



# VISION IAS

www.visionias.in

SUBJECT:	<b>ESSAY</b>	Test Code:	<b>2122</b>
Name of Candidate	<b>KASHMIRA SANKHE</b>		
Medium Hindi/Eng.	<b>ENGLISH</b>	Registration Number	<b>1356950</b>
Center		Date	<b>29/08/22</b>

INDEX TABLE				INSTRUCTIONS
Q. No.	Page No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained	
				1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code). उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
				2. All questions are compulsory. सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
				3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
				4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one. प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
				5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
				6. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off. उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।
Total Marks Obtained:				
Remarks :				

16-B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Above National Trust Building, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060

Plot No. 857, 1st Floor, Banda Bahadur Marg (Opp. Punjab & Sindh Bank), Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi- 110009

# EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

Q1) If you want peace, prepare for war.

6

'WAR IS PEACE'

The famous novel of George Orwell - 1984 introduces us to a dystopian state. The state - called as Oceania - has the slogan 'War is Peace'. In this state, the Ministry of Peace is responsible for waging wars; the Ministry of Love is responsible for torturing. This introduces us to the doublespeak - essentially the dichotomy of the two words.

By the end of the novel, we understand the meaning behind 'doublespeak'. 'War is peace' because in order to maintain peace, preparation of war has to be put in place. We also understand the dichotomy between war and peace.

In this essay, we shall examine how the dichotomy works, in detail. We shall then proceed to answer the imminent question: Can peace be achieved without waging wars? Finally, we will see the relevance of the quote in present context and current global order.

### 'WAR' AND 'PEACE' : A DICHOTOMY

Although the two words are con-contradictory, one is used to enforce the other. A nation prepares its defences in the event that it has to go on a war. A weakened state can attract powerful states to capture<sup>it</sup>. Here the example of British rule and how it commenced, sheds light.

Towards the end of 1600s, the Mughal empire had weakened due to various reasons. Absence of a law of primogeniture, lack of development of navy, weakness of the jagirdari and mansabdari system, were only some of the problems that troubled the state.

This weakness, coupled with knowledge of India's rich resources and spirit of capitalism, the British started to extend their commercial interests.

Soon, this extended to territorial administration. Finally, with the Battle of Plassey (1757) and Battle of Buxar (1764) the British position in the Indian subcontinent was cemented.

Thus, the weakness of the state to prepare for war, lead to peace getting

, disrupted in the subcontinent. Further, any discussion on war cannot be made without mentioning the two world wars.

During the first world war, the Central powers fought against the Allies. Germany, a part of Central Powers, wanted to devise a way to end war quickly. It employed the help of Fritz Haber. (We know him from his contribution to chemistry and Haber's process)

Fritz Haber developed chlorine gas. This gas, when inhaled caused lung anomaly and breathlessness. It caused instant death of the troops of Allies. He reasoned that for peace to be restored, war had to be ended quickly. This reasoning goes against Kantian philosophy and inclines towards consequen-

3  
tialism

Similar reasoning was given by Oppenheimer when arguing for the use of atomic bomb. Japan had to be bombed, it was argued, as it was the last piece of the war. Germany and Italy had already been defeated. The 'mushroom cloud' formed over Hiroshima and Nagasaki, are still part of popular understanding about bombs.

Thus, we see, that time and again war has been used to enforce peace.

In the absence of preparation of war, it can affect peace. Sun Tzu, a Chinese political theorist has said in this regard, 'Whoever is first in the field for battle; will be fresh for fight;

whoever comes second will be exhausted'

But, if this is the situation, we are compelled to ask: Is there no other alternative to achieving peace by peaceful means? Is war the only option available? This is what we shall discuss in the upcoming paragraphs.

CAN PEACE BE ACHIEVED THROUGH OTHER PEACEFUL MEANS ?

After the disastrous world wars, the impact on the economy and human development was far too great. Countries were new wary of any more fighting. They came together and the United Nations <sup>(UN)</sup> was born in 1945.

The UN aimed to restore peace on the international front - The Security Council was established to promote dialogue during conflict situations. The two superpowers of the time - USA and Soviet Russia signed many agreements to prevent any hot wars. In the process however, cold war was fought ~~on~~ and smaller hot wars on the Korean peninsula and in Vietnam.

Further agreements like the Non Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and Comprehensive test ban Treaty (CTBT) were signed to limit nuclear proliferation and promote disarmament. The Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) between US and USSR and the New START (2011) between US and Russia

aims to achieve similar goals.

If this is the case, why then is there a war going on <sup>in</sup> the Ukraine and Russia? Why is there Chinese aggression across the Taiwan Strait and Golan valley? With these questions we shall proceed to the last leg of our discussion: the relevance of war and peace dichotomy in the present times.

### CURRENT GLOBAL ORDER:-

The reason behind Syrian crisis, Ukraine crisis and Golan crisis to name a few is clear: countries still prepare for war in order to maintain peace. This is despite the lessons learnt from the world wars. Prepare for war and you are preparing for peace.

This is also resulting from failure of NPT and CTBT like agreement to gain global consensus. Countries like India, Israel, Pakistan and North Korea have argued for disarmament in the permanent five member countries countries like China, USA, France, Russia and United Kingdom still maintain a stockpile of nuclear weapon. The disarmament timeline is either vague or absent. This has deterred other powers from following global order. Countries like North Korea are fast developing nuclear weapons.

There is also a cold war 2.0 underway. The two blocs are USA and China. China has been taking making aggressive stance

on various fronts, in pursuance of its 'wolf warrior' diplomacy and foreign policy. Chinese aggression has been felt in South China Sea, across Taiwan and in across Land of actual control.

Many like minded countries like Japan, India and Australia are coming together with USA to counter the Chinese threat. The QUAD (quadrilateral security dialogue) and AUKUS military alliance of USA, UK and Australia have been formed. Russia and China are aligning with US adversaries like Iran. This is the basis of current world order.

Thus, we saw in this essay the war-peace dichotomy. We discussed whether peace is possible without

preparing for war. And whereas it is possible, the current global order requires nations to be prepared for war.

In spite of this, global efforts should be towards achieving peaceful world order. This order should be based on disarmamentation, mutual respect and coexistence. It should be based on consensus and addressing concerns as well as being respectable to their sensitivities. This way the global order can work towards climate justice, social justice, economic justice and political justice.

Q 8: An unexamined life is not worth living

2210

VISION IAS™

Don't write  
anything this  
margin  
(इस अन्त में  
कुछ ना लिखें)

①

As the two large armies of the Pandavas and Kauravas, assembled on the Kurukshetra for war, Aryjuna was facing adilemma. He asked Lord Krishna, to his charioteer to take him to the middle of the battle field. He wanted to take a look and examine his course of action. On both the side of the field, there were his kith and kin. This lead him to re-exa-

This  
mine the purpose of the war that was to be fought.

This instance, from where the Bhagavad Gita starts, underscores the importance of examining one's life.

According to Socrates an examined life is so important that a life without examination is not worth living.

In this essay, we shall see how examining one's life and undertaking course correction makes one's life worthy of living.

This is evident on social, economic, political and even diplomatic and technological spheres of life.

Further, we shall ~~at~~ try to answer the question: Is <sup>all</sup> unexamined life not worth living at all? Finally

we will discuss ways in which one can cultivate the habit of examining.

## EXAMINING MAKES LIFE WORTHY

Humans have evolved from primates like early apes and early man. This evolution gave him the ability to think and introspect. Using this ability man has been able to lead a better life. This is even evident in the way social welfare schemes are examined.

The Swachh Bharat Mission was launched in 2014. Its main goal was cleanliness of surrounding. Through examination of <sup>the</sup> policy government increased its ambit to include sanitary latrines and sewage treatment plants through Open Defecation Free (ODF) and ODF+

Similarly the 'Mid day meal' was launched to ensure better nutritional, health and learning outcomes among children. Recently, through examination and course correction strategies - its ambit was increased. Now through 'Tithi Bhogán' members of the community also participate in child feeding.

The focus on Aspirational District Programme and 'one district one product' has also come from constant examination of existing policies and making it better. This has not only been limited to the social sphere, but also extends to economic spheres.

The evolution of Indian economic system from socialism to mixed economy is a case in point. Prior to independence, the nationalist streak was dominated by socialist ideology. This ideology was represented by Jawaharlal Nehru and Subhash-chandra Bose. However, the failure of socialism in providing sustainable jobs and increasing economic growth and development, led to examination of this policy.

It was with the 1991 Balance of Payment (BOP) crisis, that Indian ~~was~~ economy had to adapt. It undertook liberalization and privatisation of many public

Sector undertakings (PSUs). Further, through examination it did away with Monopolies Trade and Restrictive Practices and replaced it with Competition Act, 2002

The central bank of India, the Reserve Bank (RBI) also examines its policy stance. It tries to adapt to changing economic situation, liquidity situation and inflation situation. Recently the monetary policy committee (MPC) revised its accommodative stance that it had taken since the start of the pandemic. This was done due to rising inflation that crossed the range of 2-6% ( $4 \pm 2\%$ )

Similarly the political systems of the world have evolved. From acephalous state - headed by kin groups and tribal chiefs, we have evolved into nation states.

In the process the system was also consisted of feudalism and chiefdom as well as kingdom.

Today we have nation states based on ethnic identity and homogeneity. It is ruled by an elected government. However, there are many instances of dictatorship.

In India, the concept of 'new nation state' was developed. The

new nation state envelops many ethnicities and is a multicultural and pluralist society. It gives representation and opportunities to grow to all its communities. This could only happen through examination and introspection.

Our constitution is also examined so that it stays relevant in changing times. Defections were curbed through anti defection law and introduction of 10th schedule. Judiciary's power of judicial review was expanded through Kesava-nanda Bharati case and Minneng Mills case (1973 and 1980 respectively).

Why Due to this the constitution has  
stood strong for over 70 years.

Having seen the relevance  
of examining one's life and various  
other aspects of life we shall  
proceed to answer the question:  
Is all unexamined life not worth  
living?

### UNEXAMINED LIFE STILL WORTHY

The tribal populations are  
marked by distinct culture and  
unique identity. Their relative  
isolation has caused them to  
rely on primitive means of life.  
This includes, hunting gathering,  
pastoralism, shifting cultivation, etc

To them the examining of one's life is irrelevant. They lead simple life and meaning of life to them exists in search of food and maintenance of kinship ties. Beyond that they don't have the time to ponder upon such questions. Rather they utilize their time in hunting-gathering and merry making.

Similarly, a farmer also does not have the time to ponder upon philosophical question. However, both the tribals and the farmers, do examine ways in which they can perform their tasks efficiently. Even then, without examination of philosophical questions their life

does not lose meaning or stops  
being any less worthy.

Having answered that question,  
let us now proceed to the next  
and the last part of the discussion:  
How to cultivate a spirit of examina-  
tion and introspection?

### CULTIVATE EXAMINATION AND INTROSPECTION

One can examine one's own  
life by the technique of meditation.  
Meditation calms the mind  
and leads to clarity of thoughts.  
One must also be experimenting  
with different ideas in order to  
examine and grow.

Introspection can also be  
employed as one of the ways.

to examine . A 360° feedback and assessment can help too.

Examination and introspection can also be achieved through use of emotional intelligence . It can help <sup>us</sup> to become self aware about our emotions and regulate our emotions .

Thus, examination makes our lives more meaningful . It gives us a sense of direction and purpose . However, lack of examination does not stop making lives worthy . Even unexamined lives are <sup>also</sup> worth living . ~~Further~~

Aristotle once said, 'Knowing yourself is the beginning of all wisdom' . Thus self examination is an important aspect of improving ones life