



APSC Mains 2023 TS - 10 (Essay)

Duration: 3 Hours

NAME	OHKA BAISHYA	Registration No:	
DATE	21-05-2023	APSC ROLL NO:	4015074
Email Id:			

(Please fill your details correctly)

Medium:

English ☒

Assamese ☐

INDEX NUMBER			INSTRUCTIONS
Q.NO.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained.	Please read each of the following instruction carefully before attempting the questions: - Essay paper will consist of two Sections, each Section containing of 4 Essay topics, out of which the candidates will be required to write one topic from each of the sections A and B, in about 1000-1200 words each. - Each Essay will carry 125 marks. - There will be word limit and page limit for the essays. - The duration of the test is 3 hrs.
Section - A	125		
1			
2			
3			
4			
Section - B	125		
5			
6			
7			
8			
TOTAL:	250		

Remarks:

Signature of the Student:

Ohka Baishya



Brief report of Performance Evaluation of student in the paper

Parameter / Criteria	Aspect Considered	Total Marks	Essay 1	Essay 2
Basic Format	Introduction + conclusion	10		
	Body	15		
Content	Data/ Facts/ Interpretation/ Analysis	25		
Organisation	Flow of Ideas / Absence of Deviation from the topic	25		
Language skills	Punctuation/ Grammar/ sentence Formation / Spellings	25		
Examiner's Discretion	Perception / Innovation / Engaging	25		

Parameters	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor
coherence				
Language				
Handwriting				

Detail Feedback

Section - A

Q1. We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children.

Q2. Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever.

Q3. Strength does not come from physical capacity. It comes from an indomitable will.

Q4. Poverty is the worst form of violence.

(1200 words)

Gandhi, on his return to India on 9th January, 1915, was already known for his fight against apartheid in South Africa. He fought against racial discrimination in Africa. Mahatma Gandhi was not a warrior, or king, or a conqueror, he was a man of words, promises and principles. He was not physically befitting to fight wars but was a man of high emotional intelligence and sense of aptitude which made him work relentlessly for his countrymen and thus, make us independent from the British rule. This tells us about the importance of the mental aspect and not merely physical aspect of a person which is necessary to win battles of life. Had it not been because of Gandhi, we would have never been accessible to the concept of non violence, satyagraha and servodaya.

This shows how mental will and intelligence can work wonders if we are reluctant for success even if we do not possess the necessary physical capacity.

This is further elucidated from Emperor Ashoka's life. When Ashoka went to the battle field of Kalinga after killing his siblings, he was taken aback by seeing all the dead bodies spread all over the battle field. This made him realise that even though he won, he had lost the battle of humanity. This was a life changing moment for him because since then he turned his life into philosophy and knowing humanity and meaning of life. This is evident from Ashoka's Dhammas which tell us about the principles of life. This is a clear evidence of how physical dominance is not ample to make us win wars but also willingness to do humane activities is what is necessary in long run.

The importance of will over physical capacity can be elucidated from different perspectives - like individual, societal, national and international viewpoints. From the individual point of view, a human has to face a lot of struggles in his ^{or} life on a daily basis. Be it getting up from bed everyday, do the regular tasks assigned; a person needs motivation to do all the tasks on a regular basis. The required motion comes from the will to wake up everyday and fulfil the assigned tasks. This will does not need any physical attributes or muscular strength, the only thing that helps us in this case is the will power and self motivation which comes from within. The right attitude towards life everyday helps us go forward while a negative attitude will always lead us to make excuses and procrastinate and ultimately lead to depression.

In today's world, the importance

of willpower is gaining significance because the students and children of today are facing more mental health issues than in the past. This is the result of constant competition of being the best in the field. Social media is another reason which leads to negative impact on students life as they start comparing themselves to others both physically and mentally. This is where the power of will comes into play; the will to overlook the side effects and inculcate the positives, the will to do better everyday and not just compare ourselves to societal standards. These mindsets do not need any physical developments, it is self regulated and self ~~very~~ manageable. A Japanese study says: 'Success is 99% attitude and 1% attitude. So with the correct attitude, the will to overlook the negatives and the will to focus on the positives will help us in the long run.

The importance of willpower is evident from the historical and national perspectives. The instances of great men of our nation where they sacrificed their lives to give us the independence which seemed like a dream to many. These men were not men of muscular power but of ~~not~~ mind power which made them have their names written in golden letters for generations to come by. The anecdote of Swami Vivekananda who was firm believer of universal brotherhood, was not a warrior by nature but a philosopher. He, in the 'Chicago Conference of Religions of the world' in 1893 expressed that it was universal brotherhood which held the world together. His viewpoint resonated around the world with all the people. Vivekananda believed that to be successful, our nation needs arms of steel, nerves of iron and heart of thunderbolt to be able to make the nation a 'Vishwa Guru' once again. This shows the importance of will over physical attribute which make these men legendary.

From the struggles not just within India but also outside the world, the importance of will over physical capacity can be highlighted. This was evident from the instance where Abraham Lincoln fought against slavery and discrimination in the United States. Lincoln was not a man of physical stature but he was a man of wisdom, hard work and will power. Being the President of the United States, he could have let the practice of slavery persist since he was the leader and was immune from any social evil. But, it was because of his will power, the will to do something for the marginalised and oppressed, which made him bring an amendment to the slavery. Finally, even though his efforts helped to abolish slavery but it costed his life. As we all know, 'Honesty comes with a price', but Lincoln's efforts and his dedication to the slaves made him a historically

significant figure for future generations to be inspired.

The instance of 'Rosa Parks' who spread the message of racial discrimination in the west and turned it into a mass movement shows how mental attributes and strong will power makes better success stories than physical attributes. Rosa Parks faced discrimination while travelling in a public bus with the whites. When she was asked to get off the bus, she refused and kept refusing until she was dragged down the bus and thrown off at the streets. This incident sent waves of protest all across the west against discrimination towards coloured people. Had she used physical means to get rid of the people's torture, she would not have set an example for the people. This shows how willpower to fight the injustice can bring about revolutionary change in the society.

The importance of strength from
 indomitable will and not physical strength
 is also ~~at~~ evident from our environmental
activists or the environmentalists who
 fight for the inhumane activities of the
 people and contribute to climate change.
 It is because of the will power of these
 environmentalists that we are able to
 have access to the knowledge of impending
 threats to our environment and degrading
 biodiversity. People like Poornima
Devil Basom who fights for the almost
 extinct species of Hargilla (greater
 adjutant stork) shows what will power
 can achieve. It is because of people
 like Medha Patkar, Greta Thunberg
 that we are able to know the activities
 in our ecosystem and steps that can
 be taken in this regard. If the activists
 move to violent ways, then no success
 will be achieved. But the peaceful
 protests and conferences and spreading
 awareness through different platforms show

the importance of strength of mind over physical strength.

The negative impact of using power is seen from the nuclear attack of USA on Japan's Hiroshima and Nagasaki which shows how strength can destroy mankind completely if used in a negative and self vested manner. The power of strong will of India helped it in its struggle for freedom against the British. The British had arms and ammunition but our men had strong will power which made them courageous and never laid back in the struggle for freedom. The importance of will over physical strength is also evident today as India follows its multi alignment movement with the nations of the world. The way India maintains cordial relation with all nations be it Russia, China, Bangladesh shows how important it is to have an emotional intelligence mindset rather than physical strength. This is

evident from Prime Minister Narendra Modi's perspective and strategy to deal with enemy nations without involving in a war. With strong aptitude, emotional intelligence and attitude, he has handled difficult situations and avoided incoming wars or unrest. This can be further elucidated from the pandemic situation when the whole country was in a state of turmoil, migrants were on the street trying to reach home during lockdown, the chaos could have been handled through violence on the advice of the Prime Minister but instead he chose a cordial way to deal with the situation and also made India to be known as the 'Pharmacy of the World'. This shows how strong will power can often lead us to do things which even men of great physical strength are not able to achieve.

For a civil servant, to be efficient and bring about good governance

by maintaining the interests of the public, one does not need physical strength but dedication, emotional strength and the will to work for the good of the society and bring about a wave of development in the lives of the people who are in need. Because as ^{a great man} ~~Franklin~~ once said, 'Administration without moral values is absolutely worthless'.

Henceforth, to bring about a positive change in our life, we do not need physical strength but we do need indomitable will and the thirst to do more good in our capacity is what helps us in the struggle of life. Women have to mostly face struggle in different phases of life - struggles of being a girl child in an orthodox family, struggles of motherhood and struggles at work place. But women still fight and overcome these hardships.

and set new standards of positiveness every day. This can be seen from lives of Mary Kom, Kiran Bedi who in spite of struggles of a patriarchal society, took their stand and rose to their best self and now have become motivation for other young women of society.

Thus this ~~is~~ shows how strong will and not physical strength provides us the light to the way of success. It is the indomitable will within us that helps us bring change in a positive way and not mere physical strength that act as guiding way to success. Henceforth, it is in our capacity to belief in our self and our will which will ultimately overpower the need of physical strength and make us successful in the long run.

Section - B

Q5. Be yourself; everyone else is already taken.

Q6. Don't limit a child to your own learning, for she was born in another time.

Q7. Non-violence is the first article of my faith. It is also the last article of my creed.

Q8. Saving our planet and lifting people out of poverty --- they are one and the same fight.

(1200 words)

Swami Vivekananda, the great philosopher, thinker of our nation once said 'Talk to yourself for some time everyday, otherwise you will miss meeting an excellent person'. These words of Vivekananda tell us the importance of ourselves in our own eyes. The moment we realise the unique traits and features all over, we will be surprised ourselves. Vivekananda, who was a strong believer of self belief, brotherhood, faith in self highlighted these golden words in the hope that people in today's world are so occupied in comparing themselves to the outside world, to be able to fit in their standards of beauty, education etc. But in this process, people forget about their own unique traits and what makes them different from the rest is what really matters in the long run.

The importance of knowing self is imperative in today's world because in this era of social media, we often forget to look in the mirror and look into ourselves. We are so engrossed in comparing ourselves to the beauty standards set by influencers, for instance, that we forget that we are beautiful in our own skin. The effect of comparing oneself to others has a negative impact on the lives of people like depression, anxiety, the need to ^{be} fit and look good as shown in the photoshopped photos. But if we are able to look into ourselves, even for a bit, we will realise what we have been missing and how unique ~~so~~ every human is in their own way.

People often try to indulge in activities which is right and correct according to society. They get so engrossed in trying to impress the society, that they forget what it is like to be themselves for once in their lives.

Societal standards can sometimes be hollow and dogmatic. Students should be aware of such standards which are false and hollow. This can be ensured through proper education and awareness which will make them embrace the real self within and not try to indulge in activities which are ethically wrong. For instance, in today's world it is seen that young children and kids indulge in ill activities like drinking and smoking etc. in order to fit in the standards of society. But they forget that the reason their parents love and care for them is because of their original self and not for the person they are trying to become.

The uniqueness in every person is what made the historical struggle for freedom of our nation legendary. From historical perspective, for charismatic leaders like Ashoka, Chandragupta Maurya, we were able to gain access to

the glorious part of our country. The diverse nature of our leaders is what made them unique in their own ways. Leaders like Bhagat Singh, who was a believer of faith and strength and it was because of this nature of his, he was able to radicalise the youth back then against the British. It was because of his struggles, that the freedom movement received its momentum which ultimately costed him his life in the struggle for freedom. Then, the efforts of other leaders past that, like Mahatma Gandhi who had a completely different ideology and principle than Bhagat Singh was the Father of our Nation. Gandhi, who was believer of non violence, self sufficiency helped the country immensely in the struggle for freedom. It was because of his unique trait of self sufficiency and minimalist approach that India was introduced to the idea of welfare state or 'Swarajya'. On the other hand,

Jawahar Nehru who had separate ideologies for the freedom struggle, had also contributed to the struggle for freedom. When all the countries were giving up on democracy after the end of cold war and separation of USSR and US blocs, it was Nehru who had strongly attached the nation to the idea of democracy and did not lean towards authoritarianism. This shows that his unique attribute and his belief in democracy and good governance is what made India today 'The mother of all democracies'. Also, Lordar Vallabhai Patel Shubhas Chandra Bose, who had completely opposite ideology to Mahatma Gandhi, yet his struggles and contribution to the nation can never be forgotten. In spite of having different ideologies and stand and of working with Gandhi, Patel always respected Gandhi and called him 'Father of the Nation' because these great men knew that diverse nation like India need diverse ways to fight against British. and it is this unique feature of all the

great men in our country that led to breathe in the air of freedom from the British.

In the world struggle for coloured people against discrimination, there were different charismatic leaders who had their own ways of dealing with injustice. Martin Luther King Jr. in one of his speeches against discrimination said that he had a dream where his children were not judged by the colour of their skin, but by their personalities. This shows how different leaders fought their struggles in different perspectives. The fight against for racial discrimination is still going on in today's world where a man from Minneapolis, George Floyd was killed by a police officer which sent waves across the nation. This led to mass protests against racial discrimination. This shows how different situations need different ways of dealing. Every situation is unique in its own way and the same

technique may not be applicable to every situation.

This can be further elucidated from a different perspective; the perspective of a woman and her daily struggles of life. The woman who is a homemaker is unique in her own way while a woman who goes to work outside is also different in her own specific way. A woman undergoes struggles in her life in their own ways. Some struggle from daily chores, while some face domestic violence, while some face harassment at work place or public areas. The way every woman deals with her problems is different. Some might prefer to raise her voice against harassment through POSH Act (Prevention of sexual harassment in workplace) while some might directly involve the law. The way women deal with the problems in her daily life shows how unique and resilient women

can be. The moment these women realise their true potential and raise voice against ~~any~~ any injustice towards them, is the moment they will realise their true potential and will be able to use it to the fullest. In today's world we have seen women ^{are} successful in every phase of life - be it a housewife, a mother, a teacher or a scientist. Every woman has traits that are unique to her. This can be seen from instances of life from fighters like Mary Kom, who despite of being troubled and disregarded by her family, took her own step and went on to become one of the boxing legends of the world. Another instance is from the life of Khushi Bedi, who was sent to Tihar jail as a punishment posting but her unique trait made her bring about reforms even in Tihar jail. She did not consider the posting as a negative one but instead used ^{it} in a positive way as her foundational value for

civil service which shows dedication of her towards her service. This unique trait of her made her name legendary in the reforms in the Tihar jail. Thus, women around the world are bringing about change in their own positive ways and following their attributes will not be possible but following their values will help us in the long run.

Changing times call for changing attitudes. This is further described from the international perspective. When during the old times, in order to maintain the spirit of democracy, Jawaharlal Nehru opted for Non Alignment movement and did not lean towards any group after the cold war. This shows his attitude of dealing with situation at that moment of time. But in today's 21st century problems of the world, the same ideology does not stay put because in order to survive as a nation, we need alliances

and cordial relation with all. This is when our Prime Minister Narendra Modi came up with the multi alignment movement which shows our cordial relations with the nations of the world in order to bring global order. This shows how very leader of our nation is unique in their own charismatic ways and acted according to the situation ~~or~~ without blindly following any standard rules or procedures.

This contradiction in changing attitude with changing times can be further elucidated with respect to environment. When in the past years, the world was not technically developed enough and there was not the same level of industrialisation as there is now, the environment protection movements were also different. Vinobha Bhave who started the ~~Bhutan~~^{Chipko} movement by stopping the illegal felling of trees and property destruction. In today's world where industrialisation has increased

manifold, activists like Medha Patkar, Greta Thunberg who have raised voices against the destruction of ecosystem by the rapid globalisation shows how different situations have different reactions by different people. Had we stuck to the old tradition of hugging trees from felling, our inhumane corporates would not have stopped from cutting the trees. Thus, this shows how attributes of different people helped in different ways in our struggles across the world.

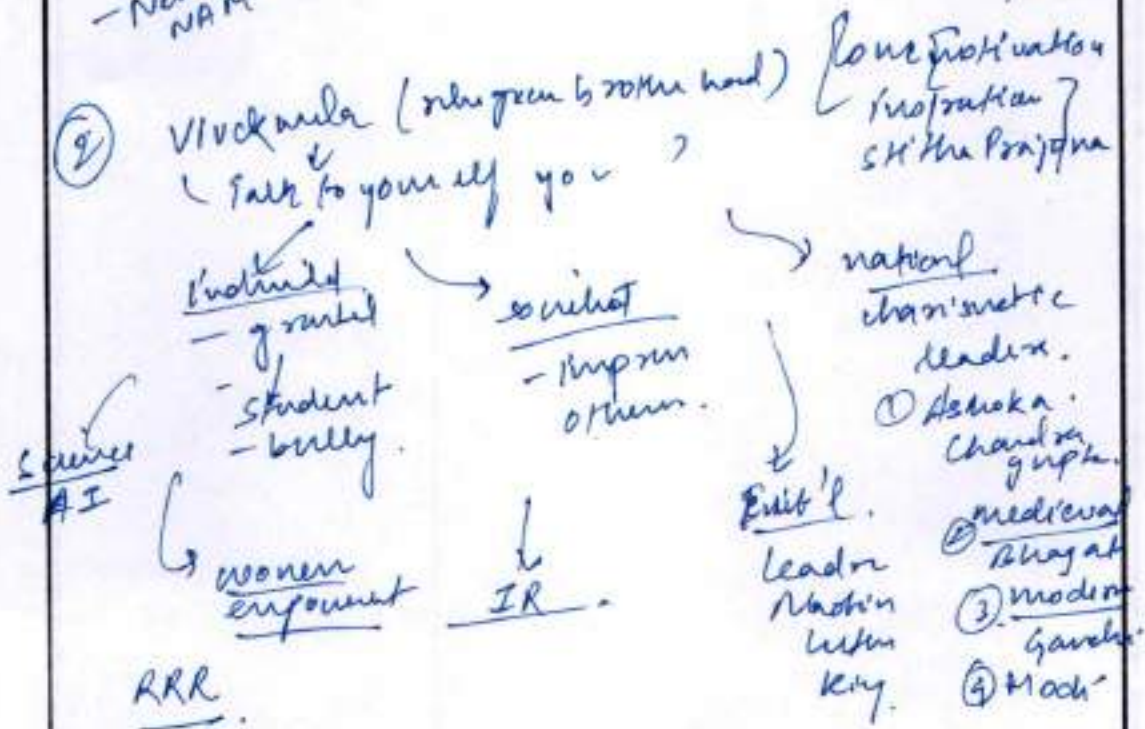
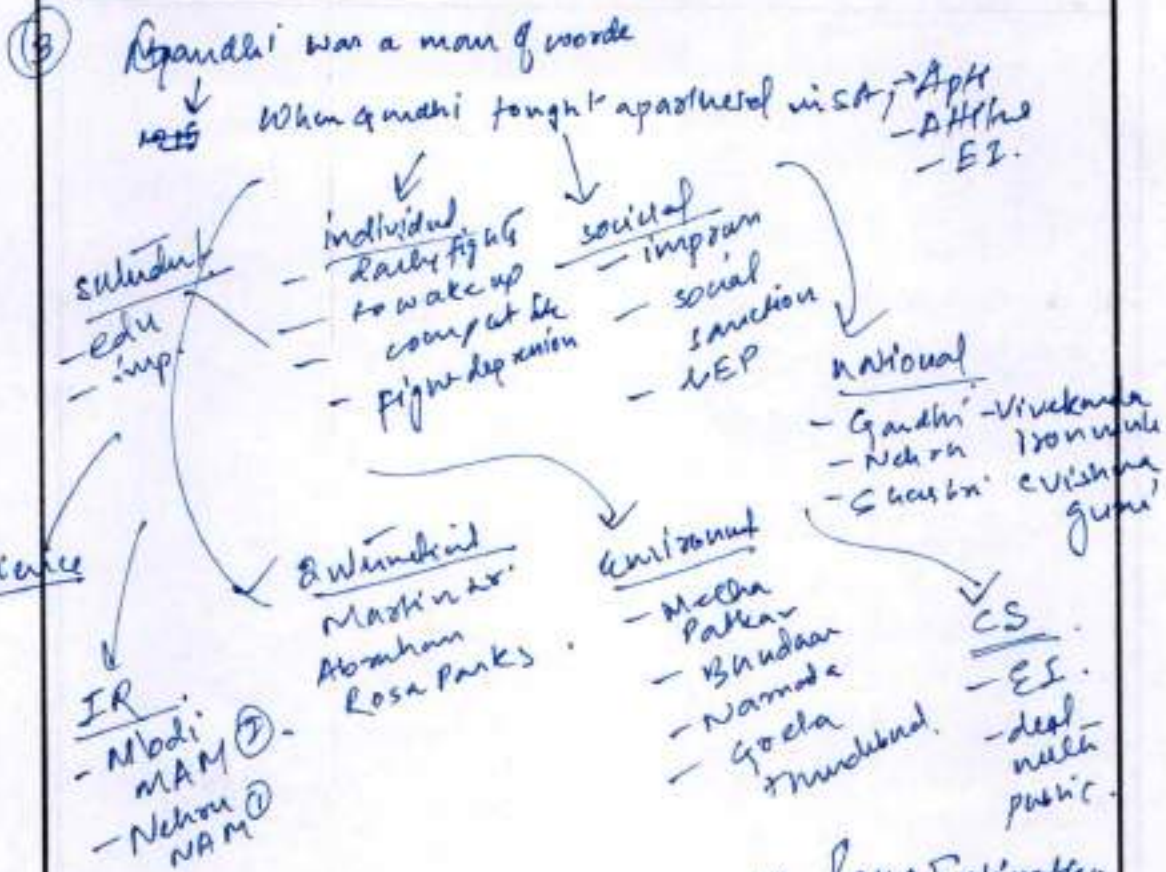
Henceforth, trying to be someone we are not is extremely difficult and not satisfying for the soul. It may provide us pleasure for a while but it never provide us sense of happiness within. The words of Lord Krishna of Bhitha Prajanya, * of being true to yourself and holding your ground is what makes us emotionally intelligent and stable. In the words of

Dilip Singh : Positive self talk is extremely important. This is absolutely true in today's world because we have become so obsessed in becoming someone we are not that we forget to look into ourselves sometimes. We are unique in our ways and that should be enough to inspire us to be true to ourselves in every phase of life.

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Questions

Section – A (125 marks/1200 words)

- Q1. We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children.
Q2. Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever.
Q3. Strength does not come from physical capacity. It comes from an indomitable will.
Q4. Poverty is the worst form of violence.

Section – B (125 marks/1200 words)

- Q5. Be yourself; everyone else is already taken.
Q6. Don't limit a child to your own learning, for she was born in another time.
Q7. Non-violence is the first article of my faith. It is also the last article of my creed.
Q8. Saving our planet and lifting people out of poverty --- they are one and the same fight.

Strength is not about being physically.
when we deal.
Hark Lord Rama, when Sri

Be yourself.
Vivekanand
self beliefs religion, brotherhood.

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