

IPM/YLM 1.0 TEST SERIES – 2022

TEST CODE 24 : ESSAY FRAMEWORKS

1. Time and space are not prior to creation; they are forms under which creation becomes thinkable

- A. Being versus becoming is always debated in philosophy. While some believe world as we understand exists regardless of how we perceive it, the rest claim that in terms of time and space we have given the meaning.
- B. Thesis statement—in this essay we will understand the various dimensions given for and against time and space as realities vs constructs and understand how this affected human condition ending with a suggestive note.
- C. Two masters of logic—Logic is anything that is reasonable and meaningful. We need certain basic elements for such meaningful understanding. Historically, time and space were considered such elements.
- D. Frameworks of thought—We cant understand the world: the beginning of universe, the direction we need to travel, position of earth vs sun, etc. without understanding world through time and space eg. We cant give early warning to tsunami unless we believe in time.
- E. Timelessness and spacelessness—However, various questions are raised:
 - i. When universe emerged?
 - ii. What existed before that emergence?
 - iii. From where this undending space?
 - iv. Where it ends, if it ends what exists beyond that end?These questions create an impression that time and space are logically not possible, they are mere convenience.
- F. Man is maker of the world—The implication of this trend is that, man believes they understood the nature and they can control the time and space. This Renaissance thinkers called that “man is maker of the world”, without our ability to give it meaning, the universe is meaningless.
- G. Man is not centre of the world—above such thought leads to a kind of “human superiority complex” and finally it manifests as *anthropocentrism*. This is what is affecting us now today as problems like climate change.
- H. Time for spirituality—if we even doubt the materialistic understanding of world may not be true, we can conclude that we need to focus on spirit inside us and others, since they don’t have time and space and exist as eternal.
- I. Time travel—also studies and proofs like gravitational waves given as proof to time travel or reversal of time can be considered.
- J. Conclusion is beyond human possibility—what we can claim is we cant conclude time and space are true or not for now. They are very much important for convenience, but they should not preclude our ability to conceive ultimate truth.



2. The need of a techno-moral wisdom for an uncertain future

- A. We can give various anecdotes on technology being threat (bioethics, machine replacing man, etc.)
- B. The technocratic age—Discuss IR 3.0. and how it led to IR 4.0. Briefly discuss how robotics biotech nanotech AI etc. are disruptive.
- C. At the cusp of crisis? Indicate that we are in a crisis stage eg. Unemployment due to AI, human rights crisis due to gene editing, cybercrimes, e-waste, privacy, etc.
- D. Outcome of unwise choices? We have to bring out that the choices made or to be made are unwise leading to a crisis eg. Anonymity in WhatsApp has made spreading fake news easier, not controlling emergence of super intelligence in machines can lead to our destruction, etc.
- E. Role of techno-moral wisdom
 - a. No man is a means to end of other man or machine—discuss how biotech should adopt this in its clinical trials, its new inventions, drug discoveries etc.
 - b. Don't do to others body what you won't do to yours—corporates who mine data and make money have to subscribe to this
 - c. Violation of privacy is breaking natural law and common sense—this needs to be inculcated to prevent cybercrimes
 - d. Injustice anywhere is threat to justice everywhere—if we don't prevent the immorality coming from disruptive technologies multiple inequalities may be created and that will backfire in terms of economic crisis, instabilities and populism.
- F. Whose responsibility? Discuss how State, businesses, scientists and consumers all are equally responsible to maintain right conduct.
- G. Challenges—Mention corporate lobby, consumerism, technology as power augmenting factor nowadays in IR leading to huge challenge in maintaining rightful use of technology.
- H. Do or die situation—Regardless of challenges, the like minded, as happened at WEF should come together to decide the right course of action. We don't have a choice to delay as we can either do rightful use or die with misuse.

3. Nature never breaks her own laws

- A. Introduction—discuss how nature has a value of integrity such that it never breaks the truth eg. Gravity will not occur reversibly.
- B. The concept of natural laws—not just the physical truths about world like gravity, weather, are natural laws, even the way it works and affects humans are about natural laws. According to our understanding we believe that: nature has no hierarchies, nature is ultimate, by nature it demands balance of demand and supply, change is the unchanging law of nature, etc.
- C. The law of inviolability—the main reason why nature never breaks its law is, it works as per inviolability law. Nature will never discriminate between rich and poor eg. Covid affected everyone, people realise their money or power are immaterial before decisions of nature.
- D. Lack of conflict of interest—nature does not have vested interest to misuse its power. So there is no compulsion to violate itself.



- E. Implications for human condition—this implies to us that, everyone have right to life, right to liberty and equality. We need to maintain tolerance, courtesy, no one is means to our needs, etc.
- F. Are there universal natural laws? But we cannot tell there are universal natural laws, in that when laws keep changing, we can't decide nature eternally abides by one law eg. There are places of zero gravity, nature created variety of creatures with varied competencies such that one can dominate other for survival etc.,
- G. Therefore, nature in broad sense works with integrity but there is diversity in nature, we can't apply every natural law everywhere, but wherever applicable it never breaks its own laws.

4. Reality is shadow of ideas

This statement is by philosopher Plato in his book Justice.

Plato was a philosopher who wanted to understand ultimate truth and act as per the same. Acc to him, he wanted to end the miseries human face. He believed something is wrong with the way we live.

In his analysis he claimed what we see and what is true are different:

- i. Reality as we understand, this material world is an ever changing tangible world
- ii. Idea is an intangible entity which we cant feel but can only understand. It is the unchanging truth of world. So, he said as per our logic and rationality we can understand that.

According to him we are in dark cave, he gave the example of *allegory of cave*. In this, he said we think the cave is true but when light of logic is used we understand a larger world exists outside.

According to him, we interpreted the material world as end of everything and we think power money status are primary. So, we get attached to them, develop desires, don't take truth and morals seriously and this leads to conflicts like wars and violence.

So what we see is just a shadow of what is true. We need to overcome this problem by understanding truth through education.

Today this is relevant since we can realise:

- 1. Non permanence of life
- 2. Maintain contentment
- 3. Focus on sustainability
- 4. Spread love and establish human oneness

So for a just and egalitarian world we need to understand the momentary pleasures we attain from tangible world is not totally true and dominant.



5. The family is one of nature's masterpieces

- A. Introduction—Discuss Aristotle's thought that family is only one entity of human history that remains stable.
- B. Background—discuss meaning and types of family, its trends, etc.
- C. Is family a natural condition? Humans are social animals, this should be discussed, they are not *islands in themselves*.
- D. Why not lesser than family? One cannot be less than family (parents and children) because, we need a spouse as companion and emotion for having own child is majestic. There is also utility calculation that children will care us in old age.
- E. Why not bigger than family? Too big is not manageable, also family runs on blood relations so indirect relations will not have attachment and they become kinship not family.
- F. Anti-familial currents of thought—feminist say that family puts women in permanent bondage, Plato tells that family is source of corruption as it amplifies materialistic desires and needs.
- G. Family today: the testing times—discuss live in relation, childless families, etc.,
- H. Future of family—regardless of these changes family as a survival mechanism will exist eternally. Here and there it may be redundant but for most of humans it is essential; No other mechanism creates the bond and commitment like family does.

6. Fashion is barbarous as it creates innovation without reason and imitation without benefit

- A. Introduction
- B. Trends in fashion industry—discuss rise in cosmetics, textiles, footwears, gadgets, etc. There are on an average minimum 100 ways of making mobiles is invented.
- C. Irreascibility of fashion
 - a. Reform for no reason—in fashion industry we don't know for what reason changes are introduced eg. Why Jeans gets variety of forms?
 - b. Comfort is not focused—Just being new is preferred, but not the comfort. Eg. New ear buds which are becoming popular are found to be less stable in positioning in ears.
- D. Imitating fashion
 - a. Herd mentality—The reason mostly why a new product becomes a trend is herd mentality which is against human autonomy.
 - b. Affordability issues—such imitation also affects price trends, resource issues eg. Rare earth metals, etc.,
- E. Kills the boredom—yet fashion kills dreadful routine and brings fresh feel
- F. Trendy is feel-good because youth like change and feel empowered in being new!
- G. Fashion carries message—even cosmetic products that carries message like black beauty give lot of message. So, fashion cannot be always meaningful but it could be social and resource friendly.



7. Does nothingness and hollowness define the virtual world?

- A. Introduction—Discuss what is virtual reality, the rise in its usage, mention the Metaverse of FB and how it is expected to change world.
- B. Meaning in virtual world—discuss what is real in virtual world. Physically nothing is real, all are imaginary, they are intangible. But are emotions and happiness created real?
- C. Nothingness of identity—There is anonymity, there is possibility of morphing and so identity can be nothing.
- D. Intangibility—Discuss how tangible experience is zero in VR. Discuss need and benefits of offline systems.
- E. Hollowness of relations—does the relations in social networking sites are meaningful. Are they transitional and transactional can be discussed? Many cybercrimes coming from these relations as they lack true love and loyalty.
- F. Whats real in virtual world? VR can create real emotions, job, anger, pain and happiness. Discuss how a mother who lost her child could experience playing with her in Korea through VR.
- G. The physical superiority—regardless of these we need at last physical presence. Virtual world may create many suspicions and mistrustful attitudes. In e-commerce people are always doubtful whether physical product can match what is shown online. In US, a VR specialist created a animated video in which a black women was promoting a product, but people believed it was real women and after knowing reality it was claimed that these instances totally disrupt trust.
- H. Go with the flow—whatever said, some forces have become unstoppable and technology has always been double edged sword so we have to be mindful and careful rather than being indifferent.

8. What is worth doing is worth doing well

- A. Introduction—Introduce with quotes or anecdotes. One example is quote of national poet bharathi who said “Ondre sei, nandre sei, indre sei (Do one thing, do it greatly, do it immediately.)”
- B. What is worth doing? What benefits us and others, what is right, what is necessary for existence, are worth doing eg. Creating jobs, ensuring women safety, ensuring justice to downtrodden, being helpful and kind, etc.
- C. What begins well, ends well—we need to understand that output is measured by input, so we need to do the noble acts nobly. First of all, beginning with good motivation, good plan and good team are many factors that end up as good outcome.
- D. What gets measured, gets acted upon—discuss how we need to keep tracking the progress, introduce necessary reforms, measure feedback and customise according to diverse needs.
- E. The primacy of duties—This discussion reminds us about duty. Discuss why being conscious of rights but not of duties is wrong. How to be mindful of duties and how to enforce duties eg. Education is worth doing thus studying is a duty since we need to become civilised through socialisation.



- F. Progression or regression? We need to understand that given a situation where we can perform well, and if we don't perform so we regress as a civilisation not progress eg. Crimes against humanity in case of Rohingyas.
- G. Human aspiration for perfection—now discuss why generally some humans want to do things well, discuss our psychological tendency to be perfect. Discuss concepts of efficiency, tools like 6-sigma management companies have created for perfection.
- H. Too much of anything is good for nothing—but just because something is worth doing we can't do it too much, e.g. Too much liberty in name of human rights will become a license.
- I. Inner and outer good—what can ensure our inner happiness and others in a non-invasive and pragmatic way has to be done. What is worth doing practically and non-harmfully is worth doing very well.

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