

Think Learn and Perform (TLP) - 2017 Mains



Full Length Mock

GS-II

Instructions

There are 20 questions. All questions are compulsory.
All questions carry 12.5 marks each.
The duration for the test is 180 minutes.
The answers must not exceed 200 words.
Content is more important than the number of words.
Calm down, take deep breaths before you start writing your answers.

1. 2017 has been a landmark year in the jurisprudence of fundamental rights. Do you agree? Substantiate.
2. The post of the Lok Sabha Speaker has gradually lost its instrumentality and requires to reinvent itself. Elucidate.
3. What is the recent controversy related to Article 370 of the Constitution? Discuss. Do you think it is prudent as well as necessary to keep the special status of J&K intact? Critically examine.
4. The consensus on GST that ensured economic unification of India is a living example of cooperative federalism. Illustrate.
5. Do you think the piling up of millions of cases at various levels in the judiciary makes the 'right to legal aid' a dead letter? Examine. Also discuss the significance of alternate dispute resolution mechanism in this regard.
6. Acts of sedition can be serious internal security threat to the country. However, the very concept of sedition needs a closer review with respect to its interpretation, scope and misuse by the state. Examine.
7. "A powerful PM with a powerful PMO does not augur well for a democratic governance style." In the light of the given statement, critically examine the role of the PMO in the decision-making apparatus of the government.
8. What do you understand by 'hidden hunger'? Which sections of the population are affected most by hidden hunger? What are its causes? Analyse.
9. Higher education in India is faced with challenges that range from lack of institutional autonomy to heavy bureaucratisation of policy making. In this light, examine the need of having a national education policy. Also suggest the broad framework which should be adhered to by the policy.
10. There is an urgent need of launching a comprehensive universal national health assurance scheme. Do you agree? Substantiate in light of the 'public versus private' debate in the area of healthcare services.
11. The regulatory regime for the advertisement of consumer products leaves a lot to be desired in terms of legal and moral framework. The troika of manufacturer, licensing authority and advertisement agency should be held accountable for the false or unverified claims being made by celebrities for endorsing a product. Do you agree? Also, does in your opinion any accountability be imposed on the celebrities who endorse such products? Critically examine.
12. The time has come to allow lateral entry into the civil services. Do you agree? Substantiate. Should specialists replace the generalists in bureaucracy? Critically examine.
13. What are your views on the idea of holding the general and state assembly elections simultaneously? Discuss its pros and cons.
14. The reluctance of the political class to come under the purview of the RTI Act has created a serious trust deficit among citizens which is not a healthy sign for the Indian democracy. Do you agree with this argument? Critically examine the issue.
15. The lack of a legal architecture for the intelligence and investigation agencies of India is repugnant to the ideas of democracy, rule of law and accountability. Do you agree? Is parliamentary oversight needed in the functioning of these agencies? Analyse.

16. The latest outreach to Israel is testimony to India's pragmatic diplomacy and a break from the past. Do you agree? Critically examine.
17. What is G4? Who are its members? What do they want? Are their demands genuine? Examine.
18. With global cooperation and convergence of efforts towards fighting terrorism, India is at a sweet spot, with an opportunity to isolate Pakistan on one hand and getting the support of major powers in combating terrorism. Elucidate.
19. Is SASEC the new SAARC? Examine.
20. The St. Petersburg declaration has reiterated the commitment to build an energy bridge between Russia and India through cooperation in the field of energy. Identify and discuss these areas of cooperation and latest developments thereof.