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UPSC Mains 2015 Essay

Year-wise PYQ pack · WRAP model answers with canonical links

Official UPSC stems in exam order. Each live answer sits on one WRAP URL; this PDF is the year pack, not a second copy of the article. Open the link under a question for the full page.

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains/essay/2015/>

Q1 · 125 marks

Lending hands to someone is better than giving a dole.

Essay · 2015 · Philosophical and ethical quotes

Revision summary

Not a full essay - a map.

- **Open with grain and a ledger. Stand:** capability over a pause; keep a floor.
- **Headings:** work, dignity, state, counter.

Earn **Ambedkar** once. Peg MGNREGA / SHG. Do not insult PDS.

Note

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

Anecdote

A widow gets a packet of grain and a lecture. Next door a self-help group teaches a ledger. The packet is a dole. The ledger is a hand. The line prefers the hand - write why, without spitting on the packet.

One stand

- **Lending hands:** skill, a job, a care that walks with. Dole: a transfer that ends at the window. Better: capability. Counter: a dole is sometimes the only justice this week.

Heading map

What the line is asking

- **Lending hands:** time, a craft, a public that enables.
- **Better than a dole:** ranking two tools, not banning the second.
- **Someone:** the last person, not a mascot.

Welfare / work

- MGNREGA as a hand (a day of work) vs a leaky gift.
- SHG, an apprenticeship, a school.

Dignity

- **Ambedkar:** a right is not alms. A dole can still save a life.

State

- A PHC that teaches a mother; a cash DBT that arrives when the PHC is shut.

The counter

Calling food security a 'dole' is an elite sport. A floor (PDS, a pension) is a hand of the republic. The bad dole is a vote-package that never builds a tap. Keep both: a floor, then a skill.

Last paragraph

- **Close:** packet this week; ledger and tap next. Expand - this is only the map.

Open WRAP page —

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/essay/2015/lending-hands-to-someone-is-better-than-giving-a-dole/>

WRAP Exams

Q2 · 125 marks

Quick but steady wins the race.

Essay · 2015 · Philosophical and ethical quotes

Revision summary

Not a full essay - a map.

- **Open with a cracked flyover. Stand:** tempo - fast decision, lasting build.
- **Headings:** state, self, infra, counter.

Peg one shock-reform and one delay. Close on a livable pace.

Note

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

Anecdote

A flyover opens before an election and cracks before the next. Quick won the photo. Steady was not invited. The cousin of the tortoise is not slowness as a virtue. It is a speed that does not lie.

One stand

- **Quick:** a decision, a first mile. Steady: maintenance, a consent, a file that survives a CM. Wins the race: development that is still there. Write against both inertia and a stunt.

Heading map

What the line is asking

- **Quick but steady:** a compound, not two essays.
- **Wins the race:** a public good that lasts; a self that does not burn out.

State

- A reform with a sequence (GST needed a compensation). Shock without a rail is only quick.

Self / exam

- A timetable that is ambitious and sleepable.

Infra / ecology

- A dam, a coastal road - speed that skipped a slope.

The counter

'Steady' can be a career of delay (a clearance that never comes). The poor cannot wait a generation for a tap. Quick is owed to them; steady is owed to the tap's tomorrow.

Last paragraph

- **Close:** open the tap this year; build it so it still runs. Expand - this is only the map.

Open WRAP page — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/essay/2015/quick-but-steady-wins-the-race/>

Q3 · 125 marks

Character of an institution is reflected in its leader.

Essay · 2015 · Philosophical and ethical quotes

Revision summary

Not a full essay - a map.

- **Open with a VC and a thesis. Stand:** tone from the top; rules must outlast.
- **Headings:** office, knowledge/firm, counter.

Earn **Ambedkar** once. Peg a CAG or a court. Close on a firable crook.

Note

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

Anecdote

- **A vice-chancellor who never reads a thesis sets a tone:** everyone else stops reading. A police chief who files honestly sets another. The character of the house is visible in the person at the desk - until the desk is bigger than the person.

One stand

- **Institution:** a university, a court, a party, a company. Leader: the one who can punish and praise. Reflected: culture as a shadow. Write **Weber** lightly; write a CAG.

Heading map

What the line is asking

- **Character:** honesty, a courage, a cruelty.
- **Institution:** a repeatable practice.
- **Reflected:** not identical - a lag, a resistance.

Public office

- A PM, a CM, a collector. Tone from the top - a classic.

Knowledge / firm

- A lab's ethics. A board that copies a founder's contempt for a law.

The counter

A good institution can survive a bad season (a court that still sits). A cult of the leader is itself a bad character. **Ambedkar**: constitutional morality over a great man's mood. The reflection is real; it must not become a destiny.

Last paragraph

- **Close:** hire a decent head; write a rule that outlasts them. Expand - this is only the map.

Open WRAP page —

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/essay/2015/character-of-an-institution-is-reflected-in-its-leader/>

Q4 · 125 marks

Education without values, as useful as it is, seems rather to make a man more clever devil.

Essay · 2015 · Philosophical and ethical quotes

Revision summary

Not a full essay - a map.

- **Open with a ranker and a rumour. Stand:** skill plus an ought; watch the 'values' that cage.
- **Headings:** school, profession, republic, counter.

Earn **Ambedkar** once. Peg a scam and a civic class. Close on a skilled no.

Note

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

Anecdote

A ranking factory produces a boy who can crack a test and a rumour. Useful. The line says: without values, rather a clever devil. The exam wants that fear - then a school that still teaches a proof.

One stand

- **Education:** literacy, a professional skill. Values: dignity, a truth-method, a restraint. Clever devil: fraud, a riot engineer, a safe-cracker of a bank. Write ASER and a scam.

Heading map

What the line is asking

- **Without values:** a missing ought.
- **Useful as it is:** concede the skill.
- **Clever devil:** efficiency of harm.

School

- A civic vacuum. A coaching that never asks 'should'.

Profession / tech

- A doctor who sells a kidney path. An engineer of a phishing kit.

Republic

- A bureaucrat who knows every loophole. Education as a weapon against the poor.

The counter

'Values' can be a catechism of obedience (a girl taught silence). **Ambedkar**'s value is equality, not a custom. And a fool with values can still crash a bridge. Keep the proof; add the ought.

Last paragraph

- **Close:** teach a skill that can still say no. Expand - this is only the map.

Open WRAP page — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/essay/2015/education-without-values-as-useful-as-it-is-seems-rather-to-make-a-man-more-clever-devil/>

Q5 · 125 marks

Technology cannot replace manpower.

Essay · 2015 · Philosophical and ethical quotes

Revision summary

Not a full essay - a map.

- **Open with a kiosk and a cancelled train. Stand:** replace drudgery; keep care and judgment.
- **Headings:** care, farm/factory, state, counter.

Peg a PHC and a tractor. Close on complement.

Note

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

Anecdote

A kiosk prints a ticket. The platform still needs a person when the train is cancelled and a crowd panics. Technology took a queue. It did not take the night. The topic is that remainder: manpower that is not a romantic Luddite.

One stand

- **Cannot replace:** care, a teaching, a policing that is not only a camera, a repair. Can replace: a repetitive calculation, a dangerous lift. Write a nurse and a robot.

Heading map

What the line is asking

- **Technology:** a tool, an AI cousin, a tractor.
- **Cannot replace manpower:** a claim about kinds of work.
- **Manpower:** skilled persons, not a headcount fetish.

Care / school

- A midwife. A teacher who sees a child.

Farm / factory

- A tractor without a mechanic is dead iron. Labour that was drudgery can go.

State

- E-office and a clerk who still must decide a hardship.

The counter

Some manpower should be replaced (a child in a mine, a human doing a 40-degree rooftop weld if a machine can). The line is not a jobs-at-any-cruelty. It is a reminder that a civilisation is still made of persons who can be answerable.

Last paragraph

- **Close:** automate the grind; keep the person who can be blamed and thanked. Expand - this is only the map.

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<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/essay/2015/technology-cannot-replace-manpower/>

Q6 · 125 marks

Crisis faced in India - moral or economic.

Essay · 2015 · Philosophical and ethical quotes

Revision summary

Not a full essay - a map.

- **Open with an empty account and a full drawer. Stand:** economic wound, moral frame.
- **Headings:** economic, moral, hinge, counter.

Earn **Ambedkar** once. Peg a job and a scam. Close on floor plus honesty.

Note

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

Anecdote

A farmer's account is empty and a clerk's drawer is full. Is the crisis moral or economic? The question is a trap if you pick one and sleep. The empty account is economic. The full drawer is moral. They are one night.

One stand

- **Economic:** growth, a job, a fiscal. Moral: corruption, a cruelty, a broken word. Faced in India: 2015's weather - a slowdown talk, a scandal memory. Write a stand that nests them.

Heading map

What the line is asking

- **Crisis:** a turning that hurts.
- **Moral or economic:** a forced or - show the hinge.

Economic face

- A jobless young, a farm, an infrastructure gap.

Moral face

- A scam, a riot, a custom that beats a daughter.
- Trust as the missing infrastructure.

Hinge

- Loot makes the economic crisis worse. Caste makes a market cruel.

The counter

A poor ethics lecture without a job is elite. A GDP lecture without a shame is a thief's economics. **Ambedkar**: social democracy or the economic will remain a club.

Last paragraph

- **Close:** pay the job; shame the drawer. Expand - this is only the map.

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<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/essay/2015/crisis-faced-in-india-moral-or-economic/>

Q7 · 125 marks

Dreams which should not let India sleep.

Essay · 2015 · Philosophical and ethical quotes

Revision summary

Not a full essay - a map.

- **Open with a billboard and a railway line. Stand:** unfinished Preamble, not a vanity insomnia.
- **Headings:** social, economic/ecological, knowledge, counter.

Earn **Ambedkar** once. Three dreams max. Close on one waking work.

Note

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

Anecdote

A child still defecates by a railway line under a billboard of a 'new India'. Sleep would be to believe the billboard. The dreams that should not let India sleep are the ones the Preamble already wrote and a street has not yet received.

One stand

- **Dreams:** **Ambedkar**'s social democracy, a tap, a science, a border that is quiet. Should not let sleep: urgency, not anxiety as a personality. Write three, not thirty.

Heading map

What the line is asking

- **Dreams:** public oughts, not private fantasies only.
- **Should not let India sleep:** a duty of restlessness.
- **Which dreams:** pick; do not list ministries.

Social

- Caste, a woman walking at night, a language.

Economic / ecological

- Decent work. A river that still runs.

Strategic / knowledge

- A science that is ours. A peace that is not a TV war.

The counter

A nation that never sleeps is a fever. Sleep is also a right of a night-shift worker. The line is about elites and a state that dozed on a promise - not about denying rest. And some 'dreams' are nightmares (a homogeneity). Keep the Preamble's dreams.

Last paragraph

- **Close:** stay awake for the street under the billboard. Expand - this is only the map.

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<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/essay/2015/dreams-which-should-not-let-india-sleep/>

Q8 · 125 marks

Can capitalism bring inclusive growth?

Essay · 2015 · Philosophical and ethical quotes

Revision summary

Not a full essay - a map.

- **Open with a mall and a drainless basti. Stand:** growth-machine, not an inclusion-machine.
- **Headings:** engine, leak, republic's conditions, counter.

Earn **Ambedkar** once. Peg a tax/union/school. Close on market inside a republic.

Note

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

Anecdote

A mall hires a guard from a basti that has no drain. Profit arrived. Inclusion did not. Can capitalism bring inclusive growth? The word is 'bring' - as if the machine delivers a public. Write a conditional yes, then the conditions.

One stand

- **Capitalism:** private property, a market, a firm. Inclusive growth: rising incomes at the bottom, a capability, a dignity. Can: possibility, not destiny. Write East Asia lightly; write an Indian informal.

Heading map

What the line is asking

- **Can:** not 'must'. A possibility.
- **Bring:** as a product of the system - be sceptical.
- **Inclusive growth:** the last quintile, not an average.

Engine

- Investment, a job, a cheap good. Capitalism as a growth machine - concede.

Leak

- Informality, a caste hiring, a spatial club.
- Profit that does not pay a living or a tax.

Republic's conditions

- A school, a union, a competition law, a land right.
- **Ambedkar:** without social equality the market is a club.

The counter

Pre-capitalist hunger was not inclusive either. A licence-permit stagnation was not kindness. The stand is not anti-firm. It is: inclusion is a political achievement that uses markets - markets do not replace politics.

Last paragraph

- **Close:** let the firm hire; let the republic set the floor and the tax. Expand - this is only the map.

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<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/essay/2015/can-capitalism-bring-inclusive-growth/>

WRAP Exams

Compiled answer key

Last pages of this pack. Each question links to the WRAP model answer on wrapexams.com.

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Q1 125 marks	Q2 125 marks	Q3 125 marks	Q4 125 marks
Q5 125 marks	Q6 125 marks	Q7 125 marks	Q8 125 marks

Question-wise key

Q1 · 125 marks Solution

Q2 · 125 marks Solution

Q3 · 125 marks Solution

Q4 · 125 marks Solution

Q5 · 125 marks Solution

Q6 · 125 marks Solution

Q7 · 125 marks Solution

Q8 · 125 marks Solution

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