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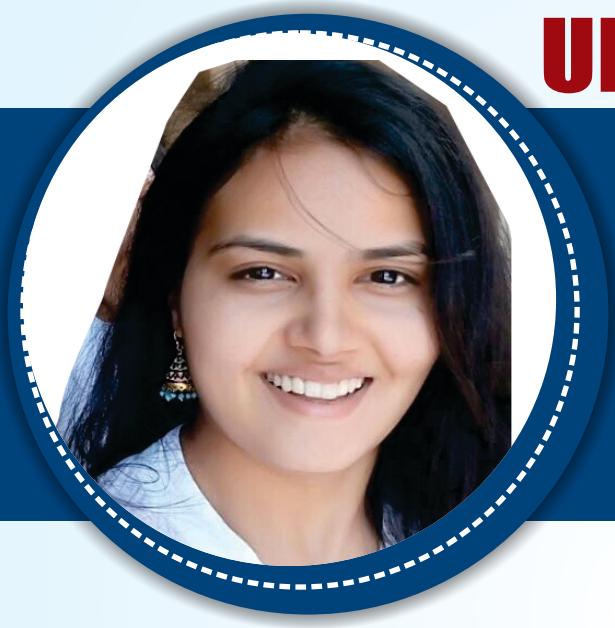

MANISHA AWHALE

AIR 33

ESSAY TEST PAPER

"Success usually comes to those who are too busy to be looking for it."

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ESSAY For IAS

CSE MAINS 2016

Under Personal Guidance of

VIKASH RANJAN

(IAS Mentor & Author, "Fundamentals of Sociology", "Applied Sociology")

(#8586861046)

(3)

Test Code	ESS/2016 Test No.02	Centre of Exam	ORN		
Name	MANISHA AWHALE	Total Marks	62 /125	Time	3 hrs
Mob. No.		Date	~~14~~ NOV' 2016		

12

THEME : INDIAN SOCIETY, CULTURE & CIVILIZATION

Write one essay from each Section of the Paper.

SECTION-A

1. Communalism and Casteism : Challenges to national integration.
2. Empowerment of Women in Society : Is it myth or Reality.

SECTION-B

3. Indian Society : Are we ready for global leadership.
4. Gender Equality & Justice: Is it myth or reality?

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INSTRUCTIONS

Essentially an essay consists of three major parts:

- the introduction
- the main body
- the conclusion

The introduction is intended to lead the reader into the topic and clarify what the essay will specifically deal with. It usually consists of one paragraph, but this depends on the length of the essay and the amount of background information the context requires. The introduction will contain a key sentence (or, if necessary, more than one) that represents the thread running through the whole essay. This sentence is called the thesis statement.

The main body deals with the major ideas that support the thesis statement. Each main idea is presented in a separate paragraph ("one notion, one paragraph") and developed with supporting ideas in the form of explanations, definitions, or similar, and illustrated with examples where appropriate or necessary.

The conclusion brings the reader back to the purpose of the essay and draws all the points together before making a final comment on the result of the discussion/argument. Often this final comment will point towards some consequence the discussion may have for the future or make some observation about what the discussion has revealed on a general level.

Ultimately an essay will show a progression from a general level (in the introduction) down to the specific (thesis statement and body) and back up to the general level again (conclusion). The reader will be expecting this so it gives your essay a sense of completion.

Get the Balance Right

You probably know that all essays should have an introduction, body and conclusion. Less well-known is that the balance of these elements in crucial. A good rule of thumb is:

Introduction: 10 %

Body: 80 %

Conclusion: 10 %

If you get these elements out of balance you generally have a poor essay.

IMPORTANT : Have a Thesis (statement)!

An essay is a waste of time to read if it does not have a thesis. It MUST have one.

This is something that most students have trouble with. A "thesis" means a personal point of view on a topic that you have argued for.

Often students are frightened about having their own point of view. However, there is nothing to be worried about. It does not mean that their point of view must be completely original; often they can find references in the library where other people argued for the same idea that the student shars.

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EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN IN SOCIETY: A MYTH OR REALITY?

Kalpana Chawla, Sunita Williams reached heights that only few could fathom. Kiran Bedi as a first IPS (Indian Police Service) broke the shackles of stereotype that surrounded the elite service. While Kurdish Women fir give a fiercely fight to ISIS, we could very much think women have, in Today's Era emerged as equals. But wait!! Is it really true? What about the countless others who are devoid of simple & basic rights like of speech & liberty being denied, & sexual harassment at workplace to rape, dowry death, denied entry in temples. These are countless instances. Therefore one realises the question of empowerment of women being real or myth in society.

A social activists particularly sees Women empowerseument being attached to three

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arenas i.e Economic (financial), Political, Social.

While to begin with, one cannot simple afford to explain facts without understanding the meaning of the word "EMPOWERMENT". It is a word which takes shape as per an individual's perspective, the idea of her freedom, a choice, a will to express an act in that situation. ~~or denial of this very~~ Basic choice. Thus empowerment being not just related to economic independence but ability to be free from bondages, self decision making without due influence or ~~pressures~~.

SOCIAL

Today's era, women have stepped out from the framed stereotypes of being nurturing and caring (like that of Mary), doting wives (Savitri), the meise temptress (Eve) or just fierce Durga. While we have seen mostly solo traits in historic pasts in some women

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like Ahilyabai Holkar, Padmavati, Jhansi Rani etc but today they are a combination of so much more. These very roles brings an idea of empowerment when education has made them step out of society and be the character of their choice. However what startles the new women is the baggage and bondage they still carry while being part of the same society. The stereotypes that revolve from the notion of "beauty" (Remember the fair & lovely advertisement, size-zero figure & "WANTED FAIR BRIDES" ads in morning newspaper matrimonials), exposes the myth of empowerment.

ECONOMIC

. A well suited women director of corporate world handles work more efficiently and effectively than the Men around here, a US study has proved. She is the leader, manager, skill-efficient, and has guaranteed right for

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equal pay, paid maternity leave (Recent amendment in Maternity Benefits Act enhanced these to 26 weeks). She is also the bread winner for her family. Almost 45% of ~~women~~ in IT sector are women and in MNREGS the women ratio stands at 56% in comparison to men in participation in unskilled workforce so the liberation has ~~to~~ ~~som~~ mostly benefited both (educated + Non-educated) alike to some extent. But have we forgotten ~~Vishakha~~ Case that of sexual harassment at workplace, the biased attitude, the unequal ~~atte~~ status of women in decision making, high end posts mostly being occupied by male fraternity that also of a woman submitting ~~her~~ her monthly salary at the feet of ~~her~~ husband. allows us to question whether indeed women today are empowered or is it just a myth?

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POLITICAL

Though Hillary may have lost the US Presendial election, but her capacity, courage Potential is no less than her counterpart, while some would say it could be better. Thus gender had relatively low role to play acquiring political status & History has seen many able administrators from Razziya Sultana, Rani Jhansi, the very recent Indira Gandhi, Sonia, Mayawati-Mamta Jayalalitha in political arena. They are/were fierce, bold, breaking the glass ceilings. Yet again we cannot forget the cruel dichotomy that attaches World in general and India in particular the presence of women politician at helm. Even if they are, they mostly form part of the 3 Brigade force i.e Bahu, Beti, Biwi. Nor are their voting rights as free as one would think so.

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ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY / CULTURAL

Bollywood, Theatre, Television form a huge part of today's life. It influences every day spheres. Therefore neglecting it would only mean undermining it. Thus explaing women empowerment through the eye of entertainment is absolute necessary as they make and break stereotypes and present to us the myth and reality behind the same.

The leading ladies have given prominent roles, praised from Nargis (Mother India) Madhubala (Anarkali) to the very recent Deepika Padukone in Piku. They, as many might think, are epitome of empowerment. And yet so our daily soap operas. (the Saas-Bahu serials), sexist advertisement (Fair & Lovely, Deodrant, Ujala) etc, the lower pay offered to these very leading lady in comparison to their male counterpart would further expose the myths.

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~~PRESENT STATUS~~

We have had legendary singers like Lata Mangeshkar, Asha Bhosle etc, Theatre artists, dancers like Mrinalini Sarabhai. Their devotion to their work and their idea of freedom and empowerment has clearly been related and thereby explained through their work.

We would not doubt their achievement but praiseworthy are those who do not bring "so called dishonour", are obidient, wear "appropriate" clothes and perform roles within the boundaries (laxman Rekha) of society.

But who decides the honour, or rules or boundaries? well let's face it, in a patriarchal society, perspectives are male dominated and thus denial of it will be a myth in a itself.

SPORTS

Did you watch recent Olympics? everyone was proud of India's daughters shining at

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Rio - P. V. Sindhu and Sakshi Malik. They were congratulated, felicitated with accords and praised. But ironically so, the presence of women in sports is dismissively minimal. Being an "Inferior Gender" (the so called term) does not allow them apparently to have the strength needed for physical sports. The so called 'weaker sex' is looked down upon and are supposed to be child bearers and not runners, athletes, as per the norms of society, family. While there is nothing wrong to be a homemaker, but the significant thing to be introspected is the access to opportunity, the fearlessness in decision making in letting her follow her dream.

VIOLENCE AND SOCIETY

This is one of the most relevant aspect in empowerment. The whole idea of freedom in thought action, revolves around

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the notion of security, if a society denies this, to a certain class of individuals in this respect women, it falls like a house of cards and the idea of empowerment remains in vaccum. Thus it is equally important when they (women) start exercising their very basic rights from Right to voice their opinion to breaking their silence, expressing their perspectives that in a society, governed by ~~Rule of Law~~, equally support and determinantly ~~implement~~ so. Eve-Teasing, Stalking, Acid attacks, sexual abuse, dowry, rape, bride burning, etc only expose the chauvinist attitude that we as members of society follow. Who's fault is it when a woman steps out at midnight and is being assaulted, raped?" These shouldn't be hesistantcy or these shouldn't be such questions at ~~all~~.

Therefore violence is a bigger perpetuar

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of fear, dominance or misogyny. It is through its erosion can there be dignity and self-respect and eventually true empowerement to Women folks.

To conclude, to say that is it myth or reality would not be a 100% justified answer. Each Woman when liberates herself from a bondage of slavery, she breakes a stereotypes and adds to the idea of empowerment. As empowerment is not a revolution but an evolution. Nor is it related to gender specific roles but it is an ideology, to be followed an emulated by every individual by respecting other individual's rights and allowing the space that one wishes for himself/herself, than is it that myths will translate into realities and quite often so.

very good factual analysis
temporal missing

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significance covered in every aspect

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