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Q5

Joy is the simplest form of gratitude.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2017 · Essay · 125 marks · Philosophical and ethical quotes

Philosophical and ethical quotes

Core demand of the question

- **Stake:** joy is gratitude without a speech - the simplest thanks is a felt lightness
- **One stand:** gratitude that needs a stage is already complicated; joy is the body saying the gift landed
- Move through self, family, public, counter of injustice. Keep one honest counter
- Close on a small thanks that does not crush the poor

Revision summary

Not a full essay - a map.

- **Open with water and a laugh. Stand:** joy is thanks before a speech.
- **Headings:** self/family, public, counter.

Earn one spiritual nod once. Peg a public good. Close on thanks plus a right.

Note

This is a map, not the full 1,000-1,200 word essay.

Anecdote

A child finds water in a tanker after three dry days and laughs before anyone says 'thank you'. The laugh is the gratitude. The topic wants that simplicity - not a gratitude journal sold as a lifestyle.

One stand

- **Joy:** an unforced yes. Gratitude: recognition of a gift, a person, a luck. Simplest form: before ritual, before a tweet. Write against both a greeting-card and a cynic.

Heading map**What the line is asking**

- **Joy:** not entertainment; a settled gladness.
- **Simplest form of gratitude:** thanks as a feeling before a sentence.
- **Form:** what gratitude looks like when it is not a performance.

Self / family

- A meal, a recovered parent. Joy as the body's receipt.

Public

- A working tap, a teacher who came. Civic joy as gratitude to a nameless file.

The counter

- **Telling a hungry queue to 'be grateful' is cruelty.** **Ambedkar:** a right is not a gift. And some joy is unjust (a riot's cheer). The line is about a clean thanks, not a muzzle on anger.

Last paragraph

- **Close:** keep the laugh at the tanker; still file for a tap. Expand - this is only the map.

Facts & figures

Buddha

Mudita - gladness as a practice, not a post.

Tagore

A thanks that is a song - then a tanker in a dry ward.

Art. 21

Water and life - gratitude does not replace a right.

Jal Jeevan

A tap as a public thanks-machine when it works.

Mid-day meal

A child's joy as a receipt of a scheme.

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