

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.

1. If you want to walk fast, walk alone.
But if you want to walk far, walk
together.

Ans:— During the Indian freedom struggle,
the group led by Masterda Surjan
sen raided the armoury at Chittar-
gong in 1931. They wanted rapid
independence from British rule. But
not a lot of people were with them,
making it easy for the British to
crush them in no time.

On the contrary, Gandhiji
was a man who took the whole coun-
try together binding them with
the ideals of peace and non-violence.
Though, the process was gradual but
India eventually emerged as an
independent nation in 1947

The above example is a testament to the fact that success is long lasting only when everyone is involved in it.

In this essay, we will discuss whether walking alone or anonymity has become necessary in the modern world, ^{that} the success attached the with it comes at a cost, the need for carrying everyone ahead together and the eventual success of collectively achieving a goal.

Anonymity: the modern necessity

Since the Industrial Revolution, the world has rapidly transformed in the way societies were arranged and their interrelations among people. Today, in India, more than 30%

of people live in urban areas which is characterised by anonymity and minimal relations $\&$ with others.

Socially, today, the gauge of status is the amount of money a person is earning. In the pace of time, people have forgotten the need for social relationships and mental well being.

Culturally, rather than family get together and meets, people have become more interested in the nuclear family or solo trips.

Economically, the jobs confined to the tables in multinational companies has become the most sought for.

~~Success at~~ In the materialistic sense, the human needs have been more than fulfilled, but is worth it?

Success at a cost or eventual failure

Today, across the globe, the incidences of suicides, mental health issues are rapidly rising. In India alone, as per National Mental Health Survey, around 150 million people suffers from mental health issues.

The greed to move ahead fast up the ladder comes at a cost.

Individually, we have turned into mechanical beings even detached from our own soul. We don't even have time to look back whether we are actually happy. Long ago, Carlyle spent most of his years ~~fully~~ writing his epic book 'The French Revolution' but ^{then} rather ^{than} being

satisfied, he felt dejected that he had wasted such a long time of his life.

At family ^{level}, the desire for quick success, has resulted in rapid breakdown of India's joint family system. It has led to loss of emotional support during difficult times and neglect of the older and weaker persons in the family.

At societal level, social capital has reduced. Inequalities have widened leading to sense of relative deprivation among many. Internal conflicts have become the norm.

So, does it count as a success? In the long run, it can be classified more as a failure when materialistic

needs eventually cease to attract people. Then, the realisation and the ifs and buts of the bygone days haunt people in their later days.

History: Mirror to the Past

History as a mirror of the past contains enough evidences of people who have been very successful in their times because they created an inclusive society.

In ancient times, Ashoka's initial lust for power led to the destruction of Kalinga but at the cost of loss of ~~with~~ lakhs of lives and permanent disabilities of many more. He realised that he can continue on fighting with people forever without their support. Eventually, it inspired Ashoka's

Dharama which bound people together in the ideals of non-violence, mutual tolerance and respect towards others. This allowed him to rule peacefully for the more than 30 years in the most extensive Indian empire ever.

In medieval age, Akbar was able to create a vast Mughal empire, as Jadunath Sarkar puts it, by enlisting the support of the Rajputs. But Aurangzeb, on the contrary, created an even greater empire by subduing all like Bijapur, Golconda, Marathas etc. which led to the eventual downfall of ^{the} Mughals.

History, thus, provides us with a peek into the necessity to walk together.

Carrying everyone ahead together:
The need of the hour

A harmonious society can be created only if everyone joins hands and moves together.

Individually, ~~it~~ social relationships will provide us emotional support in difficult times, guide us at appropriate times and lead us to our goals.

It will create a family where everyone is looked after, no one is left behind and provide everyone with the joy of sharing.

For the nation, inclusive growth is the utmost need and it can only be achieved when everyone will move

ahead together. When the inequalities will reduce, social stress and strain will be eliminated to a large extent. A peaceful, tolerant society will be created.

At international level, such a country can become a superpower in the future.

The way ahead

A humongous effort is required from all quarters to walk together to walk far. The prevailing caste, religious, gender conflicts in a country like India is a big impediment.

At schools and colleges, proper education needs to be provided that is not marred with racial

distinctions, stereotypes etc. Teachers should inculcate values of tolerance, teamwork etc. among the students. Education needs to be accessible to all. Eklavya, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas etc. are good steps in this regard.

Various NGOs, civil society organisations, charismatic people should come to create awareness against the ills of caste and other forms of discrimination, so that a sense of ownership is created among the people.

Proper skills are to be provided to people so that everyone could become self-sufficient. PM Kaushal Vikash Yojana is a positive step in this direction.

The Government should strive to remove poverty, hunger through

proper implementation of schemes like POSHAN Abhiyan, NFSA etc.

The physical and mental well being of the people need to be ensured so that they can contribute positively to the society. Schemes like PM-JAY should be properly implemented

In this way, only we can create a India that has been the dream of our forefathers and as imagined by millions that have been inspired by this nation. In the words of Romain Rolland

'If there is one place in the face of this earth where all ^{the} ~~people~~ ^{people} have dreams of living men have found a home since the earliest days of existence when men began to dream, it is India'

8. Global politics of infrastructure and connectivity.

Ans. - At the face of rising debts, the Rajpakesas eventually had no choice but to hand over the Hambantota port to the Chinese for hundred years in lieu of the debts. The politics of infrastructure and connectivity has been at the heart of the Chinese ascendancy and the beginning of the 'New Cold War' in the 21st century.

The miseries that was caused by the two world wars in the 20th century had an indelible impact on the countries and marked a shift from face-to-face wars to more emphasis on the modern economic and

trade wars manifested in different forms including politics of infrastructure and connectivity.

So, in this modern world, How has infrastructure and connectivity acted as the tool of global politics? What are the facets of this tool? How has it marked the beginning of the New Cold War? What is India's place in it? All these will be discussed in this essay alongwith more variables of global politics and the need of smart power in global politics.

Infrastructure and Connectivity: The modern tools of global politics

The modern world demands more economic integration than ever.

Also, the need for allies for support to get national interests fulfilled in international organisations like UNO etc. demands assistance to relatively weaker nations.

The growth of threat perception requires building of national infrastructure and connectivity

Construction of physical infrastruc-ture is at the heart of infrastructure development. India constructing the Salma Dam, Afghanistan Parliament building has helped in cementing ties between the two nations

Digital infrastructure has also gradually become important. India providing tele-services like e-hospitals, e-education services in Africa has helped grow India's influence in the Continent

The tool of connectivity is being increasingly used by the nations.

It lies at the heart of ASEAN politics and India's Look East Policy. The lack of proper connectivity with ASEAN countries has prevented optimal trade in the region and consequently India's influence in the region.

At the same time, infrastructure and connectivity politics has been used as a tool of neocolonialism as pointed out earlier by Kwame Nkrumah, the ex-President of Ghana.

The double edged sword: Development, debts and manipulations

The fulfilment of national interests is the foremost principle of global politics. Nevertheless, the motives of countries differ in the

way it wishes to exercise power.

Development enhancing soft power has largely been the core policy of countries like Japan and India in the projects that it has undertaken. India's High Impact Community Development programs in Afghanistan or help in construction of Roopur nuclear power plant in Bangladesh are few examples.

The policy of forced debt, on the other hand, has been used by others. China forcing Sri Lanka to hand over Hambantota port or grant of largely unreturnable loans to Pakistan in the name of Belt and Road Initiative can be cited in this regard.

Manipulating data and influencing people has been another tool facilitated

by large scale digital infrastructure.
The alleged Russian bond in US elections
can be cited here.

The geographical shift of the
power centres has enhanced India's
role in global politics

The 'New Cold War' and Indo-Pacific

The rise of China and India in
the 21st century has forced the early
power centres of USA, Russia to
look towards Asia and the Indo-Pacific

The US-China clashes and
other power equations have been visible
in various projects in the region.

In Connectivity through land, China
has emphasised on the silk route all
across Asia and to Europe. India's focus
has been ~~on~~ towards strengthening its

border areas like constructions in Ladakh and in Arunachal Pradesh. Also, South East Asia's connectivity is enhanced through projects like India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway.

In Indo-Pacific, new alignments, groupings have gained prominence.

The QUAD's growing importance, regular military exercises are indicative of this.

Further, the island nations have become more important. India's development projects in the Vanilla islands, the groups like FIPIC point to it.

At the same time, enhancement of national power through infrastructure is necessary. India's nuclear power, development of new equipments like ICBMs, anti-tank capabilities act as key deterrent to hostile powers.

At the same time, there are various other variables shaping global politics.

Global politics: more variables

Various other factors also have a distinct impact on global politics.

Historical enmity has been the cause of many hostile relations. Invariably, it affects global politics as a country supposedly closer with USA is bound to be at least on lesser good terms with Russia or Iran.

Skirmishes at the borders to create a fear psychosis has been a potent tool. Recently events at Galwan is an example of this.

Resolutions to garner support for a cause and to get an idea of one's allies is used regularly by parties in UNO and other bodies.

Trade sanctions is also a potent tool. The trade restrictions imposed on Iran by USA in recent times is an example of this.

Thus, many variable influence global politics but the ~~need~~^{way} ahead is a shrewd combination of soft and hard power.

Smart power: the need of the times

In this changing world and more complex, connected ecosystems; a balance between soft power through cultural, connectivity, infrastructural ties should be established with hard power through coercive techniques.

Soft power can be used to enhance relations between nations and people to people ties. The construction

of Subratna memorial in India is a manifestation of this to enhance India-Japan relations.

Simultaneously, India's Mission Shakti for anti-satellite simulations, destruction of Jaish-e-Mohammed camps in Pakistan is a reminder of India's power.

Enhancement of both soft and hard power is the requirement of times to stay relevant as a global power. Then only, India can hope to become a \$5 trillion economy by 2025 and a \$10 trillion economy by 2030.