

NEXT IAS

MTS CSE 2025

ESSAY TEST-3

Batch.: PP _____ PM ☒

Test Code : PME 2503

(To be filled by candidate)

Name of Candidate: Aditya Talwar Mobile No. [REDACTED]Roll No. : MT25PTMR052 Start Time _____ End Time _____Date of Examination: 15/07/2025 Medium : English ☒ Hindi ☐

प्रश्न पत्र के विशिष्ट निर्देश

(कृपया प्रश्नों का उत्तर देने से पहले निम्नलिखित प्रत्येक निर्देश को ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ें)

निबंध को प्रवेश प्रमाण-पत्र में अधिकृत माध्यम में ही लिखा जाना चाहिए, जिसे प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका के मुखपृष्ठ पर दिए गए स्थान पर स्पष्ट रूप से लिखना होगा। अधिकृत माध्यम के अलावा किसी अन्य माध्यम में लिखे गए उत्तरों के लिए कोई अंक नहीं दिए जाएंगे।

निर्दिष्ट शब्द सीमा का पालन किया जाना चाहिए।

प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा गया कोई भी पृष्ठ या पृष्ठ का कोई भाग स्पष्ट रूप से काट दिया जाना चाहिए।

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

This question-cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet contains 16 pages. Question Paper in detachable form is available at the end of the QCA Booklet which can be taken away by the candidate after examination.

Two blank pages (Page Nos. 15-16) have been provided for rough work.

On receipt of the Booklet, please check that this QCA Booklet does not have any shortcomings, torn or missing pages, etc. If so, get it replaced with a fresh QCA Booklet.

SUBJECT/PAPER

ESSAY

Invigilator's Sign. : _____

Delhi Centre:

Old Rajinder Nagar: 27-B, Pusa Road, Metro Pillar no. 118, Near Karol Bagh Metro, New Delhi-110060 | Phone: 8081300200

Mukherjee Nagar: 1422, Main Mukherjee Nagar Road, Near Batra Cinema, New Delhi-110009 | Phone: 8081300200

BHOPAL CENTRE: Plot No. 46 Zone - 2, M.P Nagar, Bhopal - 462011 | Phone: 8827664612, 8081300200

JAIPUR CENTRE: Plot No. 6 & 7, 3rd Floor, Sree Gopal Nagar, Gopalpura Bypass, Jaipur - 302015 | Phone: 9358200511

PRAYAGRAJ CENTRE: 31/31 Sardar Patel Marg, Civil Lines, Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh - 211001 | Phone: 9958857757

Kindly do not write anything on this page and also do not soil it.

For Official Use	For Official Use
Signature of Examiner(s)	

Marks Details [To be filled by the Examiner(s)]



Essay Question Number	Total marks

COMMENTS



IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

The candidate should read the under-mentioned instructions carefully. Violation of any of the following instructions may entail penalty in the form of deduction of marks, cancellation of candidature, debarment from further Examinations.

1. Write your Roll Number and other details only in the space provided in the Question-cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet for the candidate.
2. Do not write in the QCA Booklet anything other than the actual answers of the questions such as couplet, obscene or abusive expression, etc., nor put any sign/mark having no relevance to the answers.
3. Do not make any direct/indirect appeal/ threat to the Examiner.
4. Do not write answers in bad or illegible handwriting. Such answers may not be evaluated.
5. Write answers in ink only. Do not use pencil for writing the answers. However, pencil may be used for drawing diagrams, sketches, etc.
6. Do not write answers in a medium other than the authorized medium in the Admission Certificate. Do not use mixed language, i.e., authorized and unauthorized media together, for writing answers.
7. Write answers at the specified spaces (right below the questions) only. Answers written elsewhere at unspecified spaces in the Booklet shall not be evaluated.
8. If you wish to cancel any work, draw your pen through it and write 'Cancelled' across it, otherwise it may be valued.

एक विषय चुनकर लगभग 1000-1200 शब्दों में एक निबंध लिखें:

[125 × 1 = 125]

Write one Essay, choosing one topic in about 1000-1200 words each:

[125 × 1 = 125]

(खण्ड-A) SECTION - A

- Q.1 बुद्धिमत्ता की पहचान अपने अज्ञान के प्रति जागरूक होना है।
A sign of intelligence is an awareness of one's own ignorance.
- Q.2 समावेशिता और बहुलता एक शांतिपूर्ण समाज की पहचान हैं।
Inclusivity and plurality are hallmarks of a peaceful society.
- Q.3 नैतिक ब्रह्मांड की धारा लंबी है, लेकिन यह न्याय की ओर झुकती है।
The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice.
- Q.4 भविष्य को पूर्वानुमानित करने का सबसे अच्छा तरीका उसे बनाना है।
The best way to predict the future is to create it.

The Best Way to Predict the future is to create it

It was yet another day in colonial India of 1943. The usual delivery of newspapers was completed and people had woken up from their morning slumber. But this day turned out to be different, just as the people ruffled through their daily news.

The front page carried news that was to change the perception of people forever. It said that a famine had struck Bengal and Churchill had diverted food supplies instead to the battlegrounds of World War-II. This famine killed more than 15 million people, in the worst human made tragedy that modern Indians had seen.

But this tragedy of food shortage and colonial mishandling was not just

a defeat of Indian spirits, but a prediction of the surplus that India was going to achieve.

The people of India woke up from their ideological dream and turned this situation around to become the second largest grain producers in the world, who now export food to the same western powers who had once denied them their future.

But was this actually the result of a prediction? Can action be taken on predictions alone? Do all predictions create a future? Is the equation of future so simple? This essay intends to answer exactly this.

Churning the Wheels of Time

Indian history is full to the brim with examples of women and men who

refused to be restricted by other's predictions and taunts. It is their perseverance and grit that lit a fire to guide them through the dark tunnels of time towards the gate of future.

An ideal example can be that of the Mighty Chandragupta Maurya. Alongwith the strategic skill of Chanakya, he created his future by defeating the Great Nandas, who even Alexander's army feared. This looks action oriented, but one must be reminded how Chanakya had refused to tie his hair till he had defeated the King of Magadha. This declaration in the form of a prediction could only be actualized when he created conducive

conditions through skills to gain power, rather than just mere day-dreaming.

It is a universal truth that only action can create a reaction and not mere prediction. Even in science, the laws of Newton explain the relation between action and reaction, but how one can change the future through thought is neither considered nor recommended. In this regard we can consider Ashoka. What if the grandson of Maurya had only thought about ending violence? Well, the answer is simple, we would not have seen him turn from Dharmashost (war-monger) to Dharmaghost (messenger of Peace).

If we move further in the rich tapestry of Indian history, the examples of modern India come to

the fore. The philosophers of Indian renaissance such as Raja Rammohan Roy, Debendranath Tagore and Vinayak Dabholkar were different from others not because others had not predicted a reformed Bharat, but because they tried to create it.

Similarly, libraries must be filled with books and journals of those who predicted a free India and maybe some of them even advocated complete non-violence. But they are far less remembered than the one who showed the moral courage to take such a risky path, that is, Mahatma Gandhi.

Further, it was not just Bopal Baba Walangkar who had thought about Dalit empowerment throughout the National movement, but future leaders such

as Babasaheb Ambedkar consider him to be the first Dalit intellectual just because he did not limit himself at predictions, rather tried to create an egalitarian society through his journals and papers such as Vital Vidhwanasak.

But this raises the question, Is action based on prediction enough? Well, it is never that simple. What is also required is a lot of courage, strategy and timing.

Imagine that Gandhiji had started the Non-cooperation movement in 1857 or Sardar Patel had started the unification of India in 2025, they most probably would have not achieved what they had. This is reflected in the Indian cultural traditions that describe Rishi and Maitreya Buddha of the future. Both these

figures are predicted to come only when both the need and timing are ideal. A similar concept is reflected in Nietzsche's concept of 'Superman', who is not just courageous to act on predictions, but also knows when to act to create the future.

Apart from the timing, the aim or end is also a factor of determination. Leonardo Da Vinci had created the design of an aeroplane and helicopter, but it was only the Orville brothers who were able to truly create it. This was because while Da Vinci's end was to express his creativity, the Orville's had predicted that they would be the one's to actually create it since their childhood.

In another way, Hitler's prediction of an Imperial Aryan Germany could not be actualized because his end was immoral, not practical and unsustainable. The means he used in the form of gas chambers and roundabout caging of Jews doomed his evil prediction from the start.

Similarly, Jinnah's prediction of a prosperous Pakistan could not justify despite his best efforts. This was because the reason for the creation of such a state was pure hatred; Hatred towards the syncretism of our culture and hatred towards communal harmony in the form of the two nation theory.

This shows us that while predictions need action for creation of the future, they are not a

decided outcome and require the presence of many other factors. So, what is an ideal way to ensure that an outcome fructifies?

The answer to this is ambiguous, as one can never be sure of a definite result like Niyati (Destiny), but instead one can always do better with directed action. While this directed action is the form of virtue ethics does not claim to be foolproof, it does guarantee a change for the better.

So, when Bal Gangadhar Tilak had set out on his quest to fulfill his prediction of attaining Swaraj, he was aware that the glorious result he awaits may not

come in his lifetime, but will definitely get his beloved nation closer to a future filled with prosperity, liberty and equality.

In this regard, Hannah Arendt, a famous political philosopher, says that men and women require Vita Activa to fulfill their objectives. This ethical action towards knowledge and truth is what leads to self actualization, which is at the top of Maslow's description of human needs.

It is this ethical action that persuaded Railash Satyarthi to save so many from their exploitative future in trafficking. It is this prediction of an ethical world that pushed Malala Yousufzai to raise her voice against

the regressive practices that restrict girls. It is not just the Nobel Peace Prize and its presentation to both in the same year that is common between them, it is actually their will to create a new future, a better world, that differentiates them from all the prediction-makers.

It is not the dream of Martin Luther King Jr that made him different. It was actually the dream of all people who wished for a better future. It is the will to act on his dream that made him a pioneer. Similarly, it was not Nelson Mandela's aim to end Apartheid that differentiated him, It was his attitude

and sheer determination that even after 27 years of jail persuaded his mind to ask for a peaceful South Africa.

In the case of India, what differentiates it from others is the true action towards a new world of peace and harmony. This is what created a spectre of progress that brought us from the Bengal famine to lessening the bread basket of the world through the green revolution.

Therefore, one must strive to act on their predictions to create the future that they desire. As Dr. Manmohan Singh said while delivering his budget speech in 1991 as the finance minister, "Nobody can stop an idea whose time has come."

(खण्ड-B) SECTION - B

- Q.1 सभी भटकाने वाले गम नहीं होते हैं।
Not all who wander are lost. (CSE 2023, PYQ)
- Q.2 बाढ़ के लिए एक बूंद भी कभी जिम्मेदार नहीं महसूस करती।
A single drop never feels responsible for the flood.
- Q.3 समाज में विवेकशीलता की तुलना में, विज्ञान तीव्रता के साथ ज्ञान अर्जित करता है।
Science gathers knowledge faster than society gathers wisdom.
- Q.4 ऐसी कोई चीज नहीं है, जो कि अच्छा युद्ध या बुरा शांति कहा जा सके।
There is no such thing as a good war or a bad peace.

A Single drop never feels responsible for the flood

A wonderful forest near Kedarnath caught the eye of a villager, who was looking for timber for his right-time fuel needs.

The quality of the timber proved to be so good that more people came and cut down the trees.

Eventually, the forest came into the notice of the administration, which cut down the forest, sold the timber to contractors and instead built a road and some structures. This was soon followed up with rest-houses, lodges and offices of local contractors.

The newly built area looked like a good opportunity for more tourism and investment and surely enough, a point came when the entire forest area was cut down.

Just when this spectre of development was going to witness further development, a strong dash of rains splashed the area, which was subsequently swept away in the devastating Uttarakhand floods of 2013. Can we blame the villager who had chopped down one tree or the administration that built the area? Does the drop create the flood or is the flood inevitable? Do drops differ in sizes and impact? What is the way to ensure that such drops don't fall? We will be seeing exactly the answer to these in the essay.

Many Drops create an Ocean

Whenever we look at a beautiful coast, what we tend to think is how massive the body of water is front of

it is. It is rather unique to think about the drops. But what one must realize is that it is the individual drops that make up the sea, otherwise how else would it fill up.

Similarly, when one thinks about the size of any problem, it is never just one issue that creates it but each issue has its own importance. When one talks about the World War, the assassination of Duke Ferdinand of Austria is what comes to mind as the reason for it. But is it that simple? Well, not at all.

It was the Serbian issue, the German issue, the Austrian issue, the colonial issue and many other issues that precipitated the one drop in the form of the assassination. But the flood is the form

of the war was due to the combination of each individual element, without which the equation seems to be incomplete.

Similarly, when we talk about climate change, it is not just global warming that is to be seen as the flood, rather each factor like pollution, arctic melting, rising greenhouse gases and ocean acidification that contribute to it, even if indirectly. A person who lights a small campfire in the woods is unaware of the fact that the terrible mistake of leaving a fire unattended would lead to the entire forest catching on fire.

In this regard, a criminal who robs a house, or economic offender who runs off with people's money or even a businessman who bribes ministers and officials would not claim to be

the problem. All of them would instead blame the system for it. Similarly a bystander who refuses to report a case of harassment will refuse to take responsibility and instead blame the police's inefficiency.

What these elements of society don't realize is that they are part of the same system they are blaming. So when an administrator in USA refuses to curb pollution in the false belief that it only affects nations like Tuvalu and Kiribati, he/she should not be surprised if the sea level rise somehow starts affecting Florida.

This is to say that it is not just one pending case in the judiciary that creates inefficiency but it is the overlooking of that one case

by the dispersion that eventually has piled up to create a large number of 4.7 crore cases pending. It is not just one accident death that raises concern, it is the apathy towards that one accident that creates a situation where millions of people die each year due to road accidents. So does this point towards a greater concern? Does this show an enlarging drop?

The fact of the matter is that each drop counts. What maybe a small spoonful of food for us, can be a lot for someone who is hungry for 5 days. It is not just the 10 grams of food we waste, it is our inability to see what we did wrong that creates a collective food wastage of billions of tonnes.

Similarly, a temperature increase in the climate of 2°C seems

like nothing, but when we visualize how it would melt a major portion of Earth's cryosphere and submerge many Island nations, we might be tempted to switch off our engines at the red light or eat the one spoonful of food we were going to throw.

A Drop: The Ultimate Factor

Our minds often force us to believe that we singlehandedly cannot change the world. While that can be said to be true, it is a very narrow way to look at it.

~~These~~ We saw how just one small negative contribution of ours can have the capacity to breach the tipping point, but this one drop can also be that of Amrit, that can change

the world. So, while a small dead harming the equation can complicate it, one drop can also create equilibrium.

In this regard, we can see the effect that the decision of just one Navy commander of the USSR had on the world. ~~His~~ ~~refusal~~ Petrikhov's refusal to launch a nuclear weapon during the Cuban Missile crisis after a false communication saved the world from the third World War.

Similarly, it takes just one reformer to light a spark that can create a fire of change. Verghese Kurien had no idea that his reforms would make India the largest producer of milk in the world after Operation Flood. The philosophers of the Indian

renaissance like Vidyasagarji and D.K. Karne did not wish to become leaders of a new society. What they wanted was to reform it for the better, which made the single drop that was needed to churn the ocean of change.

Therefore, what is needed is to make the people aware of their power. The control that they hold over their surroundings is enough to enable them to be that one drop that decides to be different, and in this process inspires others as well.

A spoon of sugar once dissolved in a cup of milk cannot be seen anymore as it is so small compared to the cup that it

assimilates in the milk. But what one can feel on drinking the milk again is the obvious sweetness. This is what the power of a drop signifies.

It was this small spoon of sugar that the reformers of the world saw to change their world through their inherent belief in just a drop of change to create a flood of reformation.

So instead of making our flooding drops larger, we need to fill the river of transformative governance through a personal change. The Char Dham project that may repeat the mistakes of the past as seen in Joshimath ~~subsidence~~ subsidence, needs to be transformed into a sweet drop of sustainable development through collaboration, consideration

and commitment. It is the recognition of this drop that makes us civilized and progressive. As Mahatma Gandhi has said, "Be the change you wish to see in the world."

Space for Rough Work

~~Go~~ Go into the past in 1940 - Bengal famine → Now surplus

INM, but, DM, Human dev^t, Economics, AI

Edison ^{not} ~~bulb~~ design, but created by him

Success not ~~for~~ final, failure not fatal - Churchill

Mary thought, but Gandhi did

Hannah Arendt - Vita Activa

Ashoka

LPB reforms

Nishkama Karma

Pots creation experiment

We cannot even predict weather, so how our future, so action

Indian ~~renaissance~~

Leonardo Da Vinci - model of aeroplane

Ambedkar - Mahad Satyagraha

Orville brothers - actual inventors

Kailash Satyarthi - Mukti Vahan, Malala Yousufzai - Nobel both
both common theme ^{action}

But only action not good - Hitler, Jinnah, ~~etc~~

Patel - unification Green Revoluⁿ

Druton - Sustainable future

Rakhi, Maitreya → Nietzsche's Superman

↳ Spiritual city

Martin Luther King - Have a dream

Gandhi - experiments with truth
not thoughts on "

Person - daydreaming Vs. action

Petrushkov - Cuban missile crisis

Nelson - did not dream, but
made a plan in 27 yrs jail.

India - vaccine maitri

rest only talked about help

Space for Rough Work

Uttarakhand floods, 2013Eruptⁿ, Disasters, Exploitaⁿ, Crime, NPAs, Gross capitalismWomen's exploitaⁿ, BystandersChernobyl
Chopal Tragedy

Imagine one gram of food wasted by everybody

In IR - shooting of Ferdinand Duke of Austria

↳ Allies not responsible for WW-II → one drop blaming other

Dimensions of drop not defined - maybe for alien ocean's drop

Tipping point.

Individual & collective responsibility

Be the change you wish to see in the world

Reformers like Dams to control floods.

One case pending → 4.7 cr

One person lit campfire ⇒ forest fire

1 person - Reshamananda Bhurati
extra - 7.6Road accidents - one person's death not acknowledged - only when bus or truck
there noticed

Drop gets bigger - Joshimath (Char Dham)

2°C → feels nothing → submerging Tinalu, Kisrikati, etc

Positive sense → need piecemeal changes, not WSSE

Indian renaissance

collective drops working

One person Petrakhov
stopped NMs

Rael Popper

Failure never one event → but one event also imp.

Rivier

Spark lights fire

It takes one animal's death - species extinct

1 litre of petrol everywhere → Delhi Polluⁿ

Stubble burning

Middle class Vs Rich wasting food - intention that matters

2008
Lehmann
brothers
crisisDelhi
logging not
noticed
↓
floods problemsNot one cure sugar,
but one cure everyday