value in Politics

Workshop.

Nationalism

Soclit - Economic

Env. - Capitalization.

Political - No further good

Tech. - Leader - National

World, Inclusiv &amp; Subst Govt.

(B) Benefits of Value in Politics

Purpos

Q. Why Not realizable, despite knowing - Vicious cycle.

↳ Machiavelli.

↳ Different deeds of diff'rent person.

↳ others don't follow.

↳

Q. How to realize it

- { ECI - MCI, Int'l Democracy. } Institutions.
- SC order - Decentralization
- Ministers of all - Local.
- T2A local - Tech
- Reconciliation of Power - Political.
- Edu - Child.

Good eg.

Gandhi, Atal Bihari

Inchitut - Nelson Mandela.

Apt of - Abraham Lincoln.

Chast

Goal is bettered.  
All not kept best

Polythe with profhi.

Remarks

Life is a success when we realized its potential, it becomes beautiful when we feel it & divine when we give)

Q. What is life

Steve Jobs, Einstein, Mark Zuckerberg.

Q. What is potential of life

Big change for mankind.

Self  
Family  
Society  
Env./Planet.

Creative  
Innovation

- WU mess - Nam  
(Child care.)
- Env Protection.  
(Vangtiri mess)
- Farmers

↳ Those who revere - Sers  
↳ Those who don't revere.

Q. How to realize its potential.

Q. Success meaning.

One &  
go.

Is it necessary to be successful or does.

Q. What is beauty in life

Joy

Happiness.

No sorrow.

How to  
achieve  
beauty.

Q. What we feel. The potential. - Set by oneself or set by others.

Suicide  
bullying

Q. Direct of life - Gives us good. One that care. for oh

↳ give to others.

↳ give what they - trust worthy. Gandhi

↳ Compassion

Mandela.

↳ Courage

Martin Luther

↳ Human rights

Amy Tan, Sonali Kulkarni

Subrahmanyam

Vargheese Kurien

Remarks

→ you have covered the way-forward part well and it has taken all your focus. The intro & body must be given proportionate attention.

- Do not just justify the topic but critically analyse all aspects.
- can discuss points like
  - can give instances of politics losing values
    - rise in criminalisation of politics
    - use of money & muscle
    - corruption
  - causes of loss of ethics
    - power considered more valuable than honesty
    - voters are manipulated by money & propaganda - fail to choose wisely
  - Not all politics is bad - we have leaders like Gandhi

essay 1

you have defined the key terms well. But you did not focus clearly and distinctively on the three key ideas.

- success & realising potential
- feeling life to make it beautiful
- giving leading to durnity

- Prioritise your arguments and avoid dragging any irrelevant points.
- Can discuss points like
  - understand your potential by self introspection / meditation - will lead to increased satisfaction & reduced alienation.
  - 'Giving' can also include giving people your time, tolerance i.e giving them the space to be.

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Remarks

GS SCORE

Remarks

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Remarks

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*Remarks*