

1. What is journalistic ethics? What are its key principles? Discuss.**Approach**

Students are expected to write about what is journalistic ethics and also to write about journalistic ethics key principles.

Introduction

If the foundations of journalism ethics are tracked far enough, one finds that they are based on various international agreements and declarations, such as the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights and regulations of international law. The UNESCO declaration regarding mass media (1978) and the Paris Declaration (1983), which were backed by numerous journalist associations, defined the ethical guidelines more accurately in questions related to media and journalism.

Body

Journalistic ethics:

- Journalistic ethics are basically a set of principles, standards, guidelines and code of conduct prepared for professional journalists. It deals with conduct, character and behaviour of a journalist and how he/she works before, during and after the news gathering and dissemination process.
- The student of journalism or a practicing journalist should realise that there are principles that guide this profession. The prerequisite is to have an understanding of the public function of journalism and the standards by which its aims are met. For example, the journalistic function of keeping the public informed about governmental wrongdoing falls under the commitment of the press to a free and open democracy.

According to the basic division, there are two kinds of ethics: duty-based ethics and consequentialist ethics:

- In the case of journalism, duty-based ethics stress the importance of truth, while consequentialist ethics focus on societal good. If a journalist thinks that it is most important that a story is true and that the facts are right, they follow duty-based ethics.
- On the other hand, a journalist may think that the effects of a cause are the most important aspect and, as a result, follow consequentialist ethics. Does the article offend someone? What kind of effects will the publication of the article have? Can the publication of a certain article do more harm than good, even if the facts used are correct?

In the US, in 1922, the American Society of Newspaper Editors (ASNE) adopted a set of ethical principles titled 'Canons of Journalism', which was later revised and renamed 'Statement of Principles in 1975.

The ASNE proposed six key principles; Responsibility, Freedom of the Press, Independence, Truth and Accuracy, Impartiality and Fair Play.

Important key principles in the journalistic ethics are as follows:

- **Truth and Accuracy:** Journalists cannot always guarantee 'truth', but getting the facts right is the cardinal principle of journalism. We should always strive for accuracy, give all the relevant facts we have and ensure that they have been checked. When we cannot corroborate information we should say so. For example avoiding Yellow journalism and paid news.
- **Independence:** Journalists must be independent voices; we should not act, formally or informally, on behalf of special interests whether political, corporate or cultural. We should declare to our editors or the audience any of our political affiliations, financial arrangements or other personal information that might constitute a conflict of interest.
- **Fairness and Impartiality:** Most stories have at least two sides. While there is no obligation to present every side in every piece, stories should be balanced and add context. Objectivity is not always possible, and may not always be desirable (in the face for example of brutality or inhumanity), but impartial reporting builds trust and confidence. For example avoiding engaging in one-sided media trials as recently done in SSR case, lobbying for personal gains, blackmailing, manipulating news stories, engaging in malicious and defamatory reporting, running propaganda and disinformation campaigns.
- **Humanity:** Journalists should do no harm. What we publish or broadcast may be hurtful, but we should be aware of the impact of our words and images on the lives of others. For example avoiding reporting based on communal angle and creating misleading headlines as done in pandemic by few channels on tabligi Jamaat issue.
- **Responsibility and Accountability:** A sure sign of professionalism and responsible journalism is the ability to hold ourselves accountable. When we commit errors we must correct them and our expressions of regret must be sincere not cynical. We listen to the concerns of our audience. We may not change what readers write or say but we will always provide remedies when we are unfair. For example recent TRP manipulation by few TV channels in 2020.

Conclusion

Journalistic ethics is more than a gut feeling of right and wrong. It encompasses a broad set of standards that are under constant review, and you, as a practitioner, must take the ethical responsibilities of the profession seriously at all times, in that way you will bring honour to journalism and see to it that you have helped to maintain the integrity of its practice for future generations.

2. What is the role of education in inculcating values in children? Discuss with the help of suitable examples.**Approach**

Question is straight forward. In the first half of the body importance of education from ancient times can be underlined in imparting value education. Some examples can be given stressing need of character building for nation's development.

Introduction

Value education is rooted in Indian philosophy and culture and ingrained in every tradition of Indian culture. Vedas and Upanishads form the source of inspiration for value education. In Vedic period, ashram system of education, guru insisted pupil to follow set of values throughout his life. With the advent of new modern era it is necessary to build characters of moral strength and curious mind.

Body

University education commission 1948-49 mentioned the various aspects of morality as: loyalty, courage, discipline, self-sacrifice and spirituality. The Secondary Education Commission 1952-53 laid special emphasis on the following values in the formation of character of the students – Efficiency, Good Temper, Cooperation, Integrity and Discipline.

But the big question here is how to make value education more effective?

- Firstly, the moral awareness should be endorsed to orient the progress in science & technology towards the welfare of mankind.
- Secondly, common values should be re-discovered to unite human beings with the general decline of traditional values.
- Thirdly, teachers pass values to the students both consciously and unconsciously through their conduct in and out of class rooms. Therefore the need for a formal learning.
- Fourthly, student might face more complicated decision making situations about issues involving values. They should be helped in developing the ability to make proper choices in such situations through value education.

How to inculcate values in students?

- In school, children are members of a small society that exerts a tremendous influence on their moral development. Teachers serve as role model to students in school; they play a major role in inculcating their ethical behaviour.
- At the same time, peers at school may also diffuse boldness about cheating, lying, stealing, and consideration for others. Though there are rules and regulations, the educational institutions infuse the value education to the

children in an informal way. They play a major role in developing pro-social behaviour in children.

What steps can be taken to inculcate values?

- Teaching Accountability - The children should be encouraged to be accountable for their own actions and should learn to respect and treat others kindly.
- Playing Role model - The teachers are the first role model to the children outside their family. When the children sees the model showing concern for others, motivating them for their good deeds and cooperating and helpful with their academic issues, the children learn them by observing and imitate it with fellow peers.
- Teaching Basic morals and values - The children are taught basic morals and values in school. They should be taught by emphasizing the idea through many activities, stories and tales, which will encourage them to engage in more helping behaviours.
- Appreciation - The teacher should appreciate the children for developing pro-social behaviour, especially for any specific action they have done to help others.

Value education cannot be taught like other subjects civics or science however through these values can be inculcated. For example, National Movement can be taught in such a way that it leads to inculcate the values of patriotism, secularism, universal love and tolerance etc. Similarly, World History can help to inculcate values of Liberty, equality and fraternity {French Revolution}, Fundamental Rights and equality {American Revolution}; Science can help to inculcate values of scientific temper, appreciation towards laws of nature; Indian Civics can help to inculcate values of respect to constitution, respect for democracy, secularism, integrity and unity of the country, social, political and economic justice etc. Further, math can help in inculcating the values of honesty and integrity; Geography and environment can help to inculcate values of respect for other's culture, and world is one family (vasudhaiva kutumbakam).

Mahatma Gandhi in his experiment of "naya taalim" stressed on education with work. It is education of body, mind and soul. Rather than looking at education as career option we should look at education as a space for development of character.

Conclusion

Value education is not just limited to schooling but education institutes form one of the most important influencers in the lives of students. Education empowers character but values show them the direction to exercise power of their knowledge. These Values transform us from human being to being humane.

3. Can right ends justify wrong means? Substantiate your views.

Approach

As the derivative is substantiate which require you to substantiate already proven point and not debating between the various points.

Introduction

A common concept in today's society is the belief that the ends justify the means. This means that people's action is justified regardless of how they go about achieving their desired end result. For example, if some students of school justified cheating because it could help them pass an examination. As per me right ends cannot justify wrong means as there are always alternatives to reach the right ends.

Body

Right Ends Cannot Justify Wrong Means

- The quote of Gandhi that “means are as important as end” stand true as per me as Indeed the Creator has given us control (and that too very limited) over means, none over the end.
- Realization of the goal is in exact proportion to that of the means. This is a proposition that admits of no exception. For example. If a person wants to cross the ocean, he can do so only by means of a vessel; if he were to use a cart for that purpose, both the cart and he would soon find the bottom.
- ‘Means are after all everything’. As the means so the end. There is no wall of separation between means and end. For example, we cannot continue getting a good fruit through planting a noxious weed. Even if once, we get than it would be short-lived and will have negative consequences.
- We have control over the means so belief and faith are leaving end to god and continue doing our work with good and right means. For example, in movie three idiots there is no justification to the action of rancho and Farhan when they stole the examination paper. They could have helped Raju by helping him in his studies or requesting “VIRUS”.
- The reason the means are important and need to be right irrespective of the ends, is how we get to our goal is just as important as getting there. In other words, destiny tells us what we are to the world, but journey tells who we are; it's the journey that unlocks our potential and establishes who we are as a person and what motivates us towards action.

Conclusion

The spiritual weapon of self-purification, intangible as it seems, is the most potent means of revolutionizing one's environment and loosening external shackles. It works subtly and invisibly; it is an intense process though it might often seem a weary and long-drawn process, it is the straightest way to liberation, the surest and quickest and

no effort can be too great for it. What it requires is faith—an unshakable mountain-like faith that flinches from nothing.



4. Why do ethical standards change with time? What does happen when a society fails to adopt new ethical standards? Examine.

Approach

As there are two parts in the above question each part has to be justified according to the directives given, also a thorough explanation of how societies react to new ethical standards is needed. Moreover, each part of the question must be explained properly with suitable examples.

Introduction

Ethics seeks to resolve questions of human morality by defining concepts such as good and evil, right and wrong, virtue and vice, justice and crime. As a field of intellectual inquiry, moral philosophy also is related to the fields of moral psychology, descriptive ethics, and value theory. Ethical standards help to navigate the area between what is absolutely right and what is morally wrong. They provide the structure that helps us make a decision we can be proud of in the context of our societal, familial and personal value structures.

Body

Why ethical standards change with time-

- Ethical standards in a society themselves evolve over a period of time. Every society has its own accepted standards which guide individual behaviour in general but these standards or general guide lines are themselves influenced by various factors such as God and religion, Human conscience and intuition, a rational moral cost-benefit analysis of actions and their effects, the example of good human beings, a desire for the best for people in each unique situation, political power and ideology.
- The other major influence in the development of ethics is the passage of time. Ethical standards do not remain fixed, they transform in response to evolving situations. Over time, people change, technology advances, and cultural mores (i.e., acquired culture and manners) shift. What was considered an appropriate or accepted practice one hundred or even fifty years ago may not carry the same moral weight it once did. However, this does not mean ethics and moral behaviour are relative. It simply acknowledges that attitudes change in relationship to historical events and that cultural perspective and the process of acculturation are not stagnant.
- The major historical periods that have shaped ethics are the age of mercantilism, the Industrial Revolution, the post-industrial era, the Information Age, and the age of economic globalization, to which the rise of the Internet contributed significantly. Each of these periods has had a different impact on ethics and what is considered acceptable ethical practice.

- Sati a social practise was very much acceptable in the Indian society in the 19th century and was considered a highest standard of ethical behaviour by a woman whose husband has died, but being an inhuman practise and the role played by social reformers a legal change was brought in which banned the practise and society too accepted the change.
- From the 1940s to the 1970s, cigarettes were as common as water bottles are today. Nearly everyone smoked, from judges in court to factory workers and pregnant women. Edward Bernays, the Austrian-American founder of the field of public relations, promoted smoking among women in a 1929 campaign in New York City in which he marketed Lucky Strike cigarettes as “torches of freedom” that would lead to equality between men and women. However, by the late 1960s, and in the wake of the release of the landmark Surgeon General’s report on “Smoking and Health” on January 11, 1964, it had become clear that there was a direct link between cigarette smoking and lung cancer. Subsequent research has added heart and lung diseases, stroke, and diabetes. This way now smoking has decreased considerably in all parts of the world.

When societies fail to adopt new ethical standards-

- Ethics is important in a society because it grants the members some expectation of consistency and predictability in behaviour/action. Much in the way laws do.
- Legislating or mandating all behaviour is impossible, so we invent ethical and moral norms to cover the grey areas. Ethics covers the parts of life where no agency or ruling body has made explicit decrees. Or where they shouldn’t make explicit decrees.
- Once a group has agreed upon a set moral and ethical values, they can proceed relatively uniformly toward a goal. Knowing how people are likely to behave can ease interactions and facilitate exchange. It promotes cooperation and cohesion.
- A society without clear ethical/moral values and norms will typically experience more conflict in areas concerning “quality of human life”. Any issue that impacts or deals with things that can be referred to as fundamentally “good” or “bad” will be point of contention.
- Ultimately, ethics takes care of the big and important questions so that we can get on with furthering societal goals
- Ethical standards are important in every aspect of human life acceptance of new ethical standards is important in order to cope with the changing times brought in by the change in technology, changing environment, Rights of people and internal reformation.
- When societies fail to accept, the new realities around there are chances of growing discontent and conflicts, environmental degradation, individual mental degradation e.g., rise of terrorism and extremism around the world, global warming, communalism, gender discrimination, corruption etc.

Conclusion

In India democracy, constitutionalism and culture has played an important role in in maintaining ethical standards which India is known for, but in the wake of rising incidents of communal violence, environmental pollution, corruption and gender issues adoption of new ethical standards which will ensure that individual behaviour is in sync with the modern values. New ethical standards are important for societies to grow and evolve and function properly.



5. Why is lying bad? Why do people abhor liars? Examine.**Approach**

A simple and straightforward question where you need to examine why lying is bad and who do people abhor liars through multiple examples to substantiate your arguments.

Introduction

Lying is a form of deception, but not all forms of deception are lies. Lying is giving some information while believing it to be untrue, intending to deceive by doing so.

Body

There are many reasons why people think lying is bad, where reasons may resonate best with people based on the way they think about ethics –

- Lying is bad because a generally truthful world is a good thing where lying diminishes trust between human beings. If people generally didn't tell the truth, life would become very difficult, as nobody could be trusted and nothing one heard or read could be trusted.
- Lying is bad because it treats those who are lied to as a means to achieve the liar's purpose, rather than as a valuable end in themselves. Many people think that it is wrong to treat people as means not ends
- Lying is bad because it makes it difficult for the person being lied to make a free and informed decision about the matter concerned. Lies lead people to base their decisions on false information
- Lying is bad because it cannot sensibly be made into a universal principle. Many people think that something should only be accepted as an ethical rule if it can be applied in every case.
- Lying is bad because it's a basic moral wrong. Some things are fundamentally bad - lying is one of them.
- Lying is bad because it corrupts the liar. Telling lies may become a habit and if a person regularly indulges in one form of wrong-doing they may well become more comfortable with wrong-doing in general.

According to many philosophers and experts, in some rare instances, it may be morally acceptable to tell a lie. Disagreements about the morality of a lie seem to stem from ambiguity about the degree to which the lie caused harm. Clearly, people don't perceive all types of lies as being equally bad and immoral, and this variability seems to be tied to the amount of harm the lies cause.

- For example, an elderly woman whose family members lied to her about the fact that her son was dying of cancer. Rather than telling the elderly woman that her son was in the hospital, they told her that her son was on a long

business trip. They told this lie in an altruistic attempt to spare the elderly woman the emotional pain of learning that her son was dying.

- Another example can be when a killer asks about whereabouts of one's neighbour with intention to harm and murder him. What will a person do in this situation? Hold on to truth and allow the neighbour to be robbed of his valuables and life. Despite the fact that people advocate telling truth is a virtue, telling a lie is the right thing to do in that particular situation.

But generally, lies are considered abhorrent as they hurt the people involved and society in general. This makes people abhor liars as can be seen from the following points –

- The person who is lied to suffers if they don't find out because they can no longer make an informed choice about the issue concerned and they may make a decision that they would not otherwise have made. Further, they may suffer damage as a result of the lie.
- At the same time, lies also hurt the liar as he has to be wary of those he's lied to and he will probably suffer harm if he's found out. Further, his own view of his integrity is damaged.
- Individual conduct in a society is also dictated by a form of social contract where lying is viewed as negative trait in all interactions between humans.
- Even if the lying is never detected, the piling up of lies tends to make relationships with colleagues, friends, and family members shallower and less meaningful.
- Overall, the society is repelled by violence as the general level of truthfulness falls where other people may be encouraged to lie. Lying may become a generally accepted practice in some quarters.
- It becomes harder for people to trust each other or the institutions of society. For example, Bank run can be considered as classic case where societal trust is weakened by lies and results in collapse of institution's where resulting effects lead to degradation of economic activities.
- Overall, Social cohesion is weakened. Eventually no-one is able to believe anyone else and society collapses.
- But at the same time, societies do indulge in lying where it is considered necessary. For example, children are lied to during Christmas with regards to Santa Claus or other events in child's life are moulded by untruths. These are considered as causing no harm by most of the society.

Conclusion

Telling lie is an action generally considered to be wrong by most. Telling truth is considered a virtue as much damage is done to others and to society from too much dishonesty. Clearly, lying is an issue worth examining, as many people believe it is a bigger problem today than it has ever been. A recent Time magazine cover story concluded, "Lies flourish in social uncertainty, when people no longer understand, or agree on, the rules governing their behaviour toward one another."

6. India's test series win against Australia must have taught you some lessons in ethics. Can you discuss a few?

Approach

A straightforward question where you need to bring out the ethical lessons you learnt from the recently concluded India-Australia Test series where India won against all odds.

Introduction

Ethics is very important in all spheres of life and in cricket as well. So much so that in cricket there are worldwide rules to ensure the game is played with a sense of fairness. In fact, Cricket is one of the few sports where the Rules are described as 'Laws' and this signifies how important uniformity and fairness is in cricket. In this regard, the recent Border-Gavaskar trophy gives us many ethical lessons.

Body

To defeat Australian cricket team in their own backyard is a monumental accomplishment. To do so without more than a half-dozen first-choice players, and from the spirit-shattering 36 all out in the first Test, has few parallels. It also brings out many ethical lessons, which have gone into the win of Indian cricket team, some of which are discussed below –

- The fortitude of this Indian team will be spoken about for many years. The world has been witnessing to their indomitable spirit, their unshakeable character. This becomes important when seen in context of the Adelaide debacle (first test), where India used this initial calamity as a springboard to victory.
- Categorical Imperative: A “categorical imperative” to achieve the “far nobler end” of performing our various duties. To inculcate the categorical imperative, one has to become a moral person. On the Indian side, Ravindra Jadeja was seen padded up with a dislocated thumb. Earlier, Jaspreet Bumrah, though not completely fit, bowled with full heart. These actions reflected their commitment to 'duty', and thus on their moral personality. As Kant says, performing one's duty with 'good will' is the supreme morality.
- Some members of the spectators in the Sydney Cricket Ground used racist language against cricketers Mohammed Siraj and Jaspreet Bumrah. It is not only morally repugnant but also goes against the universal values of human rights of respecting the dignity of an individual. But Indian team didn't cow down and played the match even when the umpire suggested that the team may leave the ground if they felt the crowd's behaviour was hostile.
- Even on the field, one of the great Test players of the Australian team, Steve Smith, was caught removing Pant's guard mark, an act that can be considered a moral misconduct. It reflects very poorly on the moral aptitude of Smith. In

face of such attitude, the resolve of Indian team to play good cricket was not lost in fact, it strengthened.

- We also saw some of the Australian players mocking the grave injuries faced by the Indian players. This reflects not only the moral bankruptcy of the individuals, but also the absence of humanism in them. One of the Indicators of Human-hood for Joseph Fletcher is the concern for others, which was clearly absent in some of the Australian players.
- As young people, it is important to remember that our national philosophy, through our Constitution, is “to develop humanism”. More than that, it is the Indian philosophy to treat everyone with dignity and have compassion for all. This match showed us how not to be. What not to do to develop a “moral personality”. This was reflected from the Australian teams conduct.
- There was the clarity of thought in decision-making, both from the management group and from the captain and the players. These decisions were made with the team's framework in mind, never mind if they weren't always conventional. The final test's strategies debunked the myth that we have been besieged by the T20 generation. Of all the life-lessons, this was significant - desist from being judgmental.
- Further, in the third test at Sydney, with gruelling injuries to key players, India still managed to draw the test match, all thanks to grit and resilience shown by Ravichandran Ashwin and Hanuma Vohari in the last two sessions of the match.
- The test series also showed that instead of fancy qualifications, teams win due to hard work, resilience, team spirit and a will to win can lead to success. It also showed that it is the team that matters. Most importantly, it also brings great leadership lessons: the quality of calmness and ability to give credit to the team. This was aptly displayed by Indian team's captain Ajinkya Rahane.

Conclusion

Cricket is a gentleman's game. It is important to strive to ensure it remains so. The present Indian test team, which won the series down under, ensured that cricket remained a gentleman's game in spite of multiple provocations where highest level of ethical conduct was displayed by the Indian team which helps in the overall striving towards making the game nobler and competitive.

7. Why is ethics essential in a person's private life also? Examine.**Approach**

Students are expected to write about the ethics and examine how much ethics is essential in any one's personal private life.

Introduction

Ethics are set of moral standards that act as a guide to evaluate the behaviour or action in terms of being good or bad and wrong or right. It acts as moral compass to the human beings in dispensing their actions.

Body

Person's private life:

- The private life demand individual's responsibilities towards the role played in private life such as father, mother, husband, etc. These are self-imposed and voluntary and are backed by sanctions of one's obligations towards self, family and society since ancient times.
- The governing factors for ethics in private life include individual virtues, universal human values, religion, social norms and law.
- For example, in India, the Dharmashstras provide moral codes to regulate the private life.

Some common personal/private ethics include:

- Integrity
- Selflessness
- Honesty
- Loyalty
- Equality and fairness
- Empathy and respect
- Self-respect

Ethics are essential in person's private life also:

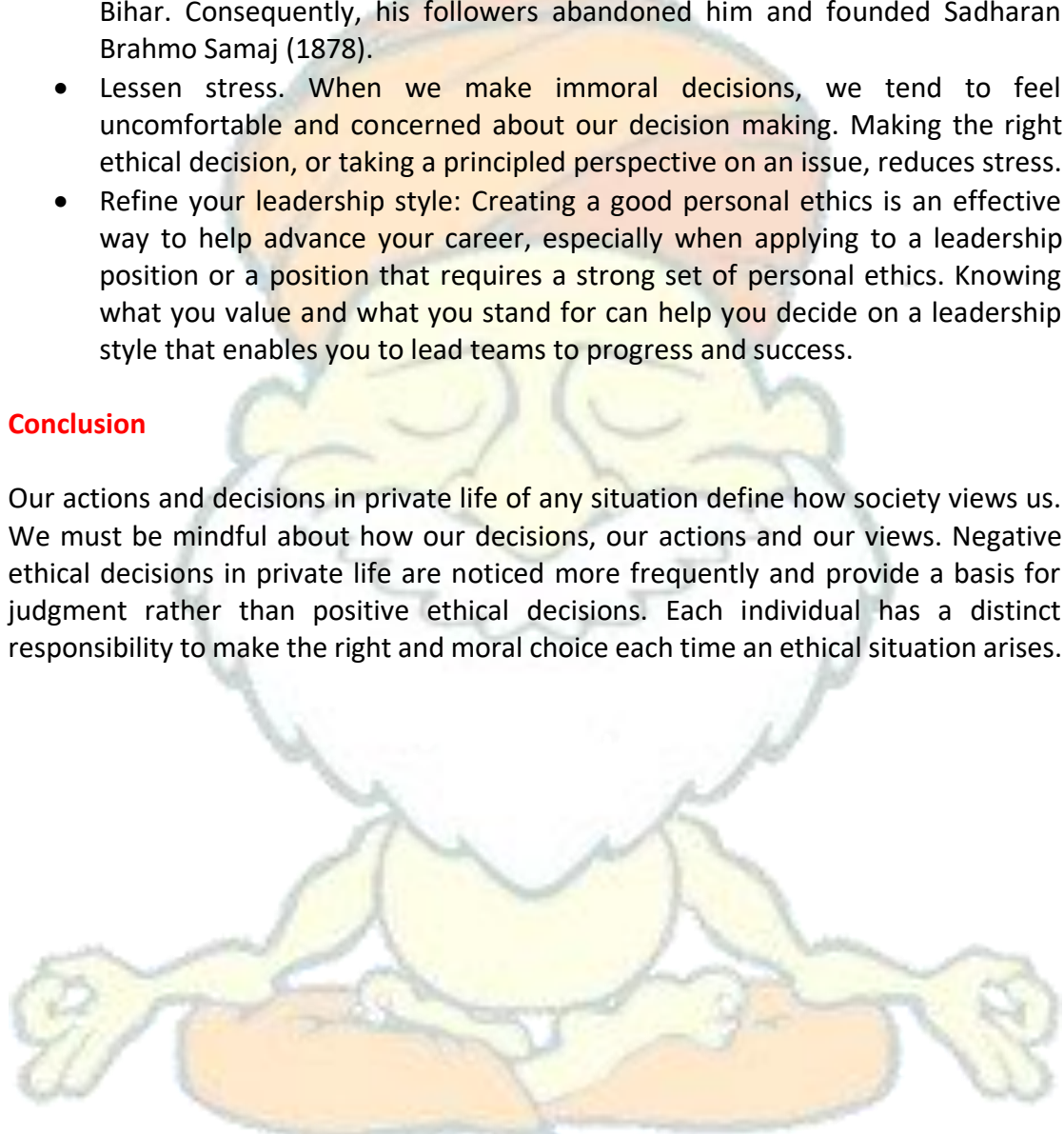
- **Creating Credibility:** Someone who has ethical conduct will secure a better position in society, as that person will be trusted more. An Individual who is believed to be driven by ethical and moral values is respected in the society even by those who may have not known him/her. For example, support from family and friends helps person excel professionally.
- **Humanising tendencies:** Ethics in private relations helps in humanizing public relations and play an important role in forming the base for moral values of a person. For example, it generates love and care towards people and also build relationships with human emotions.
- **Make own and others live better:** Ethics affect everyday life. By being ethical and moral, we enrich our lives and the lives of those around us. When we help make society better, we are rewarded with also making better own lives and the lives of our families and friends. Without ethical and moral conduct, society

and personal life would be a miserable. For example, cricketer Hardik Pandya, and KL Rahul in TV show were judged on their personal unethical activities and later it affected their mental health and badly rewarded by society.

- Better decision making: Decisions are driven by values. Practising and making an effort to make ethical and moral decisions throughout life will pay dividends when we are faced with serious moral dilemmas. Consciously or unconsciously, we use ethics with every decision. For example, Kasab Chandra Sen opposed child marriage but married his own underage daughter to Maharaja of Cooch Bihar. Consequently, his followers abandoned him and founded Sadharan Brahmo Samaj (1878).
- Lessen stress. When we make immoral decisions, we tend to feel uncomfortable and concerned about our decision making. Making the right ethical decision, or taking a principled perspective on an issue, reduces stress.
- Refine your leadership style: Creating a good personal ethics is an effective way to help advance your career, especially when applying to a leadership position or a position that requires a strong set of personal ethics. Knowing what you value and what you stand for can help you decide on a leadership style that enables you to lead teams to progress and success.

Conclusion

Our actions and decisions in private life of any situation define how society views us. We must be mindful about how our decisions, our actions and our views. Negative ethical decisions in private life are noticed more frequently and provide a basis for judgment rather than positive ethical decisions. Each individual has a distinct responsibility to make the right and moral choice each time an ethical situation arises.



8. What do you understand by the term privilege? Why is it important to be aware of one's privilege? Discuss.

Approach-

Question is sensitive in nature and demands understanding of one's location and background. Privilege is often unacknowledged part of our social life; hence question needs critical arguments. In the first part definition can be given and in later half with the help of some examples awareness about privilege can be stated.

Introduction

"Privilege" refers to certain social advantages, benefits, or degrees of prestige and respect that an individual has by virtue of belonging to certain social identity groups. Privilege is often the benefits and advantages held by a group in power, or in a majority, that arise because of the oppression and suppression of vulnerable groups.

Body

What consists of privilege-

- Privilege is the understanding that some people benefit from unearned and largely unacknowledged advantages due to race, caste, class, ability, sexual orientation or gender.

What privilege translates to-

- Education isn't a struggle
Dalit, tribal students and students with disabilities fall out of education more than upper class and able-bodied students. Girls' bodies are objectified by society and they are subject to limitations when it comes to going out or pursuing higher studies.

Finding a well-paying job isn't difficult-

- In united states Job applicants with stereotypically "black-sounding" names are less likely than their white-sounding counterparts to get called in for interviews. When a person of colour joins a company, people wonder if they were chosen to fill a diversity quota rather than assuming they are there based on their merits. The current pay gap between women and men is 20%.

Mainstream media represents you-

- People of minority, Dalit, tribal background, LGBTQ, and disabled people are under or misrepresented on TV, in movies, in magazines, in books, and in the news. When they are shown, they are rarely presented as being well-rounded and successful. All too often, they are reduced to a stereotype or a punchline.

Why it is important to be aware of one's privilege-

- Recognizing your privilege means being aware that some people have to work much harder for the same opportunities you take for granted and in truth, they may never experience them at all. It means educating yourself to the fullest extent possible, so you understand what's truly at stake. It means, as a person

who benefits from privilege, you need to stand up, speak out. It means having empathy and taking active steps to do something about it.

- Recognizing your privilege is not meant to make you feel guilty. After all, it's not your fault that you were born with these privileges. It doesn't invalidate any hardships you have faced and it certainly doesn't mean you don't lack privilege in certain areas. For example, upper class male from India, may face hardships in some another part of world.
- Though privilege can manifest itself in abhorrent ways, the worst is to pretend the problem doesn't exist at all. Deliberate denial as well as claiming the victimized are trying to persecute the majority will not solve the problem.
- The important thing to remember is that privilege isn't a personal attack — it isn't even about you at all. Privilege is the result of multiple systems of oppression at work. You can either choose to ignore this dark reality, or you can choose to accept it, and work to change it. Hence aware of privilege or caste/ class consciousness is important.
- Indian society is Rooted in systemic inequality, people of lower castes and minority groups are oppressed and discriminated against. As some groups are disproportionately targeted over others, just one consequence of a passive ignorance is privilege.
- It is from this and other realizations that we need to recognize our advantages and disadvantages to combat institutional oppression. Socioeconomic status, caste, gender and sexual orientation are formative characteristics that need recognition for productive conversation.

Conclusion

A call to admit privilege is not a rallying cry for ridicule, but rather an avenue for understanding and growth. Awareness of one's privilege is start of journey towards empathy and of sensitive social behaviour. It is a way of life where we do not take things for granted and use our privilege for the benefit of those who don't.

9. What are the qualities of a good leader? Discuss. Who is your favourite leader and why? Substantiate.

Approach:

The question demands to explain qualities of a good leader, also it is important to mention about favourite leader with proper explanation about why do you like that particular leader and which qualities in him/her inspire you most.

Introduction:

A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way and shows the way.
John C Maxwell.

The above quote by John Maxwell sums up everything leadership is about. A leader is someone who can see how things can be improved and who rallies people to move toward that better vision. Leaders can work toward making their vision a reality while putting people first. Leadership is the accomplishment of a goal through the direction of human assistants. The man who successfully marshals his human collaborators to achieve particular ends is a leader. A great leader is one who can do so day after day, and year after year, in a wide variety of circumstances.

Body:

Qualities of a good leader-

Leader is a self-starter, a person around whom revolves the entire team. It is from the leader that the team draws energy, courage and the spirit to go ahead. He or she is the torch-bearer, the guide who leads the team to success. So, what makes a good leader? Is there a set formula that can ensure making of great leaders? Unfortunately, leadership is not mathematics. It is the science of progressive learning and does not have set rules. Steve Jobs and Bill Gates followed different styles, but both remain classic examples of great leaders. Having said so, great leaders of the past and present reflect some common traits.

Here are some qualities that aspiring leaders should imbibe-

- **Vision**
Leadership requires farsightedness. The ability to see ahead and lead the team on the correct path is a skill which comes with experience. It is the intuition of the leader, the ability to learn from past mistakes and move accordingly that sets apart from the rest.
- **Integrity**
The characteristic features of a leader define the establishment he drives. The employees and the organisation are a reflection of him. His innate values and learnings form the life-sap of the business. A leader with integrity builds an efficient team and a successful business, as well.

- **Commitment**
A leader leads by example. What better way to do this than to shoulder the responsibility with the team? There is no greater motivation for the team than to see the boss working along, sharing the burden. A committed leader builds a committed team in the long run.
- **Creativity**
It is the quality of the leader to do something beyond the ordinary that sets him apart. To take something of average quality and build something new out of it is a quality that leaders possess. After all, leadership is all about breaking the regular and moving out of the box.
- **Crisis Management**
The true mettle of a leader is tested during crises. It is the way he handles challenges and turns them into opportunities that proves his worth as a leader. It is in trying times that the team looks up to its leader for guidance and support. Thus, successful leadership calls for the ability to cruise through such difficult times and ensure success.
- **Team Player**
A leader not only leads the team from the front, but also stands along with it. Only when a leader is a good team player can he become a successful leader. Understanding the team, bonding with them and sharing the work are some of the significant qualities of a leader that not only make him successful but an idol to his team. While it is true that time and experiences make a seasoned leader, it is always good to start early.
- **Honesty**
Whatever ethical values you hold, when you are responsible for a team of people, it's important to raise the bar higher.
- **Delegation**
Delegating work is one of the most important skills of a leader as doing everything yourself is not possible and leads to poor quality work.
- **Communication**
Communication is the key. It is important to let the people know your vision and convey exactly what you expect out of them.
- **Confidence**
As the leader, by staying calm and confident, you will help keep everyone feeling the same. Confidence of a leader inspires and motivates followers to become more determined to achieve the goal.

Favourite Leader-

- India has produced leaders who had admirers all over the world and whose impact is still found to be inspiring many. Among the few leaders, Mahatma Gandhi, JN Nehru, MS Dhoni and Nandan Nilekani are notable to mention.
- Amongst these, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, Vikrambhai Sarabhai and Mahatma Gandhi are my favourites.

APJ Abdul Kalam:

- He was upright and honest. His dedication to the nation was commendable. Since childhood, Dr Kalam worked extremely hard to lead our nation to the path of glory, first by being the “Missile Man of India” and then finally the “President of the Nation.” During his days at ISRO and DRDO, he catapulted India’s space mission to great heights. He led India to become the global leader in nuclear arms race. Even at the personal level, his probity in and out was overwhelming. He managed his team exceptionally well. Even while being the President of the country, he mentored thousands of students to overcome failures in life and succeed. Even in his last moments, he was delivering lecture to the students which according to me was the greatest inspiration from the man who dedicated every single bit of his life for the nation.
- Apart from him, the recent calmness and maturity shown by Team India cricket captain Ajinkya Rahane in Tests against Australia has also substantiated the need of having an emotionally stable, level-headed man who leads the team in despair and overcomes all the challenges to succeed at the highest level.

Conclusion:

Leadership demands progressive learning, and does not have set rules.

‘When the going gets tough, the tough get going.’

While Dr. Kalam’s life can serve as a model to anyone, He was called “the People’s President” because he saw that leadership is about people, about inspiring and connecting with others. And he did so with no motives of personal gain. His integrity and authenticity shone through and sailed the country when it needed the most. His dedication towards nation building will be remembered through centuries. Thus leadership is to lead from the front, Mahatma Gandhi overcame all the obstacles and lead India to freedom from the clutches of British imperialists, His thrust on individual emancipation proves that leaders are not born but they learn, understand and lead that is what makes them strong determined.

10. What lessons can be learnt from the lives of sporting legends? Illustrate with the help of suitable examples.

Approach

A simple and straightforward question where in you need to dwell upon the lessons you learnt, especially ethical lessons, from the lives of sporting legends and illustrate the same with some suitable examples.

Introduction

Working toward excellence in sports can produce incredible gratification. Research has provided strong evidence that “sports strongly reinforce certain personal characteristics, things like respecting your opponent, responsibility, persistence and self-discipline, etc.”, which are exemplified in the lives of great sporting legends like Sachin Tendulkar, Roger Federer, etc.

Body

Sports can instil important values, including respect and teamwork, as well as teach lessons about perseverance and honesty. These experiences can have meaningful implications on people’s behaviour’s, values, and understanding of themselves and others. For example –

- Managing a defeat in a tennis tournament can prepare a person to handle other disappointments.
- Supporting a teammate who cannot finish a football season because of an injury can build greater empathy in other areas of life.
- Battling to make a qualifying time for a swimming event can prepare a person for the rigor required to achieve professional goals.

Ethical behavior in sports can promote ethics-driven behaviors in other areas, such as helping others in need, building trust, respecting dignity, and treating others equally. In this regard, some of the lessons which can be learnt from sporting legends are discussed below –

- **Patience and Perseverance** - Mary Kom, a five-time world champion Boxer, has battled far more than what we have seen her fight in the ring. From struggling with poverty to playing the multiple roles of a mother, daughter, and elder sister, she has achieved much more than the average of all others. She is a living embodiment of patience & perseverance where she won a championship even after becoming a mother.
- **Dedication** - Pelé, was the king of football for two decades straight. He is the only footballer who has been a part of three World Cup-winning squads and has netted 1281 goals in his twenty year career. Because of this dedication, he

has won several medals and love from people. He made us realise that when you show pure dedication to something, the play comes to you naturally.

- **Extraordinary focus & practice** - Michael Phelps is one of the most celebrated Olympians of all times where he has won more gold medals than any other Olympian. He believes that you are your own limit and limits are just decided by your mind. He epitomises the lesson that when you want to be the best, you have to do things that others aren't willing to do.
- **Teamwork and Good sportsmanship** - Gary Kirsten was made the coach of Indian cricket team when the team was going through a rough phase where he instilled a team spirit in players and always avoiding taking credit. This can help in instilling a strong value for cooperation and collaboration in people if incorporated in daily life.
- **Hard Work** – Cricket legend and Indian sporting superstar Sachin Tendulkar is a living embodiment of relentless hard work which has made him one of the greatest batsman of all time in cricket history. He shows that there's no substitute for hard work even in face of adversity like loss of closed one's and physical injuries.
- **Calmness and Maturity** – Captain of New Zealand's cricket team, Kane Williamson, showed a zen-like attitude and approach in the final of recently concluded Cricket World Cup even though his team lost by a whisker. Such a display of calmness and maturity won hearts of all people and is an example to be emulated in real life tense scenarios.
- **Giving it back to the society** - Cristiano Ronaldo is arguably the world's most prominent soccer player, and Athlete of modern time. He also holds the record for the most charitable athlete. Cristiano makes it a point to give back to the fans and people in need. Such socially responsible attitude is a model to be emulated for future generations where the world is presently faced with growing inequality and unrest.

Sports is a great equaliser where people from countries that are enemies can come together, live together, compete with one another in peaceful ways, and go back home with a wider perspective. But recent by headlines about sporting legends, who abuse steroids, run into trouble with the law, etc. have tarnished images of veterans.

Conclusion

The notion that sporting competition is about greater life lessons and the building of character needs to be imbibed in younger generations where sports can promote ethical values. Sporting legends should reward athletes for fair play and good sportsmanship, which can help in players respecting themselves, other players, officials, and the rules of the game while also ensuring sports serve as a vehicle for ethical behavior and positive values.

11. Which socio-religious reformer from the 19th century has inspired you the most? Discuss.

Approach

Students are expected to write about the most inspiring socio religious reformer from 19th century. With highlighting the important ethical values and ideas embraced by him/her and how it brought a change in society.

Introduction

Indian society, in the 19th century, was trapped in a web of religious superstitions and social obscuritanism more so because of the advent of modern thoughts and ideas with the coming of the British.

Body

Significant contributions were made by socio religious reform movements and its leaders in the evolution of modern India. They stood for the democratization of the society, removal of superstitions and decadent customs, spread of enlightenment and development of a rational and modern outlook. This led to the national awakening in India.

Socio religious reformer Swami Vivekananda a inspiration personality:

- **Ethics:** Vivekananda gave a new theory of ethics and new principle of morality based on the intrinsic purity and oneness of the Atman. Ethics according to Vivekananda was nothing but a code of conduct that helps a man to be a good citizen. We should be pure because purity is our real nature, our true divine Self or Atman.
- **Religion:** His interpretation of religion as a universal experience of transcendent Reality, common to all humanity. This universal conception frees religion from the hold of superstitions, dogmatism, priest craft and intolerance. He believed that every religion offered a pathway to the eternal supreme, supreme freedom, supreme knowledge, supreme happiness.
- **Work for preserving unity:** Swami Vivekananda went to the World Parliament of Religions as a representative of the Hindu religion. It was a prestigious platform to put forth the right understanding and the fundamentals of Hinduism. In the parliament, there were many eloquent speakers who had come well-prepared for their respective speech.
- **Respect for culture and belief is necessary:** One day, a Britisher commented that the Indian dressing style was 'uncivilized'. Swami Vivekananda replied, "In your culture, cloth builds a man but in our culture, character builds a man". This story became very famous the world over, showcasing Swami Vivekananda's deep understanding of the world. Culture, traditions and beliefs make every community unique. And our own reasoning about their significance, importance enables us to help clear others' doubts, perception or ideas.

- Humility is a precious virtue: Swami Vivekananda was in England while conversing, Swami Vivekananda corrected his friend's English. The friend retorted that English was his mother tongue and hence, could not be corrected. Swami Vivekananda smiled and humbly responded, "I know the use of language because I have learnt the language while you have picked the language." Listening to this witty reply, the friend was left overwhelmed.
- There are times when people retort and ask us questions, especially when we correct them. In such times, humility in our answer can help lighten the situation and save the bond from breaking. Remembering Swami Vivekananda's this story can help us be aware of our replies, without losing the balance or getting offended.
- Rationality: He was in complete agreement with the methods and results of modern science. He did not discard reason in favor of faith. He recognized intuition or inspiration as a higher faculty than reason. But the truth derived from intuition had to be explained and systematized by reason.
- Education: He said that our process of education should be such that it helps the students to manifest their innate knowledge and power. He advocated a man-making character-building education. He said that education must make the students self-reliant and help them face the challenges of life. He was highly critical of the so-called educated who do not care for the poor and downtrodden.
- Nationalism: Though growth of Nationalism is attributed to the Western influence but Swami Vivekananda's nationalism is deeply rooted in Indian spirituality and morality. His nationalism is based on Humanism and Universalism, the two cardinal features of Indian spiritual culture. The basis of his nationalism as per Vivekananda are Deep concern for masses, freedom and equality through which one expresses self, spiritual integration of the world on the basis of universal brotherhood. "Karmyoga" a system of ethics to attain freedom both political and spiritual through selfless service.

Conclusion

Through his reforms, Swami Vivekananda brought a remarkable change in the society. His work, thoughts, ideas gave a new direction to the masses. Reading and knowing about the life of Swami Vivekananda is very inspiring for the youth of today and will remain the same for the upcoming generations.