



# VISION IAS

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## ESSAY

|                   |            |                     |          |
|-------------------|------------|---------------------|----------|
| Name of Candidate | URMI SINHA | Test Code           | 2576     |
| Medium Hindi/Eng. | English    | Registration Number | 45900312 |
| Centre            | Online     | Date                |          |

### INDEX TABLE

| Section               | Maximum Marks | Marks Obtained |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------------|
| A                     | 125           |                |
| B                     | 125           |                |
| Total Marks Obtained: |               |                |

### Important Instructions:

- The ESSAY 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 a medium other than the authorized one.  
प्रवेश-पत्र में प्राधिकृत माध्यम में निबन्ध लिखना आवश्यक है तथा इस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका के मुखपृष्ठ पर निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर करना आवश्यक है। प्राधिकृत माध्यम के अलावा अन्य माध्यम में लिखे गए उत्तरों पर अंक नहीं दिए जाएंगे।
- Word limit, as specified, should be adhered to.  
प्रश्नों के उत्तर निर्दिष्ट शब्द-संख्या के अनुसार होने चाहिए।
- Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.  
प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गए किसी पृष्ठ अथवा पृष्ठ भाग को पूर्णतः काट दीजिए।

Remarks:

### General Instructions

- 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 इत्यादि)।
- Write two essay, choosing one topic from each of the Sections A and B, in about 1000-1200 words each.  
खण्ड A व B प्रत्येक से एक विषय चुनकर दो निबन्ध उत्तर अस्पष्ट रूप से लगभग 1000-2000 शब्दों का हो।
- Answers in bad of illegible handwriting.  
प्रकार के उत्तरों का मूल्यांकन नहीं किया जा सकता है।  
उत्तर अस्पष्ट अथवा गन्दी लिखावट में न लिखें। इस प्रकार के उत्तरों का मूल्यांकन नहीं भी किया जा सकता है।
- Write answers in ink only. Do not use pencil for writing the answer. However, pencil may be used for drawing diagrams, sketches, etc.  
उत्तर स्याही से ही लिखें। उत्तर लिखने के लिए पेंसिल का उपयोग न करें। हालांकि आरेख, चित्र इत्यादि बनाने के लिए पेंसिल का उपयोग किया जा सकता है।
- Do not write answers in a medium other than the authorized medium in the Admission Certificate. Do not use mixed language, i.e., authorized and unauthorized media together, for writing answers.  
प्रवेश-पत्र में उल्लेख किए गए माध्यम के अलावा अन्य किसी माध्यम में उत्तर न लिखें। अधिकृत और अनधिकृत की मिली-जुली भाषा का भी उपयोग न करें।
- Write answers at the specified spaces (right below the questions) only. Answers written elsewhere at unspecified spaces in the Booklet shall not be evaluated.  
प्रश्नों के उत्तर ठीक उसके नीचे दिए गए निर्धारित स्थान पर ही लिखें निर्धारित स्थान के अलावा किसी अन्य स्थान पर लिखे गए उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं किया जाएगा।

Is student recommended for One-to-One mentoring?

Recommended

Strongly Recommended

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 & SInd Bank), Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-110009

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## EVALUATION INDICATORS:

1. Contextual Competence
2. Structure and Flow
3. Dimensional Coverage
4. Language Competence
5. Length of Essays
6. Creativity Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

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- Understanding of Topic
- Introduction Competence
- Body of Essay
  - Dimensions Covered
  - Shortcomings
  - Value Additions/ Missed Dimensions
- Conclusion Competence
- Organization of Essay
- Language and Expression

## Macro Comments – Essay 1<sub>a</sub>

Essay Topic:

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**Macro Comments – Essay 24**

Essay Topic:

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3. IF YOU CRY BECAUSE THE SUN  
HAS GONE OUT OF YOUR LIFE,  
YOUR TEARS WILL PREVENT YOU  
FROM SEEING THE STARS.

Murlikant Petkar was a  
brave young soldier in the Indian  
Army and a very talented boxer.  
He ~~was~~ was valiantly defending  
India's borders in the 1965 Indo-  
China <sup>Pak</sup> War when nine bullet  
wounds and a vehicle running over  
him, left him paraplegic. He was in  
a state of coma for two years.  
Coming from a very humble background,  
he was also deprived of familial  
support. However, the 'tears' in his  
eyes for the 'sun having gone out  
of his life' did not prevent him  
from 'seeing the stars'. Defying the

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कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिये में नहीं लिखना चाहिए।  
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naysayers, he took up swimming and became India's first Paralympic gold medallist ~~at~~ 1972 Paralympics.

"The Titanic did not sink because there was water around it; it sank only when the water entered it."

Life is a rollercoaster ride full of ups and downs, tears and joys, successes and failures. They are as inevitable as day and night, light and dark. However, in the face of adversities, challenges, hardships, and the 'darkness' of gloom and despair, it is not uncommon to find people plunging into the deep, dark abyss of pessimism and feeling that the 'Sun' has gone out of their lives.



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कुछ भी लिखना  
सवाल के  
अतिरिक्त कुछ  
न लिखें।

उम्मीदवारों को  
इस हाथिप में  
नहीं लिखना  
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However, it is imperative that one adopts an optimistic attitude and faces every adversity head on with courage, faith, fortitude, and a never-say die attitude while never forgetting to look up at the stars - representing a ray of hope and an opportunity for resurrection.  
After all, "There is always light at the end of the tunnel."

On the other hand, a pessimistic outlook only serves to further dampen one's spirits and hamper their strive towards excellence and a better tomorrow.

One can draw inspiration from the famous inventor Thomas Alva Edison who ~~made~~ was successful in inventing

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प्रश्नों के उत्तर इस स्थान में नहीं लिखना चाहिए।  
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The bulb after 1000 failed attempts. His character is shown by his statement: "I have learnt 1000 different ways of how not to make a bulb."

Therefore, even if one encounters numerous challenges and disheartening failures on his journey, he should always have a positive attitude from continuously learning from past mistakes and relentlessly working towards what drives our heart and soul.

After all, J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter becoming the most loved fiction of all times after facing numerous rejections only confirms Winston's Churchill's profound words - "No success is final. No failure is fatal. It is the courage to keep going that matters."

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If acid attack survivor Jasviri Agarwal had decided to spend the rest of her lives as a victim, crying about the 'Sun going out of her life', she could have never been able to crusade for stringent penal provisions for acid attacks and restrictions on the free sale of acid in the country.

Similarly, it was the optimism of Nobel Peace Prize Winner Nadia Murad "to keep looking at the stars" which enabled her to escape the clutches of ISIS after being sold multiple times as a sex slave, going on to become a beacon of hope in a conflict-torn world.

Sometimes, the challenges seem so enormous and daunting that one is tempted to give up and

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design to fate. But as Henry Ford said - "If you find something difficult, do it in parts". Even the most complex of problems can be solved with relative ease by the adoption of SMART goals - ~~simple~~, specific, measurable, ~~action~~ achievable, relevant and time-bound.

The Meiji Restoration in Japan which marked the Asian country's transition from a pre-modern feudalistic nation to a modern one. Japan in the 19<sup>th</sup> century was marked by severe <sup>social</sup> fragmentation, feudalism and an inability to adapt with modern industrial means of production.

~~However~~ It felt as if the 'Sun' had gone out for the country.

However, the country initiated a series of steps to re-invigorate Japan into an ~~new~~ industrialised economy,

a modernised military power and an imperialist expansionist political power, only because it chose to "look at <sup>the stars</sup> history" is witness that no matter how humiliating the defeat, how arduous and painful the suffering and how mighty the enemy, the phoenix always has the potential to rise from its ashes.

The Indian freedom struggle is one such story of indomitable will and hope that the dark clouds of colonialism will one day disappear and the land will again be blessed by the bright sunshine of freedom. The brave freedom fighters from Gandhi to Bhagat Singh, from Nehru to Subhas Bose all of them braved all odds, lathicharges, incarcerations and even

Executions by the mighty British Raj, but they did not stop looking at the stars and the brighter days of freedom which were inevitable.

After four decades of independence, India was faced with yet another challenge - the severe balance of payments crisis of 1991. India's forex reserves were severely depleted, there was intense inflation and her sovereign credit rating plummeted. However, by maintaining a positive outlook, New Delhi was able to tide over this crisis by ushering in the LPG reforms and taking proactive measures.

It is inspiring to note that currently India<sup>o</sup> is the fifth largest economy, on its way to become the 3rd largest by 2027, according

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में प्रश्न संख्या के  
अतिरिक्त कुछ  
न लिखें।

to IMF projections.

In the international context,  
the post-WWII reconstruction of  
Europe after the darkness of  
devastation, death and destruction of  
property and an economic slump  
in the economies of the once  
powerful imperial powers, bears testament  
to the fact that instead of  
weeping about the sun going out,  
one must continuously maintain an  
optimistic outlook and keep looking at  
the stars.

This essay serves as a  
reminder of Nelson Mandela's  
wise words: "The brave man is  
not ~~the~~ he who is not afraid  
of the dark, but he who conquers  
that fear".

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कहीं भी लिखना  
नाहिये।  
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In order to adopt an optimistic outlook and muster the courage to bravely fight all challenges with hope in our hearts and a smile on our face, we must overcome pessimism bias by restoring faith in our abilities, maintaining a strong internal locus of control by believing that we are the makes of our own destiny, notwithstanding the occasional downfall and the negative external environment.

One must always believe:

"Happiness can be found in the darkest of times only if one remembers to turn on the light"

~ Albus Dumbledore.



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8.

VULNERABILITY IS THE BIRTHPLACE  
of INNOVATION, CREATIVITY and  
CHANGE

In the year 2020, the  
entire world witnessed the wrath  
of the deadly virus Sars-Cov-2  
which ultimately took the shape of  
an unremitting global pandemic.

It would not be an exaggeration  
to say that entire humankind  
felt vulnerable and threatened by  
an invisible microorganism. It was  
this severe feeling of vulnerability  
to disease, death and losing a loved  
one that gave a fillip to several  
technological and scientific innovations,  
the most notable among them  
being the development of mRNA  
technology for vaccines for which

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Katalin Kariko and Drew ~~Wetters~~<sup>Wetters</sup> were awarded the Nobel Prize in 2023. This aptly illustrates that vulnerability is the birthplace of innovation, creativity and change.

Vulnerability primarily stems from fear of the unknown and the uncertainty over ~~the~~ what the future has in store. It can be referred to as the degree of exposure to risk factors - natural (climate change, natural disaster, disease) or anthropogenic (crimes, violence, war, persecution) which pose a threat to dignified living or the very survival of human beings.

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Albert Einstein has profoundly commented - "We cannot solve our problems with the same mind that we created them with." Thus, human beings, guided by their natural survival instincts are keen on finding solutions to life's complex conundrums, in search of human ~~em~~ emancipation and civilisational progress - A BETTER FUTURE!

In this search, they are compelled to resort to innovation, creativity and change in order to finding lasting and effective solutions.

The history of human civilisation bears witness to the ~~fact~~ old adage that: "Necessity is the mother of invention"; and this ~~new~~ feeling of 'necessity' is essentially rooted in

fear, despair, and vulnerability.  
Be it the invention of fire  
and the wheel by the earliest  
Homo Sapiens or the development  
of modern medicines and vaccines, all  
have had their roots in a  
sense of vulnerability. While it  
was fear of natural forces and  
wild, ferocious animals for early  
humans, it has been disease and  
death for modern scientists.

At this point, ~~time~~ it must  
be noted that vulnerability and  
the innovation that follow it is  
not just a characteristic of science  
and technology but also operates  
at the social, economic, political and  
ideological levels.

Vulnerability of certain  
~~sections~~ marginalised sections of

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society or the victims of a particular ideological system have often developed an counter alternative world-view to counter the forces of their oppression. The most remarkable example is that of the Communist ideology developed by Marx and Engels which was inspired for the removal of the vulnerability of the proletariat in the capitalist system. The antithesis of communism aided in moderating the ruthless capitalist system with a healthy dose of humanism and ushered in the modern welfare state system. This shows how vulnerability is the birthplace of innovation & change.

Similarly, in the post-WWII period, the international community found itself vulnerable to ~~the~~ incessant conflict, insecurity and

The scourge of war. It was amidst such fear and trepidation that the United Nations was born, guided by the Wilsonian vision of converting "the jungle of International Politics into a zoo".

The UN, since its very inception, has been an avuncular agent of change working consistently towards peace, prosperity and stability in a holistic manner.

This demonstrates how vulnerability can compel mankind to rethink its habitual ways, no matter how unchanging and permanent they might have seemed at a particular point in time. Therefore, it is often claimed: "Confusion is the welcome doorman of creativity".

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In present times, this is being seen in the context of vulnerability to climate change, global warming and extreme weather events. The Industrial Revolution had led the establishment of a model ~~us~~ of economic development which was extremely exploitative, characterised by r mindless exploitation of natural resources and leading to serious environmental degradation.

However, the fear of the impending climate Armageddon ~~has~~ ~~is~~ since the late 1990s, has not only inspired innovation and change in environmental governance frameworks such as the Kyoto Protocol, the Paris Agreement, the Kigali Amendment, etc. but also spurred creativity in the field of renewable energy, energy storage such as lithium-ion batteries,



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gravity energy storage systems, early  
warning systems, better prediction  
models, green hydrogen, green  
ammonia and the like.

India too has demonstrated  
time and again how threat to  
national security and human  
security boosts innovation and creativity.

A case in point is India's Green  
Revolution spearheaded by M.S.

Swaminathan. The vulnerability to  
hunger, malnutrition, poverty, and  
food security compelled the Indian  
policymakers to adapt to ~~the~~  
innovative agricultural practices such  
as high-yielding variety (HYV) seeds,  
chemical fertilisers, pesticides and  
better irrigation practices.



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Moreover, it must be appreciated that vulnerability at the level need to occur at the level of the collectivity only to provide a motivation for innovation, creativity and change.

Even individuals single handedly can bring about path-breaking changes.

For instance, Louis Braille, who was blinded by an accident at the age of three, had the felt experience of vulnerability to exclusion, discrimination and lack of education. Therefore, he invented the Braille script which is still used <sup>as a medium of instruction</sup> for visually-impaired students.

Though it has been well-established that vulnerability is the birthplace of innovation, it must always be remembered that it is wise to "Dig the well"

before you are thieved". In the world of increasingly complex challenges, it has become imperative that we must pre-empt the future <sup>adverse</sup> consequences of present practices. ~~The~~ mainland cannot ~~allow~~ <sup>wait</sup> till the actual manifestation of the vulnerabilities as problems need to be nipped in the bud. ~~It~~ before they assume unmanageable proportions and reach a tipping point. ~~After~~

Today, innovation and change needs to be directed towards the threats which are likely to snowball into a ~~or~~ future crisis. For instance, there is urgent need to predict the kind of disastrous consequences of AI-steering from deepfake technology,

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bias and threat to privacy - that await us in the future and take remedial actions such as risk management ~~there~~ as manifested by the Blekhley Declaration and GPAI. After all, a "stitch in time saves nine."

The world today is faced with several "problems without passports" (Kofi Annan) such as climate change, cybercrime, transnational terrorism, narcotics and arms trafficking, etc. all of which require cannot be tackled by any nation single-handedly and therefore require the international community to join hands in the spirit of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam to spur innovation and change.