

308

GS SCORE
ESSAY TEST SERIES 2020

ESSAY MOCK TEST - 1

Roll No. 0804200

Time Allowed: 3 Hrs

Max. Marks: 250

Instructions to Candidate

Remarks

- 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.

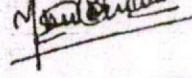
(Examiner will pay special attention to the candidate's grasp of his/her material, its relevance to the subject chosen, and to his/her ability to think constructively and to present his/her ideas concisely, logically and effectively).


M. J. J.

Name Anne Benival

Mobile No. _____

Date 8/12/2020

Signature 

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 leader 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.

Running essay
①

1. Good content, but repetitive & ~~say~~ many key aspects/dimensions missing
2. Analysis could have been much better
i.e.

① we are what our choices are. Had we make decisions & emotion influences our decisions (good, bad - cases)

② emotion vs reason - when emotion out of control (like justice or other examples)

③ self control - importance & managing emotions (good leaders)

④ Relationship, care, sacrifice & meaning of life. (community, needs, others etc.)

Let your essay come naturally

"The education system in India needs a grand overhaul to suit the requirements of modern age."

"Unemployment in India at 45 years high!"

"With less than 2% formally trained, is India ready for AI?"

"Only 23% of Indian households can avail e-education: UNICEF"

A close look to such common newspaper headlines, ^{in 2020} forces one to question the ability of current education system of India to suit the demands of a globalised world which is dominated by economic determinism and digital technologies.

An education system which has produced an unproductive, low skilled, male dominated labour force with compromised values and morals needs a 360° change in terms of investments, methodologies, technologies etc. to fit well in this modern age.

India has become a land of paradox where it has a huge demographic dividend but is unable to harness it owing to the deficiencies in education system. The methodology of Indian education system is largely confined to a strict rote learning where academic performance of learning and memorising is given importance over creativity, curiosity and practical experience.

Devoid of skill training and vocational studies, such students get into the trap of unemployment and underemployment as the modern age is characterised by artificial intelligence, machine learning, robotics etc which are powered from innovations and high level skills in softwares and hardwares.

The modern age MNC's prefer an educated population which can help it in realising its profit motives in no time and not a labour force which becomes an economic burden on it.

So, the first pillar of 'grand overhaul' should definitely stand over regular training and skill sessions spanned over the secondary and tertiary tiers of education.

As once highlighted by 'Malala Yousafzai', we can't succeed when half of us are held back. The

excellent

modern age not only requires a huge women workforce for progressing on the economic ladder but also ~~was~~ needs the qualities like care, compassion, sensitivity, empathy, environmentalism etc on the forefront.

Remarks

Better bring a brief a discussion on what does mean by 'Modern Age' in the context of topic.

With a huge gender gap in education system, India needs a complete policy makeover which can help in providing accessible, equitable and inclusive education to the females. India needs to reverse the trend of increasing drop outs of females from secondary education by creating behavioural changes, providing incentives and safety in forms of e-learning, earn while you learn etc.

The natural instinct of females towards sustainable development, multitasking, care work accompanied with overhaul of STEM learning (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) ~~so~~ can suit well to the requirements of modern age which faces problems of ageing population, global warming, climate change, protectionism and egoistic geo-political relations.

The modern age is mechanised and monotonous and so often leads to mental health issues like depression, loneliness, anxiety, low self esteem etc. An education system which is completely overhauled with values based curriculum where emotional intelligence scores more than IQ is the need of hour.

Need better
discussions
about
Modern
AI

India having the largest mental health burden (as per the Lancet Psychiatry) with 4.7% disability adj adjusted lifeyears need to invest in an education system where counselling sessions, community service, group activities, happiness programmes, Yoga sessions etc form the part of holistic learning. This will not only make the students more productive economically but will also help them in combating the ills of modern age.

As the age gets modern, the technologies get advanced in all the dimensions like genetic engineering, biotechnology, cyberworld etc. In such a scenario, an education system which has not invested in ethics based learning, can prove to be disastrous for the society and world.

If a doctor refuses to treat a dying patient or over financial issues and a scientist chooses to invest his education in bio weapons then the education system can be called a complete failure and it definitely needs a grand overhaul. To avoid such mishappenings in India, Indian education system needs to focus over exploring the character building education as dreamt by Swami Vivekananda, "We do not want book worms, we want man making, character building education".

Modern age comes with the unexpected scenarios in form of natural and man made disasters which can disturb the entire socio-economic and political atmosphere of the nation and the world.

India's education system needs to work upon building capacities and capabilities of present and future generations so that they are well equipped to deal with such emergencies.

India needs to overhaul the infrastructure of education to make it accessible to the remotest corners, rural areas, tribal belts and island regions.

As seen in the time of COVID-19, an education system should have been technologically ready to continue digitally without disruptions. The teachers must be trained regularly to become more technology comfortable so that they can educate any time and any where even without the physical premises.

The modern age has trapped us in a pandemic where 286 million students of India were affected and only 25% of them will end up having qualitative education in 2020-2021. This outdated and poorly infrastructured education system of India needs an overhaul to sustain such in future.

However, the education system in India also needs to reflect upon the meanings of modern age. An education system which has can help students to question the needs and ends of it will prove to be most successful in the long run. The students must be aware that they don't need to be the slaves of modern age rather they need to evolve the modern age according to the virtues like a peaceful life, dignified living, justice to everyone, sustainable development etc.

The world does not need human robots but ethical

Can you illustrate this part?

humans who can think logically and emotionally at the same time and so the education system of India needs the grand overhaul in this direction.

India is already moving forward with major reforms in the education system like National Education Policy, 2000 which aims at Sustainable development, ^{fulfilment of} human rights and global well being.

It has also invested heavily in political and administrative reforms through various schemes like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Uchchatar Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan etc to fulfil the requirements of modern age.

Timely implementations, behavioural changes, political will, change within the societies, investments over 6% of national income, and a completely

Overhauled tinkering ecosystem of innovation holds the key to future of modern age.

"Overhauled at the right time,
Indian education system helped India
to traverse the hierarchy of modern age."

- A newspaper headline in 2035.

1. Very good content.
2. Good expressions.
3. Few aspects are repetitive.
4. Some key ideas / dimension can take you easy to the next theme.

i.e. 1. - is it anything bad about Modern age.

2. What we can do about inequality, values, culture, etc.
3. Brief global comparison.
4. Give good practice if we have any example / case etc.

(62)

Remarks

g.m.

'Life without emotions is lifeless'

"Ramesh dreamt of becoming a wildlife photographer but ended up as an engineer in an MNC of Gurgaon. These days he doesn't seem to be motivated for life. He expressed no joy or excitement at the college reunion. And, in fact, he didn't even seem sad or bothered when his father succumbed to Covid last month. The counsellor has advised Ramesh to start living his life again."

Be careful when you start with any anecdote.

The nature has blessed humans with life, a life where one can feel joy, happiness, excitement, hopeful and enthusiastic at every other moment. Though the feelings of anger, guilt, regret, hate etc make one sad or depressed but they are a strong sign that one is alive and responds to the stimuli. Without responses or feelings, would life be worth living?

This is your natural flair of writing. you start with this. In the last essay also. you did well.

When a baby is born, the doctors remain hopeful of a cry from the baby as that would indicate the presence of life in that little human. As the infant grows, the mother starts to understand the needs of the baby through his/her expressions of emotions. The simple emotions of cry and smile develop a complete communication system between the mother and child.

As life goes on, humans start learning emotions which are complex and they develop their choices of hiding or displaying them as per the circumstances. They start to differentiate between negative and positive emotions based on their value systems, level of socialisation and ethical understanding. This forms the basis of their life as without

These emotions and emotional understanding, life would be dull, monotonous, robotic and might be driven with animal instincts.

Without emotions, a person would hardly have any motivation to improve his/her circumstances. He/She would remain immune to victories and defeats, accomplishments and failures, love life and separations, promotions or transfers etc. Such a person not only becomes stressed and depressed but is also not accepted well in the society as he/she would end up radiating negative vibes in the surroundings. People refuse to get along with such lifeless humans.

Not only in the social life, but the economic life also becomes lifeless. The corporates don't want to hire a person who has no team spirit, no sense of achievement or no drive for improving for getting incentives, bonus or promotions.

An emotionless person won't easily get into a stable personal relationship. Relationships are driven on the basis of love, care and compassion for the other half and without emotions, it would be just living with an inanimate object. So such personal relationships would not have a long life and this would make the person even more lifeless.

~~As~~ If the person has absence of emotions, he/she won't care if the other person is sick or diseased. Not only the spouse, but ^{even the} children and parents of such individuals end up feeling mentally stressed and depressed. Families run on emotive connections, more than the blood relations. A member who is full of happiness and excitement on your success and who feels your pain and anger at your losses is known to be called "alive and emotional".

The concept of society runs on emotional connectivity. Where any social injustice done to anyone triggers a mass emotional response. In absence of such a response, the society loses its life and becomes a group of individuals who don't feel anything for their fellow human beings and the rich biodiversity.

The world has seen lakhs of peaceful protestors on the streets when Nirbhaya was raped and mercilessly tortured to death. Those people didn't know her but they were full of anger, sadness, guilt and shame. These emotions gave life to Nirbhaya even after her death in the form of capital punishment to the culprits and "Nirbhaya act" in the policy book.

The social vaccine for COVID-19 is in the success of social isolation and social distancing norms. Although, they seem to be easy, but the world has seen mass protests and open flouting of norms because the people can't live long without the

emotional touch. A deadly pandemic couldn't overpower the basic block of life, i.e., emotions.

The world today is heterogeneous as it is multi-cultural, multilingual, multi-religious and multi-ethnic ethnic. Imagine how beautiful it is that a person who knows nothing about the culture, political order, language, economic status of a child across the borders who drowns into the Mediterranean while trying to cross the border but still moves to tears and grief when gets to know about it.

Had there be no emotions, life would have been just a biological process of eating, sleeping, waking and dying.

Emotions not only translate to our personal and societal life but they also give life to the concept of ecosystem. Without emotions, humans would just end up killing and destroying the beautiful biodiversity for the materialistic and economic needs.

In the process, the life would become hollow and lifeless. The indiscriminate felling of trees for setting up industries, polluting the rivers and lakes with deadly chemicals, making the oxygen rich air full of NO_x , SO_x and particulate matter; humans have not only compromised their emotions of love and compassion for mother nature but have also ended up making our lives lifeless.

Not thinking twice before mercilessly killing the ^{wild} animals for satisfying the taste buds, for creating lifeless leathers and for earning through illegal smuggling, humans have sucked out life from nature. Things would have been far different with the presence of emotions like empathy, sympathy and compassion.

Having said about the rising economic determinism of humans, it becomes necessary to explore the life of humans in a mechanistic and modern age which is driven by technology and workaholicism.

Humans today are getting disconnected with their natural emotions by getting engulfed in the mad race of making more and more profits. They fail to reflect upon the 'ends of life' which are happiness and peace and not money and power. Thus, there their lives are getting valueless, emotionless and unethical. Such lives are highly mechanistic where they work like machines day and night in fixed time frames and set schedules. Should one call this life? or lifeless?

Interacting behind the phone and laptop screens, humans have become champions of manipulations. They not only manipulate their own emotions by being a different individual with the on and off switch of the screens but are also getting more lifeless day by day with hopelessness and sense of ^{self} devaluation.

Although, we have invented robots and humanoid like Sophia who has Saudi Arabia's citizenship and

'Pepper' who understand the basic emotions of happiness and sadness by analysing the movement of facial muscles.

But, these robots are still called lifeless as they don't have emotions like humans do. They can perform ^{multiple} tasks much better than humans but they can't feel the joy, kindness, anger, excitement like humans.

On the basis of machine learning, they might become artificially intelligent in future but they will remain lifeless in the absence of emotions.

The ocean of emotions make life worth living but expressing them or feeling them beyond a certain threshold can create a lot of life hurdles. Thus, comes the concept of modern times, 'Emotional intelligence' with dimensions of self awareness, self motivation, empathy and social skills.

One needs to express an optimum amount of emotions as per the situational needs and should also try to bond to the society through empathy. One needs to be intelligent about the emotions as they guide the life and make it worth living.

Such emotional regulation can be achieved either by self practice or by appropriate meditative exercises where one learns to connect to oneself and the surroundings.

Probably, this was what Gautam Buddha was trying to teach his disciples, The four noble truths of life spanned over desire and suffering and the solution lying in following the middle path of moderation. A very similar concept was propounded across the land and sea borders by Aristotle in the form of "Golden mean" between the virtues and vices.

Life is the most beautiful gift and the secret ingredient of happiness lies in appropriate amount of emotions which make the personal, societal, economic, national and global dimensions peaceful and dignified.

"Oh! Ramesh? He is a happy and lively soul today and is busy in weekly wildlife photography sessions. He take the excitement to his home and social gathering also. Often gets sad over delayed salaries but he's very hopeful and inspired of his new journey."

Remarks

Review of
first page

57