



SRI CHAITANYA IAS ACADEMY

QUESTION PAPER

Name of the Student :

Adm No. :

Date : 19-08-2018

Subject: ETHICS

Medium :

English

Time Allowed : Three Hours

Maximum Marks : 250 M

Question Paper Specific Instructions

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions :

- There are **FOURTEEN** divided into **TWO SECTIONS** and 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 authorised 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 medium other than the authorised 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 (QCA) booklet must be clearly struck off.

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks :

Signature of Examiner

SECTION - A

Answer questions in NOT MORE than the word limit specified for each in the parenthesis. Content of the answer is more important than its length:-

1. Ethics is the heart of leadership and a good leader is both ethical and effective. Comment. (150 Words, 10 M)
2. Explain the meaning of the following principles and state why public servants must commit themselves to uphold these principles:
 - (i) Advance the Public Interest
 - (ii) Promote democratic participation
 - (iii) Strengthen social equity (150 Words, 10 M)
3. 'Sometimes, what is legal may not be ethical and, on rare occasions, a course of action may be ethical but not legal'. Do you agree? Substantiate with relevant examples. (150 Words, 10 M)
4. (a) The golden rule of ethics is: "Treat people the way you want to be treated". Do you agree with the view that the golden rule (ethics of reciprocity) would help promote social justice and equity. Substantiate with examples from our society. (150 Words, 10 M)
(b) In India, most people have scant respect for those who do menial jobs, and the more one is educated, the more one despises physical work. Do you agree? Why is it essential to respect dignity of labour? How can we, as a society, overcome this attitude? (150 Words, 10 M)
5. (a) 'The transformation in the work environment has led to an increase in the use of teamwork in many public sector organisations'. In the context of the above statement, examine how Emotional Intelligence can help civil servants build and manage teams well. (150 Words, 10 M)

(b) 'The first duty of a university is to teach wisdom, not trade; character, not technicalities'. Discuss. (150 Words, 10 M)

6. (a) What are the ethical issues surrounding global poverty, and how can we address this problem? (150 Words, 10 M)

(b) The ease with which we are able to turn our faces away from suffering and injustice and our absence of outrage is indicative of our indifferent attitude to others' pain and suffering. In the context of the above statement, examine the need for moral and social responsibility and public compassion to tackle gross injustice and inequality in our society. (150 Words, 10 M)

7 (a) 'Governments must gear up to operate in an environment marked by complexity and unpredictability. Do you agree? What are the capabilities required by public servants for managing complexity? (150 Words, 10 M)

(b) Public administrators often employ utilitarian and deontological ethics in making decisions. What are the merits and demerits of these two approaches to ethical decision making? (150 Words, 10 M)

8. (a) Participatory governance and deliberative democracy require citizen participation in the design and implementation of public policy. What are the advantages and drawbacks of this approach? (150 Words, 10 M)

(b) Do public servants owe a fiduciary duty to the public they serve? Why is it important for public servants to develop the notion of 'Semper pro populus' (Always for the public)? (150 Words, 10 M)

SECTION - B

9. You are a young researcher in a University. You have been invited to attend a conference at a distant location. You buy an economy class ticket and find an inexpensive hotel room and small restaurant for meals.

On returning, you learn that there is the possibility of charging a fixed per diem (daily allowance an organisation gives an employee per day to cover

living expenses when travelling for work) that is substantially larger than the actual expenses. You could do so and pocket the difference.

In the above situation, what shall you do, and why? What are the ethical principles at stake in this case? (250 Words) 20

10. Your ministry contracts for the supply of a lot of printed material every month. The three printing firms which have always done all of the ministry's printing work in the past are well respected for the quality and cost-effectiveness of their work.

Your father has just purchased a local printing business. Your job as contracts officer is to process all tenders for small to medium printing contracts.

You have access to the details of the other companies' tenders for printing contracts, and your father has asked if you can tell him the information in their bids so that he can submit quotes at a lower rate. Your ministry has just launched a major programme to cut costs.

You know that the ministry could save many thousands of dollars on printing costs over the year if you do as suggested by your father.

(a) Is this a conflict of interest, if the ministry will benefit through substantial savings? Do the savings make the practice acceptable?

(b) Are appearances important in this case? Why? (250 Words) 20

11. Namrata graduated from a prestigious management institute at the perfect time. It was the peak of the startup boom and businesses were competing for recent graduates. Namrata had no problem getting her first job in the hightech industry as a corporate communications specialist.

Many of her friends struggled when entering the corporate world, but Namrata didn't have any problems. The workplace had a casual atmosphere, she enjoyed a salary far above that of her friends and she received perks regularly. She was at the job for less than two months when the company released the quarterly numbers. As the internal communications representative, Namrata was responsible for reporting the numbers to all the employees within the

company. Because the company was not publicly traded, only those within the organization were privy to the information.

Namrata felt something was not right about the numbers. She knew the company was doing well, but she had been tracking the high-tech industry and was conscious of the usual financial targets. She also knew that the industry was getting out of control and each company was willing to do anything to get ahead. After asking her co-workers, she realized that they all knew the numbers were intentionally inflated every quarter. Namrata was new at the company, was making great money and had great benefits. (250 Words) 20

How would you describe the fundamental ethical dilemma that Namrata faces?

How do you think Namrata should act? Should she jeopardise her budding career in the name of upholding ethical principles? (250 Words) 20

12. Raghuram has been with a real estate company for twelve years, all in a large regional office in Hyderabad. He established an impressive track record of getting results, and was well respected by his staff and senior field management alike. Anxious to further his career, he applied for and was hired as a strategic business consultant at the company's headquarters in Mumbai. This is a role requiring strategic planning and management skills. A critical capability for success in this position is the creation of clear, concise reports and presentation of issues and recommendations.

Raghuram attended a class and received coaching in these areas as part of his early training for the job. After a recent presentation, he received feedback that although his analysis was good, his report and presentation materials were rambling and confusing. The clear message from his boss was: "...fix this problem, for future success depends upon your ability to communicate clearly and convincingly."

Another presentation is scheduled for next week. Raghuram feels helpless to improve in so short a time, so he hires his neighbor Sheila to write the report and presentation for him. He uses company funds to pay Sheila, calling the expense 'skill development'.

Was Raghuram doing anything unethical? Why or why not? If you were Raghuram, how shall you deal with the above situation, and why?

(250 Words) 20

13. A small town in your state has become the hub of textile manufacturing in a short span of time. Most of the items manufactured are exported to other countries. Since the cost of labour is cheap, multinational apparel brands also have outsourcing contracts with local firms. Over the last ten years, the local economy has grown; the textile units have absorbed farm labour who have moved out of agriculture. However, a series of fire accidents in the factories resulted in loss of lives, thereby attracting adverse international attention.

The demand for better safety standards grew louder, both domestically and internationally. The firms know that investing heavily on safety standards would render them uncompetitive in international markets. Insistence on safety standard measures would leave the owners of the factories with no other option than to decrease wages, which are already among the lowest in the world. This would certainly result in labour unrest.

Now, you are the Principal Secretary, Industries. What shall you do? How do you overcome this dilemma -'livelihood versus lives of people'? Present valid arguments to justify your decision. (250 Words) 20

14. You are the District Magistrate of a district in your home state. In some parts of the district, Khap Panchayats dispense justice. The people belonging to the lower castes and women are invariably the victims of the judgments by elders of Khap Panchayats. The media too has focussed its attention on the brazen manner in which the Khap Panchayats challenge the judicial system. You find the activities of the Khap Panchayats not in consonance with law. Examine why Khap Panchayats are still popular in some parts of India? What would you do as the District Magistrate to end the practice of justice delivery by Khap Panchayats? (250 Words) 20

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