

QUESTION PAPER-SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

- There are questions printed in ENGLISH. All the questions are compulsory.
- The number of marks carried by a question is indicated against it. Word limit, specified, should be adhered to.
- Any page or portion of a page left blank in the answer sheet must be struck off.

| Q No. | Marks | Q No. | Marks | Q No. | Marks |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1 | 5.5 | 8 | | 15 | |
| 2 | 5.5 | 9 | | 16 | |
| 3 | 9.5 | 10 | | 17 | |
| 4 | 5 | 11 | | 18 | |
| 5 | — | 12 | | 19 | |
| 6 | — | 13 | | 20 | |
| 7 | 8.5 | 14 | | TOTAL | 34 |

| PARAMETER | EXCELLENT | GOOD | AVERAGE | POOR | VERY POOR |
|----------------------|-----------|------|---------|------|-----------|
| Presentation | | | ✓ | | |
| Content | | ✓ | | | |
| Grammar and Language | | | ✓ | | |
| Paper coverage | | | ✓ | | |

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Dear Aspirant,

Try to attempt all the questions in given time limits.

- ① Content is good - It is advisable to include philosophers and their ideas in your answers.
- ② You have structured your answers properly. How it needs to be improved in Questions 4 and 7.
- ③ Examples should be given higher priority in ethics, over the number of points.
- ④ Maintain neatness in your Answers.

Keep writing

All the Best!

Candidate must adhere to the word limit specified in the question.
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5.5

Mahatma Gandhi considered ahimsa is the highest duty. He expressed that even if we cannot practice it in full, we must try to understand its spirit and refrain as far as is humanly possible from violence. Do you think this articulated profoundness of ahimsa is still relevant? Justify your answer.

1(b)

Contentment
Introduction

Ahimsa forms the cornerstone of Gandhian philosophy as well as Buddhist and Jain philosophical thought where it forms part of one of the 5 great vows.

→ non-injury to all

Spirit of Ahimsa → equal respect for all life forms

Very well depicted → respect and appreciation of diversity — of thought, livelihood, religion etc.

Profoundness of Ahimsa

Points were valid
and aptly addressing

① Ahimsa promotes a tolerant society ⇒ leads to a stable & strong society the core demand.

Eg — Tolerance is a key value of India ⇒ makes it strong as against Pakistan

UPSC

Candidate must adhere to the word limit specified in the question.
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② Ahimsa is in sync with respecting all forms of life \Rightarrow greater environmentalism \Rightarrow promotes sustainable development.

Can explore dimension like
- Challenges in Practicing Ahimsa

③ Ahimsa promotes cooperation against confrontation.

are
→ Human nature
→ State - Political aspect
→ Economic Competition

Eg peaceful protests are more impactful than violent protests.

Can Add on dimensions like

1. Context of Global Conflict.

④ Ahimsa is linked to other values \rightarrow empathy, compassion, Sarvodaya \rightarrow

Example: Mahatma Gandhi's Salt March and Nelson Mandela's peaceful struggle against apartheid.
builds an ethical personality.

⑤ Encourages dialogue as a means to conflict resolution

good use of examples

Eg - India advocating peace talks between Russia and Ukraine.

- Add scholar View or Quote

The relevance of Ahimsa is reflected in countries' resolve to fulfill UN SDG 16.

Conclusion Can be improved -

UPSC

2. In Age of Rising Intolerance

Example: Gandhi's effort in communal

riots in Bengal and Bihar during independence

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5.5

How does Emotional Intelligence (EO) help in balancing personal as well as professional life? Discuss with examples.

3. In Political Leadership and Governance

[e.g., Kashmir peace efforts, India-Pakistan diplomacy]

~~Emotional Intelligence~~ refers to the ability to use, understand and manage one's own and others' emotions

4. Personal Development and Conflict Resolution

[e.g., Workplace mediation, anger management]

to communicate effectively and resolve conflicts

5. In Environmental and Animal Rights Issues

[e.g., Vegan movement, climate activism]

EI as balancing personal & professional life

Do add Quote like

Ahimsa is the highest ideal.

It is meant for the brave, never

for the cowardly. — Mahatma Gandhi

① EI helps individuals prioritise one over the other depending on the need and context.

[Eg] health crisis = personal over professional

② EI helps understand other's emotions

↳ helps avert conflicts.

[Eg] overtime which causes familial discord can be checked if emotions of family are managed in time.

Try to use more ethical keywords

Candidate must adhere to the word limit specified in the question.
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③ EI promotes empathy ⇒ greater adjustment.

Very well explored examples with
Eg- stress of spouse due to work can be understood ⇒ greater empathy in dealing with behaviour

Can add on
1. Self-Awareness and Self-Regulation

[e.g., calm in meetings avoiding family conflicts]

④ EI fuels internal motivation ⇒ helps power an individual to maintain relationship

2. Empathy & Communication

[e.g., team leader empathy, spouse support]

but if possible
Eg- a parent after office gives time to children due to motivation to spend time with them.

⑤ EI helps in resolving personal & professional life conflicts.

e.g., stress management techniques, family time
Eg- helps convey issues regarding excessive workload impacting personal life.

Conclusion Can be improved
EI is a key attribute and is described as "stith praya" in Gita.
good quote from Gita
If possible

Candidate must adhere to the word limit specified in the question.
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"Experience is the only teacher we have. We may talk and reason all our lives, but we shall not understand a word of truth, until we experience it ourselves" - Swami Vivekananda

The above adage brings out the

Introduction
Can be improved

significance of first hand experience shaping one's personality and life

→ ① Prioritises practical knowledge over theoretical knowledge

Significance

good use of flow chart

↓ ② Brings out subjectivity of life
③ encourages tolerance

e.g., conflict mediation at work
resolving family disputes

Provides firm ground

for forming opinion which are realistic

Support your arguments through examples

good points

Value in Action

Be Crisp with your argument and examples.

① Mahatma Gandhi decided to tour India to understand its ground realities instead of just reading about it in 1915-16.

② Indian philosophers like the Buddha,

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Candidate must adhere to the word limit specified in the question.
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Mahavira, Sankara etc. ~~propounded~~
their theories ~~after~~ experiencing the
world.

③ Bharat Darshan of IAS probationers

Relevant
examples

promotes experience over just bookish
knowledge.

- Can add dimension like
- Experiencing Truth beyond intellect
- Role of experience in shaping character
- Learning through real life challenges

→ ② No objectivity and of truth &
knowledge can be obtained.

You have issues with the adage

good hold ↳ ① Not possible to experience everything

on Example: After failing an exam, the

Better to write Conclusion in

experience teaches time management

20-30 words

but say to and self reflection, which is more impactful

than simply hearing about failure from a mentor.

provide some

real life

examples

There is thus a need to
balance both experience & theoretical
knowledge. Exposure & self-

exploration are crucial means to
realise theoretical knowledge through
practical experience.

Conclusion

इस हाशिए
में केवल
प्रश्न संख्या
लिखें।

Specimen Booklet

Only write
question
number in
this margin

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For Practice Purpose Only

उम्मीदवारों को
इस हाशिए में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए।

Candidates
must not
write on
this margin.

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4.5

"Individuals should cultivate noble traits so that socio-political organizations are free from highly despicable men." - Thirukkural

3(b)

Introduction
Can be improved

The quote brings out the importance of ethical leaders in promoting ethical institutions. Write neatly

good use of flow chart

① Ethical character ensures ethical decisions ⇒ promotes maximum good (utilitarian principle)

Significance → ② Inspires others to be ethical ⇒ observational learning
③ Creates objective and impartial institutions

Points were valid but it lacks examples.

Can decode quote like

- Role of individual in shaping Society

- Noble traits as pillars of effective leaderships

Contextualisation

① Kantilya highlighted the importance of ethical leadership when he said -

Fair points

"Tatha raja, Tatha praja"

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② TN Seshan as Chief Election
Commissioner brought in greater
transparency in ECI institution

③ Aristotle also highlights the
importance of virtuous character in
virtue ethics.

Also try to put light
on quote relevance
in Contemporary
India

① Assumes a top-down approach
which needn't be so.

Challenges

② 'Noble traits' is subjective in
content and degree.

Conclusion is fine

The recent cases of high
level corruptions (as in ICICI-Vidcon
case) have brought greater focus
on the need of ethical leaders.

Candidate must adhere to the word limit specified in the question.
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I would rather try to persuade a man to go along, because once I have persuaded him, he will stick. If I scare him, he will stay just as long as he's scared, and then he's gone. Persuasion can often achieve what coercion cannot. In this context, evaluate the significance of persuasion for heralding social transformations.

[e.g., Ambedkar's contribution to the Indian Constitution]

5
4(a)
Appt Introduction
Persuasion refers to the process of convincing someone ~~too~~ favourably to one's own point of view regarding an object / topic

Can explore relevant examples like

- Anna Hazare's anti-corruption movement
- Kerala floods, effective leadership
- Vajpayee's ethical leadership
- Sushma Swaraj's public service
- Civil services training

Significance of persuasion in heralding social transformation

good use of heading

Decode the demand of the questions Carefully
① Persuasion through the central route of thinking (as per Elaboration Likelihood Model) can lead to long-lasting change in thinking

Be Concised with your Argument

example?

② Persuasion has inter-generational effects

Relevant examples
[Eg] A mother educated on importance of girl education will educate her child.

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③ It creates active social agents use of change.

Try to
more ethical
keywords in
your answer

Eg- a persuaded man can advocate
strongly against domestic violence

④ Persuasion leads to mass-level
change → rapid social transformation

Eg- Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao.

good use of
examples

⑤ Persuasion is sustainable even without
strict govt check.

Ethics
more aspect
points

required Eg- Swachh Bharat Abhiyan

cannot address all
issues

examples
than the
challenges
explanations

→ slow & gradual process

→ might not be always effective

In spite of the challenges,
persuasion helps to ensure large-
scale social change. Conclusion can be
drawn.

CASE STUDY

Q.7) Suman is a young IPS officer who is posted as the SP law and order in a district that has a history of communal clashes. During a cultural event, a political leader made certain controversial comments regarding the religion of another community that can potentially harm communal harmony in the district. The representatives of the aggrieved community met Suman with their complaint. An FIR was registered in the matter and the police department promptly started an investigation. During questioning, the accused political leader denied the charges. He claimed that he was exercising his right to freedom of expression and had no intention of hurting anyone's feelings. He even offered to tender an apology if his statement had hurt someone's religious feelings. However, the aggrieved community was not satisfied with this apology and demanded strict action against the accused.

The next day, a video went viral on social media in which the accused political leader can be seen making derogatory statements against another religious faith. However, Suman suspects that the video going viral on the internet is a doctored video and someone has mischievously edited it to make it more vitriolic and inflammatory. The video has ignited communal tensions in the district. The accused political leader belongs to an influential community and his community has put their support behind him. Local intelligence has warned that some anti-social elements are trying to use this opportunity to create communal riot in the district. The entire matter has been politicized and is being covered by the national media. In this situation answer the following:

- What differentiates a hate speech from a free speech?
- Why does social media have a very strong influence over the actions and thoughts of its users?
- What is the most suitable course of action for Suman in this situation? Justify.

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8.5

The law commission of India

Introduction
Can be
Improved

Do briefly through its various reports has introduced condemned hate speech and advocated the scenario for making such offences punishable highlighting the

Core aspects Hate speech can be defined as acts of speech which instigate violence, or are derogatory or perpetuate discrimination against a community based on their religion, caste, gender or other social factors.

Explaining points too
much did not fetch
extra marks.

Difference with respect to free speech

Can explore individual or community while free through speech is respectful even while criticising anyone / any act.

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② Hate speech leads to public violence
and law & order situation while
free speech leads to educative
and informed debate. *Can include table
presentations for better
outlook answer.*

③ Hate speech creates animosity &
breeds intolerance while free speech
promotes greater understanding.

④ Hate speech is against Constitutional
values while free speech is
protected under Art 19 as a fundamental

⑤ Hate speech deepens differences
while free speech diffuses differences

(b) Social media has a strong
influence as -

① It creates an echo chamber.

Eg - feed of Facebook is

Candidate must adhere to the word limit specified in the question.
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② Videos and photographs can be ~~doctored~~ Can include Some diverse points too good points rise of deep fakes.

③ Provides a platform to collectivise
↳ leads to mob violence

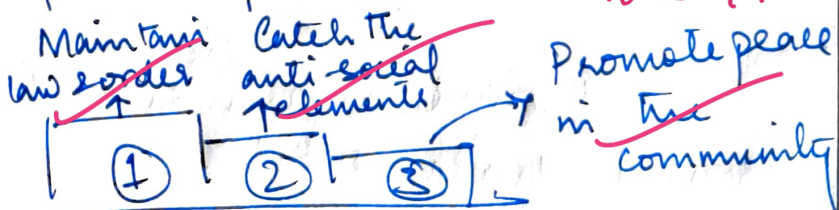
↳ Whatsapp group of mob
lynchers.

Maintain your Answer neatness in ④ Gives anonymity → Greater
vitriolic speeches

⑤ Other reasons → 'influencers' encourage
certain actions
mental health ↳ information overload
issues due to overwhelms user
social media makes one vulnerable fair use of flow chart

(C) Human's actions must be guided

Briefly explore by the following priorities good that you have explore option available
Stakeholder analysis



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Course of action

- Do provide practical ethical Solutions rather than personal opinions

- ① Ensure responsible media ⇒ not to showcase communal videos & message
Action should justify the
- ② Deploy appropriate personnel to case issues prevent law & order problems ⇒
instruct them to handle situation with care & empathy → use force as last resort
- ③ Take action against the leader based on law ⇒ ensure transparency, objectivity and impartiality in the process.

Can explore some real life examples to support your arguments

④ Long term measures

- ① Community bonding programmes
- ② Greater dialogue & discussion between communities
- ③ Promote awareness on laws around hate speech

example?

Conclusion Can be

