

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

Section-A

2. ARE RELIGION AND SCIENCE ALWAYS AT ODDS?

“So how did it all began - how did our Mother Earth come into being? How did human come into existence?”

It was the curious minds of us humans that asked these questions right from the start.

When questions were asked, answers were sought and numerous theories, or rather

in Prof. Yuval Noah Harari's words,

stories began. According to Christianity,

it was the Almighty God who said “Let there be light!” and it all started, as

per Hinduism, it was Lord Vishnu who created Lord Brahma from his navel

and asked him to create "shrishti" - the universe, and so on. All the religions have their own story and for centuries all the people believed in stories until science evolved and challenged these stories with facts and evidences and what we have today is the "Non-Almighty" theory of BIG BANG, as the initial point of the Universe. This was the very first instance of science coming at odds with the religion.

In this essay we will analyse how religion and science co-exist in our human society for centuries and to what extent are they at odds? let us first see how religions started?

The Origin of 'RELIGION'

According to the book SAPIENS by Prof. Yuval Noah Harari, the most fundamental need of religion - the GOD - some higher authority was found to explain the nature around us, which the primitive humans found hard to explain themselves.

Clouds got dark and rain heavily but our ancestors failed to reason why that happened - so they assigned the reasoning to some higher authority - GOD (like Lord Indra in Hinduism). How did oceans move all the time, why it causes floods - again no answers to these events, so people again assigned a higher authority to the

event - eg. Lord Posidion in the Nordic Culture. Why and how do people die and what happens after death - again failing to find answers, another God was "invented" - eg. Hades in the Nordic, Ra in the Egyptian culture.

As these Gods were "created", the humans started to give offerings, perform sacrifices, meditations over centuries to please them and get their blessings. Soon numerous scriptures, mythological stories and even God's commandments came into being and a religion was born. When a full fledged religion started, the competition started - of whose religion is the best.

SCIENCE - The Myth Buster

While all this cat fight was going on among people over religions, came in the Science and started providing answers to many of the human questions. It was Copernicus who challenged the Roman Catholic Church's model of "Geo-centricity" by providing a "Helio-centric" model. Though he met with a tragic end but his theory was found to be correct later on. A great myth was broken.

Science over centuries gave answers to rain patterns - about planetary winds, answered about why ocean become "violent" due to tides and wind pattern. Soon the

need of heavenly explanations to our questions started fading away. Now the science came at direct odd with religion and the associated rituals. Many many religious gurus, priests found an imminent threat to their identity because of science.

Newton gave the laws of motion to explain almost every physical event around us, Einstein gave the model to explain the universe expansion, space-time fabric, very recently in his seminal book "A brief history of time" - Stephen Hawking contradicted the existence of God. Even our own ancestors like Aryabhata, Bhaskara in ancient times gave very scientific reasonings about Earth and universe.

Are they always at odds?

To answer this question we need to understand the larger meaning of Religion and differentiate it from superstition and unreasonable dictats.

Religion is a very personal thing which tends to establish a connection between man and his own understanding of the divine. That's it. This only should be constituted as religion. And here the scope of science is not at all at odds with religion - in fact they both are mutually exclusive domains.

Here when we include rituals and "religion practices" as the main determinant of being religious - the problem begins.

We have to understand that rituals,
customs etc are the invention of society
as per their understanding and product
of their time. For example, in Hinduism, it
is said that we should not cut nails
at evening as it displeases God and bring
bad luck. Here the science is rightfully
at odds with this religious diktat -
the reasoning here was that in older
times, there was only candle light
and blade/knife to cut nails - thus under
dim light one might hurt himself - thus
to make people avoid this cutting, a
religious explanation was given,

Similarly it is said that if you
perform numerous poojas at home and give
hefty "dakshina" to the priest, God will

Showers blessing and provide good luck to you. Science is at odds here. Again this "ritual" is a product of Brahmanical social order where Brahmins were supposed to live by begging or taking dakshina from people. So such a religious connotation came up.

In Christianity, numerous "magic" and unbelievable stories are associated with the life of Jesus - him drinking poison, turning water into wine etc - all these have no scientific rationale, rather they are there to establish the Jesus as the "Godly" figure.

While this being said, it is not that religion and science are always at odds.

For example, nearly religion including Hinduism, Islam, Christianity consider Earth - the Prituvi - as mother Earth and call out for its purity and cleanliness.

This is supported by science - a clean surro-
-unding reduces health risks and maintain environmental stability.

Hinduism says that it is utterly auspicious to a new-born to have mother's milk and it brings health and good fortune to the baby. This again is scientifically proven and even promoted by the WHO.

Religion teaches us to see God in every living being - man, animal, plant - and treat them with love - this is scientifically backed and form basis of envt-ethics.

So, Religion OR Science OR Both?

If we look around our nature, the level of perfection - eg if the CO_2 concentration of atmosphere was about 5%. (at present it is less than 1%) life would not be possible on Earth, the perfect combination of genes and DNA where even a 1% error can have drastic consequences, the perfect distance from Sun of Earth - seeing all these perfection, all these "perfect coincidences", a supreme authority, the existence of God seem to be a reasonable explanation, behind this grand schemes of perfect things. Thus religion continues to be important.

But with time we must accomodate

Scientific understanding and evolve our
rituals and unreasonable religious dictata.

We as a human race must appreciate
the science behind our nature and must
continue to pursue it to seek out answers
which the science is still unable to provide.

This Scientific temper will bring innovation
and prosperity to the society. Science must
be used to question the dogmas, formas
but not to challenge the mere existence
of GOD - as it is and should be a personal
affair.

Moreover all the time science is unable
to provide the history prior to the BIG BANG,
there is always scope for Religion to kick in.
And science & religion continue to coexist.

Section-B

8. TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE :

ARE WE ON THE RIGHT PATH?

"How DARE YOU?" - This was the question asked by a 16-year old climate activist, Greta Thunberg, to the world leaders, accusing them not being serious about climate change and arguably, "robbing" our children's future.

How so even, US President Donald Trump may deny it and call it a hoax, Climate change is for real and its effects are being felt by every nation and we still are not on the same page to tackle it holistically.

What Greta asked raises an important and imminent question to all of us - Are we on the right path to deal with this global reality?

Before we dive in to answer this question, let's understand the concept of climate change. Geologically climate change is a natural phenomenon and happened all throughout our history. As described in the book "The SIXTH EXTINCTION", author Elizabeth Kolbert, ~~has~~ Earth has already seen 5 major extinction events, where during the Permian Extinction about 90% of species became dead. These extinction

events are Invariably connected to some sort of climate change. And as the author further argues, we at present are at the midst of yet another extinction event, triggered by Anthropogenic climate change. Thus Climate change is not a problem, per se, rather the speed and magnitude of it, is.

In his much anticipated book, "How to avert a climate disaster", BILL GATES highly argues that it is not the Earth that is under danger due to climate change, rather it is is human species that fear the danger of being wiped out. Earth has seen numerous such climate changes & extinction events.

Understanding the massive danger to
humans and Earth due to climate change
in form of rising sea levels causing
submergence to settlements, unprecedented
climate disasters, cyclones, loss to the
critical biodiversity - loss of animal species
getting extinct in front of us, global
community has come forward.

Kyoto Protocol of 2001 was one such
mega global alliance on the principle of
(CBDR)
Common-but-differentiated-responsibilities
to put responsibilities over developed and
developing world to synergise to tackle
the climate change.

Much Recently the Paris Climate Agreement of 2015 again called for global consensus over this issue. There have been several other global and national agreements and collaboration, arguably to tackle climate change.

But if the IPCC reports are to be believed, if the present mechanism under Paris Agreement and the dismal performance of Kyoto Protocol continues, the Earth's global temperature will rise by 3-4°C by 2100 from pre-industrial level, and that would be catastrophic for human survival. The present performance of

Global community has been dismal on
the account of blame game, non-binding
promises, even not accepting the existence
of Climate change (USA) then pulling out
of the Paris Agreement, Developed count-
-ries are simply running away from
responsibility and the recent spectacular
failure of COP 25 in Spain is a testimony
to this attitude.

The danger posed by climate
Change are not merely theoretical and
futuristic. It is showing its effect right
in front of us. Philippines witnessed its 18th
cyclone of the year in October 2020, USA witnessed

Unprecedented wild fires, cyclones
on western and eastern coasts, Australian
Bush fires resulted in death of millions of
animals and plants, Delhi's air quality
breaching the 1000-mark on AQI scale and
so on. Economic Survey 2017-18 and IPCC
assumes a loss of 15-20% in agricultural
income merely because of climate change
by 2100.

In the book "21 Lessons for 21st century"
author Yuval Noah Harari, calls out a
simple fact - "Global problems require
Global actions" and at present our fight
against climate change has been nationalistic.

For example India has been a front-runner towards fulfilling its INDC under Paris Deal, working towards UN-SDGs and pushing for Renewable energy through International Solar Alliance (ISA) and many more initiatives under National Mission Action Plan for Climate Change (NAMCC).
Our goal is to have a climate sustainable "New India" by 2030.

But, Climate being a Global Good, our own a nationalistic push will not be sufficient for significant changes. what we need is a Global Strategy with strict compliance to devolved responsibilities to countries.

Our fight against climate change has been severely jolted by this COVID-19 pandemic due to ~~the~~ massive rise in plastic waste, shifted focus and funds from climate activities towards pandemic control and the massive rise of protectionist world order in post COVID world put a really big question on our future global collaboration.

We at present are surely not on the right path towards tackling climate change effectively, due to our poor understanding, poor climate consciousness, poor collaboration and low attitude towards this upcoming disaster.

Possibly some advice from the work
of Nobel Laureate Mohammad Yunus
in his book - "The World of Three Zeros" -
where one of the 3 zeros is Zero Carbon
Emission. He gave numerous policy,
social and attitudinal intervention
to do our work towards this fight.

One of the most effective strategy
here could be of FEAR. We need to make
people fear the danger of climate change
in form of loss of agriculture, submergence
of land, major disasters like fire,
cyclones, ocean acidification - there has
to be fear to jolt the consciousness of people

So that their attitude towards the Climate Change changes and they start demanding change in attitude and policy framework from their respective governments. It has to be a public movement as the danger posed are for the public.

One of such movement is led by our little climate activist Greta Thunberg, but it will require inordinate efforts from people across the world to pressure the leadership to become serious on this front and do more than lip service.

One of such fear was given by Charles Darwin in his book "Origin of Species"

about how fragile species are, including
human beings ~~to~~ against the power and
might of nature. Earth has witnessed a
long history of 4-5 billion years from being
a "fire-ball" to a "snow-ball" - it is always
the "timid" species, including the "mighty"
Dinosaurs, who get wiped out.

Hence ~~it~~ this fight against climate
change is not for Earth, but for our
own survival, our children's survival.
And remember, climate change doesn't
see national borders.

"There is no Plan B, because there is
no Planet B."

Rough

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

Section - B Jacking Climate Change - are we on right path?

Intro: → 6th extinction. Elizabeth Kolbert

Madness extends - unnatural changes

Human are at threat → not Earth

Global Ethics & Global common

Global effort

Bulletin

{ No planet A
No planet B } end

India

India

UNSDG

KYOTO

PARIS

GRETA

MUNIBERG

IPCC

{ Continue → 3/4°C → catastrophic
IPCC → farmers ↓ 15-20% inc

How dare you?

WRONG PATH

AGREEMENTS -
COVID → plank

* Submergence of cities (Cochin island)

* Biodiversity

* Running away from responsibility

* Lax attitude - TRUMP
- Blame game

* INDC - non compliance

COP 25 → failed to provide

(+ve)

- ISA
- India INDC compliance
- Movement against fossil fuel
- Renewable energy

3 Zeros

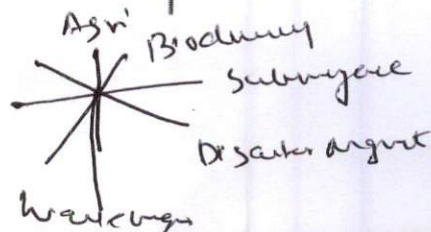
• BILL GATES
→ Risk & Policy
Selfish Gene

Books

Yours - Attention
Origin of Species
↳ Earth

Courtesy
Priority

DELHI
Ocean pollution



Section-A

[Religion vs Science]

Handwritten

Intro → How did it all began? ... Religion vs Science.
Big Bang / Hindu Vishnu / Quran Allah

Why Religion began?

↳ Higher power (Shift Responsibility) → God → Let there be light.
↳ Christain

Science as myth breaker - the conflict starts

↳ Provided explanation
↳ Gave reasons
Copernicus - death!

CHURCH
↳ Geocentric model
vs Heliocentric

GOD?

Books

* Abn of history of time
→ Stephen Hawking

Always at odd?

Our ancestors were scientific
↳ Angabhatta, Bharukala.

Religion vs Rituals / Dogmas. Superstition

What has even end?

what happens before Big Bang, not everything is under

Such perfect settings?

Religion Empower Science

↳ Prithvi → mother nature.
↳ Mother's milk → good for baby.
↳ Eclipse → scientific
God render small → Respect every living being

[Religion as personal affair]

Expand on