



## 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.

## Section - A

Q1.

There is nothing in the intellect that  
was not previously in the senses

It was a winter afternoon, when Manish was standing near the window of the library. Recently, he had completed his coursework and was exploring ideas for the mandatory college project.

The scene of chaos and wastage of paper in the library office gave him an idea — 'why not make a small machine, which could recycle these paper waste, at the spot'.

Rather, these waste papers could be molded into biodegradable cutleries and even counter the single-use disposable plastic menace.

The idea was a Eureka moment for Manish and he started making a proof-of-concept and a small working prototype, to pitch his professors and possible investors for further funding.

But during the presentation, the panel asked —

‘Paper recycling has been there since ages,  
what is your intellect in the project,  
where is the novelty?’

These questions took him for a side through numerous such doubts — ‘Can there truly be an idea from scratch?’, ‘Is there nothing in intellect, which has not been thought of, and has never been in our senses?’

These questions about novelty, intellect, invention, loom in every one of us and gives a sense of doubt and shakes our conviction on every idea we think of. ‘There must be a reason, of something not existing so far’, ‘If I can think of the idea, so could have numerous others, then why should mine work? And is it a novel thing to do?’

While Kant says — ‘True enlightenment is having the courage to use your own reason’,

to understand if there is nothing in the intellect that was not previously in the senses, we need to deep dive into various philosophies about 'an idea' and examine our past and present through various examples.

A true intellectual?

As suggested by Plato, the whole world and its organisms, all come from a single eidos (idea).

True knowledge resides in all of us, but when it takes the form of a body, it drinks the water from the river of oblivion, and forgets itself.

Meaning, the intellect, knowledge is always there previously in the senses, but we need to be able to revitalize it by educating ourselves and ~~be~~ be able to assess that intellect to do something useful.

'Education is the sieve through which knowledge/intellect becomes wisdom'

## Tracing the intellect

Since the time man used to live in the caves,  
he accidentally discovered fire and then the wheels.  
These wheels were then used to ~~to~~ make pottery  
and drive bullock carts after domestication began.

As time flew, the wheels were attached  
to the back of horses for faster navigation.  
Wherever the wheels went, they left parallel marks  
on the fields, which eventually formed the  
benchmark of the meter gauge rail lines which  
got laid on the same track.

In a sense, a random accident and the  
natural structure of a horse back led to  
the modern rail lines — so where is the intellect  
in it?

Aristotle points out — 'Values of an individual or  
a society, are a function of ethos (character),  
pathos (intellect) and logos (logic)'.

Thus, while there is nothing in the intellect, which comes out of thin air, but these are the senses, which drive our motivations, needs and interpretation of the world, and change social values and thereby fuel innovation.

## The changing senses

The philosophy of individualism and even a community, was evident since the ancient Greek civilisation, as well as in the Harappan and Janapada republics of ancient India.

But, it was only after the dusk of the dark ages, these ideas and intellect were re-highlighted and hence came Renaissance.

Tea and coffee were brewed in ancient China and were exported to Europe since ages.

But it was only the eyes of James Watt who interpreted the steam from kettle being used to do some work, and thus invented the steam engine, and powering the industrial revolution.

Similarly, the resurgence of the sensory need to express one's intellect and ideas, gave rise to thinkers like Hobbes and Locke, who propounded the 'concept of state' and the ideas of Liberty.

## Propagating intellect

While these ideas were not only able to ignite the colonies of America for their ultimate freedom, they created a domino effect, by being furthered by the French revolution and beyond.

On similar lines, the inequality created by the Industrial revolution, as evident from Dickens's writing — 'It was the best of the times, it was the worst of the times',

highlighted contrasting lives of 'haves' and 'have-nots', which led Karl Marx to propound his theory of socialism by the rise of the proletariat.

This, eventually ~~was~~ fuelled the Russian revolution,

and even became a base of Indian independence movement.

## The social divide

As Locke puts it — 'Experience is the only one true source of learning',

the changing social values, due to continuously changing human-human interactions, gives rise to new ways of looking at age-old wisdom. The curiosity of man to humanise nature, make its life easier and know the real truth, the highest form of intellect, gives rise to new needs and demands of the same intellect.

As the Anekwada philosophy highlights — 'There is no one way of looking at things'.

While in the early-vedic period, women were active part of the polity and had almost equal status, to men, but as the time changed, practices like sati, female foeticide

etc., come to picture, which create a stark social divide present today also.

Thus, ~~to~~ while our modern polices of gender equality and affirmative actions, are NOT a sense of charity, rather revitalising the intellect which was due and has been there previously in our senses.

## Re-imagining a better world

At present, we see companies like Flipkart and Ola, which used the tried and tested ideas of their global counterparts — Amazon and Uber, but still are making a huge difference in the lives of Indians.

Thus, the whole question of novelty and intellectual property revolves around the timing and perspective of the intellect, the idea. While the idea of Manish of paper recycling, might not be a new one, he was

rather funded for his perspective of using the idea to decentralise recycling.

At present, while India is on the cusp of becoming the most populated nation of the world, the concepts of intellect and their judicious application, become the most powerful tool to reap demographic dividends.

It might be true, that every intellect, every idea, has got a precursor — be a failed company, a random accident or a thriving business somewhere, the fact that there is nothing in the intellect that was not previously in the senses, proves the feasibility of an idea.

Hence, in order to make the world a better place to live in, and counter the rising menace of climate change and terrorism,

it is need to focus on the viability of an idea and instead of following a customary morality since ages, one should remold it into reflective morality as per the need, and look inwards on the intellect that has been there, since time immemorial.

Tsoly said — 'A solitary fantasy can revolutionise a million lives'

## Section B

Q8.

No man was ever wise by chance

The train was about to leave the Johannesberg station in South Africa. It was waiting for the last of its passengers to onboard.

A well groomed suited man with a briefcase in hand, boarded the first-class coach for his journey to meet his Indian clients. He was a young barrister, recently finished his education from London.

Midway in the journey, he realised that people were giving him side-looks, and then came the ticket collector, who vehemently asked him to vacate the first-class coach. While the barrister showed him, his legitimately purchased ticket, the collector was unconvinced and argued that by law-coloured people are not allowed in the coach.

The resistance soon turned south and eventually, the barrister was thrown out of the train.

The young lawyer, Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi experienced his first lesson of the prevalent atrocities against the colored, and in general in the labor colonies.

At this point, he could have chosen to turn back and resume his practice in London, but it was his conscious decision, to further the cause and participate in the failing struggle against colonialism.

Mahatma, as we call him today, is one among numerous examples of leaders and men/women, who gained wisdom, true knowledge, and attained enlightenment, NOT by a mere chance, but by their proactive, deliberate choice.

To have a better understanding of what wisdom is, and how, or rather why it has to be

achieved, one needs to go through several examples embodying the phrase and understand the philosophy behind it.

Wisdom: Choice or chance?

When Newton was sitting below that apple tree, or when Alexander Fleming left the jar of bacteria unknowingly open, — were these events which led to the discovery of Gravity, and of Penicillin, the first antibiotic, accidental?

Was the wisdom gained by the two, which revolutionised the physics and microbiology, we know today, a random fate?

Wisdom, in true sense, is having the ability to use knowledge for something good.

While it is indeed true, that the apple which fell, or the jar which remained open, were events by chance — but it was the curiosity and keen observance of the two to notice the event and

deliberately act onto it to make discoveries.

Events by chance, have happened, are happening and will happen in the due course of time, but any man, who has been able to find an order in the randomness has been fuelled by his own choice and desire to find truth.

As Ramakrishna Paramhansa puts it —

“You will never be satisfied, until you know the truth for yourself”

The ancient wisdom

The Shakya prince — Siddhartha, like others of his time could have chosen to enjoy the luxuries of palace and follow the Vedic rituals present in the ancient India.

But, on a fateful day, he realised the shallowness of materialistic luxuries and left his princely life to become ascetic and gain true enlightenment.

As Kant puts it — 'True enlightenment is having the courage to use your own reason'.

Gaining wisdom, and being closer to truth, requires continuous proactive and even out-of-the-box effort, and being simultaneously adamant on one's own reason, as well as agile enough to unlearn one's biases and learn from own and other's failures.

The contemporary wisdom

Ambedkar was a person from dalit background. He had to face constant hardships, even to get water from community well and study in school with other fellow children.

It was his personal ability and perseverance, which catapulted him across the classes and he became the drafting member of the Indian constitution.

Thus, it was the deliberate, conscious events in

the lives of our founding fathers which formulated the constitutional morality of our nation. The policies of Affirmative action, or the notion of positive secularism and mixed economy, while inspired from several global constitutions, have been "Indicised" to inculcate the realities of our society.

## The economic wisdom

Alibaba, was recently one of the most valued company of the world. Its founder Jack-Ma, was rejected from the job offer more than thirty times.

Falguni Nayyar, the self-made billionaire woman, founder of Nykaa, had to face economic and family hardships while launching a startup company with no Ivy League education background.

The wisdom to run a company, or rather start a new venture, comes from the courage

to ~~not~~ fail and conscious choice to learn from failures.

As Locke says — Exp<sup>e</sup>rience is the only source of true knowledge'

Being wise

Wisdom is a quality, which is learned, and quality education, moral compass and freedom to develop one's abilities are the key ingredients, which inculcate curiosity and truthfulness in all.

In India, we have the civilisational wisdom of our tribes — be it the Nyishi in Assam to conserve hornbills, or in Maharashtra to maintain local seedrace. Being pride to an array of diverse culture is a blessing for the nation, hence the role of state must be in line with imparting education and improving inclusivity.

National Education Policy, of teaching in mother tongue, and women empowerment schemes are a step towards making the society, wiser.

As Mandela says — 'Glossy lies not in ever failing, but in staying every time we fall',

the stories of Mahatma, Buddha and our scientists highlight that no man has was ever wise by chance, hence to make the planet a better place, and to fight against climate change and terrorism, proactive steps are required, where India can lead the way.

'Ordinary acts by ordinary men,  
make them extraordinary'



















(You'll not be satisfied until you know truth for yourself)

# VISION IAS™

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(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

No man was ever wise by chance

Team was about to leave

Intro

Young London - read suit, boot barister → 1<sup>st</sup> class A ticket. → Throw on out.  
Cont. struggle. Jail → wise Gandhi → Mahatma

Thesis

Wisdom defn. Eyes open. Learn + Unlearn biases = wise.  
Lucke - 'Knows Experience is ...'

Is everything

Ben abstractive of Penicillin discovery, by chance?  
Accidental discovery (Newton's apple)

Opportunity strikes always, but we need to be ready and proactive; to make choice.  
(Archimedes bathing)

'If you truly want a thing, the whole universe conspires to get you that' - Cateco

Wisdom = Equality + Education + Ego.

'Use own reason - Kant'

The Shakerley

→ Buddha.  
→ Heterodox religions. Ds. → Active questioning.

His

Being curious. Socrates → 'know thyself'

Society

Const<sup>n</sup> makes sense Ambedkar → Affirmative action  
(own experience) → No wimping

Inspired from

Economic

Alibaba, Nykaa.

Education - Powerful weapon  
↳ Siree

↳ Tribal knowledge, EPR ↑

↳ Taking risk → Mandala. solve problems decentral

Odd<sup>n</sup> people <sup>conscious</sup> needs & acts make extraordinary

Use own reason (Kant).

Role of State: give freedom to able to allow.

⇒ ↓ instance of chance.



(Idea incarnates) → Plato (Single ideas) → Knowledge

Civilis = Continuity of ideas

Invention? v/s Discovery?

# VISION IAS™

Innovation? → IP issues → A+B+C

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

Non-obvious

There's nothing intelligent that was not prev. in the senses.

Is there true invention?

Values = Pathos + Ethos + Logos (Other side)

∴ Values change ⇒ New things come for.

Concl: ⇒ Universal morality  
↳ Reflective from customary with own moral compass for...  
'Moral code within...'

Intelligent? senses?

Locke  
↳ Experience.

Truth  
↳ Perseus  
↳ Know truth.

↳ True science  
↳ Change world.

[Intro]: Marxist on library balcony. Grot on idea of paper recycling. → startup

Does it matter? NO!  
as → EU > IB  
↳ Problem should be solved.  
IPR

↳ What's new?  
↳ Is it about buy at right time, place.

[Thesis]: Os of Marxist → Plato → Single ideas → River of oblivion.  
⇒ Intellect: ? something novel — 'An idea never dies'

↳ By interactions world changes → Problem change → Idea incarnates → Becomes novel.

Can intellect be learned?

Reinventing the wheel (a) Man → wheel → Domesticate → Horse cart → Train.  
(b) there was light, test. → Leibnitz, Newton → Calculus → Einstein  
↳ James watt → Ind. rev<sup>n</sup> (kettle)

↳ VC funds.

(Solitary fantasy)

Misinfo / Plagiarism  
↳ Synthesis + Antithesis  
⇒ Truth lost.

[Society]: Historical injustices. → Women, others.

[Intellect]: Innovation v/s invention v/s Discovery.  
Is this intellect? Can it be from scratch?  
↳ Hydrogen cars since long back.  
↳ Intellect = Not just a new idea, 'Locke'  
↳ wisdom: 'Education is the circle: Knowledge → Wisdom'

[History]: Hobbes State: An extreme rev → French → Russia → India → Decolon.  
↳ Upanishads → Vivekanand, Satyamev → Buddhism → Nonviolence → Gandhi → Today.

[Economy]: Ola, Flipkart etc. as a remoulding of west ideas.

[Terror]: Idea is most pow. weapon. It never dies, Commun.

Concl: Marxist, researchers IP, Patent Novelty, it is in intellect, may not be, infact. not prev. in senses ⇒ Reality.  
⇒ Innovation: → Indian pop<sup>n</sup> → EPR

Conf.

Indian etc.