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Q3

Ships do not sink because of water around them, ships sink because of water that gets into them.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2020 · Essay · 125 marks · Philosophical and ethical quotes

Philosophical and ethical quotes

Core demand of the question

- **Stake:** the sea is not the leak - character and institutions fail from what they let in
- **One stand:** manage the inlets: rumour, graft, panic, a bad hire. The world will still be water
- Move through self, organisation, republic, world. Keep one honest counter
- Close on watertight habits, not a war on the ocean

Revision summary

Not a full essay - a map.

- **Open with a boy blaming the sea and a father pointing at tar. Stand:** inlets, not the ocean.
- **Headings:** self, firm, republic, world, then one counter.

Earn the image honestly. Peg CAG or a bridge.

Close on June's tar.

Note

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

Anecdote

A fishing boat in a swell. The boy blames the sea. The father points to a seam they did not tar. Ships do not sink because of water around them; they sink because of water that gets in. The topic is the seam.

One stand

- **Outer water:** markets, opposition, a pandemic, a neighbour. Inner water: compromise of the hull - hypocrisy, a captured regulator, a mind that forwards anything. Write the seam.

Heading map

What the line is asking

- **Water around:** adversity, criticism, global shocks - not automatically fatal.
- **Water within:** the leak you permitted.
- A **nautical image** - do not fake an admiral.

Self

- A habit, a secret, a rage. Integrity is tar.

Organisations

- **A university, a party, a newsroom:** one compromised editor is a seam.
- **Peg:** NPAs, a collapsed bridge - water that was already in the books.

Republic

- **Constitution as hull. Communal poison, a captured statistic, a lie in the House:** inlets.
- **CAG, a free press, a commission:** pumps. Use them or drown in a calm sea.

World

- A state with a strong army and a rotten currency. Inner water.

The counter

Some seas are mines (invasion, a virus). A perfect hull still needs lifeboats. The line does not blame the drowned for the cyclone. It blames the owner who skipped the tar in June. Also: a leak can come from above - a law that opens the seam.

Last paragraph

- **Close:** tar the seam you can reach. Expand - this is only the map.

Facts & figures

Nautical image

Ships sink from water within - treat as the given line, not a fake citation.

Gandhi

Be the change - the inner leak as the first seam.

CAG / regulator

Pumps - use them or drown in calm weather.

Art. 19 / 32

Speech and remedies as how a republic finds a leak.

NPAs / procurement

Water already in the books - a seam named too late.