

## UPSC MAINS GS PAPER 4

Q1. What do you understand by the following terms in the context of public service? (250 Words) 3x5 = 15

- (i) Impartiality
- (ii) Empathy
- (iii) Objectivity
- (iv) Tolerance
- (v) Compassion

Q2. Under the recent instances of gang rape and murder do you think more stringent punishments for heinous crimes involving juveniles as the need of the hour? Does the Juvenile Justice Act 2015 need amendment? Substantiate your opinion. (250 words)

Q3. It is said that values change with time. Critically examine with example which values change and which do not. (250 Words)

Q4. Discuss the ethical significance of the "Golden Mean". How can this concept be applied to achieve balance in public policy decisions? (150 words)

Q5. What is the "Ethics of Care"? Contrast it with traditional ethical theories and discuss its significance in Public Administration. (150 words)

Q6. What do you understand by the following terms? Point out their specific relevance in public service; (250 words) 3\*5=15

- (i) Intellectual integrity.
- (ii) Empathy.
- (iii) Perseverance.
- (iv) Spirit of service.

Q7. What is the relationship between corporate governance and ethics? Substantiate your viewpoint with an example. What is the difference between purity and integrity? Will efficiency and daily work be compromised if one sticks to a code of ethics? (250 words)

Q8. Which great Indian personality has inspired you the most as a role model and how have you been able to benefit in your own life by such an inspiration? (150 words)

Q9. "The Right to Information and Privacy are the two sides of the same coin." Critically comment. (250 Words)

Q10. Is corruption part of India's culture? Critically analyse. (250 Words)

Q11. What does each of the following quotations mean to you? 3\*10=30

- a) "Every work has got to pass through hundreds of difficulties before succeeding. Those that persevere will see the light, sooner or later" – Swami Vivekananda (150 words)
- b) "We can never obtain peace in the outer world until and unless we obtain peace within ourselves" – Dalai Lama (150 words)
- c) "Life doesn't make any sense without interdependence. We need each other, and the sooner we learn that it is better for us all" – Erik Erikson (150 words)

Q12. Critically examine the relationship between rights and duties in a democracy. How do individual rights sometimes come into conflict with societal duties? (150 words)

Q13. You are invited by your school friends to attend a get-together party in one of your friends' homes. You are meeting most of them after many years of gap. While having discussions on various topics, one of your friends starts narrating an incident that she had witnessed soon after her marriage in the neighbourhood of her in-laws' home. She tells you that in the neighbouring home, she had seen an elderly couple along with their son strangle their daughter-in-law to death. She tells you that ever since that incident she is seeing nightmares now and then, and she also felt guilty as the case was treated as suicide by the police for lack of evidence. She also tells you that she never told this to anyone including the police as she was scared to share this experience. Now she is living in a city far away from her in-laws' place and felt appropriate to share this incident with her friends, especially with you who was her very close friend during school days. What will you do in such a situation? Some of the options are given below. Evaluate the merits and demerits of each of these options and finally suggest what course of action you would like to take, giving reasons. (250 Words)

- (i) Ask your friend to report the incident immediately to the police in a written complaint.
- (ii) Ask your friend to forget about what happened and consult a psychiatrist for counselling.
- (iii) Ask your friend to meet the parents of the diseased girl and ask them to file a fresh complaint assuring them of her support.
- (iv) Ask your friend to keep quiet on the issue and move on with her life.

Q14. (a) Analyse the significance of Aristotelian ethics in the contemporary world (150 words)

(b) What is the difference between aptitude and attitude? What are the components of attitude? (150 words)

Q15. As the Superintendent of Police in Reasi, you have just received a distressing report about a terrorist attack on a bus carrying pilgrims. The strike, which claimed the lives of nine civilians, has sent shockwaves through the region, shattering the relative calm that had prevailed in recent years.

The timing of the attack could not be more precarious, as the region gears up for the upcoming assembly elections. You now find yourself at a critical juncture, tasked with immediate relief measures and devising a comprehensive strategy to address this resurgence of terrorist activities while maintaining law and order and ensuring the safety of civilians.

Political tensions are running high, and any misstep in your response could have far-reaching consequences for the entire Union Territory. 3\*10=30 (150 words each)

1. What are the key stakeholders involved in this case?
2. What will be your immediate course of action as the Superintendent of Police?
3. What will be your long-term strategy to address the resurgence of terrorist activities and maintain peace in the region?

Q16. You are the head of Mathematics department in a famous pre-university college. For past three years, students are not performing well in board exams particularly in mathematics subject. The school principal and college management has asked you to train students well so that the pass rate of college is hundred per cent. They have brought immense pressure on you to not to allow a single student to fail in coming board exams. They also tell you that even if a single student fails, they will make someone else the head of the department removing you from the position. You put pressure on mathematics teachers to conduct extra classes and train students well who are weak in the subject. One teacher, who is friendly with you, tells you that around three students are very weak in the subject and it is difficult to make them pass the subject even with stringent training. The teacher suggests you to suspend the students on the grounds of indiscipline so that the next batch shows hundred per cent result and satisfies the principal and college management. Another teacher, who is certain to become the head of the department in case you are removed, suggests you to make an arrangement to allow these three students to cheat during the exam and help them pass mathematics papers.

(a) Bring out and discuss ethical the ethical issues involved in the above case.

(b) What course of action you will take in this situation, justify with reasons. (250 Words)

Q17. An elevated corridor is being constructed to reduce traffic congestion in the capital of a particular state. You have been selected as project manager of this prestigious project on your professional competence and experience. The deadline is to complete the project in the next two years by 30 June 2021, since the project is to be inaugurated by the Chief Minister before the elections are announced in the second week of July 2021. While carrying out the surprise inspection by the inspecting team, a minor crack was noticed in one of the piers of the elevated corridor possibly due to poor material used. You immediately informed the chief engineer and stopped further work. It was assessed by you that a minimum of three piers of the elevated corridor have to be demolished and reconstructed. But this process will delay the project minimum by four to six months. But the chief engineer overruled the observation of the inspecting team on the ground that it was a minor crack that will not in any way impact the strength and durability of the bridge. He ordered you to overlook the observation of the inspecting team and continue working with the same speed and tempo. He informed you that the minister does not want any delay as he wants the Chief Minister to inaugurate the elevated corridor before the elections are declared. Also informed you that the contractor is a far relative of the minister and he wants him to finish the project. He also gave you a hint that your further promotion as an additional chief engineer is under consideration by the ministry. However, you strongly felt that the minor crack in the pier in the elevated corridor will adversely affect the health and life of the bridge and therefore it will be very dangerous not to repair the elevated corridor.

a) Under the given conditions, what are the options available to you as a project manager?

b) What are the ethical dilemmas being faced by the project manager and his response to overcome such challenges?

c) What are the professional challenges likely to be faced by the project manager and his response to overcome such challenges?

d) What can be the consequences of overlooking the observation raised by the inspecting team? (250 words)

Q18. Examine the importance of emotional intelligence in public relationships with suitable examples. (150 Words)

