

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

Q5

Customary morality cannot be a guide to modern life.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2018 · Essay · 125 marks · Philosophical and ethical quotes

Philosophical and ethical quotes

Core demand of the question

- **Stake:** custom can bind a life that the Constitution has already freed - custom is not a sufficient compass
- **One stand:** customary morality is a starting weather, not a destination. Constitutional morality is the guide
- Move through family, caste, gender, speech. Keep one honest counter
- Close on **Ambedkar**'s compass, not a sneer at the village

Revision summary

Not a full essay - a map.

- **Open with a panchayat marriage. Stand:** custom is weather; Constitution is the compass.
- **Headings:** gender, caste, speech, counter.

Earn **Ambedkar** once in each half. Peg **Art. 17** / 21.

Close on a test, not a sneer.

Note

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

Anecdote

A panchayat 'settles' a marriage the court would not. The village calls it morality. The girl calls it a cage. Customary morality cannot be a guide to modern life - the line is a warning, not a joke about grandparents.

One stand

- **Custom:** habit with a sacred coat. Modern life: contract, a vote, a science, a woman who can leave. Guide: what we may justly enforce. Write **Ambedkar** in every section.

Heading map**What the line is asking**

- **Customary morality:** honour, a purity rule, a feast, a silence.
- **Cannot be a guide:** it fails the stranger, the daughter, the 'outcaste'.
- **Modern life:** cities, a phone, a labour market, a Constitution.

Family / gender

- Khap, a dowry, a widow's dress. Custom as a law without a gazette.

Caste

- A well, a temple, a job. **Art. 17** vs a custom that never read it.

Speech / science

- A book banned by 'sentiment'. A vaccine refused as impurity.

The counter

Custom is also a language, a festival, a care of the old. Burning all custom is another fundamentalism. The guide is a test: does it widen the last person? If yes, keep. If it needs a beating to survive, it is not a guide.

Last paragraph

- **Close:** keep the song, drop the cage. Expand - this is only the map.

Facts & figures

Ambedkar

Constitutional morality - the guide when custom is a cage.

Mill

Harm and liberty - custom is not consent.

Art. 17 / 15 / 21

Untouchability, non-discrimination, dignity.

S. 498A / POCSO

The file against a 'family matter'.

Triple talaq / Khap

Custom meeting a court.

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

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/essay/2018/customary-morality-cannot-be-a-guide-to-modern-life/> ·
ask@wrapexams.com · wrapexams.com