

ESSAY

Time allowed: 1hr 30 mins

Maximum Marks: 125



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Leave this page blank for Overall Personalized Essay Review

Dear Sanjana,
you have written a good essay. you also
have tried to diversify the essay. Keep at it as
you stand to score high in this paper.

Strengths:-

- 1) Apt integration and sound knowledge of the topic & current affairs related to it.
- 2) Emphasis on framework.
- 3) Good use and hold over language of the essay.
- 4) essay flow is good; well-researched.

Ideas for improvement:-

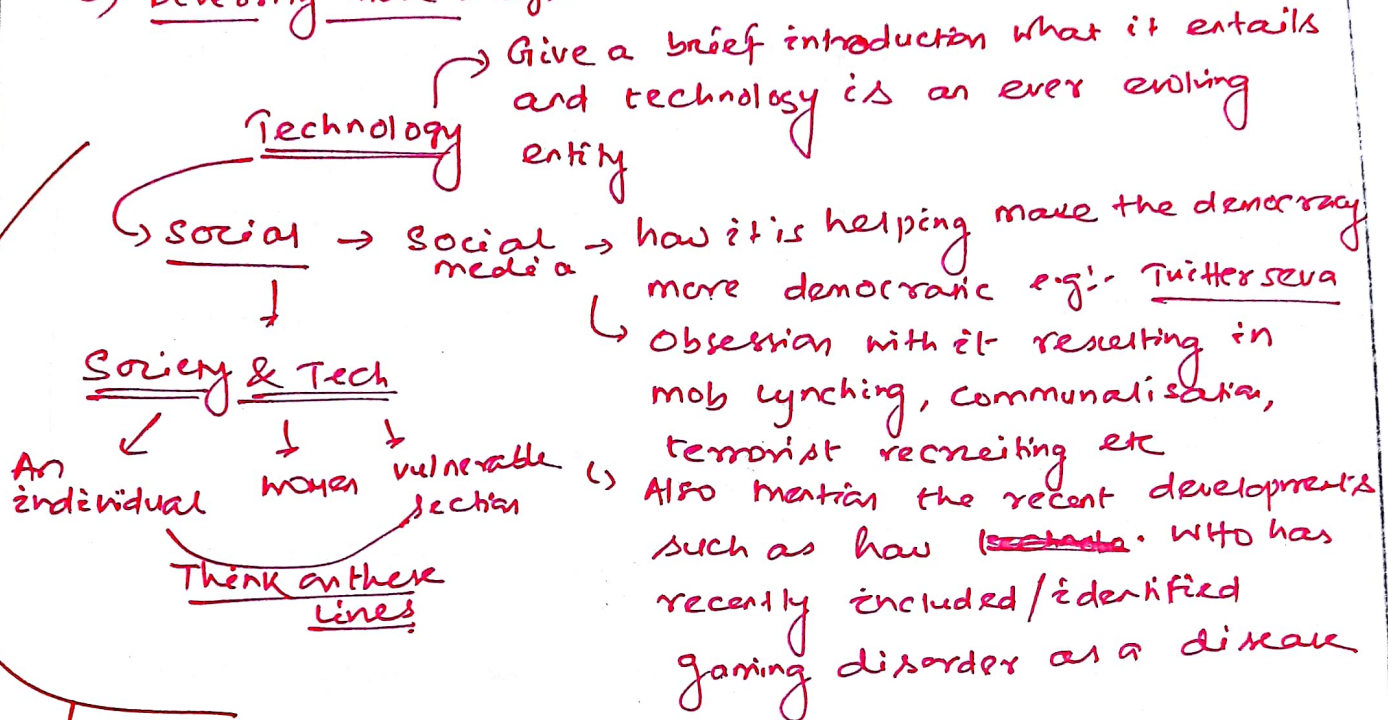
- 1) Handwriting is legible, but a more conscious effort can make it better and aesthetically ~~appeal~~ appealing. Do work on it.
- 2) The essay opens with a statement, instead try to give an example to prove the point and then use the statement to corroborate it.
- 3) proper spacing between words and sentences can make the essay a pleasure to read.

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4) minimize the obvious (as there is word limit)

5) coherence, dexterity, diversity is good; but certainly can be better

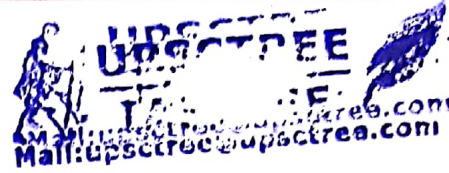
6) Diversify more :- e.g.:-



7) Refer the next pages for content related strategy.

Technology is a good servant but a bad master

Strategy



Introduction:-

In the introductory part of the essay, try to show the relevance of the topic. UPSC doesn't ask an essay without relevance. And, a well justified relevance sets the tone of the essay.

Relevance is essentially drawn from one's knowledge of current-affairs. Thus having a good hold over current affairs can add value to your essay. Also, prelims specific preparation, data and details can come in handy; there don't discard the prelims specific knowledge (reports, data, incidents etc) and try to integrate it with ~~the~~ other GS paper as well as in essay.

Most importantly, the obvious theme of the essay is how tech. is a good servant (it is known); the dominant/emerging theme is how tech can be a bad master. There more focus should be on tech as bad master. That is the crux of the essay.



To set the tone of the essay, give an example or two in the introduction. Examples can be varied.

e.g.:- Blue whale game - suicidal teenagers

- obsession with social media - ('selfie deaths') & cut off from real world
- promotion algorithm persuading and influencing determining your next purchase etc
- obsession with gadgets (phone, tabs etc)

Now, how 'man' has become subservient to technology and how tech. is increasingly determining our way of life, our economy, our politics, our culture etc

The essay can broadly be divided into 3 major aspects:-

i) How technology is an ever-evolving entity (From printing press → Internet → to Internet of things (IoT))

• & multiple dimensions of tech:- (Refer next page flow chart)

ii) How technology has been a good servant.

iii) How technology is emerging as a bad master.



for elucidation purpose & not exhaustive:-



The above flow chart is indicative and not exhaustive. It provides you an idea on how to create a framework. you can elaborate or minimize as you need it. for each domain of tech ; try to bring out the pros & cons.

More so, you must think of conclusion first; because if you don't know where to go, no vehicle can take you there. so decide your conclusion first & once you have your destination in mind; you will certainly reach there without any deviation. for this essay the conclusion should be :-

Tech	people	outcome
good	good	good
good	bad	bad



(terrorist using social media for propaganda etc)

So essentially, it is us as a species that determines what we can do with our tech. The robots we create can fight wars for us or can clean the sewerage systems so that manual scavenging can be eradicated. Thus essentially; how tech is neutral; it is us who determines the use/abuse.

—x—

Technology is a good servant but a bad master :

Oxford philosopher Nick Bostrom while expressing his concerns regarding Artificial Intelligence said that once machines surpass human intellect they could eradicate humans very quickly. It could be a society of economic miracles and technological amusements with none there to benefit like - 'A Disneyland without children'.

This statement very well testifies the fact that technology is a good servant but it can be a bad master if not taken care, so much so that it can spell our own

Space for review

→ Rephrase it :-

e.g. → that technology has served the Mankind well; but it do possess capacity to overwhelm its creator. (little paraphrasing or rephrasing can eliminate the banality in essay).

✓ Good introduction

doom as also believed by Stephen Hawking.

In primitive times man derived his basic needs from nature. With sophistication of tools, he acquired better control over nature yet remained in harmony with it. Thus technology was a good servant that made human life better through easy access to resources.

With unprecedented industrialisation, technology has advanced by leaps and bounds and ~~it~~ not a single aspect of life has remained outside its influence.

In this essay, we'll see how technology is a good servant but a bad master in different

Space for review

→ No need; as it is understood and obvious. There does not demand reiteration. Also helps to save precious words.

spheres like social, economic, political, environmental, ~~global~~ and for individual, community, nation and world. Further what must be done so that technology can exist in harmony benefitting humanity and Environment as a ~~good~~ great companion.

Technology : A good servant ~~but a bad master~~

In the economic sphere :- Technology has made production process faster, enabled mass production and consumption and boosted economy. It has made tasks easier ^{faster} for humans and has freed ~~given~~ time for other creative activities. Video conferencing, Management Information Systems, Robots etc have made conducting business easier.

good

Space for review

Technology has also enabled Inclusive development. For example the informal sector, self help groups are benefitted by marketing their products, handicrafts etc on e-commerce portals like Flipkart.

Agriculture sector gets a boost from extension services and technology like m-kisan; eNAM for marketing agricultural produce; irrigation, farm mechanization. Thus technology protects from vagaries of nature and creates monsoon by being an excellent servant.

In the social sphere also. Technology can be used as a good servant. Social media like Facebook, Twitter, whatsapp has connected people ~~more~~ across the world.

Space for review

Two examples
and apt use of
general knowledge

These platforms and media have been playing a very important role in social movements like ^{such} Nithaya gang rape, Anti corruption Movements, 'Black lives matter' movement etc. "India against corruption" movement

Technology has been a good servant for women. Vacuum cleaners, dish washers, washing machines etc have made household chores easier for women and have enabled them to step outside their homes and work, thus fostering gender equality. There are apps for safety of women, ~~GPS~~ GPS and other technologies have allowed women to work and enjoy their rights without fear.

The ~~poor and disadvantaged~~ ^{physically handicapped} section has technology as its disposal now that has enabled more

Space for review

9/100

accessibility and inclusivity. Example -
Braille, ~~initiatives like~~ hearing aids etc.

Technology as a good servant has empowered
~~it~~ its masters. The people at the lowest
rung of society can get access to legal
services at their doorstep through tele-law.
~~egovernance~~ egovernance has ~~also~~ reduced
human intervention and has increased
transparency and accountability and enabled
better and efficient redistribution of resources.

~~Now we'll see how~~
Technology is a creation of man. The purpose
of technology ~~is~~ is and must be the
progress of humanity. ~~is~~ is ~~that~~ we have created
good

Space for review

insid if possible



these soulless servants to help us make human life better and to empower us. But if we hold technology superior to us and ~~give~~ it allow it to have ~~power~~ to control us, ~~it~~ we'll ~~ourselves~~ allow them to become our masters, and technology can never be a good master, because it is inhuman.

And Gandhiji said Technology without humanity is a sin.

excerpt

How technology is a bad master :-

Technology does not become a bad master on its ~~own~~ ^{own}, we make it. It is inherently a good servant. For example - My phone helps me get most of my tasks if the day ~~done~~ done.

Space for review

Efficiently. Right from the morning my alarm clock in phone wakes me up on time, reminders and To-do lists help me manage my time and task better, social media helps me stay connected to people, Youtube and Internet helps me get access to information, a music player allows me leisure but if I rely too much on it or get addicted to my phone, it will ~~get~~ gain control over me. Once technology gets the better of you, it becomes your master and that is how it acts a double edged sword. ~~Now~~ Addiction to technology or excessive use will ~~had~~ reduce my productivity, it will make me distracted, ~~it~~ lose sense of time, waste time, it also takes a toll on the health. Thus it is me who decide.

Space for review

gwt

And let technology be our servant or master. It is good as long as it's our servant or companion, but bad once we let it become our master.

Not only does technology as a bad master affect an individual's health, work, education, mental and physical capital, it also affects his/her relations with others.

While Facebook is apparently 'connecting the world' we are becoming disconnected with our family and neighbors and losing meaningful relations. Married couples are also spending less time with each other and more with technology. Individualism and isolation is the result. We have reached the moon but we don't care enough to reach out to

Space for review

very good

people living across the street .

At the level of society ^{nation} obsession ^{with} technology has led to consumerism . People start identifying themselves with products and gadgets . Technology ~~and~~ has led to rationalisation of everything . There is what is called as McDonaldisation . Obsession with technology can be dehumanizing . good

As long as humans treat technology as a means to uplift humanity and for economic progress . ~~while being in~~ it is good . ~~we~~ Today , we know and understand the importance of sustainable development . As long as we are environmentally conscious we will use

Space for review

technology carefully and judiciously for our benefit while also preserving the environment and technology will behave as a good servant in this case. But once we go for forget or make environment secondary and go for mindless technological advancement, ~~we~~ ~~our~~ ~~our~~ our power relations with technology changes and it becomes a bad master the repercussion of which we see as climate change.

As we are at the cusp of Industrial Revolution 4.0, ~~with~~ we are witnessing the development of Internet of Things, Cyber Physical Systems, Automation, Artificial Intelligence while all this will definitely transform the way we work, live and interact, both for the good &

Space for review

and the bad, it is in our hands to decide how responsibly we use technology because with great power (technology) comes great responsibility.

~~What the world needs~~

Technology must be used ethically and responsibly so that it can fulfil its intended purpose of humanity's progress.

'Collaborative Automation' in Japan is an excellent example of how technology can be a great companion (and not just a good servant or worse, bad master).

We need to be forever aware and conscious of the impact technology has on our lives. It can save our lives or spell our doom. Children should spend less time on video games.

Space for review

and mobile phones and gadgets as they are easily prone to becoming slaves of technology which can hamper the ^{overall} development of their ~~mental~~ personality.

Sadly, referring to the introduction of this essay, if we are to make this world a Disneyland with children, with wonders of nature and meaningful human experiences we must mindfully use technology for our advancement for not everything in life comes with the warning 'handle with care'.

And here I would conclude by a quote of Albert Einstein that tells how technology is a great companion

'Computers are incredibly fast, accurate and stupid. Humans are incredibly slow, inaccurate and brilliant. Together they are powerful beyond imagination.'

Space for review

very good

Technology is a good servant but a bad master
 Space for rough work

Human Capital & Tech. E. humanity

Progress

Computers are increasingly used in work

Together they are powerful

• Tech. E. humanity - fair

• H → Nick Bottom

→ Stephen Hawking

→ Mark & Elon Musk

-ve

Eco → Informal sector
 AI - Tech E. humanity
 automation - case

Indiv
 community
 nation
 world

Human Capital
 edu → distraction
 Health - mobile / TV
 productivity ↓
 malnutrition, facebook
 focus, concentration
 consumption
 addition
 virtual world

Human relations

divorce
 H-H bond
 virtual world

FB
 connecting world

Gender → violence
 social media
 porn, bullying
 stalking

World peace
 inter-security

terrorism
 nuclear weapons
 robots for military
 global concerns

Env → Climate change, S.D.,
 disasters

you stand to
 score high
 in this paper

grad

keep writing

The clearer
 your framework,
 the coherent your
 essay

Try to put the disordered
 thoughts

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