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SUBJECT:	Essay	Test Code:	2	1	2	1		
Name of Candidate	Akansh Dhull							
Medium Hindi/Eng.	English	Registration Number	6	6	1	9	6	8
Center	Online	Date	2	3	0	8	2	2

INDEX TABLE				INSTRUCTIONS
Q. No.	Page No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained	
				1. 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 आदि)।
				2. All questions are compulsory. सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
				3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
				4. Answers 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 medium other than the authorized one. प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
				5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
				6. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off. उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।
Total Marks Obtained:				
Remarks :				

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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

There is no path to happiness. Happiness is the path.

Maa, what is happiness? 5 year old Arjuna asks his mother the same question. The mother tells him being successful in life in terms of wealth, fame, life goals is what makes a person truly happy. Most of us are as perplexed as Arjuna. In fact, the question has stalked us since times immemorial. The question gets echoed with a greater vigour in the hustle-bustle and chaos of the 21st century. Let us delve into this rudimentary but complex question and gain a comprehensive outlook about it. Clearly happiness is much more than results which come either way or being struggling for the same. Even the path to the success contains diversions, pitfalls and sometimes various roadblocks! Somehow how hard we

Joy we lose the track to our goals.
Thus all of us are in a constant state
of turmoil.

Walk to Infinity

If happiness is quantified in terms of
a destination ranging from coming first in
a class test to climbing the corporate ladder,
the joy will always be ephemeral. There
will always be someone ahead of us
for even the universe operates in a relative
way. Thus happiness has to do something
with the moment.

Power of Now.

For the common man happiness can be
reduced down to success. ~~But~~ The person
gets confused when he hears that "Success
is a journey but not a destination". Is
the same true about happiness? The man
mulls. Evidently happiness is about being
in the right space and doing the right

thing new. It is about doing things which are morally pleasing to the person.

When Gandhiji talked about Satyagraha and Ahimsa he emphasised on doing the right thing today. It gave joy which was ever lasting. He articulated that following the voice of conscience and working honestly each gives you eternal bliss.

A person is able to work towards a goal when he feels that the calling comes from within. Only with experiencing this internal bliss can a person contribute with all vigour. Nelson Mandela spent 27 years in prison without breaking down. This was because he was content with the struggle he was doing. More so, he was just doing what he felt blissful.

~~The above~~
Individually, a person tries to earn wealth, outshine his peers in the pursuit of.

happiness. With the mindless pursuit all he achieves is emptiness and mental illness. For an individual, following his calling is the only way for lasting happiness.

(e.g. An Investment Banker earns so that he can retire with all the comfort and follow his passion, say cooking.)

However, lasting happiness will be achieved by following passions today. For who knows, how long a person shall live?

The society tries to enforce a strict code on its members to attain lasting peace.

This ranges from telling what to eat, what to dress to whom to marry. But instead of solving problems, it creates friction and the society transgresses into a constant state of turmoil.

(e.g. Honour killings to uphold family values and honour.)

It is only by following uncalculated values can there be any progress to societal goals.

It is when people voluntarily commit themselves

to societal wellbeing, can larger objectives be attained.

Nation - States today are in a state of gold rush. They are pursuing materialism and growth at all costs. It is assumed that increased accumulation of wealth can solve all the malaise the country faces. This is done at the utter disregard of environment, human dignity, traditional values and culture. But is it solving the problem?

Nations today are in a flux. They not only face the vengeance of mother nature but also pay the penalties for the deep rooted inequalities. All this can be solved by reinvigorating our actions and objectives.

It is only when there is committed citizen actions to national ethos can Gandhiji's 'Ramaya' be attained. It is a utopian world when people seized with a sense of urgency and call of conscience contribute to the society.

The complexities about what actually constitute happiness is a topic which we again return to. Aristotle elaborated on how following sensory pleasures gives us happiness. Later Plato criticised him and explained how happiness is about controlling desires. While some believe that living the ascetic life is about being happy, sects like Ajivika conclude that following the material life is happiness.

Happiness is about moderation. It is about chasing goals and worldly comfort but at the same time it is about being content with what you are and achieving abstinence.

In today's modern world, happiness is reinterpreted with materialism. But there should be a balance.

Working towards the goals by seizing the moment is true happiness. It envisages being committed to the task at hand. However it should be noted that

such ~~one~~ exuberance only comes when there is true belief in the cause. Only then can a person stay fully engrossed and happy at the same time.

~~True~~ Happiness is thus a complex issue. While it is interpreted in varying ways, the most common perception is about looking at it as end. It is about doing certain things on the road to bliss. But such thinking only gives transient happiness as we always develop larger ambitions. On the other hand, one can stay spirited towards larger goals when the person experiences a sense of internal euphoria. This is relevant even to an ~~isolate~~ individual doing a job, to fulfill personal ambitions to societies dictating the way of life to create lasting peace. Even nations get misguided about the true meaning of wealth and happiness and often take steps which have lasting consequences.

They tend to forget that true wealth of a nation is the jubilation of citizens towards national value. The concept of happiness has also been interpreted in varying ways. It ranges from strict abstinence to strict indulgence. It is like a paradox of today's wants and tomorrow's need. It is moderation which solves the issue at hand. Happiness is further manifested by commitment and passion which only comes when there is a call of conscience. Only then can a person stick to a path towards life goals.

"The way to happiness is within". This means only when there is ~~outer~~ inner peace and joy can a person contribute and experience solace and content. It is only then that a person stay on the desired path.

Wealth is what you don't see

It was 1780. The chimney of the industry was gushing out smoke. The machines were operational in full swing. Workers were toiling hard. The city of Manchester was full of such industries. In the times of industrial revolution such was the nature of wealth, but is it so today?

The 21st century has sharpened its focus on wealth. It has continued the legacy of great philosophers in deciphering the true meaning of wealth. Simultaneously it has also pondered on the nature of wealth in a techno-centric and IT-driven world.

If Adam Smith were to be alive today he would be perplexed seeing the nature of the economy

Ironically the world's biggest taxi company

doesn't own a single car. However it is still valued at 50 billion \$. Loss making startups having no assets are being declared as unicorns. In this era of computers money keeps on escalating between the binaries of '0' and '1'.

When I explain the same to my grandfather, he is bewildered. "So, what is the secret behind their net worth?" He often asks. It is very difficult to explain the tough economics to the old man. This time around I tried to be philosophical.

I explained to him that like the world is an illusion or 'Maya' as elaborated upon in dualistic philosophy, so is the stock market valuation.

Wealth today is nothing but the reflection of certain indicators. It is the confidence and expectations that the people bestow on something.

In economic terms, it is the expectation of future earnings and thus a derivative instrument. In this capitalistic world, every idea has a monetary value even though its intangible. Companies thus charge billions of dollars in the name of goodwill. Employees seek higher pay checks on account of their experience.

The other business wealth is ideas, information, networks, innovation. This is why IPK issues and copyright battle seen in billions of dollars. Perhaps innovation and novelty is the biggest wealth. This is because the future of the world is tacitly maneuvered by research, innovation and creativity. Bill Gates passion towards software qualified into billions of dollars. Beyond this it made him the 'wealthiest' person on earth for the longest time. Miraculously, it took google just ten years to generate the same amount of wealth.

that the Tata's generated in about a 100 years.

The services sector has truly changed the meaning of wealth. It literally creates money out of thin air much ahead of industrial times when it was mocked that machines convert potato to gold. It is quite a humour that there is no need of ~~machines~~ even machines!

The other wealth in our times is words and numbers. Yes, ~~you~~ ^{read} ~~heard~~ me right. It is words and numbers, just a lot of them. It is termed as data. "Data is the new gold" they say. Data itself is wealth and there are tussles to get hold of it.

Thus it becomes significantly clear of how the 21st century economics transforms the idea of wealth beyond shining swords, skyscrapers, flashy cars and tacky clothes. According to me it ~~had~~ nudges its to

the metaphysical world. It compels us to delve in what true wealth is.

Scholars around the world have propounded the transient nature of the world. They espouse that everything from our surroundings to our family to even our thoughts are ephemeral. What is the purpose of property when it will all end in a coffin is a thought propagated since times immemorial.

Thus wealth is beyond economics, both tangible and intangible. It is much more, it is a sensation, a feeling that gives bliss like no other.

A healthy environment is wealth. The feeling of a breeze hitting your head gives pleasure like no other. The serenity of a jungle makes you land on cloud nine. Satirically, it is being pursued by putting an economic value to oxygen and selling air purifiers.

Wealth is about the ethics and principles that one cherishes. It is what gives a person a good night's sleep. The feeling of compassion and empathy allows you to understand others. Fraternity and tolerance provides person a sense of calm. Having the idea of equity and justice provides us the much need compassion and faith. It is only when such values are present does a society prosper and generates economic wealth. But much beyond it is what gives a clear conscience.

It is cherishing to have a good health and both physical and mental. It is what gives us the true sense of contentment and even euphoria. There is no meaning to anything when ^{one is} not feeling the best.

Gandhiji's most loyal followers were the industrialists of these time. However he was a man of no possession. But he was a man of strong resolve and purpose.

He was often confronted with questions about wealth ~~was~~. Perhaps he was not very economical with words and explained the true concept of wealth with his actions.

While many argue that, what we own is our wealth and only that receives value, ~~it~~ was they were best criticised by the life of APJ Abdul Kalam. The man of bare possessions rose up to the highest office and had wealth like no other.

The changing world has again brought the spotlight on wealth. In the business world it has got new meaning. This has been made possible by the rise of IT and service industry. Wealth is like an illusion today and derives value not from properties and assets but data codes, numbers and derivations.

~~B~~ ~~is~~ The world today monetises

everything from experience to vision to knowledge. It can be aptly summed that, there is no free lunch in an economy. Among these ~~do~~ innovation and data have gained the most wealth, while innovation is futuristic and gets its dollars by selling tomorrow's aspiration to the world, data is more instantaneous in its action. It provides utility in the form of better advertisements, profiling and sales conversion. At the same time it also embolden's physical debate by questioning the true meaning of wealth beyond economics. It compels us to delve in the true invisibility of wealth. Wealth is now seen in terms of a good environment, clean air and the positivity it provides. The phrase "Health is wealth" gains ~~greater~~ significance in COVID times like never before. Wealth is about have ethics and clear conscience. life

is given further colour by having a strong sense of purpose and by teachings of great leaders like Gandhiji and A.P.J. Abdul Kalam.

Wealth is thus all about perception and interpretation. It is in the mind. True wealth is certainly beyond the smell of new paper notes and closer to the fragrance of mother nature.