

WRAP Exams · wrapexams.com

Prelims PYQ, Mains model answers, and copy evaluation. Write to the desk for this paper, a doubt, or the AI waitlist.

ask@wrapexams.com · +91 85951 84903 · wrapexams.com

Q8

Social media is inherently a selfish medium.

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

Philosophical and ethical quotes

Core demand of the question

- **Stake:** social media is built to harvest attention for the self - likes as a mirror, not a commons
- **One stand:** the architecture is selfish (profile, a metric, an outrage bait); users can still open a public, but they swim upstream
- Move through design, politics, mental life, counter of mobilisation. Keep one honest counter
- Close on a use that is a tool, not a shrine to the self

Revision summary

Not a full essay - a map.

- **Open with a face and a count. Stand:** design is a self-harvest; a public is upstream.
- **Headings:** design, politics, mind, counter.

Peg one mobilisation and one riot rumour. Close on a tool.

Note

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

Anecdote

A feed shows a face, a count, a fight. The product is the user. The topic is harsh: inherently selfish - not only 'some trolls'. The exam wants the design, then an honest exception.

One stand

- **Inherently:** in the grain of the medium - a profile, an algorithm of more-me. Selfish: the self as the unit of value. Write a riot rumour and a disaster thread as cousins.

Heading map**What the line is asking**

- **Social media:** platforms of broadcast-plus-mirror.
- **Inherently selfish:** structure, not a mood of users.
- **Medium:** McLuhan cousin - the form is the bias.

Design

- Like, a streak, a rage-click. The self as bait and catch.

Politics / street

- A rumour that flatters 'our' people. Polarisation as a business model.

Mind

- Comparison, a loneliness that still scrolls.

The counter

- **A missing-child post, a flood SOS, a worker's union group:** the same pipes can carry a we. RTI-style leak, a feminist hashtag. The medium is selfish by default; a public is an achievement against the grain. Law: IT rules, a intermediary - do not make it the whole essay.

Last paragraph

- **Close:** use the pipe; do not worship the mirror. Expand - this is only the map.

Facts & figures

Gandhi

Means - a medium that trains vanity is already a politics.

Ambedkar

Public reason - a feed is not a constituent hall.

Art. 19

Speech - and a reasonable restriction when a rumour kills.

IT Act / intermediaries

The legal pipe - peg once.

Election / IFCN

A fact-check as swimming upstream.

WRAP Exams · Write. Read. Analyse. Practice. ·

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/essay/2017/social-media-is-inherently-a-selfish-medium/> ·

ask@wrapexams.com · wrapexams.com