



An Institute for Civil Services

IAS TOPPER'S TEST COPY

SRISHTI MISHRA

AIR 95

CSE 2023

ESSAY



8448496262



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Skishiti Mishra SECTION A

Please do not
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कृपया इस स्थान
में प्रश्न संख्या के
अतिरिक्त कुछ
न लिखें।

UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.
Content of the Question is more important than length.
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

उम्मीदवारों को
इस स्थान में
सही प्रश्न संख्या
लिखनी है।
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112

attitude is a little thing
that makes a big difference.

"They can break my body but they
cannot touch my soul."

These are the words of victor
Frankl, who was 2 labour camp
survivors and author of the psychological
piece "man's search for meaning." In
this academic piece, Frankl investigates
how he and "some other" "lucky"
survivors were able to endure cruel,
inhumane treatment at the hands of
the Nazis. He discovers that:-

"He who has a why can
endure almost any how."

With this, Frankl postulates his
theory of logotherapy, arguing that
once a person is given a reason or

Satisfactory intro but
try to make it short and sweet.

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a legio (legos) to continue, they
will ^{win} against all odds. This led to
works on 'mindset' and 'attitude'
and a renewed understanding that
one's mind has an important role
to play in the outcome of one's life.

Firstly,
discuss
attitude
is?

↓
It is a
value, trait,
perception
or an outlook.

^{what} within psychology itself, most
trauma survivors with post traumatic
stress disorder (PTSD) are healed by
changing their attitude towards their
traumatic experience - allowing them
to accept it and put it in the past.
Similarly, the Pygmalion Effect describes
how the "expectations" we voice to
someone (whether positive or negative)
often translate into reality because
of the effect such words have on
their attitude towards their everyday
successes and failures.

While an individual's attitude
to one's situation can result in
surviving the Nazis and past trauma,



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कोई लिखित
बाधाएं
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the attitude of an entire community
can spark revolution.

Mahatma Gandhi was known for
his calm and quick wit in the face
of the British. But whereas most
Indians viewed ~~the British~~ as oppressors,
Gandhi decided to see them as
"friends who had gone down the
wrong path". Instead of violence
and anger, Gandhi believed in the
forces of truth and nonviolence - thus

giving
birth

to the idea of satyagraha -
a means to show someone the right
path convincingly. Gandhi believed not
in conquest of the body but that
of the soul. As soon as Indian men
women and children changed their
perspective to Gandhi's, movements
like Non Cooperation, Civil Disobedience
and Quit India forced the British
out and helped establish a thriving
democracy in its place.

human
Attitude is an important attribute of taking things,
character as it decides our viewpoint of our reactions
handling situations and influences

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The Attitude of a Nation

While Gandhi gave India liberation,
future leaders shaped its destiny with
their wisdom and resilience in the
face of countless challenges.

An infantile country in the
mid 1900s, India decided to be
Non-Aligned in the Cold War - a
bold move for a country in need of
support. Yet, this attitude of independent
will made India the leader of the
3rd world and an ambassador of
South South Cooperation while giving it
the credibility it has today to remain
neutral in the ongoing Russia-Ukraine
crisis.

Similarly, Prime Minister Narendra
Modi gave the call to turn a
disaster into an opportunity (Aapka
Se Afsar) when the COVID19 pandemic

Stick to
the demand
of the
question

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rendered the nation immobile. This
call to action lead to vigorous
research on vaccine development
and the production of an indigenous
vaccine : COVAXIN by Bharat Biotech.

Scientific Endeavours - A testimony
to the will of a scientist.

Just as attitude ^{in a leader} can determine
the future of a nation, the
scientist's attitude can result in
innovation and progress.

Thomas Edison is known for his
repeated failures in developing the
lightbulb. However, Edison believed
that "each failure is one wrong path
checked off", bringing him closer to
the right one. In essence, this change
in perspective allowed him to disguise
his failure as a success and remain
motivated.

good
and
valid
point



Attitude decides the decision we make in
our life whether they are long term or short term
decisions.

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Not
relevant
as per
the
context

Similarly, SpaceX's founder Elon Musk's firm belief that there are no limits to what humans can achieve has speeded up ~~the~~ humanity's collective dream of commercial visits to space.

Science is a field of trial and error. Scientists weak in will have no place in it, ~~because~~ success may be right around the corner and only a scientist with the right attitude will round it.

Attitude in the Inevitable

Like most of the 'scientific' universe, life is also made up of dark ~~matter~~ - the unknown.

Humanity's fear of death gave rise to religion, the belief in the afterlife. In essence, it is a human's

ineluctable spirit and their conviction
to be remembered that lead to the
birth of mythology, of fables. The
Jataka tales, the Mahabharat, Ramayana,
the Bible and the Quran are all
human creations that resulted from
the singularly human attitude of
self-importance and the human need to
give life a meaning, a purpose, a
beginning, middle and end.

Not
relevant.

out of
context.

Paul Kalanithi, a neuro-surgeon and
author of "When Breath Becomes Air"
speaks of attaining a sense of calm^{ness} in
the face of his terminal illness - cancer.
He remarks that it often takes a
reminders of the shortness of life to
wake a person to the beauty that
surrounds him.

Not
explanatory

One might think that a question
like "What is Beauty?" is redundant

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for a girl like Helen Keller, both deaf
and blind. But it takes strength of
will, the attitude to learn, to get
up each time life throws one down
to truly understand that "beauty
lies in the eye of the beholder" and
that beauty can be a sensation or even
a scent.

Attitude - A Hero's Talisman

Throughout history and throughout
the world, humanity has sought to
make life easy. From technical
progress (washing machines, elevators)
to administrative developments (Right to
Information, Citizens Charter), we are on
a quest to deliver each child from
poverty and into a world of opportunity
and choice.

And yet, problems persist. Racism,

Our attitude determines our behaviour
which in turn influences our action.



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इस इलाक़े में
कोई लिखना
चाहिए
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patriarchy, xenophobia, child labour,
female infanticide, rape, hate crime,
terrorism and many more injustices
continue to crush spirits and extinguish
flames of potential.

Attitude
could be born
positive and
negative and
both are stores of the coin.

Perhaps it is time to teach a
child how to persist, to persevere
and to push against challenges. Everyone,
no matter how privileged; must face
obstacles. It is the attitude one goes in
with that decides how one comes out.
would icon Priyanka Chopra describes
in her book "Unfinished" how confidence
is a reserve and that we just need to
be able to tap it when required. Thus,
attitude is an invisible, intangible
talisman that can defy the Nazis, shape
the destiny of a battered nation and
even crown an 18-year old Indian
girl as Miss World.

good point

54

Far under-
standing
of the topic
need to work upon articulation
of ideas
Avoid giving superficial
arguments

Write your answer in the question number in this space.
कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अनुरूप उत्तर लिखें।

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Candidates must not write on this margin.

You can't get rid of poverty
by giving people money.

"Coach a fish for a man and you feed him for a day. Teach the man how to ~~catch~~ fish and you feed him for a lifetime."

Humans have a short term bias. We aim to reach fulfillment or satisfaction as fast as possible and see results sooner rather than later. This is why we offer money to ~~those~~ ^{them} in need, rather than time. It turns out, however, that poverty can hardly be eradicated by dishing out money. This is due to two reasons. One - that poverty can be of many types. It can be multidimensional, involving social, cultural, communal factors.

good and relevant point

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चाहिए
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It can also be mental or psychological poverty. Secondly, money cannot buy all the needs of a human - especially the intangible ones. Thus, although money is a short-term solution, it is not the panacea of those suffering from poverty.

multidimensional poverty - the 1st kind of poverty

India recently overtook the United Kingdom to become the 5th largest economy of the world with the value of over \$3 trillion. This, however, did not stop it from being home to 28% of the world's multidimensional poor.

People around the world suffer not just from economic (financial) poverty measured in per capita income, but also

good and valid arguments

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good point

social poverty. This involves inadequate healthcare provisioning, weak educational infrastructure, absence of food and water delivery structures, etc. After the COVID19 pandemic, this form of poverty saw a rise. Most governments met this issue by doling out money. For instance schemes like Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) provided money to small businesses while PM KISAN did the same for farmers. Such schemes, however, end up being used to meet immediate needs like food, clothes or repayment of outstanding loans to money lenders.

The poverty most people suffer from is cyclical and needs a planned intervention. Lack of healthcare and education to one generation is a blueprint for the same fate for the next generation. Social poverty can be cancelled out through social intervention.

There is a need to mobilize all levels of administration - local, state, national and even international. Long term expenditure in social infrastructure and community participation is key.

good.

Abhijeet Banerjee and Esther Duflo's book "Poor Economics" uses the concept of 'NUDGE' as a tool of behavioral economics to bring about people out of the poverty cycle. For instance, distributing mosquito nets in poor regions can reduce cases of malaria in a country. Similarly, making vaccination appointments more attractive by handing out free utensils to women who bring their children on schedule can drastically decrease disease rates in a district. Thus, In these cases, handing out money would not have led to

Not relevant

→ Mention various causes of poverty such as lack of education, war, natural disaster, lack of employment, social exclusion.

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इस स्थान
संख्या के
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similar outcomes. Instead, a 'nudge'
is required to get people to act in
a certain way to reach a goal.

multidimensional poverty can be
eradicated if administrators and
citizens work hand in hand to make
little changes. It will save time as well
as money.

valid
point

Poverty of the Mind - The 2nd kind of Poverty

Some kinds of poverty are more
intangible. This involves poverty that
stems from stereotypes, prejudice,
intolerance and fundamentalism.

This form of poverty leads to the
most destructive outcomes. From ~~communalist~~
communal violence to terrorism, this
form of poverty breeds hatred and contempt.

It is this mental poverty that has given us a world full of diversity that, instead of being worshipped and enjoyed, is ridden by war and insecurity.

Money has ^{not} only refused to curtail this poverty, it has instead nurtured it. Money laundering & black money has contributed to terror attacks and funded ethnic wars.

The answer lies not in money, but in education, in cooperation and in tolerance. From the global platforms of the United Nations and WTO down to the classrooms that children are taught in, mental poverty ~~is~~ and its outcomes must be tackled throughout.

In the middle of the horrid partition of 1947, Hindu and Muslim Bengalees fought each other despite being fully conscious that they were more alike than

Also discuss how rising population is also putting the burden on the resources & budgets of countries.

good point

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out of context
Hindus and Muslims in any other part of the country. Similarly, in the book "All Quiet on the Western Front", the protagonist lies alongside the dead body of an enemy soldier he has killed, realizing with pity that they are completely alike and that the war has forced both sides to see as the other as merely an object to be killed and conquered.

Hatred, prejudice, ill-will and dislike aren't eradicated with money. It requires cooperation and the willingness to change one's perspective. Thus, this form of poverty is met with the equally intangible force of relationships - like friendship, family and love.

Finally, there is a form of poverty that is neither multidimensional, nor mental - it is the kind that is hidden in the midst of luxury.

materialistic Poverty - the 3rd kind of Poverty

With the rise in consumerism and the rush to earn money, people today are working by the minute in the attempt to achieve one goal after another.

In this race, people forget to experience life in its true sense. Humans are sentimental beings. All the riches and all the goods in the world cannot satisfy the human soul. This is why a significant portion of the world suffers from a hidden poverty that lies behind the luxury that they adorn their lives with. This poverty is one of relationships, true and honest friendships and care.

2) Poverty is multidimensional then how can solution be unilateral? Therefore, giving people money is not the ultimate panacea to solve the problem of poverty.

This has resulted in depression, especially amongst the elderly that have worked all their lives to secure a stable future only to be find them- selves alone when the future finally arrives.

Not relevant.

The Japanese book "Iki-gai" gives the reader a formula by which to live a long life. It involves doing what you do well as well as what you love. It reminds one to live in the moment, to make time for self care and to invest time wisely. After all, money cannot buy happiness, and contentment is the greatest richness.

Explain relevancy

Thus, money can be a short term solution to some forms of poverty, but it cannot be the answer for multidimensional mental and materialistic poverty because these requires the intangible solutions of time, care, effort and unending cooperation.

good point.