

SECTION-A

1. a) "Individual moral attitudes shape collective social consciousness." Explain with reference to its application in public service. (150 words) (10)
b) "Happiness is the highest good." – Aristotle. How does Aristotle's concept of eudaimonia (flourishing) contribute to our understanding of ethical living and governance? (150 words) (10)
2. a) "Not just the choices but the intention behind any choice is what makes it ethical." Examine the given statement in light of ethical reasoning and decision making. (150 words) (10)
b) Anger and false Ego are harmful for both personal and professional life and are the ground for creating negative emotions and undesirable behaviour. Give your answer with examples. (150 words) (10)
3. a) How can core ethical values like honesty, compassion, and integrity be preserved in a world driven by competition and materialism? (150 words) (10)
b) The cornerstone of good governance depends upon ethical leadership, as it inspires public trust, and champions transparency, accountability, and inclusivity within government institutions. Comment. (150 words) (10)
4. a) What is "madhyama-pratipada" or the "middle-path approach"? Discuss its application in various domains of life with example. (150 words) (10)
b) Modern agricultural practices often prioritize productivity over sustainability. Analyse the ethical challenges involved in balancing food security with environmental conservation. (150 words) (10)
5. a) Discuss the key principles of feminist ethics and how they differ from traditional ethical theories. (150 words) (10)
b) Analyse the ethical challenges posed by the spread of misinformation and fake news on social media platforms. Provide suitable examples to support your arguments. (150 words) (10)
6. Discuss the moral of the statements given below:
 - a) "By common endeavour, we can raise the country to a new greatness, while a lack of unity will expose us to fresh calamities." Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel. (150 words) (10)
 - b) "Let me define a leader. He must have vision and passion, and not be afraid of any problem. Instead, he should know how to defeat it. Most importantly, he must work with integrity." A.P.J. Abdul Kalam. (150 words) (10)
 - c) "Science has contributed a great deal to war and violence, and people well trained in science are sometimes not entirely rational and are even dogmatic. We have to find a way to teach reflectively, not just scientifically." Nel Noddings. (150 words) (10)

SECTION - B

7. You are posted as the District Magistrate of a region that is home to a dense forest and a tribal population. The government has proposed a major infrastructure project-a highway-that promises economic development and improved connectivity. However, the proposed route would cut through a large portion of the forest, potentially displacing wildlife, affecting biodiversity, and disrupting the way of life of the tribal communities who live in harmony with nature.
- The project has strong political backing and is being justified on the grounds of human development and economic growth. Environmentalists and local activists argue that the project reflects a deeply anthropocentric mindset that prioritizes human convenience over ecological balance and long-term sustainability.
- a) Identify the ethical issues involved in the case above.
b) As the District Magistrate, what course of action would you take? Give justification. (250 words) (20)
8. You are appointed as the Chief Development Officer (CDO) of a district where a centrally sponsored housing scheme for the rural poor is being implemented. The scheme has a clear mandate to provide pucca houses to economically weaker sections. During an inspection, you discover that several beneficiaries listed in the official records either do not exist or are financially well-off. Further, a whistleblower from your own department informs you that bribes were taken by field officers to include ineligible names. There are also allegations that local political leaders pressured junior officials to favour certain beneficiaries.
- There is considerable pressure on you from higher authorities to expedite fund disbursal to meet quarterly targets. However, disbursing funds without cleaning up the beneficiary list could mean reinforcing corruption.
- a) What are the ethical issues involved in this case?
b) How would you handle the conflict between administrative pressure and ethical conduct?
c) As the CDO, what concrete actions would you take against corrupt practices, and how would you protect the whistleblower? (250 words) (20)
9. You are the District Education Officer (DEO) in a rural district where a new government scheme promoting STEM education for girls is being launched. During implementation, you notice that many headmasters and local officials are discouraging girls from enrolling in science and technology courses, citing "low interest" or "cultural unsuitability." Some schools are even diverting STEM resources meant for girls to boys. You also learn that parents are hesitant to send their daughters for science workshops held outside the village due to safety and social norms. Your preliminary data suggests that this mindset is affecting enrolment, leading to the underutilisation of funds and gender disparity in educational access.
- a) Identify the ethical issues involved in this scenario.
b) What values and principles should guide your response as a public servant?
c) What immediate and long-term steps would you take to promote gender equality in education? How would you address cultural resistance without alienating the local community? (250 words) (20)

10. You are the manager of a reputed firm. One of your employees has just been diagnosed with a treatable form of cancer. He has confided in you about the status of his health. He has also requested to not disclose it to anyone as he is not comfortable sharing it. Over the next few months, this employee is frequently absent, especially during his radiation treatments. His absence is not a major issue for the company as he can work from home. However, some of the employees of the company feel that he is getting special treatment and planning to raise the same issue with the seniors of the company. If this happens, it would create serious issue for the employee who is suffering.
- a) Identify the stakeholders and the ethical issues involved in the case.
b) How would you handle this situation? Suggest an appropriate course of action. (250 words) (20)
11. You are posted as the Superintendent of Police (SP) in a border district that has recently witnessed a rise in violent crimes and communal tensions. Intelligence reports indicate that illegal weapons are being smuggled into the region, possibly with the collusion of some local police officers and political elements. During a routine check, your team apprehends a van carrying unlicensed arms. Upon investigation, it is revealed that the weapons were destined for distribution ahead of an upcoming election. Senior political leaders are allegedly involved, and there is pressure from higher-ups to bury the investigation quietly. At the same time, whistleblowers within the department are facing threats, and your honesty is being questioned by powerful groups.
- a) What are the ethical issues involved in this situation? What values should guide your decision-making as a public servant?
b) How would you deal with political pressure while ensuring justice and public safety? What steps would you take to protect whistleblowers and prevent the recurrence of such illegal activities? (250 words) (20)
12. You are the Deputy Commissioner of Police (Cyber Cell) in a metropolitan city. Recently, a major cyber fraud case has emerged where thousands of senior citizens were duped through fake investment apps. Preliminary investigation traces the scam to a network of tech-savvy youth, many of whom are first-time offenders from well-educated, middle-class backgrounds. Some of the arrested individuals express remorse and claim they were manipulated by anonymous handlers online. The media is sensationalising the issue, and there's pressure from political and social groups demanding strict punishment. At the same time, many victims have lost their life savings and demand justice. You must decide how to proceed with the investigation, while balancing justice, public pressure, and the future of the young accused.
- a) What are the ethical issues involved in this case?
b) How would you ensure justice for the victims without overlooking the possibility of reform for the accused?
c) What long-term steps would you recommend to curb cybercrime and promote digital ethics? (250 words) (20)