



MIT Civil Services Training Institute (MIT-CST)



GENERAL STUDIES (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 **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH**.

All 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 a medium other than the authorized one.

Keep the word limit indicated in the questions in mind.

Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

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SECTION A

- 1) a) Life extension – using science to slow or halt human aging so that people live longer than they do naturally, may one day be possible. Discuss the ethical concerns involved in the issue. 10
- b) There is a need to move from the traditional hierarchical exercise of power by the government to the new notion of a “dispersed and relational power in governance. In the light of the above statement, discuss the difference between governance and government. 10
- 2) a) Examine the need for having a ethical work culture in any organization. Discuss, how to create a culture of ethics in an organization. 10
- b) How do you see the six perceived governance quality measures enunciated by the 2nd ARC report, in the context of present India? Critically Comment. 10
- 3) a) “Treat others as you would have others treat you”. Critically analyse the given golden rule of reciprocity. 10
- b) “Integrity is telling myself the truth and honesty is telling the truth to other people.” Comment. 10
- 4) a) Public outrage over crimes against women have a very short memory which represents a lack of empathy this apathy is why crimes against women continue unabated. Discuss. 10
- b) Discuss the character and moral attributes of Mahatma Gandhi, which according to you are the reason for his great personality 10
- 5) a) What do you understand by the term ethos. Discuss. Also discuss the salient constituents of the Indian ethos. 10
- b) “The distinction of a good person is to take pleasure in moral action. In other words, human flourishing occurs when a person is concurrently doing what he ought to do and doing what he wants to do.” Do you agree. Comment. 10
- 6) a) “The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy” – Dr Martin Luther King. Comment. 10
- b) What do you understand by empathy? How does it differ from forgiveness? Analyze whether cultivating empathy would rid the world of acrimony? 10
- c) Discuss some practical mechanisms for setting and institutionalising high standards of ethical conduct, integrity and good governance in public services. 10

SECTION B

- 7) You are working as Junior Engineer in a Tehsil. You have been given responsibility to measure MGNREGA works undertaken by 3 Gram Panchayats. You have authority to give technical sanctions to all MGNREGA works. In one of these Panchayats you notice that your predecessor had wrongly measured many works, and in many cases he had approved works that never existed. One day few elected members of that Panchayat with bundle of job cards come to you to seek ‘sanction’ for the works done by them. When enquired, they reveal that they were contractors who had completed works under MGNREGA. When you reject their demand, they threaten you and tell you that the previous Junior Engineer was made to quit his job because he didn’t listen to them. This is your first job and is very important to sustain your family. There have been precedents in the past that some junior officials were beaten to death in some parts of the Tehsil.

What will you do in this situation? Explain in detail citing rules from MGNREGA Act. (250 words)

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- 8) The Drinking Water Monitoring Programme initially detected the presence of a chemical pollutant in the well supplying a coastal resort whose economy was based primarily on tourism. The analysis results showed a level of contamination that exceeded the limits established in the applicable legislation. After taking fresh samples and analysing these, the results were confirmed and recorded in the regional Water Quality Information System. The public health officer responsible for testing this supply issued a report in which, despite recognizing that the limits established by law had been exceeded, he stated that consumption of water from the well did not pose an imminent, extraordinary threat to the health of the population. Despite this, the technical report concluded with a proposal to take the precautionary measure of closing the well and informing the population about the ongoing situation. Upon receipt of the technical report, the health authority with competence for adoption of the precautionary measure evaluated the scale of the violation, its imminent impact on the health of the affected population, the economic impact on the locality of closing the well, and the social alarm that this would cause at the start of the tourist season. Following this, it met with the public health management team to inform it of its decision not to ratify the proposed precautionary measure in view of the fact that, having taken into consideration the other public interests at stake, it took the view that it was preferable that the well should continue to supply the population with drinking water while alternative solutions were sought. When the officer responsible for monitoring the supply was informed by his management that, despite the report, the proposed measure would not be adopted,

Discuss the ethical issues involved in the above situation? (250 words)

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- 9) Late in the afternoon, Lisa finally had a chance to Google for information on “problem-based learning” for her course assignment due the next morning. Though she was tired, she couldn’t help but wonder when she noticed the same article appearing on the first two websites was almost identical word-for-word. Both websites were for education courses being taught by two different faculty at two different academic institutions located in different states. Curious, she emailed the authors of both papers concerning her observation and printed out a copy of both pages to bring with her to class the next morning.

Consider each of the following questions and evaluate the case study:

a) Discuss the ethical issues involved

b) According to you, what should be the right course of action?

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- 10) Mahesh, a pre-med. student, works two part-time jobs while attending Prestigious University. Mahesh finds his course load for the spring semester very challenging and he struggles to keep up with the assignments in his anthropology course. Mahesh knows anthropology instructor, Dr. B., thinks highly of him and that Dr. B has a reputation of being somewhat of a softy when it comes to “good” students. So, having missed the deadline for submission of an important paper, Mahesh goes to Dr. B with the story that he and his twin brother were in a serious car accident over the weekend. Mahesh explains that he didn’t hand in the assignment because he has been at the hospital sitting at his brother’s bedside in the intensive care unit where his brother is now on life support. Dr. B is of course very sympathetic and grants Mahesh an extension on the assignment. Later in the semester Mahesh once again finds himself in same situation with respect to assignment.

Consider each of the following questions and evaluate the case study:

a) What is the action or inaction that is the cause for concern?

How will it affect the attitude of student like Mahesh.(i.e., what are the possible consequences?)(250 words)

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11) You are a jurist deciding an ethical case involving allegations that, Mrs. Swamy a former employee of the University. had helped her, husband obtain a University fellowship to which he was not entitled Mrs. Swamy is a backward cast lady married to Mr. Swamy and both have denied the allegations and termed them as castist and baseless.

a) What are the ethical issues involved here.

b) What will be your decision.(250 words)

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12) You have passed UPSC Civil Services exam with a very good rank and you have given first preference to IAS and your home state. You will get home cadre as you are the topper from the state and there is vacancy available under your category. A former Chief Minister, who belongs to your caste, now wants to make you his Son in-Law. Just like you, his daughter is also a graduate from top foreign university, she is very beautiful and as per information gathered from different sources by your parents, she is a down to earth and sweet girl. The former Chief Minister is also the head of the political party he belongs to and there is every chance that he would become Chief Minister again if his party comes to power in next elections. Your parents are on cloud nine ever since this marriage offer has been proposed. The former Chief Minister was jailed for few years in the past on corruption and murder charges. There are serious cases still pending against him in different courts. He is very rich. He has only one daughter. His family has liked you a lot for your personality and looks also. They want you to be their Son in Law at any cost. The girl has also liked you. Recently they have sent costly gifts to your parents, about which you were unaware of.

a) Do you think it is unethical for you to marry the girl as you are going to serve in the same state and where there are chances of you working under your future Father in Law? (100 Words)

b) Will you deny this marriage proposal because your father in law was a criminal and many cases against him are pending? Comment. (100 Words)

c) Critically examine ethical issues involved in this case study. (100 Words)

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