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

Q4

Inspiration for creativity springs from the effort to look for the magical in the mundane.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2023 · Essay · 125 marks · Philosophical and ethical quotes

Philosophical and ethical quotes

Core demand of the question

- **Stake:** creativity is attention to the ordinary, not only a genius myth
- **One stand:** the magical is often a well, a queue, a rusted pump seen steadily
- Move through art, science, governance, daily life. Keep one honest counter
- Close on looking again, not waiting for a muse

Revision summary

Not a full essay - a map.

- **Open with a mid-day meal cook and a later play. Stand:** attention is the spring.
- **Headings:** art, science, state, repair, then one counter.

Earn Tagore once. Peg UPI or a PHC.

Close on looking twice.

Note

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

Anecdote

A mid-day meal cook adjusts the grain by eye because the weigh-scale is broken. A visitor calls it 'jugaad'. A child later writes a play about the cook. The magic was not a lightning bolt. It was looking at the mundane until it spoke.

One stand

Creativity is a way of seeing the given world - a formula, a folk tune, a bus route - until a new use appears. Write against the cult of the isolated genius, and still admit that looking needs time the exhausted may not have.

Heading map

What the line is asking

- **Mundane:** kitchen, file, monsoon, a village path, a spreadsheet.
- **Magical:** pattern, metaphor, a cheaper fix, a kinder rule.
- **Effort:** attention is labour.

Self and art

- **Tagore:** the world is not a machine; the ordinary is already thick.

WRAP Exams

- A phone photograph of a drain can be art or noise - the effort decides.

Science

- Penicillin's mould; Ramanujan's notebooks; a PHC compounder reading a label (cousin of the doubter).
- **Peg:** ISRO's ordinary clean-rooms producing an extraordinary window.

State

- **UPI:** payments as ordinary as a message - magic that sat in mundane small transfers.
- A collector who walks the ration shop sees what the dashboard dyes.

Economy

- **Repair, craft, a circular stall:** value hiding in what we call waste.

The counter

Do not tell the overworked that their exhaustion is a failure to 'see magic'. Some mundane is injustice (an open sewer). Creativity here is a tap, not a poem. The line is about attention, not about blessing the broken.

Last paragraph

- **Close:** look twice at the queue. That is how a republic invents. Expand - this is only the map.

Facts & figures

Tagore
The world is not a machine - the mundane is already thick if we look.

Ramanujan
Notebooks that found pattern in what others called ordinary numbers - one earned scene.

UPI
A magical rail built on mundane small payments.

MDM / ICDS
The school kitchen as a site of unnoticed design - and of rights.

Repair / circularity
Value in what a throwaway economy calls waste.

WRAP Exams · Write. Read. Analyse. Practice. · https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/essay/2023/inspiration-for-creativity-springs-from-the-effort-to-look-for-the-magical-in-the-mundane/ · ask@wrapexams.com · wrapexams.com