

INSIGHT GS MAINS TEST SERIES

GENERAL STUDIES

TEST - XV

COMPREHENSIVE TEST – PAPER IV

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

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

*There are **FOURTEEN** questions printed in **ENGLISH**. All the questions are compulsory.*

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

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.

Word limit in questions, wherever 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.

Answer questions in NOT MORE than word limit specified for each in the parenthesis. Content of the answer is more important than its length.

SECTION A

1. Individual becomes a cultural and social being by virtue of socialisation. Do you think the school has, in recent years, come to takeover some of the former functions of the family and community i.e. the school has become a primary agency of value inculcation? (150 words) **10**
2. “Change begins with understanding and understanding begins by identifying oneself with another person: in a word, empathy. The art enable us to put ourselves in the minds, eyes, ears and hearts of other human beings.” Do you agree with the above statement? Give suitable examples. (150 words) **10**
3. (a) India is referred to as ‘Soft State’, that is, which has neither the political will to enact the laws necessary for its progress and development nor has the political will to implement them. Do you agree to the above view? (150 words) **10**
(b) Explain the concept of ‘Trusteeship’ proposed by M K Gandhi. Is it realistic? Give your opinion. (150words) **10**
4. The creation of Codes of Ethics or other forms of policies will be counter-productive if such instruments remain as no more than a collection of slogans or nice, good-looking principles. Do you agree? Justify your answer with examples. (150 words) **10**

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INSIGHT GS MAINS TEST SERIES

5. (a) Explain Tagore's concept of 'self' and 'soul'. In order to realize someone's true nature, which one among the two would you choose? (150 words) **10**
- (b) "Corruption is an inevitable concomitant of democratic electoral politics." Do you agree? Give reasons for your stand in the matter. (150 words) **10**
6. (a) In international relations, whether war can be justified in the name of protecting human rights? Justify your answer. (150 words) **10**
- (b) Explain the relationship between socialisation, formation of attitude and moral development. How they help in nurturing social capital in the society? (150 words) **10**
7. (a) You are handling a time bound project. During the project review meeting, you find that project is likely to get delayed due to lack of cooperation of the team members. What would you do to enhance or strengthen coordination and cooperation among the team members? (150 words) **10**
- (b) Discuss how a good character is necessary for holding higher positions in civil service. (150 words) **10**
8. Does VIP Culture reflect our lingering feudalistic attitudes? To what extent the government's decision to ban red beacons would curb VIP culture in India? (150 words) **10**

SECTION B

9. Captain Ramnath never imagined that that most dreaded occasion in a seafarer's life would visit him towards the fag end of his distinguished career. He had done sailing for twenty years and was contemplating to call it quits next year to settle down in an on-shore job. The ship in which he was second captain got drifted and sank in a gale in the pacific. He was now cast away in a life boat with another crew and twenty two other passengers of the sunken ship. The life boat had a capacity of twenty two including the crew and in the last minute two more passengers were taken as a matter of chance hoping that sea will come down soon and the life boat will tolerate a little excess.

Last eight hours, Capt. Ramnath and his colleague tried their best to balance the boat in the prevailing turbulent conditions. Now the intensity of the storm was very high in the area the boat was sailing and it was touch and go before it almost sank a couple of times. Capt. Ramnath and colleague consulted the passengers and they were all of the view that two passengers must be sacrificed in order that lives of the rest of the passengers could be saved. The passengers included men and women - young and aged. They were from different parts of India and a few were from other countries, but luckily none of the passengers was known to him. Capt. Ramnath always carried with him a loaded revolver for self-defence.

The key question before the threatened humanity in the lifeboat was how to select two passengers who could be jettisoned or sacrificed. To Capt. Ramnath's ear his colleague softly murmured the following courses of action to get sense of Capt Ramnath:

1. He could shoot two fat individuals and then the dead bodies could be disposed in the sea.
2. He could ask everybody that the two oldest persons should be thrown overboard if they do not voluntarily jump in the roaring sea.

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3. He should select two persons by drawing lot and those two persons may be sacrificed.

4. Capt. Ramnath and his colleague could do an act of self-sacrifice.

Keeping both ethical and practical perspectives in view, what course of action would in your view is most appropriate? (300 words) **25**

10. Ajay, the manager of a reputed company is working late night in his office on a new project. The offices are empty and quiet as he is leaving. He notices light coming from the door of the new budget director, Sujata. He decides to stop in and praise her for her excellent work in which she discovered errors that would bring a big profit to the company, as well as projecting for the first time in many years a budget surplus. As he approaches her cabin, he can see through the few inches the door is open that she is in a compromising position with another colleague Rohan. Employment policy of your organisation strictly forbids dating between employees, threatening dismissal to those who do.

Ajay's code of ethics requires him to enforce this policy, yet at the same time he does not want to lose either or both of his valuable employees. It would be difficult, if not impossible, to bring in someone else with the same or higher experience and credentials for the amount of money the organisation is able to pay.

(a) What should Ajay do?

(b) Should he report Sujata and Rohan, in accordance with policy?

(c) Should he overlook the situation, believing the organisation will be best served in the long run?

(d) Should he speak to each of them and threaten to tell if they don't end the relationship? (250 words) **20**

11. Naveen Sharma is the CEO of Sharma Builders, a real estate development company. This company owns several properties in Delhi and adjacent areas, a growing tourist center. The company is near completion of the design phase of a project to renovate an old, vacant industrial and warehouse complex that it owns into a large historic museum and public market in the heart of the city. The project, which features some world class tenants and involves an internationally renowned design team, will greatly increase the revenues of the company and save it from some recent years of financial difficulty.

About this same time, an unrelated due diligence study of one of the company's other buildings exposed some serious seismic concerns. The 6-story office building is a 1940s vintage reinforced concrete moment frame structure. The engineering study concluded that the building lacks both the strength and ductility to resist even a moderate sized earthquake. Partial collapse of the structure was considered a realistic potential during a major earthquake. Since the deficiencies were global in nature, nothing short of a full upgrade of the lateral system would mitigate the hazard. To make matters worse, the assessment was leaked to the local press.

Sharma Builders quickly contracted for a second, independent engineering study, which concurred with the initial assessment. However, both engineering evaluations noted that in this, major earthquakes are expected to occur. It would be impossible for the company to finance an upgrade of the office building and complete the museum project. In addition, both the tenants and the design team have said that they would not continue with the museum project if the already tight budget were squeezed any further. There is no legal requirement for strengthening the office building, but many tenants and several civic leaders have expressed their concern about the seismic risks associated with the building.

How should Mr. Sharma proceed? (300 words)

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12. You are recently appointed as the finance officer in the department. As finance officer, you deal with number of issues having significant repercussion on various business organisations. Two weeks before Christmas, the managing director of one of the well known business telephoned you to wish “Merry Christmas”, adding “We would like to send you a little Christmas present. Will that be alright?” Thinking that it is a courtesy gift, you said “Yes, thanks”. Later on, you were amazed to see about 15 cases of wines and various alcohol bottles being delivered at his place. You realised immediately that their value would be well over Rs. 1 Lakh.

(a) What should you do?

(b) If you send them back, you risk damaging the good relation you enjoys with the concerned business house. So should you do nothing, convincing yourself that this was the way of the world?

(c) Should you tell your own boss, the finance director? (250 words)

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13. Rahul, a data analyst for a major casino, is working after normal business hours to finish an important project. He realizes that he is missing data that had been sent to his co-worker Robert. Rahul had inadvertently observed Robert typing his password several days ago and decides to log into Robert’s computer and resend the data to himself. Upon doing so, Rahul sees an open email regarding gambling bets Robert placed over the last several days with a local sports book. All employees of the casino are forbidden to engage in gambling activities to avoid any hint of conflict of interest.

Rahul knows he should report this but would have to admit violating the company’s information technology regulations by logging into Robert’s computer. If he warns Robert to stop his betting, he would also have to reveal the source of his information. What does Rahul do in this situation? (250 words)

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14. Imagine that you are the Principal of a school. As per the government directives, certain type of exercises for the students was made compulsory. The Physical Education Teachers are required to regularly ensure that these exercises are being done. So, as per the government directions, you issued the necessary instructions to the physical education teachers.

However, one of the PET, out of the five, expresses his reservation in complying towards the instructions, citing certain religious beliefs. Apparently, the exercises include certain gestures and expressions that the concerned teacher feels are irreligious. That is why he thinks that such exercises should not be followed. In this case,

(a) Is the Physical education teacher correct in refusing to comply the Principal’s instructions?

(b) What should the Principal do in such a situation?

(c) If the Principal insists for the compliance towards the government order, what should the physical education teacher do?

(d) Do you think personal values and professional values be kept strictly separate while taking up official responsibilities? (250 words)

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