



Essay for Mains 2024

Essay Test - 02

Time Allowed: 1.5 Hour

Max Marks: 150

Name: MINAL NEGI

Test Date: 19/01/2023

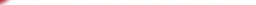
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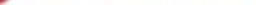
Important instructions:

Write an essay on any ONE of the following topics:

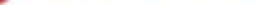
- Stick to the word limit: **1100-1200 words.**
- Ideal time: **1.5 hours.**



SHUBHRA RANJAN
Always Ahead



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	Poor	Average	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Understanding of Questions					
Structure & Flow					
(a) Introduction					
(b) Conclusion					
(c) Overall					
Subject Knowledge					
Presentation					
(a) Underline					
(b) Paragraph					
(c) Overall					

Overall Remarks:

Dear Student,

[illegible]

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Greater the knowledge increases
the more our ignorance unfolds

While catching a bus last week, I bumped into an old friend of mine, when he immediately said "Oh! The earth is round, here we are again". After bidding him a goodbye, I sat in the bus and my mind suddenly rushed to the theories of flat earth society.

Galileo Galilei was sentenced by the church for proposing that the earth is a sphere and the sun revolves around it. However, it was only when the succeeding scientists proved the heliocentric theory true with empirical evidences that the world witnessed the truth.

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Thereafter, the intellectual curiosity of man led to the discovery of comets, exoplanets, the milkyway, blackholes and much more. However, the ever expanding universe still holds numerous unheard secrets to which humans remain ignorant.

It was only when scientists decided to breakaway from the chains of ignorance that cosmic studies and astronomy has come so far. With more research findings, higher resolution telescopes and advanced space missions, we only find ourselves more ignorant about the interstellar complexities.

In the following essay we shall see how the inherent intellectual curiosity of man

unfolds new realms to be uncovered as our understanding and knowledge increases. We shall ponder upon how opening up to different perspectives questions our own understanding about things and helps us tread on the path of true knowledge. Thereafter, we will see how increasing understanding about one's own self projects several other aspects, which we never thought of.

Rapidly advancing scientific studies reiterate the given quote most aptly. Every theory is followed up by counter theories and falsifications which open up new dimensions to dive into. For instance, botanists curated genetically modified crops to prevent

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fungal infections only to find out the concept of self mutation of micro-organisms.

Likewise, John Dalton gave the theory of indestructibility of atom. But, it was soon that J.J. Thomson discovered electron and Rutherford discovered nucleus. The quest did not stop as this knowledge opened doors of new possibilities and today the research on quantum dots has gained grounds in atomic studies.

Most importantly, the advancement of computer science from Charles Babbage's 60 tonnes computer which could do mere mathematical calculations to microchips and webcams is mind boggling. The invention of artificial intelligence, blockchain, big data and optical

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fibre would leave Babbage baffled if he was here.

However, delving deeper into the knowledge-ignorance relation, it holds more importance in societal context. Communal riots, border conflicts and wars make knowledge about the society and its components all the more important.

Opening up to newer perspectives and creating room for all beliefs and value systems with highest degree of tolerance helps us to know about the customs and lifestyles, which remained in the domain of our ignorance.

On the same lines, the emerging knowledge about

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gender studies has made the world more aware. Foucault, one of the epitomes of English literature identified himself as a homosexual. However, he was declared as abnormal by psychologists and medically unfit by the doctors.

It was only with acceptance of transgenders that the study about different sexual orientations began. After gays and lesbians, other categories like asexuals, bisexuals, queers and intersex came out of the cupboard and raised their voice. Had we not stepped into this field, many voices would remain suppressed and marking would remain in ignorance.

Similarly, knowledge about different tribals, customs,

religions and regions allows us to look at an object from multiple perspectives. The Jain concept of 'Syadvaad' reverberates the theory of multiple realities which follow multiple perspectives.

In the words of ancient greek philosopher Socrates, "Knowledge lies within thyself".
Buddha's dictum of "Aham - Brahmasmi" projects the same. It is well said that, "in the effort to profess knowledge to the world, we are left ignorant about ourselves".

Hence adding to the knowledge - ignorance graph, knowledge about one's own self remains the most important aspect. Practices of meditation, ~~mindfulness~~ ~~an~~ mindfulness and introspection lets us find us our

blind self.

Just like the knowledge about society comes with indulging in societal activities, knowing oneself requires indulging with one's own core. Stepping out of our comfortable habitat and posing questions to ourselves to find and remove contradictions makes us a rational being.

While looking into our soul, it shall be uncovered how the desires and expectations of society shape our choices. As a result we are left ignorant ~~or~~ about ourselves.

To break away from the worldly obligations, Gautam Buddha set off to search true knowledge and became the 'enlightened one'. Similarly Ashoka

(9)

Question No.

प्रश्न संख्या

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For
Practice
Use Only
सिर्फ अभ्यास
के लिए

decided to tread on the path of Dhamma and preach Buddhist teachings to shun away ignorance and alienation.

On the contrary, if we look for contemporary realities, it may not always be true that increasing knowledge unfolds more ignorance. Joseph Mengele, a German scientist, inspite of being supremely knowledgeable was blinded with arrogance and irrationality. He conducted inhumane experiments on the inmates of Nazi camps leading to multiple deaths.

The same adverse reality is evident in proliferation of deepfakes, cyber crimes, morphing and other activities. Such realities show that technology and knowledge has played into the hands of devils, making them all the more ignorant.

Hence, it is of utmost importance that knowledge must be held at the intersection of ethics and logic. Increasing social communication helps people understand the realities of time and unfolds various unturned stones.

The values of open-mindedness and tolerance must be inculcated at formative levels of education and socialisation. Deliberate attempts to do so will shape more informed citizenry.

Living in a post-knowledge society gravitates man to continuously search for newer realities. It can be done only when one accepts mediocrity and ignorance.

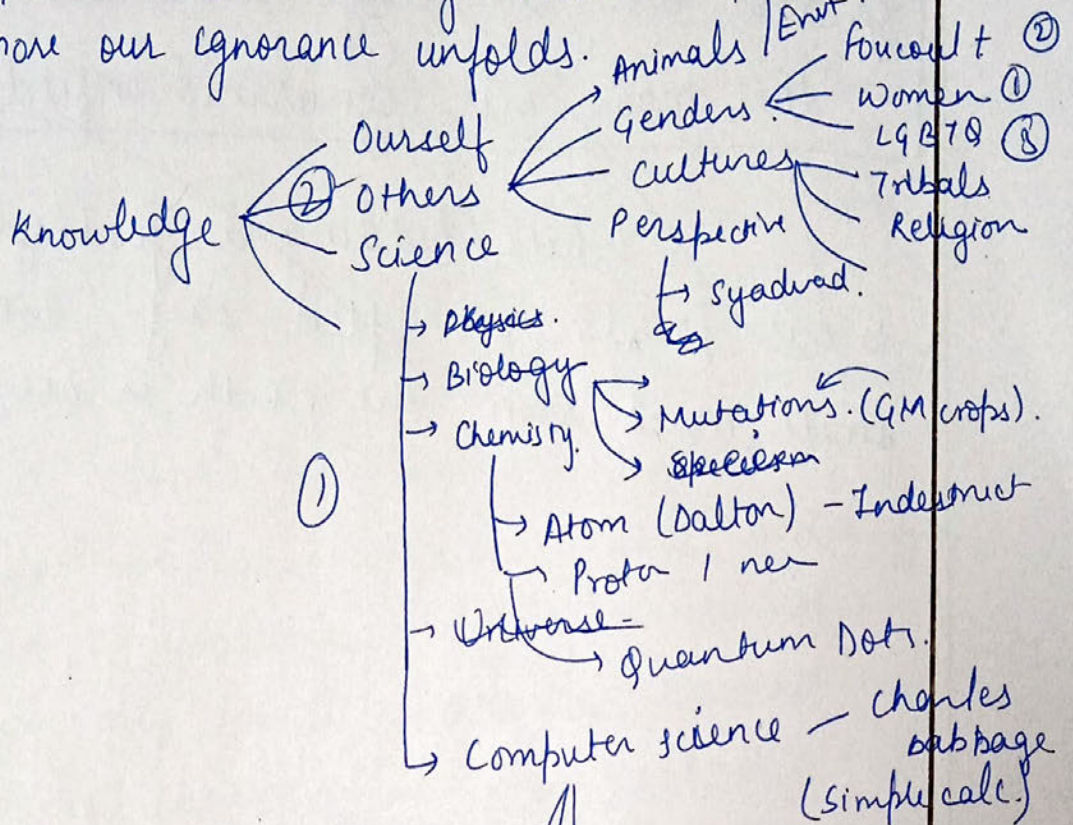
To sum up, acceptance

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of incompleteness and imperfection are the traits of a true genius. One who knows nothing is likely to know the most. Acceptance of ignorance creates room for knowledge and greater knowledge unfolds more ignorance. This virtuous cycle is a journey from human being to being humane.

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Greater our knowledge increases, the more our ignorance unfolds.



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Ourselves.

- Hegelian dialectics.
- Socrates -
- Introspection → Buddha, Ashoka

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→ Mediocrity - room for improvement

A genius man
shudders
incompleteness &
imperfection

Counter - Knowledge & Ignorance - Joseph Mengele
Arrogance - Hitler

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How to → Rationality
→ Social communication
→ Intuition
→ Open mindedness
→ Socialisation / Edu