

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

4. In a gentle way, you can shake the world.

In today's world, it is often said that to make others take notice, one needs power, force, extravagance. Take the space sector, the U.S. - NASA and space X shook the world with their several billion dollar funding, famous founders (Elon Musk owns Space X), famous missions like the mission to Pluto, 1st landing on moon etc. On the other hand, there was our ISRO with no famous "branding" or famous founders nor very extravagant funding. But ISRO's talent, persistence, careful expenditure made it achieve success in reaching Mars (Mangal-yaan) in its 1st attempt at fraction of cost.

ISRO shook the world
because no one expected its gentle
approach to reap success in 1st attempt.
But, it did. This helped cement India's
position as a true space power. This
shows that in a gentle way, you can
shake the world.

To be clear, let us establish
what "gentle" means. It simply means
without being too ~~drastic~~ drastic
hard. This can be further simplified
as NOT being too drastic, forceful or
coercive or extravagant or excessive.
Thus being gentle can be associated
with many aspects.

Then what does one
understand by "shaking the world"?

To shake the world would mean to bring in big changes or sudden changes / realizations. Having understood the key terms, let us understand the essence of our idea.

The essence of our idea of being able to shake the world in a gentle way is that one can bring in big changes / realization without adopting hard measures. It must be understood that there is a notion that big changes require hard, drastic measures. But, our idea counters that. The key to the idea is that what matters is not ~~the~~ how drastic the approach is, but what impact the approach is capable of making.

Having understood the ~~so~~ essence of the idea, let us analyze this by looking into history. It was Gandhi who had presented this idea and it is him ~~who~~ who provides us with the best illustration. Gandhi never used force, violence. He took a gentle approach of ahimsa, dialogue, satyagraha. And he shook the world by mobilizing an entire nation and leading the struggle against the most powerful military nation, UK, using his gentle approach.

Even today, if we look at the individual level or the family level, we get a good point to analyze. It has been seen that children understand the best when the parents

are gentle, use reason and love.
Thus, be being gentle, one change
the child's world by changing and
shaping their attitudes, beliefs, values

At the level of society too,
the approach of Swachh Bharat Mission
towards Indian society must be
noted. It was NOT by penalties,
lathicharge. that open defecation was ended.
It was through a gentle approach
involving awareness campaigns.

Parneswaran Iyer, the then Secretary
of Govt. of India led the way by emptying
taking the degraded waste from twin
pit latrine to dispel the myth of
"pollution" & to encourage people to
use such toilets & their degraded
material as fertilizers

At the national level,
from an environmental perspective,
we must study the impact of Chipko
movement. When the contractors who
wanted to cut trees, didn't listen to
the women of a village in Uttarakhand,
the women adopted a unique gentle approach.
They women hugged the trees, standing
between tree cutters and the trees.
There was no breaking the law, no violence,
yet they caught the nation's attention,
shaking every Indian's world and
successfully saving their trees.

Not only India, let us
analyze instances from international
arena. At a time when USA and China
were on opposite sides of cold war
without any diplomatic relations,

one incident changed everything.
The TT players from US and China
during an event developed great
friendship. The gentleness of their
friendship provided an opportunity for
US and China governments to start
engaging peacefully. This came to be
known as ping pong diplomacy.
Thus, a gentle approach changed the
world of cold war.

Even recently, when
war couldn't resolve the hostility
in West Asia due to Israel-Palestine conflict,
it was gentle approach of dialogue that
achieved the impossible. The Abraham
Accord involving Israel and UAE
among others is a great step that was
achieved by US' gentle dialogue approach.

Thus, we have undoubtedly witnessed how true Gandhi was when he said that gentle ways can shake the world. But, an idea to ponder upon is can gentle ways always shake the world?

To answer the above, let us take the unfortunate incident of Nisbhaya gangrape. It is a reality that rapes happen everyday in India. But, it appeared as if we the people had become insensitive to it. It took a brutal, horrifying, drastic crime to shake us from our slumber when nothing else did. The subsequent protests did lead to stricter laws. Thus, in this case, we see that SOMETIMES

shaking the world requires something
drastic and gentle nudges don't
always work.

Yet another case to be
considered is that of the religious
extremist based terrorism. Groups
like ISIS, Al Qaeda are immune to
efforts at establishing peace. They
only believe in violence. Thus, to
shake their world, gentle approaches
won't work. The use of force was
necessary to shake their world and
defeat them. India too has successfully
done this by eliminating terrorists
like Burhan Wani.

But, one more idea
that deserves attention is that

being gentle and being hard or forceful is not always mutually exclusive. Sometimes to shake the world, it is necessary to use both gentle and hard ways together.

To illustrate the above idea, let us consider the case of climate change. A gentle approach ~~was~~ of taking things easy will NOT work. In addition ~~as~~ a strictly drastic approach may lead to nations backing away from willingness to cooperate at international level. ~~Thus, the best~~ Example ~~is this~~. Thus, here the best approach is to take a middle path $\rightarrow$ being gentle by allowing nations to formulate their INDCs while also being drastic/

forceful by ~~making~~ imposing
penalties, especially on major polluting
developed countries like USA if they
don't do enough to finance other
developing countries in adaptation

Thus, we have seen
that it is definitely possible to
shake the world in a gentle way.
Why is this learning important?
Because this approach allows us to
make big changes without making
enemies or adversaries. It
allows a peaceful approach where
a win-win situation is achieved.
where no one feels cheated or forced.

The question then arises
that how do we be ~~gentle~~ shake the
world through being gentle? The

answer lies in ~~the~~ EDUCATION.

Not only children, but people must be
educated ~~so that they~~ in values of
fraternity, peace, courage ~~perseverance~~
lines of Gandhiji, Nelson Mandela
must be taught in schools.

In addition, Swami
Vivekananda's lessons must be kept
in mind. We must have nerves of
steel. So, we must be gentle but
must persevere and persist so that
our gentle approach makes an impact.

Finally, the importance of dialogue must never be forgotten. It is gentle but can have immense impact as we saw earlier in case of Abraham Accords among others.

Thus, it is important to keep this learning in mind in this world filled with challenges of global warming, terrorism, racism, patriarchy, poverty among many others. How we must shake our world and eliminate these problems using gentle ways.

The "power" and the impact of these gentle ways will be the best bet to solve problems together as one community despite all differences in cultures, opinions, ~~at~~ nationalities. The gentle ways can help us be united. ~~Because~~ And, we must remember, "UNITED WE STAND, DIVIDED WE FALL"

SECTION-B

6. The world of reality has its limits; world of imagination is boundless.

Imagine a world where we can end energy poverty by directly ^{through} harnessing energy from the stars, ~~and their~~ nuclear fusions happening inside them. They would meet more than the current needs of humans. We could even travel to distant stars using wormholes and deploy energy capturing equipment. Not too difficult to imagine, right? Especially if one has watched movies like Interstellar. Thus imagination is boundless. But, reality has limits. We don't have enough technology to do any of that right now. And that is the limit here.

What must be noted from above is that world of imagination

becomes boundless because WE are the creators of the imaginary world. In our imaginations, we are the Alpha and the Omega and thus can make anything happen. But, reality is different. We are a group of living being who are still learning how our world works, there are adversities that bring us down everyday and there are constraints to ensure all time peacefully and with harmony.

A very pertinent observation that we can make by looking at history is the case of Napolean. After he defeated the strongest powers of the time like Britain, Austria, Russia. In his boundless world of imagination, he must have surely crowned himself as the emperor of the world. But, then,

reality struck! His strong army was
was met by the limits due to the
very harsh cold weather and challenging
terrain in Russia. And this limit
destroyed his army and thus began his downfall.

Today is no different. The
political sphere can be studied regarding
this. Today, all democracies especially,
we see people being encouraged to
exercise their freedom. Why not? It is a
fundamental right in countries like India.
But, while one can imagine playing
loud music or having loud parties, reality
has limits. For instance, in India, while
Article 19 of Constitution provides freedom,
it also sets limits on that rightly so as to
ensure public order and harmony & decency.

Another area, to the economic sphere, gives us a case which, at least the entrepreneurs would relate to. Entrepreneurship is all about translating imagination, where one has a vision, into reality. Thus, while an entrepreneur, in imaginary world, may have already set out a detailed path to implement idea on large scale, the translation to reality encounters several limits. limits include demand for the product/service, quality of people hired, condition of economy for funding.

Moving on, from perspective of disaster management too, the idea deserves attention. Why can't cities like Delhi, Kathmandu build hundreds of building with several.

hundred floors to eliminate problem of slums? ~~Over~~ ~~at~~ This boundless idea sure sounds good in our imagination.

But, reality has set a big limit, the threat of disasters like earthquakes and fires. Such highrises become very vulnerable and dangerous to such disasters.

One big problem that we face is that of ^{MALNUTRITION,} ~~poverty~~. Imagine a world where the government gives rice, wheat, fruits, vegetables to all people in huge amounts. Sounds good, but the reality is that our environment has a limit beyond which it can't sustainably provide. The resources itself are the limits.

So, we have clearly seen till now, how the reality has limits while world of imagination is boundless.

But, is that the complete picture? No!

Does reality always have limits? Let us see a case in this context.

Everytime in the past we thought a limit was reached, we went past it. The Wright Brothers are a case in point. When everyone considered it crazy for humans to be able to fly, the Wright Brothers pushed the limits and made flying possible.

In the field of technology, when we thought classical computers had reached their limit, we came up with Quantum computers that are unbelievably more powerful and faster. So, we are definitely capable of pushing limits of reality.

At the same time, an even more

curious idea is that is imagination
really always boundless? Let us see
a very important finding of Margaret
Mead, an anthropologist, from her
field studies.

While studying children
of a society in Pacific Ocean region,
she saw that ~~children~~ children of the
society had very dull imaginations.
~~On the~~ That is, they were limited especially
in comparison to imagination of children
from USA. She found that when the
parents, society don't play an active
role in stimulating children's imagination
by stories, fantasies, then imagination
itself becomes bounded.

Thus, even imagination
can be bounded while reality's limits
are pushable. However, we must note

an important trend in today's world.
The trend where we ~~see~~ can't even
talk about reality and imagination
being separate worlds. Rather, now
we see the world of reality and
imagination being blended.

What better example
to give than the case of Metaverse.
It is a cyberworld where real people
can come and let their imagination
come true. One can buy property,
see new places, meet different people,
try all fantasies.

Having seen all the
cases, we can certainly take a learning.
The learning is, Yes, reality world has
limits. BUT, they can be pushed.

The world of imagination too can be boundless, ^{especially} ~~even but only~~ if human minds are stimulated from childhood, expression of thoughts is encouraged.

Another very important learning can be that we MUST use imagination to motivate us to push our limits.

The best examples to prove this is the case of our Prime Minister where ~~his~~ he became a Prime Minister of the world's strongest, largest democracy from his humble beginnings. Another case is how imagination of people like Stephen Hawking have shown imaginary concepts like blackholes are reality. The recent first ~~for~~ photo of blackhole proves this.

Then, how do we proceed with this learning? What should be the way ahead? ~~Right~~ ~~to~~ One such step

should be that all children's thinking must be stimulated through story tellings, scientific discoveries to stoke their imagination.

The next step should be investing in research especially in fields of science, space, cybersecurity etc. This research with renewing new innovations, new findings will help push limits. The case of us making point conid vaccine in record time is case in,

There is also a need to collaborate to be able to get all of best minds on one platform and utilize the imaginations of all the sharpest people.. An international platform thus is necessary especially for areas like climate change.

We have always kept pushing the limits ~~us~~ of reality using

our curious imagination. And, we need to do this now more than ever. There are so many challenges, but we also have the capability to overcome ^{them}.

Thus, let us pledge that we will use our imagination for the good of all humankind. And, we will translate the imagination into reality with a lot of hardwork, persistence. If we do this, the day is not far when we find a cure of cancer, or we are able to reverse climate change or even go inside a blackhole as shown in the movie interstellar! But till then, in the words of Robert Frost

... "I have miles to go before I sleep"
I have miles to go before I sleep"