

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

[Section A]

[If you want peace, prepare for war]

In 1962, when China invaded India along the Himalayan border, we had to face a humiliating defeat and ~~a~~ resulting into India losing much of its northern territory in Arunachal Region.

Taking a lesson from the conflict, India started its military modernization plan to augment defense capability of the nation under the able guidance of Lal Bahadur Shastri. Also, in 1970s, India began enhancing its nuclear capability which culminated into Smiling Buddha test at Pokhran.

The objective was to enhance the deterrence capability of state and let the adversary think twice

before invading.

The aim of India's military capability was not any aggression or militarization of the region, but to prevent any war from being started in the first place.

This poses a question as to how preparing for a war would prevent it? As we move ahead we

would see various sides of the argument.

Also we must realize that peace isn't merely confined to battlefields and military. It entails various dimensions and enhancing capability for prevention of war and ensuring "peace" with myriad factors that tend to disrupt it.

What is Peace?

Peace is largely seen as absence of war or bloodshed. However, in contemporary studies, it is defined as stability in social, economic, political, cultural, environmental realm that is essential for well-being of populace.

Disruption to the status quo that is essential for betterment of the society is considered as a threat to peace.

It refers to a political scenario where rule of law prevails, arbitrariness is absent, democratically elected government functions with people's faith entrusted with them and institutions to uphold people's fundamental rights.

This is a situation marked by social harmony and cohesion,

where social differences in term
of class or caste don't become a
barrier for people.

Economically, peace is where
innovation and ideas are nurtured
and translated into reality where
job creation, infrastructural development
takes place and where everyone
can use available resources to
climb the social ladder.

However, disruptions to these
fundamentals can come from anywhere
— authoritarian regime, terrorist
attacks, recession or depression,
pandemics, cyclones, radicalization,
climate change, cyber attacks etc.

The cherished peace is
thus mired with constant threats

which are only evolving in terms of intensity, unpredictability etc.

Isn't war readiness only a threat to Peace?

Among the causes of world war, it has been highlighted that the prominent one was presence of military infrastructure and strategies which were already in place. Only a spark was needed and there was no time to revert back.

However, there is another idea of NUCLEAR PEACE, which states that the third world war has been prevented because of presence of nuclear weapons with both blocks during the cold war.

While one may choose either side of the debate, rationality suggests that preparedness for

preparation of peace may not be an ideal choice but is still relevant, especially seeing the abruptness or surprise of any human action or natural phenomenon.

Readiness is a means to enhance capability to deal with any challenge that may confront us and prompt disorder.

India's nuclear doctrine explicitly states a no first use Policy and credible deterrence mechanism.

Let's see it from the perspective of Earth, suppose an asteroid enters Earth's atmosphere and threatens to strike a major human settlement whose impact could be devastating. While it is one in a billion scenario, it can't be ruled out.

Also, the fact remains that
NASA's DART (Double Asteroid
Redirection Test) only enhances our
safety and not threatens by hitting
on asteroid to strike.

However, undoubtedly humans
are completely different and reacts
are bound to take place in a
military situation

Still, at times when one is unsure
of his adversary and its capability,
it's best to think of the worst.
Focus may still lie on dialogues and
removing any misgivings that may
exist

How should we enhance our
preparedness?

militarily speaking, focussing
on roads, rails, bridges and related

Infrastructure can enhance logistics of army units, something India had to suffer during 1999 Kargil war. Also, equipping them with better arms and ammunition, ensuring food and fuel security, focusing on research and development can be few ways of our enhancing our military readiness.

To ensure holistic peace, focus must be on institutions that preserve the democratic functioning of states by choosing correct people to hold these offices, providing them adequate resources, strengthening civilian based non-government organizations, boosting transparency to curb any corruption and ensure political stability.

For social cohesion, schools and educational institutions are the sandboxes where new citizens are nurtured and thus focus must be on improving curriculum, pedagogy, extra-curricular activities that promotes equality and fraternity as per our Preamble. Also, the state must bear the responsibility of vulnerable sections of society and ensure their upliftment.

For economic stability and well-being focus must be on sustainable development and equitable distribution of resources. Healthy banking habits and related awareness drives must be promoted. Central Bank must be able to deal with any 'Black Swan' event similar to 2008.

global financial crisis. similar threat we today face is from cryptocurrency which is being managed with strong regulation in foreseeable future.

climate change and related disasters have emerged as biggest disruptions to peace and have enormous impacts on lives, property and livelihood.

Enhancing nationally determined contributions in sync with Paris Climate Agreement of 1.5°C and common but differentiated responsibility and pursuing disaster management strategy in harmony with Sendai framework (2015-2030) to minimize impact of these deadly events on human lives.

however, every technology, institution or framework is incomplete without the human element. Thus, humans must be at the centre of all planning. Investment in human resource enhancement and capacity building would augment the comprehensive national power whose impact would be apparent across all sectors - whether he plays role of a soldier, doctor, teacher etc.

The pursuit of peace and stability, a pre-requisite for human development is a human instinct, we all aspire for. Even during a conflict or war, most people leave for places where they could find peace as seen during Ukraine-Russia conflict.

However, we must be pragmatic enough to realize that world is not

guided by idealism and a single consuence. This leaves room for tension and human attempt to solve it using force.

As our external affairs minister Mr S Jaishankar has stated "There needs to be a balance between principles and rationality". It implies that while we must preserve peace by using constitutional means, we must be equally prepared to deal with its disruption.

Preparedness is not an invitation to disaster. Its only aim is to curb the harm it may inflict.

As we know India has never been an aggressor, yet over the history it remains a mighty power, be it mouryas of mogadha, who

the great Alexander feared the
Rejputs of Mewar where women
committed mass Jahas (suicide) to
protect the honour at the hands of
Uthman.

One can also note that
Arhoka the great promoted non-
violence, he never disbanded the
army. He did see its utility as
a strong deterrent. One should take
note of it and pursue peace through
a deterrent.

Section B

Q) Being in power of argument
rather than argument of power

Angulimala was known for
the garlands of fingers he severed from
victims. As Buddha was once walking
around his house, he decided to
match speed of Buddha & kill him. But,
he was far behind.

Frustrated, Angulima called out
"stop". To this Buddha replied,
"I have stopped, when will you stop".
Perplexed, Angulima asked for meaning.
Buddha said -

"I have stopped, once and for all,
having cast off violence
towards all living beings.

You, though are unrestrained.
That's why I have stopped
and you have not"

moved by Buddha's words, Angulimala decided to abandon violence.

The above story highlights the importance of Buddha's teachings to curtail violence in society and to transform even the most deproved of individual to turn to non-violence.

This shows the importance of making arguments which are powerful and leave a major impact on others. Before contemplating deeper, let's understand the difference between the two.

Power of argument is an ability of a person to persuade others to act in the desired direction through reasons, statements or facts. For example, Sardar Patel through sheer power of his arguments,

convinced most of the princely states
to join India post independence

Argument of Power on the
other hand is use of power by an
individual to achieve his/her desired
outcome even against the will of
others. It involves a certain degree
of force or coercion, which is not
conducive for an effective relationship
For example, Deng Xiaoping led his army
against the protests of students in
China leading to Tiananmen Square
massacre

So the question arises, what should
one prefer - Power of Argument or
Argument of Power? As business
stalwart Ravon Tata quipped

"If you want to walk fast
walk alone

But if you want to walk far,
walk together"

This highlights the importance of pursuing the path of using power of Argument. It helps in collective growth of society through discussions and deliberations.

India has been blessed with a long tradition of public arguments and intellectual discussions. It was the argument of Nagarbhata that convinced Meander to adopt Buddhist name milind and wrote milind + Ponho.

Amartya Sen in his work 'Argumentative Indian' has highlighted that democracy is much more than elections and Indian democracy, resting on premise of public reasoning, thrives on long tradition of dispute, discussions and debate.

Our freedom struggle was based on the power of argument. The mighty British empire had to crumble against the power of satyagraha and non-violence propounded by Gandhiji.

As we celebrate 75th Year of India's independence, with "Har Ghar Tiranga" and "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav", Nehruji's famous Trust with Destiny and "India awakens when the world sleeps" is heard everywhere. All these slogans help raise a sense of brotherhood, all with the power of arguments.

Power of argument also helps in putting forward a stance that other party accepts based on facts. Recently, Government of India repealed three contentious farm laws. Though the laws were made in good faith,

they could not achieve desired result as they were not based on due deliberations and discussions

Similarly, international experience as WTO shows how developing countries were able to get peace clause sanctioned to protect their food security programs. This was the power of their collective argument against developed countries.

Power of argument also changes the social setting. Our entire social reform movement was based on the premise of power of strong arguments. For example, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar could raise awareness on women remarriage and women education based on his arguments.

Similarly, Swachh Bharat Mission has been yielding results as it struck

a bone with conscience of people. It managed to convince people to abandon open defecation instead of using power.

Power of arguments also shakes the long established traditions and way of life. A simple argument by child activist Greta Thunberg where she said

"You have stolen my dreams
and my childhood with
your empty words.
How dare you?"

It changed the lockstep attitude of people and governments towards climate change.

But, an important question to be asked is if the tradition of arguments and discussions have been confined to only an exclusive part of population — perhaps just the elite?

As India has had deep inequalities on the basis of gender, class and religion, it would be hard to imagine a uniform distribution. The social relevance of argumentative tradition would be severely limited if the disadvantaged sections were excluded.

It's equally important to have well-informed, backed by facts arguments and not driven by parochial interests. Else it will widen the socio-economic differences in society.

But at times, it becomes essential to use power due to the exigencies of time as persuasion is a time taking process.

For instance, operation Polo was launched for the integration of Hyderabad with India in 1947. Else, it would have been a bone of contention between

two countries.

Similarly, after the Uri attack of 2016, India decided to launch surgical strike within two weeks. It led to boosting the morale of armed forces and set a precedent for the forces acting against India.

As India has experienced various communal clashes, it becomes imperative to use immediate action like Section 144 of CrPc to ban any gatherings that might provoke law and order situation.

Further, at times, a combination of authority and power along with arguments both are used to bring massive changes in the system. For instance, after the brutal Kalinga war, where Ashoka had displayed his power, he was forced to change

his actions through his consuence. Later
it was his arguments like Dhamma
and peaceful co-existence that made
him a true king.

on the similar lines, India adopted
economic reforms of liberalization,
privatization and globalization in 1991.

It was the use of power to implement
them due to Balance of Payment crisis
but also the arguments of Narsihma Rao
and monmohan singh that led people
to believe in their vision

Hence the need of hour is to
ensure successful persuasion i.e. to
make someone do or believe something
by giving them a good reason or an
argument to do it or by talking to
the person and making them believe it.

To develop an effective persuasion,
person should develop different fruits.

which help him/her in understanding the situation more objectively.

First important trait to have is self-awareness. It's essential to develop an argument in which one's conscience is aligned. Nelson Mandela

for instance, was aware that his path would lead him behind bars for a long time, still he chose the path to end apartheid regime.

Another important trait is to be self-driven or self-motivated in order to persist for long. Had Thomas Edison given up after 999 failures, he would not have been able to revolutionize the world through his innovation of bulb.

Third important trait to develop is self-regulation. It emphasizes on the importance of regulating one's behavior and emotions in the face of adversity or BR Ambedkar throughout his life.

faced immense challenges yet he never stopped fighting for the cause of poor and marginalized sections.

Fourthly, it is important to develop empathy and compassion towards others. Covid-19 highlighted the importance of empathy due to social distancing and quarantine.

One should also have social skills to deal with a population that may be impoorished, angry or violent. It highlights the value of tolerance as it is necessary to calm down the other party before one starts to persuade.

India has set an example of consensus making through powerful use of power of arguments. It's India's argumentative brilliance that led to peace during Korean war in 1950s.

New challenges like climate change, terrorism, social media unrest will need more and strong arguments to move towards the path of development and inter-generational equity.

As Sun Tzu has written in Art of War

"To win one hundred battles and one hundred victories is not the acme of skill. To subdue the enemy without fighting is the acme of skill."
