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Q8

Rise of Artificial Intelligence: the threat of jobless future or better job opportunities through reskilling and upskilling.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2019 · Essay · 125 marks · Philosophical and ethical quotes

Philosophical and ethical quotes

Core demand of the question

- **Stake:** machine learning can erase tasks and also create new ones - the fork is policy, not fate
- **One stand:** neither Luddite panic nor a sermon on 'reskill and smile'. The state and firm must share the transition
- Move through labour, school, inequality, care work. Keep one honest counter
- Close on a human who can still bargain

Revision summary

Not a full essay - a map.

- **Open with a clerk and a portal. Stand:** politics of the fork, not fate.
- **Headings:** labour, school, inequality, counter.

Peg a gig law / skilling mission. Close on bargaining.

Note

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

Anecdote

A clerk's register is now a portal. The clerk is not sure he is. A radiologist's junior is a model that never sleeps. The topic puts a gun on the table: jobless future, or better work if we retrain. Refuse the gun. Write the politics of the fork.

One stand

Some tasks die. Some tasks get worse (surveillance, a gig score). Some get better if bargaining and public education move. Write India: IT services, a warehouse, a farm drone.

Heading map

What the line is asking

- **Threat:** displacement, a thinner middle, a deskilled craft.
- **Opportunity:** new tools, new firms, time for care if the gains are shared.
- Reskilling is real; it is not a moral duty dumped on the fired.

Labour

- A BPO script vs a model. A warehouse picker paced by an algorithm.
- Unions, a portable social security, a just transition fund.

School / skilling

- ITI, a university that still teaches judgment. 21A is childhood; this is adulthood's school.

Inequality

- Capital owns the model. Labour owns a certificate that expires.
- Public compute and open data as a democratic demand.

The counter

'Everyone will be a prompt engineer' is a fairy tale. Care, teaching, a judge's hearing, a nurse's hand - not all excellence is a token. And a jobless future for some is already here; do not wait for a perfect forecast.

Last paragraph

- **Close:** retrain the system, not only the worker. Expand - this is only the map.

Facts & figures

Keynes / Schumpeter

One nod: destruction and a new mix of work - then India.

Ambedkar

Education as the milk of a lioness - reskilling with dignity, not a pep talk.

Code on Social Security

Gig and platform - the legal seam of the new task.

NCVET / Skill India

Certificates - useful, not a substitute for a wage floor.

Art. 41 / 43

Work, a living wage - the ought the model does not write.

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