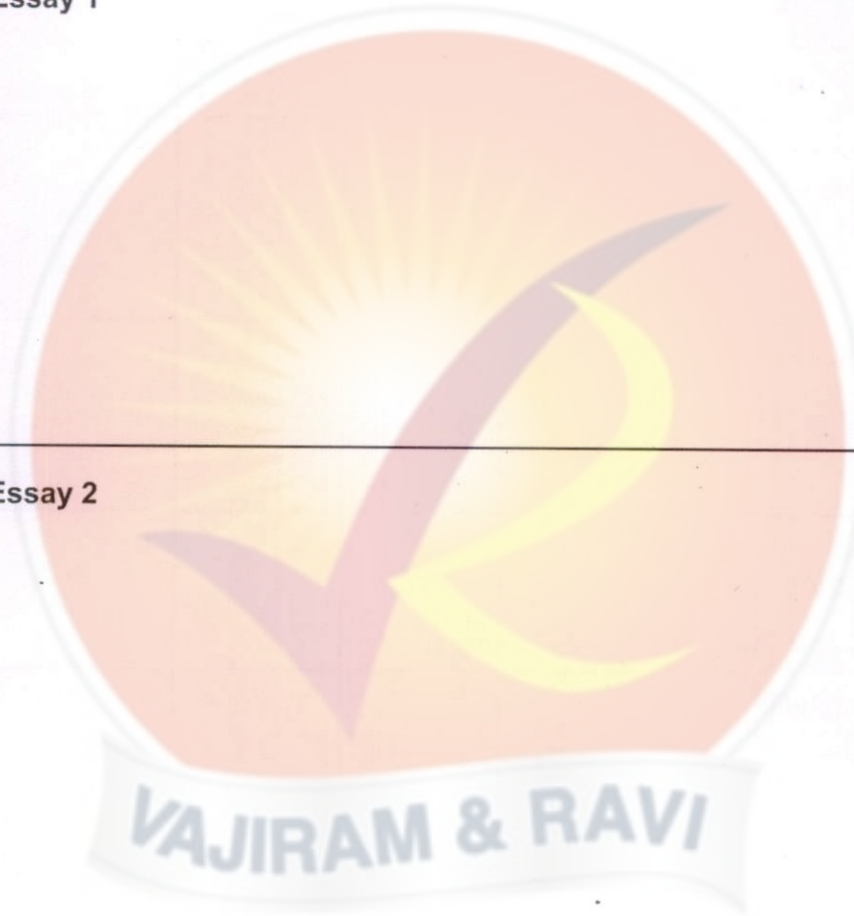


VAJIRAM & RAVI**ESSAY PROGRAMME****Test - 1**ADMIN. NO.: Mains Roll No. NAME: *Mobile No.: *Email.: **UPSC CSE 2024****AIR-351****Overall Performance**

Essay 1

Essay 2

**Evaluator Code and Signature:**

Essay 1:

	Parameters	Below Average	Average	Good	Excellent
Introduction	Context building; Thesis Statement; Scope				
Body	Presentation (Handwriting etc)				
	Macro Dimensions				
	Micro Dimensions - Arguments				
	Supporting examples/facts				
	Objectivity				
	Content Relevance				
	Continuity/flow in writing				
Conclusion	Overall Summary; Vision; Tone etc				

Essay 2:

	Parameters	Below Average	Average	Good	Excellent
Introduction	Context building; Thesis Statement; Scope				
Body	Presentation (Handwriting etc)				
	Macro Dimensions				
	Micro Dimensions - Arguments				
	Supporting examples/facts				
	Objectivity				
	Content Relevance				
	Continuity/flow in writing				
Conclusion	Overall Summary; Vision; Tone etc				

Evaluator/Reviewer Suggestions





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Section - A (Essay I)

- a. The only wealth which you will keep forever is the wealth you have given away.
- b. Experience without theory is blind, but theory without experience is mere intellectual play

b. Experience without theory is blind, but theory without experience is mere intellectual play

One of the greatest freedom struggles in the world started with the economic drain theory of early moderates along with the practice of prayers and petitions towards the oppressive regime. It was not much successful in the realisation of autonomy and independence. Then came the era of extremists who believed in individual acts of heroism.

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This was also suppressed brutally by the colonial state.

The need of the moment was understood by men of theory and action i.e. Mahatma Gandhi and with his incoming the freedom movement changed from representing microscopic minority to a mass struggle realizing independence on 15th August 1947.

This proves that "experience without theory is blind, but theory without experience is mere intellectual play."

So now to have a clearer view we need to understand the meaning of "experience" and theory? Why both are required

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and its manifestations along with the issues if they don't go hand in hand. Let us delve into it.

If we try to understand the meaning of experience it can be understood as events or actions and theory can be understood as knowledge or plans / strategic framework. For

(ex) Marx's Praxis was a theory leading to action in the absence of which, theory was of no use, i.e. if the exploited labour charts out a plan (theory) but he doesn't organize any use (experience) it is of no use to overthrow capitalism.

Now let us look at the various dimensions that

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Why it should go hand in hand and if not, what happens?

Socially, The issue of "patriarchy" and subjugation of women led to various movements understood through waves of feminism worldwide. It started with providing voting rights to women with one vote one value. The feminist theories propounded equal rights but in experience the subjugation continues. Women are still considered the "second sex".

It has various manifestations. For example -

The political representation of women in India is 14% in Parliament (population - 50%).

The Female Labour Force Participation Rate is 37% (Men - 78.5%).

In the wage gap discourse

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it is greater than 25%. So even after provision of equal rights for women there is huge difference in Objective Reality

Also the system of bonded labour, slavery was repealed (firstly in US - Reforms Act of 1832) and then in rest of the world. Also Indian constitution provides for its abolishment as per Article 23.

But in practice it continues worldwide with > 600 million people under bonded labours, trafficking etc.

The current issue of migration has also been dealt upon at various platforms

leading to creation of global compact on migration, but in

reality it has become a crisis.
(ex) Rohingya issue, Kurds in Caucasus region)

Further if we talk about the environmental sphere, the continuous exploitation since the Industrial Revolution led to its depletion and the need was felt for conservation.

The Stockholm Conference on Human Environment in 1972 and Brundtland Report of 1987 called for sustainable development. Since then many conferences have been called upon for example UNFCCC, UNCED, UNEP, Paris Summit and Kyoto Protocol with countries submitting their targets to achieve emission reduction (INDCs).

But in practice or action (experience) the global temperature is on the rise due to unthwarted emissions leading to 1.1°C temperature increase since 1850s nearing irreversible climate change and global warming.

Treading upon the scientific realm which is often held as the "panacea" for all the challenges of mankind, we can look into the difference of theory and practice.

Initially religion was paramount leading to corruption, concentration of power in the religious hands. It gave way to age of enlightenment to challenge the hegemony of religion, as without the logical explanation

people would not have believed in the deep entrenched religion.

Scientific age led to development of technology among which was "atomic energy" meant to meet the energy requirements. But slowly it transformed into a weapon of warfare. Now it poses a threat to humankind existence if diverted in the wrong hands (ex non state actors)

Same is the case with disruptive technologies like Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Internet of Things meant to increase the efficiency of humans it has slowly started impacting livelihoods. For (ex) reducing jobs, data privacy, IPR threats etc.

Moving ahead to the arena of international relations the experience of World War I led to the creation of League of Nations further due to its failure in stopping World War II United Nations was created. Acc-

-ording to Jay Kammerskjold the

" UN was created not to convert this world into heaven but to prevent it from becoming hell".

But it has not been able to stop the world from becoming hell. The ongoing war in Ukraine - Russia and

Israel - Hamas has led to huge humanitarian crisis. But the

lack of enforcement of UN's theory

into action (experience) the war and crisis continues.

Same is the case with multilateral development banks which were formed to undo the ad hoc action of developmental debt (action without theory).

But the structural readjustment programmes of IMF and WB and issuing loans at market rates has led to increased debt burden of countries creating conditions of failed states (ex Sri Lanka, Pakistan etc)

Having looked at the different dimensions we understand that -

" Theory without action is

lame and useless

but action without theory is blind and brutal"

So instead of preachings of greenness and ivory tower theoria also instead of unguided action what ~~is~~ we need is

the "theory based on action and action leading to theory",

ie to define or outline any plan of action various stakeholders should be involved. And while implementing the theory the outlined action plan should be strictly adhered to.

For example - Subsidiarity (Subsidiarity) principle being followed in democratic decentralization through PESA Act, taking inputs from Gram Sabha in any decision making.

To conclude we can learn the application

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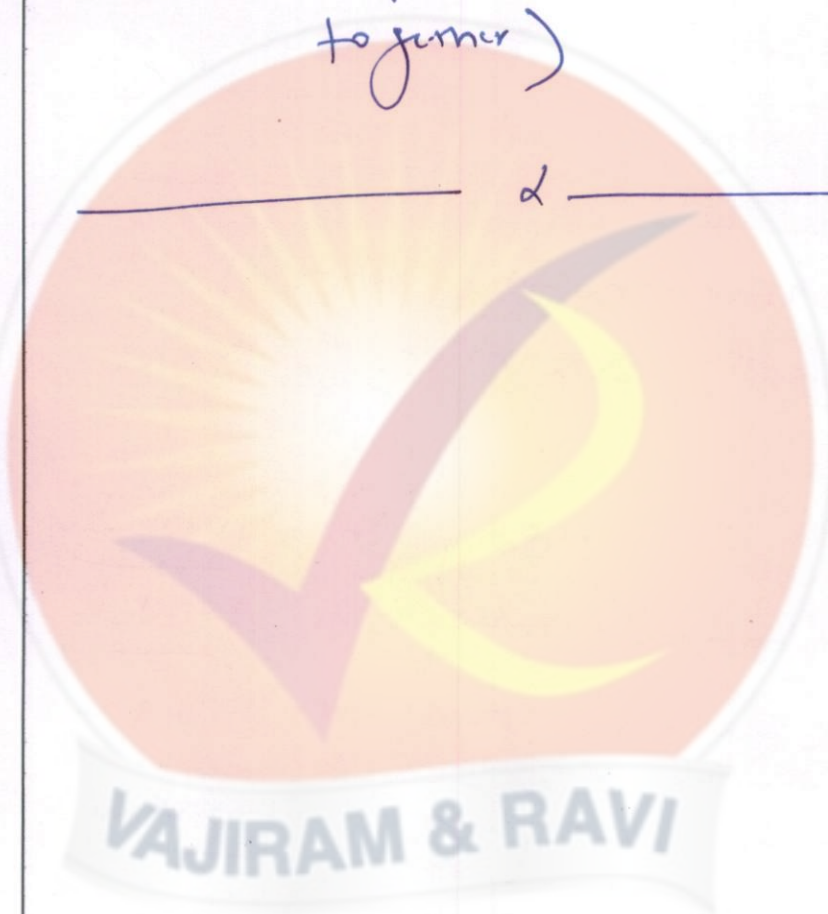
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of golden mean of experience (action) and theory (knowledge/ action) through the life journey of Mahatma Gandhi who used to say

'My life is my identity'

(ie experience and theory both together)



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Section - B (Essay II)

- a. The only thing we learn from history is that we learn nothing from history
b. Poets are the unacknowledged legislators of the world

a. The only thing we learn from history is that we learn nothing from history

In the 14th and 15th centuries European empires started explorations in their quest of gold, glory and civilization

The earlier motives were profit driven and expansion of their ideologies.

But slowly the quest for profit changed into the quest for sovereign rule. This led to establishment of Pax Britannica

in the 19th century. Now as the history changed its course the oppressive policies and

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extractive measures "colonialism" led to their downfall and emergence of "Pax Americana" in the 20th century.

USA also established its liberal world order which slowly transformed into "neo colonialism". Now again we see the downfall or backsliding of USA and the emergence of "Pax Sinica".

So what does this show that indeed we learn only to learn nothing from history. Although in some cases we do try to get over this notion and learn some things!

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Now to understand it in a broader way we should know what is history? why don't we learn from it? what

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happens when we don't) what were the instances in which we did learn from history? What should we actually follow? Let us explore.

If we talk about history it is the compilation of all past events, experiences, course of actions, errors and omissions.

History tells us about our origin, evolution, growth and the circumstances we faced.

For example - India's civilizational history of vedic age, mehojanpota age of empires, colonial rule and independence.

During this evolution we do make some mistakes along with accomplishments, but we don't tend to always learn from the past errors. This happens

due to lack of self reflection,
parochialism, inertia to change,
short sightedness, ignorance etc

For example - When an individual fails to achieve his/her goals, he/she procrastinates due to the inherent inertia of not working hard and then fails again.

In the same vein if we talk about the political structure of countries. There is an increase in criminalization, use of money and muscle power, mobilization on the lines of caste, communal, language, regional divide etc (46% of MPs in 15th Lok Sabha are with criminal antecedents) it leads to a weak polity, further reinforcing the initial weakness (44% in 17th Lok

Subha) making democratic system as institutions of anarchy which further leads to increasing corruption, backwardness, more regional divides and communal disharmony.

Same is the case with the economic systems in absence of proper planning, efficient utilization and mindful consumption, the economic system fails. For example - Pakistan dire situation of economy due to its marginal economic planning. Still the nation move ahead with populist policies, non merit expenditure (~~ex~~ Terrorism) further straining their resources, leading to poverty and increasing debt and doles requirement (~~ex~~ IMF support, aid from west asia)

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Talking about environment the anthropocentrism in place of ecocentrism has led to earlier extinctions (For example - Indus Valley civilization due to drought) But as the saying goes that the only thing we learn from history is that we learn nothing from history.

We have already brought ourselves in the closest proximity of irreversible climate tipping point and moving towards sixth mass extinction. As UN Secretary General says

"We are the highway to climate hell and our feet is still on the accelerator"

Moving ahead to the

social sphere the politics of race, caste, religion etc has led to dark ages with these social systems guiding human behaviour in place of reason. It has led to various movements and revolutions like Punjab Revolution (ancient times), Black lives matter protests etc.

Still instead of learning from our history we are marching towards "Clash of civilizations" as per Samuel P Huntington in which divided societies look towards people as adversaries. For example - Islamophobia, Hinduphobia in west, Charlie Hebdo bombing etc.

Having looked at the fault of not learning from history, there are some instances when we do learn from it.

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If we talk at the level of individuals, after failing emotionally, professionally etc we do try to course correct and choose an alternate path to move further. For example - Accepting failure in civil services exam and preparing again working on the mistake. We can also cite Ashoka here who course corrected after Kalinga war.

Looking at the societies, there has been a change in the attitude and mind set with changing times. Instead of hostile attitude towards some sections leading to their partial contribution towards societal growth. Now there has been greater understanding

about unity of existence and without upliftment of all the society can't prosper. For example - In NALJA Judgement of 2014, Supreme upheld the transgender identity recognition. Karnataka also providing 1% reservation.

Nations have also understood the importance of collective action and following India's tenet of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" there is greater collaboration on initially divided agendas. For example - Global War on Terrorism, tackling climate crisis (Paris goals), greater role of women in decision making and gender mainstreaming (UNSC Resolution 1325, 2242 etc)

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So how were they able to learn from history and how can it be followed in our daily actions? The answer lies in Socrates' "Dialectics"

As he said

'An unexamined life is not worth living'

We have to continuously self reflect, critically analyse our actions, think before we act, look at all the options from multiple perspectives and then execute.

We have to take into account the cardinal virtues i.e. courage, justice, prudence and temperance and continuously develop it through practice. We have to learn from our mistakes accepting our ignorance with humility

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As Jawaharlal Nehru said

" Those who do not learn from their history are doomed to repeat it "

So for not being doomed we have to judge our actions and learn from them.

World can imitate India's footmarks that instead of thinking to become a global hegemon and establishing "Pax Indica" , India has always strived towards "prosperity of mankind" and learning from history today it has become from being one of the fragile five economy to the "bright spot" in the global growth matrix.

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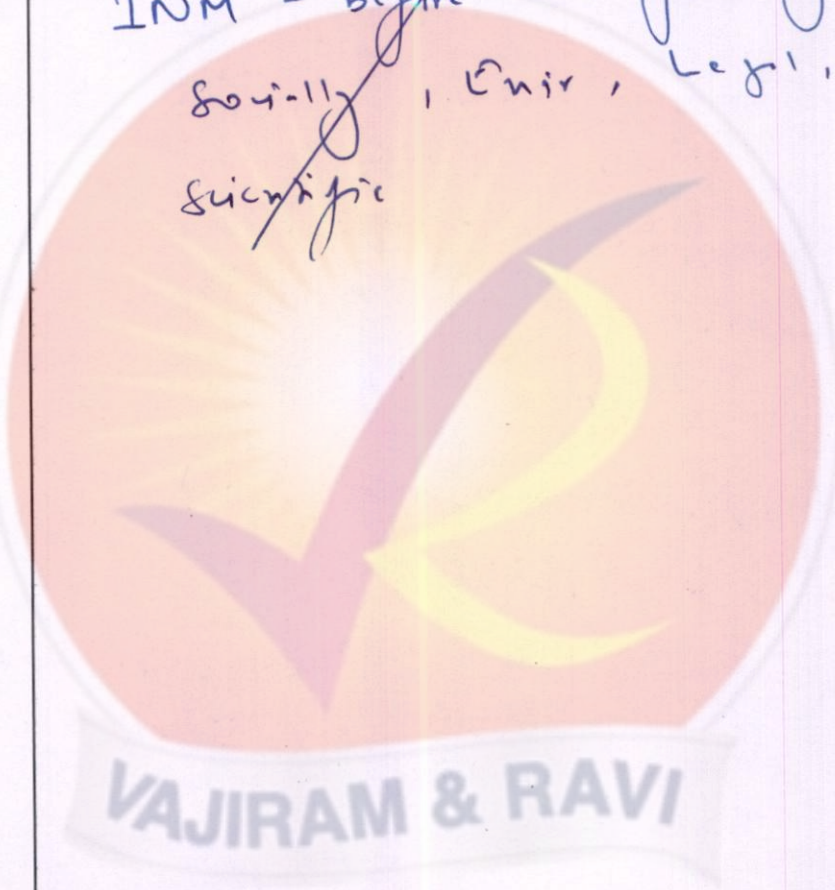
Space for Rough Work

Experience without theory is blind, but theory without experience is mere intellectual play

Industrial age oppression → ~~max~~ idea
→ still

The only wealth which you will keep forever is the wealth you have given away
India's approach - vaccine Maitri - anecdote

INM - before and after Gandhi
Socially, Envir, Legal, Pol,
Scientific



Space for Rough Work

The only thing we learn from history is that we learn nothing from history

The ~~war~~ Pax Britannica, Pax Americana and now Pax-sinica but

we do not understand that it will eventually be over but in some areas we do learn from

history. So what is history?

Why don't we learn from history?

What happens in the case? What

are the cases in which we learn

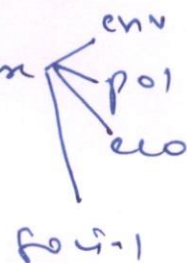
from history? What should be the

the actual path?

history — past events, experiences
do we learn from our experiences

→ rigidity
→ short sightedness

What happens in that case



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Actually follows — formula