



VISIONIAS

INSPIRING INNOVATION

ABHYAAS MAINS

निबंध ESSAY

निर्धारित समय: तीन घंटे
Time Allowed: **Three Hours**

टेस्ट कोड/ Test Code : 4514

अधिकतम अंक: 250
Maximum Marks: 250

सामान्य अनुदेश

इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका में 32+2 पृष्ठ हैं। प्रश्न-पत्र, क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका के अंत में संलग्न है, जो अलग (वियोज्य) किया जा सकता है और उम्मीदवार परीक्षा के उपरांत अपने साथ ले जा सकते हैं।

रफ कार्य के लिए तीन खाली पृष्ठ (पृष्ठ संख्या. 30-32) दिए गए हैं।

पुस्तिका प्राप्त होने पर, कृपया यह जांच कर लें कि इस क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका में कोई कमी न हो, फटा हुआ पृष्ठ न हो अथवा कोई पृष्ठ गायब न हो इत्यादि। यदि ऐसा हो, तो इसके बदले नई क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका प्राप्त कर लें।

General Instructions

This Question-cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet contains 32+2 pages. Question Paper in detachable form is available at the end of the QCA Booklet which can be taken away by the candidate after examination.

Three blank pages (Page Nos. 30-32) have been provided for rough work.

On receipt of the Booklet, please check that this QCA Booklet does not have any shortcomings, torn or missing pages etc. If so, get it replaced with a fresh QCA Booklet.

(उम्मीदवार द्वारा भरा जाएगा/To be filled by the Candidate)

पंजीकरण सं./Registration No. : 00051357

अभ्यर्थी का नाम/Name of Student : Aman Akshay

माध्यम: हिंदी/अंग्रेजी
Medium: Hindi/English

English

तारीख
Date

18/25

निबंध ESSAY

केंद्र
Centre

anandgaon

निरीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर
Invigilator's Signature

	महत्वपूर्ण अनुदेश उम्मीदवार को नीचे उल्लिखित निर्देश सावधानी से पढ़ लेने चाहिए। किसी भी निर्देश का उल्लंघन करने पर उम्मीदवार को मिलने वाले अंकों में कटौती, उम्मीदवारी रद्द, आयोग के परवर्ती परीक्षाओं के लिए वर्जित करने इत्यादि के रूप में दण्डित किया जा सकता है।	Important Instructions Candidate should read the undermentioned instructions carefully. Violation of any of the following instructions may entail penalty in the form of deduction of marks, cancellation of candidature, debarment from further Examination of the Commission etc.
1	(क) अपना पंजीकरण सं. एवं अन्य विवरण केवल प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका (क्यू.सी.ए.) में उम्मीदवार के लिए निर्धारित स्थान पर ही लिखें। (ख) इस पुस्तिका में अन्यत्र कहीं भी अपना नाम, पंजीकरण सं., मोबाइल नं., पता अथवा प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका (क्यू.सी.ए.) संख्या न लिखें जिससे आपकी पहचान का खुलासा हो।	(a) Write your Registration Number and other details only in the space provided in the Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet for candidates. (b) Do not disclose your identity in any manner such as, by writing your Name, Registration number, Mobile number, Address, Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet No. etc. elsewhere in the Booklet
2	अपनी क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका में कहीं भी प्रश्नों के वास्तविक उत्तर के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें जैसे कि कोई कविता/दोहा, अभद्र या अपमानजनक अभिव्यक्ति इत्यादि और न ही कोई ऐसा चिन्ह/निशान बनाएं जिसका उत्तर से सम्बन्ध न हो।	Do not write in the QCA Booklet anything other than the actual answer such as couplet, obscene, abusive expression etc., nor put any sign/mark having no relevance to the answer.
3	परीक्षक को प्रत्यक्ष/अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से कोई भी प्रार्थना/धमकी भरी बातें न लिखें।	Do not make any direct/indirect appeal/threat to the examiner.
4	उत्तर अस्पष्ट अथवा गंदी लिखावट में न लिखें। इस प्रकार के उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं भी किया जा सकता है।	Do not write answers in bad/illegible handwriting. Such answers may not be evaluated.
5	उत्तर स्याही में 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।	Write answers in ink only. Do not use pencil for writing the answers. However, pencil may be used for drawing diagrams, sketches, etc.
6	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।	Do not write answers in medium other than the authorized medium in the Admission Certificate. Do not use mixed language either i.e. authorize and unauthorized media together for writing answers.
7	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।	Write answer at the specific space (right below the question) only. Answers written elsewhere at unspecified places in the booklet shall not be evaluated.
8	यदि आप अपने किसी उत्तर को रद्द करना चाहते हैं तो उसे पेन से काट दें तथा उस पर "रद्द" लिख दें, अन्यथा उसका मूल्यांकन किया जा सकता है।	If you wish to cancel any work, draw your pen through it and write "Cancelled" across it, otherwise it may be valued.



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निबंध

निर्धारित समय: तीन घंटे

टेस्ट कोड : 4514

अधिकतम अंक: 250

प्रश्न-पत्र संबंधी विशेष अनुदेश

(प्रश्नों के उत्तर देने से पूर्व निम्नलिखित प्रत्येक अनुदेश को ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ें)

प्रवेश-पत्र में प्राधिकृत माध्यम में निबंध 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 जाएँगे।

प्रश्नों के उत्तर निर्दिष्ट शब्द-संख्या के अनुसार होने चाहिए।

प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गए किसी पृष्ठ व पृष्ठ के भाग को पूर्णतः काट दीजिए।

ESSAY

Time Allowed : Three Hours

Test Code : 4514

Maximum Marks : 250

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

(Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions)

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.

World limit, as specified, should be adhered to.

Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

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

खंड A और B प्रत्येक से एक-एक विषय चुनकर दो निबंध लिखिए, जो प्रत्येक लगभग 1000-1200 शब्दों में हों :

Write **two** essays, choosing **one** topic from each of the Sections A and B, in about 1000-1200 words each :

125 x 2 = 250

खण्ड – A / SECTION – A

1. किसी युद्ध को जीतने के लिए आपको एक से अधिक बार लड़ना पड़ सकता है।

You may have to fight a battle more than once to win it.

2. विवेक के मामलों में बहुमत के कानून का कोई स्थान नहीं होता है।

In matters of conscience, the law of the majority has no place.

3. जो विद्यालय के द्वार खोलता है, वह कारागार के द्वार बंद करता है।

He who opens a school door, closes a prison.

4. केवल शीत ऋतु की कठोरता में ही हम वसंत की गर्मी का वास्तविक महत्व समझ पाते हैं।

Only in the depths of winter can we truly appreciate the warmth of spring.

खण्ड – B / SECTION – B

5. हम सदैव अपने युवाओं के लिए भविष्य का निर्माण नहीं कर सकते, परंतु हम भविष्य के लिए अपने युवाओं को तैयार कर सकते हैं।

We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future.

6. नकल करना सुरक्षित होता है; नवाचार के लिए साहस की आवश्यकता होती है।

Copying is safe; innovation demands courage.

7. हम जितना अधिक स्वचालन को अपनाएंगे, हमें उतना ही अधिक मानवीय बनना होगा।

The more we automate, the more human we must become.

8. तत्काल मान्यता की चाह एक व्याकुल मानसिकता वाली पीढ़ी को जन्म दे रही है।

The pursuit of instant validation is creating a generation of restless minds.

खण्ड - A / SECTION - A

उम्मीदवारों को इस हिसाब में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

1. किसी युद्ध को जीतने के लिए आपको एक से अधिक बार लड़ना पड़ सकता है।
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4. केवल शीत ऋतु की कठोरता में ही हम वसंत की गर्मी का वास्तविक महत्व समझ पाते हैं।
Only in the depths of winter can we truly appreciate the warmth of spring.

Imagine being the child of a prime-minister/
Dewan of a princely state during colonial
times. When social hierarchy was the
norm, you were provided with opportunities
to rise up to the occasion — from
sponsored education in England to employment
avenues in South Africa. Despite all the
cultural investment, on the day you
stand up for your first case in court
of law, your heart sinks. You've arguments
to make, but the diffident muzzies
hesitate to come out. This situation comes
as close to a career apocalypse as one
could imagine — fear of public speaking,
hesitation with masses, and underconfidence

in one's work. This is how Grandhi kickstarted his public life. Realizing his inhibitions, he chose to fight battles repeatedly to win over them. What succeeded at the personal level, he implemented the same on the national plane — fighting spread-out battles to triumph over the white man's burden.

This topic presents us with the wisdom that all great leaders, from Grandhi to Mandela, have realized as timeless. Real win lies in understanding courage doesn't lie in absence of fear, but triumph over it. Sometimes that triumph requires more than a one-time effort, and this essay explores why does it happen while drawing lessons from it.

Before delving deeper, some clarifications

on the meanings of embedded words need to be delineated. Here battle is against an opposition, which can be a physical entity, but more importantly an ideological opponent too. Therefore, fighting doesn't only mean an actual combat scenario, but wrestling with those opponents on the subtler plane of thought. This paves the way for realizing sustainable wins, not stand-alone battle triumphs.

The battle may have to be fought more than once owing to a strong opposition that doesn't cut through in one effort. Challenges in life are no-less than everyday challenges. They don't come once-in-blue moon, but in every moon. To tackle them therefore

is a persistent effort. The opponents often camouflage themselves in different clothes, sometimes anger, sometimes envy - but they all represent human vices, that need an arduous impetus to win on an everyday basis. This is why greek philosophers (Aristotle) paid so much emphasis on habit. It's to no surprise that this wisdom is wrapped up in different religious traditions of the day too. Thus we may have to fight a battle more than once, for our inner dirts don't always go off by a single wash - some need a stroke of hand, while others repeated dishwasher attempts.

Further, the battle often needs to be fought more than once, for it's not about the opposition at times, but

about preparing ourselves for the battle-fuel

To realize Sun Tzu's wisdom and understanding our own chinks in the armour, one could come to an easy conclusion about human nature — momentary motivation, residual lethargy for sustained action, and proclivity of deviation from declared path. Thus, the battle has to be fought multiple times to prepare ourselves for the d-day.

Take for instance India's initiative of Janbhagidari in climate change battle (Mission LIFE). This helps mobilize the masses for the forthcoming challenge (or, perhaps already there!) of this century — climate finance equity. Disappointing results at Baku, COP (Boom, when demanded \$1.3T), coupled with green protectionism (CBAM) reflect pressing challenges for global south.

Thus to fight the battle of generating environment consciousness is to enable a chance to winning the equity imbalance in the years to come.

Further, the emphasis on fighting battle more than once helps one rise above the big-bang events in life that often yield more heat than light. This push for one-shot-to-win removes us from the lens of finding sustainable solutions that one could actually call triumph.

Take for instance, Swachh Bharat Mission. While critics have pointed out how one-battle mindset have yielded toilets with no use cases! Thus the emphasis on sustainable winning highlights continued back-and-forth with change and status quo on a daily basis. Real win

lies in systemic changes not big bang reforms, as lately Argentine Prez and Elon Musk led DOGE would've realized.

Finally, at a practical level one could see how repeated exposure augments confidence in life. Fighting a battle on the 22-yard pitch of life entails countless battles and exposures in the nets and practice pitches. This is exactly how Sachin Tendulkar overcame his edge-and-caught behind spiral while battling his subconscious instincts to drive every 5th stump ball. The double century in Australia is testament to the spirit of fighting a battle more than once to actually overcome it.

However, on the counter-side, some people highlight how incrementalism is akin to crawling to freedom, when you could run for it. The triumph of transformationalism, highlighting how one-time battles yield greater success is shown as evidence. For them, Ambedkar's legal revolution via abolition of untouchability (Act 17) was one such example. Independent India's LPG revolution is another evidence how one-time battle actuals proves a win (7% annual GDP growth rate post that; price average 5%).

That being said, this critique doesn't stand its ground when tested with facts. Both these instances and more such are in reality a culmination of long-drawn multiple battles. India's liberalization had roots in 1980s (Rajiv Gandhi

era). Likewise Ambedkar's final assault (social revolution via constitution) was built on the edifice on multiple battles since 1920s — from Mahad Satyagraha, Kalaram temple movement to Poona Pact. We must realize that rarely does a single battle produce ever-lasting changes, for the challenges of casteism and lack of structural reforms still exist, needing continuous revisions and battles.

Apart from the challenge of laxity, there's another challenge that constitutes missing woods for the trees, when the focus becomes fighting than winning, we might have traversed a wrong path. The status-quo groups for any battle will always see life from

tainted glasses - where parochial interests undermine larger public interest, where rigidity of battleplans overpowers flexible approach for winning, where battles from foreover was without even winning. To this challenge, constant critical engagement is the only anti-dote. The hallmark of a true general is steadfastness with goals, with manoeuvrability in the ethical realm with different approaches. Currently, Navalism's end-game (March, 2026 deadline by Hon' home minister) reflects this reflexivity - from security-heavy approach (SAMADHAN strategy) to development-based winning hearts & minds approach.

In summary, the topic reflects on

the wisdom of "eternal vigil is the price of liberty". Fighting battles multiple times isn't sign of inadequacy in one's approach, but a recognition of challenges that rarely bow-out with single assault. The option to stagger one's battle plan not only provides avenues for the fighters to hone their weaknesses, but also prepare for the longer-term challenge that often confronts us. This flexibility allows us to focus on sustainable winning, rather than approaching life with a sniper-headshot view of singular wins.

In essence, the topic exhorts us with both caution and a pearl of wisdom. Caution against laxity, rigidity, and focus on fighting (than winning) —

and a pearl of wisdom for any
social change. But the question beckons,
are we willing to be the Mohandas
Karamchand in our lives - for that
holds the key to one's journey of
Mahatma!

VisionIAS

5. हम सदैव अपने युवाओं के लिए भविष्य का निर्माण नहीं कर सकते, परंतु हम भविष्य के लिए अपने युवाओं को तैयार कर सकते हैं।

We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future.

6. नकल करना सुरक्षित होता है; नवाचार के लिए साहस की आवश्यकता होती है।

Copying is safe; innovation demands courage.

7. हम जितना अधिक स्वचालन को अपनाएंगे, हमें उतना ही अधिक मानवीय बनना होगा।

The more we automate, the more human we must become.

8. तत्काल मान्यता की चाह एक व्याकुल मानसिकता वाली पीढ़ी को जन्म दे रही है।

The pursuit of instant validation is creating a generation of restless minds.

This was post-2011 scenario - search for the next Zaheer Khan was on. The textbook style of bowling action not only earned him name and fame, but also catapulted India to World Cup triumph. The relentless bowling trials yielded budding versions of him, all emulating his run-up and followthrough. However it was the Ahmedabad trial that caught everyone's attention. A young fast-bowler with unorthodox action stood out for his courageous innovation amidst a sea

of conformity. However, he was often mocked, criticized and even dropped for the same reason — why can't you bowl like everyone else? Today that courage is recognized in the innovation called Bumrah, perhaps the best Indian fast bowler ever.

Bumrah's story reflects how courage is the stepping stone to any innovation's fruition. While the ^{would} around sought safety in copying, he stood up for himself and pursued his inner calling for road not taken.

To unpack the topic's wisdom, the embedded words need further elaboration. To copy means to emulate. It's to traverse a path already paved by countless other travellers. Thus it offers

safety, for we know if we were to walk the same path, the result wouldn't be different.

on the other hand, innovation refers to one's ability to experiment. In Robert Frost's words, it's to pursue a road not taken. To think afresh, start anew, and begin on a novel path demands courage. Afterall, who knows where might it lead to!

Summing together, the topic highlights the temporal connection between the two, afterall innovation pioneers (thus, demands courage) while copying follows (thus, seeking safety). Moreover the functional differentiation in these two attributes have large consequences for our vision of just society. This ^{essay} explores

why do they differ, and also engages with the critical side to uncover timeless wisdom.

Copying is safe as it treats path to success a science than an art. The belief that one's journey to success can be broken down into traceable and navigable paths enjoins the fundamental essence of copying. The tried-and-tested formula always generates interests, piques curiosity and mobilizes effort for quick-wins. Take for example, China's flying-geese manufacturing model later copied by south-east asia (Vietnam) for emulating Chinese miracle. Thus, copying surely offers safety by reducing unpredictability and ensuring a guaranteed-outcome

5
copying is also safe, for it relieves
individual from the responsibility
of mapping out his path to success.

To follow someone's footsteps is far
easier than to navigate one's pathway.
This is why far too often children
in our families will copy elder siblings'
path when diffident about one's
career choices. This explains the cultural
aspect for engineering-medical craze in
India. This surely offers safety.

But ships aren't meant to stay
in the comfort of harbour, but engage
the rough weathers of seas. To
innovate is to honour the spirit
of courage within humans. The path
to experiment entails uncertain outcomes.

6
unchartered territories, often traversing
undetermined path by mass. People often
call it unthinkable until it's done.
Whether it's 10-see barrier for 100m
or envisioning a touch-screen (iphone-
Steve jobs) in the age of blackberries.

Innovation demands courage for
there are no SOPs (success-operating-
procedures). Challenging circumstances
deter individual effort, but true innovation
adapts to context and ensures what
stands in the way, becomes the way.

Take for instance, ISRO's fungal
innovation competitive edge today, where
death of funds in 1960s often sounded
deathknell to many global space organi-
zations, but ISRO showed resilience,
adapted and innovated. Today the
result is for everyone to see — Mission Mars
lower budget than Hollywood Avatar movie!

Innovation also demands courage, for it asks us to (think different) on a Steve Jobs's motto consistent basis. On reaching pinnacle of success, it's easier to be crowded out to the voice-of-madness within, "I've arrived!". However, the spirit of innovation never takes in refuge of safety even while basking in success. The wisdom of Kaizen, and realization that there are better practices to best practices keeps the innovative individual always on toes, demanding courage to outgrow one's laxity.

Innovation demands courage, for it takes on responsibility of one's action. The seductive voice of copying will shroud off individual responsibility while innovation will squarely leave a

chance to grab it. It realizes that though
we cannot always build the future
for our youth, but we can build
our ^{youth} future for the future.

Thus innovation is graded highly
 than mere copying, and that stands
 to reason. However, on critical
 engagement with the topic one
 realizes that sometimes innovation
often grounds itself in yearn for
safety, while it's copying that demands
 real courage. When the search for
 "best product", an elusive ideal, takes
 precedence over consistent action, one
 is bound to see the story of 2 pots
given to class - one with focus on quantity,
 other on best quality - playing out in
 real life. Likewise, sometimes the real

courage is to act and act fast. the best practices are available, wisdom is enumerated, steps to follow out of vicious cycle delineated — one only needs to copy and act. Thus it becomes necessary for our vision of innovation to be grounded in action, not elusive (procrastinating) search of best practices. Else, the copy's action-bias trumps the wisdom of innovation. This is exactly what Government of India did in scaling up Rythu Bandhu as PM-Kisan, Odisha's disaster force after supercyclone as NARF, and initiatives of Niti Aayog (sharing of best practices among states).

Moreover, sometimes blind copying isn't safe. Need to foolproof the

contextual requirements to realize efficacy of copying too.

That being said, the critical engagement only augments our understanding of innovation — with action-bias and context-dependent for demonstrating true courage.

The path to its realization crosses multiple challenges — status-quo bias, herd mentality, love of conformity, "chalta hai" attitude (this is how it goes). However, the resolution demands wisdom of "you've to fight a battle more than one to win it". Consistent efforts through initiatives like Atal Tinkering Labs (NIT), National Education Policy, embrace of 'trying-and-failing' (startup culture) are steps in right

discretion towards realizing a Platonic justice, innovation that governs, but leverages utility of copying (in right-spirit).

In summary, copying is safe for guaranteed outcomes, predictable paths, and dissolution of responsibility. But culture of innovation demands courage for changing-status quo, rethinking-re-learning and unlearning, walking on 'road not travelled'. today's time demands more Bhumrals, but the question beckons — are you willing to take the plunge?

~~VisionIAS~~

Gandhi

leadership
public speaking
mass-movement
constructive.

SPACE FOR ROUGH WORK

removing
the dirt
→ SHL

battle → oppositi, physical op. ideological
ideas
win it → ~~not~~ subdue, but eliminat it
era

why?

① Nature of opposition - can't be won over.
decolonization ; CBAM, Bakulimati

② Nature of the ones fighting battle - takes time to seep
Env - jantagidana ;

③ 'Sustainable win' - long
SBM

④ Battle has to re-engineered in system

⑤ Repeated exposure - confidence / own : fears
Hidden Keller;
Spiritual elevation

one "one-shot" → incrementalism ; but.
eg

Some b

challenge → rigidity to battle plans
→ focus on fighting than winning
↓
forever wars

sel → L, V, R. (Orant)

is not
safe
30

SPM, led (western soil
Indian soil)

SPACE FOR ROUGH WORK

Conformity - Bunraah.

Zahed Khan

Copy - emulate; it - safe - done earlier.
well-laid paths,

inn → try something new. } roads

courage → don't know results.

emulation of Success - operation. Rajya Bandu
- success is science (API) → JAM train 'd PM-KISAN
odisha → NDRF.

Relieves one of responsibility
- China's flying geese

Guaranteed outcome.
→ MSP (Norman Borlaug)

(initial thinking
experiment - courage
5(a)

think-different (phone)
significance & innovation pioneers,
copy followers

Uncertainty - courage

ISRO

China way is Subway
innovation (Kampala)

Responsibility - covers.

sometimes) innovation becomes "safe refuge" (potter's wheel)
copying is courage → best practices; implementing wisdom
action now

Both needed
www.visionias.in

culture of innovation;

build the box

31

Vision

Both needed
way find - 7

Plato's TOT: hierarchy of thinking.

Vision IAS