

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

Q1

The process of self-discovery has now been technologically outsourced.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2021 · Essay · 125 marks · Philosophical and ethical quotes

Philosophical and ethical quotes

Core demand of the question

- **Stake:** the search for the self has been handed to platforms, tests, and feeds
- **One stand:** a tool can help you see; it cannot sit in for the seeing. Reclaim the inner work
- Move through phone, market, state ID, education. Keep one honest counter
- Close on attention as a practice, not a product

Revision summary

Not a full essay - a map.

- **Open with a personality-app in a hostel. Stand:** tools serve; they must not be the self.
- **Headings:** person, market, ID, school, then one counter.

Earn **Gandhi** once. Peg Aadhaar or a feed.

Close on attention as practice.

Note

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

Anecdote

- **A student asks an app who he is:** a colour, a career, a 'personality type' in four letters. The app is quick. The boy is relieved. Self-discovery has been outsourced like a form filled by a kiosk. The topic is that relief - and its bill.

One stand

Technology can mirror; it also sells a self. Write to keep instruments (a test, a census, a therapy app) as servants, and to refuse a life whose meaning is a dashboard.

Heading map

What the line is asking

- **Self-discovery:** conscience, craft, a history of one's own harm and gifts.
- **Outsourced:** Myers-briggs-as-fate, a feed, a match, an ancestor-DNA kit, a ranking.
- **Now:** speed and scale, not the first mirror in history (astrology was an older kiosk).

Self

- We rent an identity because making one is slow. **Gandhi's** experiments cannot be an API.

Market

- The attention industry profits from a self that is never done - FOMO's cousin.
- Coaching that sells a rank as a soul.

State

- **Aadhaar, a ration card, a caste certificate:** necessary papers. They are not the person.
- **A social-credit fantasy:** the republic must not become the app.

Education

- Marks as a proxy for worth. NEP's claim vs the kiosk in the hostel.

The counter

A first-generation student needs a map the family cannot give - a lecture, a test, even an app that names depression. Outsourcing a tool is not the sin; outsourcing judgment is. Therapy and diagnostics can be mercy. The line targets the sale of a finished self, not the stethoscope.

Last paragraph

- **Close:** use the mirror; do not move into it. Expand - this is only the map.

Facts & figures

Gandhi

Experiments with Truth - the self as a lab, not as a download.

Tagore

Where the mind is without fear - including fear of an unbranded self.

Aadhaar / IDs

A paper that must exist; a person that must not be reduced to it.

DPDP / platforms

The harvest of the inner life as data - a legal handle, not a sermon.

Art. 21

Privacy as a piece of the self the kiosk does not own.