

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.

All the Best

COMMITMENT TO IDEALS, NOT IDOLS, IS THE
NEED OF THE HOUR.

Man thinks in stories, says Prof. Yuval Noah Harari in his best selling book "Hum Sapiens". From the advent of human civilisation, we have created numerous stories to pass on learning or to understand the world around us. Also, every story has a "Hero" or an "Idol", whom we tend to follow and learn.

All the religions are nothing but a bunch of stories with one or many Heroes - Islam has Prophet Muhammad, Hinduism has Rama or Krishna, Christianity has Jesus.

Over the course of time, we humans begin to forget the underlying ideals in the stories, and all we are left with, are the

Idols, whom we tend to "hero worship", conveniently forgetting the values and ideals they were trying to convey.

However we also have another set of "stones" in the form of "Panchatantra" or "Dadi-Nani Kahani" - which more or less do not have any hero or "idol" but only the ideals. But such story books are "supposed" to be read only by the children and as we grow, we tend to forget all such ideals, which we once read.

"Ideals are abstract", they are meta-physical and subject to one's understandings, and therefore are hard to follow and actually realise the true importance. But at the same time ideals are also customisable and maneuver to fit into one's set of values and character.

Here comes the importance of "idols". It is the "idols" which give a physical form, a personal touch to the abstract set of ideals.

When we think about the ideal of "non-violence" we invariably associate it to Gandhi or Lord Mahavira, both of them being the idols.

"Idols are just the manifestation of the underlying set of ideals"

But the real problem arises, when we tend to "idol worship" and show true commitment to the idols than their teachings. When we do so we automatically restrict our countours of gaining knowledge and conveniently ignore the flaws in those idols. Let me explain through an example. Shah Rukh Khan is truly the "Badshah" of Bollywood. Being completely an

outsider, he conquered this industry and ruled for over 25 years. He serves as the "idol" of the lakhs of youths for his ideals like - hardwork, honesty, perseverance, courage, never say die attitude, his humor and wit.

But while looking at the long list of ideals if we tend to "idol worship" Shah Rukh, we might also justify his flaws like heavy smoking habit, which he himself accepts as his flaw. We tend to adopt this flaw also in our lives.

When we respect someone, more than the person himself, we must respect and show commitment to his set of values and ideals.

Every man/woman has his or her flaws, which are often ignored by the idol worshippers.

Devdutt Patil, an author of many mythical and religious books, has a very interesting take on this.

He says that in Mahabharata, we often tend to categorise Pandavas as the good guys and Kauravas as the bad guys, a clear "black-white distinction". However this, according to him, is a very restricted understanding and oversimplified version to understand the deep messages.

He says that both Kauravas and Pandavas have their flaws and ideals, which they stood by. He says that no one eventually won the great war, everyone lost something or the other. Kauravas lost land and Pandavas lost Kins and brothers. For us humans, it is not advisable to idolise the "heros" of this great epic, rather we should respect and idolise the great values of and ideals of the great men, irrespective of the "black-white" categorisation.

Buddha used to say that one should surely listen to his teachings, but should only imitate them in his life, if his own conscience allows him to do so. One should not just accept something because Buddha says so.

This gives the essence of the great learning which Buddha wanted to give to world, all his life.

His main teaching was - "App Deepo Bhava"
(Be your own light).

History of the world has given us various remarkable leaders and commanders whom we often tend to ~~idea~~ idolise. For example

Napoleon is often stated as the greatest of all the European leaders in the recent history.

But here also we must adhere to his noble and quality ideals and categorically dis-associate ourselves from his flaws.

Ideals can be learned from anywhere.
Even the "evil" dictator like Hitler also had
good ideas like leadership, patriotism,
war acumen, which should be learned
and adopted by us, but while doing so, we
must be very cautious of his hatred and
racist ^{vices} qualities. Look at the ideals and
judge him over that → adopt the good ones
and dump the bad ones. There has to be an
objective analysis.

"Idols perish, ideals thrive". When
we associate our commitment to a person or
a materialistic thing, the commitment dies
with the death of the person. It is the ideals,
thoughts and vision of a person that lives on.
For example, Steve Jobs died 8 years ago, but
his ideals of leadership, innovation, hard work

commitment for global good, still inspires people and young entrepreneurs. Now no body talks about his troubled personal life.

Ideals serve as the benchmark which we tend to achieve. They are the "end" in themselves. Idols are just the "means" to guide us and show us the path to reach that "end". In this regard, books become our best friend. They guide us to achieve the greater goods and achieve higher ideals, in an interesting manner. For example, the classic work of J K Rowling - The Harry Potter Series, is not just adored for the beautiful and magnificent world of magic and adventure, but also about the ideals of courage, friendship, compassion, sacrifice etc, which the main protagonists show

while also highlighting the inherent flaws
and insecurities in each of them.

Why is this understanding of Ideals vs Idols
a "need of the hour"?

We as a present society are experiencing
an unprecedented phenomenon of Information
overflow. There is Information all around us,
through social media, news, digital medium.

For the newer generation, who get exposed
to the world of social media very soon, when
their own cognitive abilities and maturity
are weak and developing. This makes them
vulnerable to not able to ^{make} distinction between
the two - idols and ideals.

A whole new world of "social media
influencer" is coming up, which by their

very name tend to "Influence" young minds at their formative stages. Young generation and even the millennials often fail to understand the amount of fakeness and "cosmetic" nature of this digital world. People often tend to idolise ~~these~~ whatever they see around us, and often fall into depression for not being live up like their 'idols'.

When we idolise someone, we often overlook the social background, personal history, socio-economic status of the person. We see only what the person wants us to see,

This is the classic case of the phrase —

"A little knowledge is Dangerous".

The moral fabric of our society is getting weaker and ~~but~~ is beginning to tear apart as we see not only the criminal activities

living in number but also their barbaric nature, which tends to shame entire humanity.

People are needed to be reminded of our ideals, the value set. They need to be made realise that "idols" are not the end in themselves rather the key to a happy life lies in "ideals".

Of course the ones who are in the public life and who tends to be idolised by the youth should maintain high ideals and moral values, from their end, as a moral obligation, to inspire masses. It has to be a combined effort from both end - people show commitment to the "ideals" and the supposedly "idols" should show good "ideals".

DATA IS THE NEW OIL OF 21ST CENTURY

Ramesh is a small farmer who majorly depends on rain for his crops. Earlier due to vagaries of the monsoon and other climatic events, he used to suffer a lot, with heavy monetary losses. But now, Ramesh use to get advanced information about weather forecast, which is mostly accurate, from the Meteorological Department on his own mobile. The Soil Health Card provides him exact information about the kind of additional info fertilizer or nutrient he needs to put in. He now has the information about the best price in the market for his produce through e-NAM and the latest news in the field of agricultural research.

This Ramesh's story is just a small example about how Data and Technology is revolutionising the lives of our people and nation at large.

Few years ago, a mathematician from Europe called "Data is the new oil", but it was not given much importance back then. But now we are realising the gravity of this statement.

In this Essay, we will discuss how Data is going to be the fuel of the modern socio-economic world. How it is revolutionising numerous sectors of economy, how it is driving the new way of living and while discussing all this, we will also have a look of the concepts of this new fuel". Let's begin!

What is Data?

Data is any piece of information that is generated by humans, machines etc which can be processed, categorised and used ~~to~~ for various purposes. When you ~~to~~ log into your instagram and surf through the feed, you're generating data and digital footprints. Even by just keeping a smart phone in pocket, we are generating data, which is getting stored somewhere, possibly in Antarctica... who knows?

Why data is called the "new oil"?

When massive oil reserves were discovered in the 20th century, it completely revolutionise the human civilisation - the economy, the industrial fuel, the transport sector everything was restructured to include oil as a fuel.

Not only economy, but the geo-political scenario changed. The complete restructuring of Dubai as a "City of Dreams" rest on the value of oil in world market. Oil was the reason for various international conflicts, international alliances and cultural revolutions in the Middle East.

A similar impact is expected from the "Data", which soon will become the factor of production in factories, which will rewrite the global alliance networks, the geopolitical realities, the socio-economic structure, the nature of warfare and what not. It is proposed by many that like in older times, whoever controlled oil reserves, controls the world, now whoever control the "Data", will control the new world.

How is data revolutionising the modern human civilisation?

You name any sector and there will be a considerable impact of the Data Revolution.

Lets start with Agriculture. As discussed in the introduction, improved weather forecast due to better evidence based modelling is doing wonders for farmers. Soil Health Cards which as of now gives the information about exact need of a particular fertilizer, can be extended to generate a database, which can be used by insurance companies to better serve the farmers, tailoring customized plans. or to the agriculture scientists to make better and eco friendly fertilizers.

Talking about Education. The entire edifice of EdTech like Khan Academy, Unacademy

etc works on the "fuel" of Data generated by the users. Anitalesh Kant in his book "The path Ahead" talks about "unbundling" education to serve the exact need of the student, rather than the present setup where the complete package has to be read by students. This is based on the massive data generated to tailor out programmes.

To ensure learning, we need to have a constant feedback, which then can be used to better our curriculum. This also depends on the data from teachers and students.

Next up is the field of Medicine → Here also efforts are being made to collect the data with respect to one's medical history at one place to ensure a comprehensive treatment by the doctors especially in case of emergency, when the patient is unable to provide information herself.

As the data is generated by millions of patients about the type of specific disease, giving details about the exact genetic mutation or the micro-analysis of the exact cause, the Researchers in the later will be able to make more effective drugs and equipments. Nano drugs delivery are exactly based upon this.

Economic impact of such data are beyond our understanding. The entire e-commerce architecture is made upon data and lots of data analytics to exactly target the customer.

Realising the importance of data, Amazon India is still running at overall loss, to ensure market capture and profile the customers.

Entire business model of Google or Facebook works on the data generated by its users. Data is the raw material and the final product for such companies.

Recently we have successfully captured

the first ever image of a black hole. This entire achievement is based upon massive collaboration of petabytes of data generated across the world to compile and present before the world.

Data has revolutionised the world of Sports. The kind of statistics and data about exact weakness or strong point of a player helps the team/player to prepare in a much more scientific manner. The kind of data analytics used in Football still astonishes the world's greatest footballers.

The "OPEC" of Data

Much like in case of Oil, where we have a international body to establish a rule based oil management, by the name of OPEC, we also now need a similar international body for a rule based data management.

As the debates around trade of data, data governance, data localisation becomes stronger we need to have some international mechanism to deal with the new challenges.

THE FLIPSIDE OF "DATA"

As the oil world is filled with problems and conflicts, so does this new oil of "Data".

The instances of massive Data breaches, Data Theft are increasing every day. Cases like that of Cambridge Analytica and Facebook or the Zomato leakage of data draws global concerns.

In his book, Technology versus Humans, Jimmy Bartel, cautions the world about how this data domain world is threatening

the whole ideal of democratic setup. He explains how in the 2016 Presidential Elections in the USA, data was manipulated used to "brainwash" and form the choices of voters.

Prof. Yuval Noah Harari in his book "Homo Deus", raises the question over the entire concept of human "free will". He argues that this supposedly "free will" can be easily manipulated by using data and presenting before one, to form opinion - after all our choices are just the bio-chemical reactions happening inside us.

Much like the dystopian novel 1984, where the author George Orwell introduced the famous phrase "Big Brother is watching you", in the new novel "21 Lessons for 21st century", the author puts the phrase as - "Big Data is watching you", holding the essence intact.

DATA AND INDIA

India has the 2nd largest number of internet users, who use global apps and websites.

This means India is a reservoir of immense amount of data.

Economic Survey 2018-19 makes a strong case for making "Public Data" so as to avoid it getting monopolised. It also calls for data integration of the bits-and-pieces of data for the better usability.

While India is still struggling to get a robust Data Protection Law (based on DN Sankhshre Report), both government and private entrepreneurs are aggressively expanding the digital space.

Government has understood the immense possibility of use of data in the field of Governance and

had launched 'Digital India' in 2014 itself.
Recent DNA Technology Bill is a clear man-
-ifestation of the use of data in governance and
identifying the wrong doers.

Data Localisation is yet another debate creating
echoes in the government circles. As highlighted
by the Economic survey and BN Sri Krishna
Report, the first thing we need to do is to secure
our jurisdiction over the data generated by us.

Privacy has recently seen the status of
Fundamental Right and the effects of which
on the digital space have shown its bare beginnings
through the Aadhar Bill controversy.

Data Protection, privacy at digital space
are something the average Indian is still not
much familiar with. Government and society
not only needs raise awareness among people
but also form robust laws, before it gets too late.

How we should prepare ourselves to maximise the benefits of this Data Revolution?

Firstly we need to democratise this new world of data. we cannot afford to create another "Saudi Arabia" or "Iran" who had a monopoly over oil production. This "new oil" has to be democratic. For this we need to ensure a rule based world order and a global framework on Data Protection and trading, much on the lines of EU Data Protection rules of 2016.

Next up is the understanding of the Ethical Dimension of Data. Much on the lines of Code of Conduct for nations and people we need to form a model Code of Digital Ethics, to ensure a accommodative and.

harmonised digital space.

Thirdly, we need to focus on upgrading our Human Resource, by inculcating innovation, critical thinking in the curriculum, so that they are not reduced to "useless" class of citizen, in the words of Prof-Harari, amid digital revolution.

Fourthly, we need to be extra cautious about our digital presence and activities. Trends like #10yearchallenge or Faceapp challenges are nothing but social experiment to generate more data for improving Artificial Intelligence.

Fifthly, while being cautious, we should not lose upon the endless avenues to capitalise upon using technology and data (eg. while banning crypto currency, we must praise the blockchain technology and use it for other purposes.

Technological revolution, based on data

is inevitable. We have two choices—
either to put our heads inside the ground
like Ostrich or to raise our head high
like a Lion and face the new challenge
head on and turn this challenge
into an opportunity.

The choice is yours, but I bet
it will be an easy choice. And yet,
Choice has to be given, after all it is
a democratic human civilization,
or is it?

"Big Brother" of Orwell's novel can be
converted into "Big Brother" of Indian family,
the one who always protect & empower.

* Angelina Jolie case.
 * Cigarette case ^{How} _{dec} ROUGH

VISION IAS™

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Data is new oil

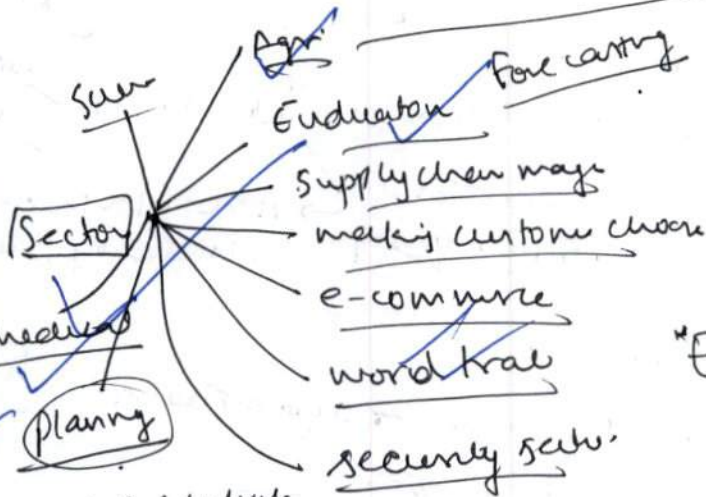
Story → Farmer and Soil Health card / Weather forecast.

Amuday

Data - very new "oil"
 Valuable fuel dr.
 Data

Old fuel economy
 Dark fuel modern
 social economy

Data Governance - OPE ^{ing} Data → SHE → Big data
 Insurance sect



Data and Ethics
 market capture model

Society
 Economic
 Political
 Ethical

The way we live & think.

Books: The Tech vs Human Jimmy Barlet

- 10 year challenge: Homo Deus, 21 lessons for 21st century, Jugal Harari
- Face app.
- Fuller's

Identity to an ID? The flip side
 * Cyber crime
 * Int'l. Rules
 * Data protection
 Proactive Steps

Data Ethical flow
 coding Dgr Ethic

Rule based Int'l. order as that of oil

Oil = Saudi / Iran / Middle Ea

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Essay 1

Idol vs Ideal.

1. Man then stories → need a hero. "yuvak"
↳ early human story
2. Idols are just the manifestation of ideals underlying

Narrow down to a personality

Look at their values

- * Rama → Devdutta
- * Krishna
- * Sachin → Parthiv Sami
- * SRK → Smoking
- * Tiger Woods.

When we idolize anyone we get blinded by his flaws.

Buddha said "listen to me but only when consensus allow, follow me" No rational

App deepo bhava

91 effes of Hero worship

→ Are of the person blinded by flaws

- ✓ Napoleon
- ✓ Hitler
- ✓ MK Gandhi

* Idols perish | Ideals turn

Ideals are → abstract, more for customization and easy to adopt.

Ideals guide us!

Idols ← history, social background, personal actor values, data/info on them, why now?

- Instagram influencers
- social media - fake
- media is fake

Ideal actual

Ideals

Good work of idols → would be abstract idea. → personification of value → easy to understand.

- Empathy
- Compassion
- Resilience
- Humanity
- Courage
- Fearless
- Public welfare

Books

- Harry Potter.
- ~~A Thousand Splendid~~ Kite Runner.

Panchatantra

* MORAL STORIES | Dadi-Nani |

16x8x4
12x8x8
1308
16x8x4
88
16x8x4

Looking morally barbaric incidents
Hero worship

Focus on learning
Every one is different and unique