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Q5

The time to repair the roof is when the sun is shining.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2022 · Essay · 125 marks · Philosophical and ethical quotes

Philosophical and ethical quotes

Core demand of the question

- **Often JFK:** repair the roof in the sunshine
- **One stand:** prosperity and peace are when you fix the leak - not when the storm is already in the room
- Move through self, fisc, disaster, **climate**. Keep one honest counter
- Close on maintenance as statecraft

Revision summary

Not a full essay - a map.

- **Open with a verandah that waits for July. Stand:** maintain in surplus.
- **Headings:** self, fisc, disaster, **climate**, then one counter.

Earn **JFK** once. Peg drills or FRBM.

Close on January's list.

Note

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

Anecdote

A school verandah drips every monsoon. In January the file says 'not urgent'. In July the children sit in a corner. The line is January's job: repair while the sun is on the tiles.

One stand

Sunshine is surplus, health, a quiet border, a primary surplus. Repair is drills, buffers, a law updated, a relationship tended. Write against the politics that only wakes in the flood.

Heading map**What the line is asking**

- **Sun shining:** capacity, legitimacy, cheap credit, a young demography.
- **Roof:** institutions, infrastructure, trust, the **climate** file.
- **JFK** (as commonly linked) - one honest mention.

Self

- Save in a salaried month; repair a friendship before the blow-up.
- Health check while well.

Fisc and economy

- Counter-cyclical buffers, a GST that still needs plumbing, a bad-loan clean-up in a good year.
- **Peg:** FRBM spirit - the sunshine rule governments love to skip.

Disaster and health

- **Odisha's drills after earlier cyclones:** a roof repaired in the sun.
- Pandemic stockpiles that were not there - a roof noticed in the rain.

Climate and society

- Decarbonise while growth still has room; wait and the storm prices the tiles.
- **Social roof:** a caste census debate, a police reform - easier before a riot than after.

The counter

Some roofs cannot wait for sun (a collapsing bridge, a missing child). And 'sunshine' can be inequality - repairing a palace while the hut leaks. The line is about timely maintenance of the common roof, not about leisure for the comfortable.

Last paragraph

- **Close:** keep a January list. A republic that only legislates in the rain has already wet the books. Expand - this is only the map.

Facts & figures

JFK

The time to repair the roof is when the sun is shining - as commonly given. Do not fake a date.

Chanakya / Kautilya

Treasure in peace for war - an older sunshine rule. One line.

NDMA / Odisha drills

Repair of response in the sun - cheaper than a July file.

Fiscal buffer

A surplus year that still spends as if it were a storm - the skipped roof.

Climate

Early mitigation as tiles in the sun - IPCC logic without a lecture.

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