Aspirants Hub AI

GS4 PAPER
ETHICS THEORY + CASE STUDIES

DAILY ANSWER WRITING (DAWP) & TEST SERIES

GS4: Tapasya

Ethics, Integrity & Aptitude

Master answer writing for GS4 the way toppers did: One-pager notes + Daily Answer Writing + (Bonus: Test Series + Mentorship)

WHAT TO STUDY

One-pager notes

39 Ethics Anchor Sheets, one per syllabus heading and case-study theme.

3 QUESTIONS A DAY

Topper copies + handwritten PYQs + a new question

The new question comes with the **best model answer**.

FEEDBACK

Instant topper-copy based AI evaluation + human evaluation

AI on every answer; your tests checked by **interview-given top scorers**.

YOUR PACE

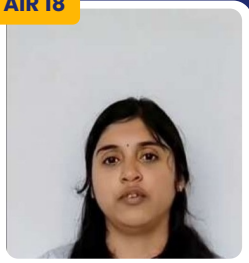
Day by day, with revision days

A **revision day** after every writing day. Finish one and the next opens.

TEST SERIES + MENTORSHIP

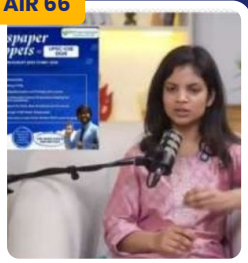
2 sectional tests + 1 Full-Length Test, evaluated by **candidates who have faced the UPSC interview**. The tests are open from day one. After a test, get it **discussed with a ranker** or the best top mentor available.

AIR 18



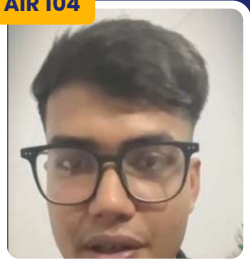
Shruthi

AIR 66



Meenal Negi

AIR 104



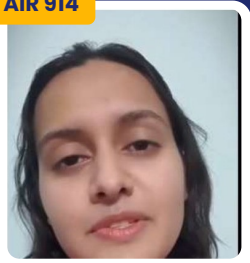
Aryan Kumar Singh

AIR 389



Manoj GS

AIR 914



Ayushi Sijeria

Aspirants Hub: Hub of Toppers

86 toppers in CSE 2025 came through Aspirants Hub programmes · **80+ rankers** used the AI evaluation you get on every answer

Course valid till Prelims 2027: students can attend tests & DAWP flexibly till then.

~~₹2,999~~ **₹2,499** GS4 paper

Enrol: aspirantshub.ai/daily-answer-writing
Free counselling call with a ranker: 9217266679

WHY TAPASYA FOR GS4

Ethics feels done, until you have to write it.



Every year I meet aspirants who have read Ethics twice and written it almost never. In the hall, the definitions do not come out right. The examples come out vague. The **six case studies** eat the time the theory needed. What is missing is a **writing habit**.

Tapasya builds that habit one syllabus heading at a time. You write three answers, see how a topper wrote it, and get feedback the same day. **Finish a day and the next one opens.** Nothing to plan.

Shubham Ajmera · Co-founder, Aspirants Hub

01

PYQ · WHAT TO STUDY

A past question with our handwritten model answer

Written by hand, at a length you can **actually write in the hall**.

02

TOPPER COPY · HOW TO WRITE

A question a topper answered

Write it first. Then open the **real topper copy** and see how it was done.

03

NEW QUESTION · PRACTISE

A fresh question, with the best model answer

It is not a past question, so you learn to handle **something new under time**. It **may appear in Mains 2027**.

Instant AI evaluation on every answer

The AI is built on topper copies. It shows **what to fix** in content, structure and examples, the same day. It runs on your Aspirants Hub dashboard.

Then a revision day

Put your evaluation next to the model answer and the topper copy. Note what you missed. Then revise **the Anchor Sheets listed** for the next day.

39

ANCHOR SHEETS

Ethics one-pager notes, included. 19 theory sheets and **20 case-study sheets**. Each sheet has the **definitions that score** (with the thinker, the 2nd ARC report or the court behind them), keywords, short named examples, the ethical issues and dilemmas, and an opening and closing line. Case-study sheets also give the stakeholders, the options and an action plan. Read the sheet, then write.

Mentorship by Rank Holders

After each test, **a ranker goes through your copy with you**. You see where you lost marks and **what to change next time**. If no ranker is free, the best top mentor available does it.

REAL PAGES · QUESTION 02 OF A WRITING DAY

The topper copy, exactly as you get it.

This is the topper-copy question from **Day 1, Ethics and human interface**. First you see what to notice. Then you see the topper's own sheets.

Topper copy of the day

SUBJECT 1 · GS4 ETHICS THEORY · ANSWER WRITING 1 OF 8

Ethics and human interface: essence, determinants and consequences of ethics in human actions; dimensions of ethics; **ethics in private and public relationships**.

THE TOPPER COPY QUESTION

In a technologically evolving world, traditional determinants of ethics are increasingly challenged. Discuss its impact on individual character and social fabric.

GS4 ETHICS THEORY · DETERMINANTS AND CONSEQUENCES OF ETHICS · 150 WORDS · 10 MARKS

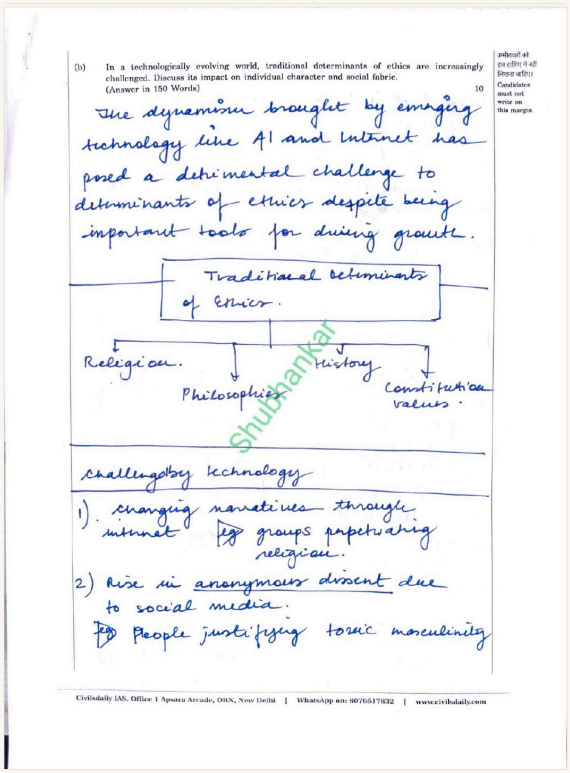
WHAT TO NOTICE IN THIS COPY

1. **The question's key phrase becomes the diagram. Traditional Determinants of Ethics** is boxed and fanned into four: **Religion**, **Philosophies**, **History**, **Constitutional values**. Work that would have cost forty words of prose is done in a four-arm fan.
2. **Two headings for two demands, and the second splits again. Challenges by technology**, then a boxed **Implications** feeding two labelled boxes, **Individual** and **Social Fabric**, which are the question's own two words.
3. **An eg sits under almost every point.** Groups perpetuating religion online, toxic masculinity justified on social media, the trend of costly electronics, duty ethics portrayed as redundant, language assertion on social media, crime against the marginalised.
4. **It names the mechanism, not just the effect.** Anonymous dissent *through* social media, materialism *through* technology infiltration, hard work substituted *by* complacency. The scoring unit in theory is the claim plus its how.
5. **It closes on a named thinker in seventeen words. Aristotle's golden mean**, comfortably inside the 15 to 30 word norm for a conclusion.

THE QUESTION + WHAT TO NOTICE

Five things in this copy that earn marks.

THE TOPPER ANSWER, AS WRITTEN · SHEET 1 OF 2


(b) In a technologically evolving world, traditional determinants of ethics are increasingly challenged. Discuss its impact on individual character and social fabric. (Answer in 150 Words) 10

The dynamism brought by emerging technology like AI and Internet has posed a detrimental challenge to determinants of ethics despite being important tools for driving growth.

Traditional determinants of Ethics.

Religion. Philosophies History Constitutional values.

challenges by technology

1). changing narratives through internet eg groups perpetuating religion.

2) Rise in anonymous dissent due to social media.
eg People justifying toxic masculinity

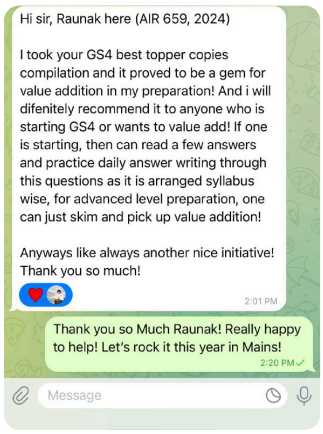
Shubhankar

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THE TOPPER'S ANSWER

Sheet 1 of 2. Note the boxed diagram.



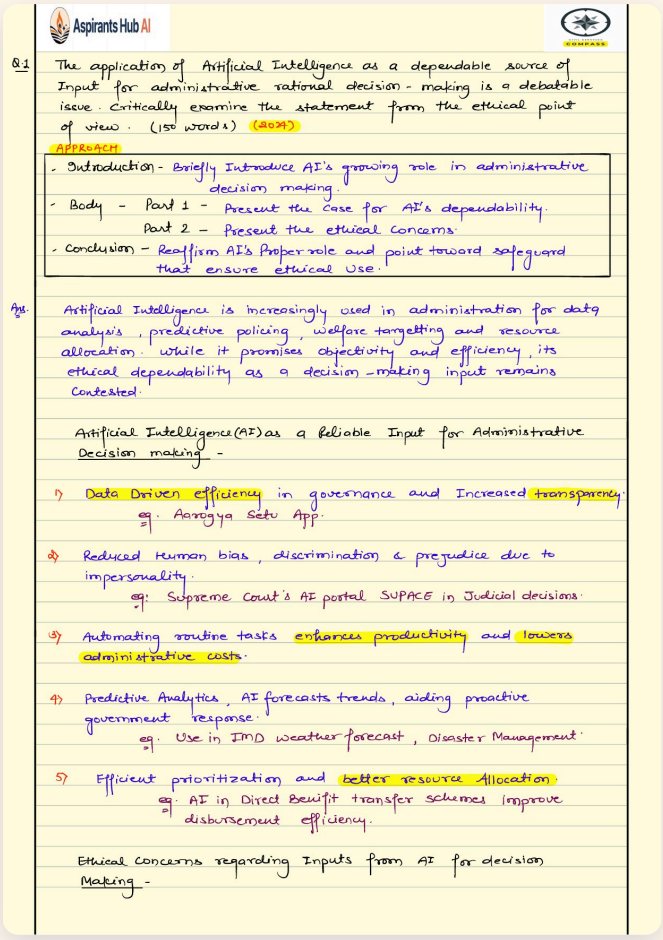
"I took your GS4 best topper copies compilation and it proved to be a gem for value addition in my preparation! And I will definitely recommend it to anyone who is starting GS4."

RAUNAK · AIR 659, CSE 2024 · his message to Shubham, on Telegram

REAL PAGES · QUESTIONS 01 AND 03

A model answer you can write in the hall.

On the left, our **handwritten model answer** to a 2024 PYQ on AI in administrative decision-making. On the right, a **new question** from Day 1 with its model answer.



Aspirants Hub AI

Q1 The application of Artificial Intelligence as a dependable source of Input for administrative rational decision-making is a debatable issue. Critically examine the statement from the ethical point of view. (150 words) (2024)

APPROACH

- Introduction - Briefly Introduce AI's growing role in administrative decision making.
- Body - Part 1 - Present the case for AI's dependability.
  Part 2 - Present the ethical Concerns.
- Conclusion - Reaffirm AI's Proper role and point toward safeguard that ensure ethical use.

Ans. Artificial Intelligence is increasingly used in administration for data analysis, predictive policing, welfare targetting and resource allocation. While it promises objectivity and efficiency, its ethical dependability as a decision-making input remains Contested.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) as a Reliable Input for Administrative Decision making -

1) Data Driven efficiency in governance and Increased transparency
   eg. Aarogya Setu App.

2) Reduced human bias, discrimination & prejudice due to impersonality.
   eg: Supreme Court's AI portal SUPACE in Judicial decisions.

3) Automating routine tasks enhances productivity and lowers administrative costs.

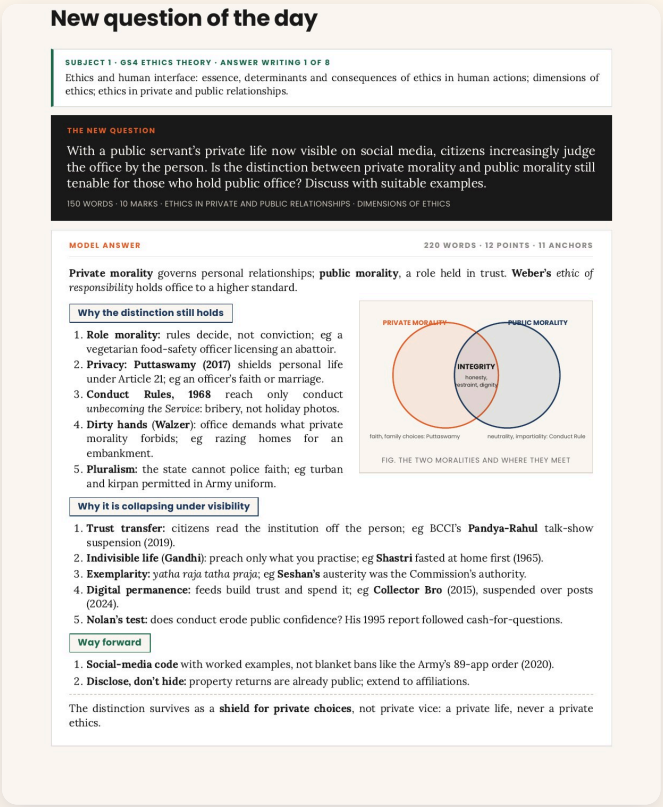
4) Predictive Analytics, AI forecasts trends, aiding proactive government response.
   eg. Use in IMD weather forecast, Disaster Management.

5) Efficient prioritization and better resource Allocation.
   eg. AI in Direct Benifit transfer schemes improve disbursement efficiency.

Ethical Concerns regarding Inputs from AI for decision Making -

01 · PYQ, HANDWRITTEN

Page 1 of 2. The plan sits on top, then the answer.



New question of the day

SUBJECT 1 · GS4 ETHICS THEORY · ANSWER WRITING 1 OF 8

Ethics and human interface: essence, determinants and consequences of ethics in human actions; dimensions of ethics; ethics in private and public relationships.

THE NEW QUESTION

With a public servant's private life now visible on social media, citizens increasingly judge the office by the person. Is the distinction between private morality and public morality still tenable for those who hold public office? Discuss with suitable examples.

150 WORDS · 10 MARKS · ETHICS IN PRIVATE AND PUBLIC RELATIONSHIPS · DIMENSIONS OF ETHICS

MODEL ANSWER — 220 WORDS · 12 POINTS · 11 ANCHORS

Private morality governs personal relationships; **public morality**, a role held in trust. **Weber's** *ethic of responsibility* holds office to a higher standard.

Why the distinction still holds

1. **Role morality:** rules decide, not conviction; eg a vegetarian food-safety officer licensing an abattoir.
2. **Privacy: Puttaswamy (2017)** shields personal life under Article 21; eg an officer's faith or marriage.
3. **Conduct Rules, 1968** reach only conduct *unbecoming the Service*: bribery, not holiday photos.
4. **Dirty hands (Walzer)**: office demands what private morality forbids; eg razing homes for an embankment.
5. **Pluralism:** the state cannot police faith; eg turban and kirpan permitted in Army uniform.

FIG. THE TWO MORALITIES AND WHERE THEY MEET

Why it is collapsing under visibility

1. **Trust transfer:** citizens read the institution off the person; eg BCCI's **Pandya-Rahul** talk-show suspension (2019).
2. **Indivisible life (Gandhi)**: preach only what you practise; eg **Shastri** fasted at home first (1965).
3. **Exemplarity:** *yatha raja tatha praja*; eg **Seshan's** austerity was the Commission's authority.
4. **Digital permanence:** feeds build trust and spend it; eg **Collector Bro** (2015), suspended over posts (2024).
5. **Nolan's test:** does conduct erode public confidence? His 1995 report followed cash-for-questions.

Way forward

1. **Social-media code** with worked examples, not blanket bans like the Army's 89-app order (2020).
2. **Disclose, don't hide:** property returns are already public; extend to affiliations.

The distinction survives as a **shield for private choices**, not private vice: a private life, never a private ethics.

03 · NEW QUESTION + MODEL ANSWER

Private versus public morality, with a Venn diagram.



13 of 38

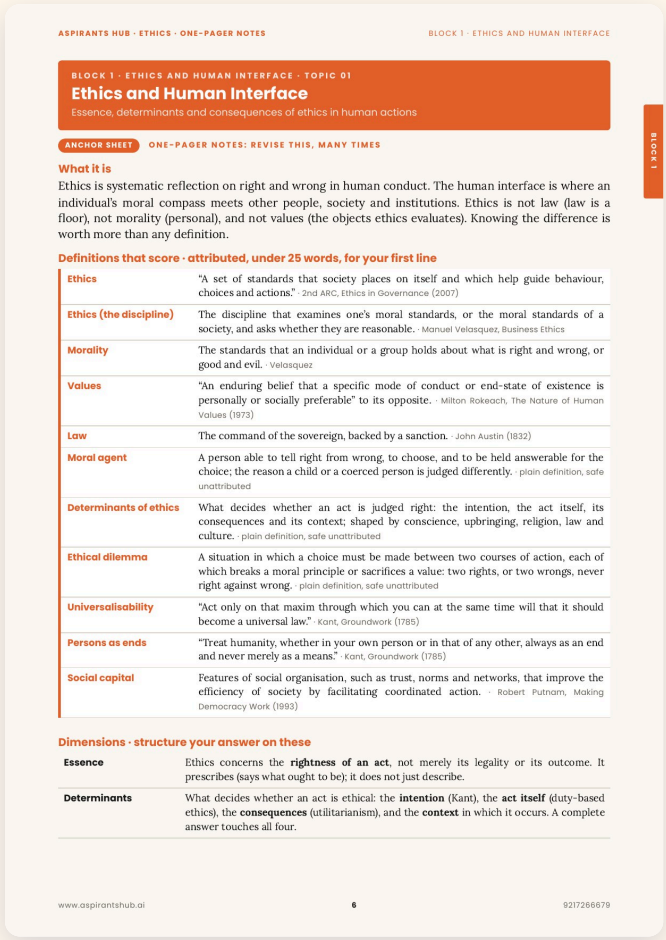
aspirants mentored personally by **Shubham Ajmera** for CSE 2025 are rank holders, **AIR 18, 47 and 183** among them.

SHRUTHI · AIR 18, CSE 2025 · our student

REAL PAGES · THE ANCHOR SHEETS

One page to read before you write.

Two of the 39 sheets: the first theory heading and the first case-study theme. The schedule tells you which sheets to revise before each day.



ASPIRANTS HUB · ETHICS · ONE-PAGER NOTES — BLOCK 1 · ETHICS AND HUMAN INTERFACE

BLOCK 1 · ETHICS AND HUMAN INTERFACE · TOPIC 01

Ethics and Human Interface

Essence, determinants and consequences of ethics in human actions

ANCHOR SHEET · ONE-PAGER NOTES: REVISE THIS, MANY TIMES

What it is

Ethics is systematic reflection on right and wrong in human conduct. The human interface is where an individual's moral compass meets other people, society and institutions. Ethics is not law (law is a floor), not morality (personal), and not values (the objects ethics evaluates). Knowing the difference is worth more than any definition.

Definitions that score · attributed, under 25 words, for your first line

Ethics	"A set of standards that society places on itself and which help guide behaviour, choices and actions." · 2nd ARC, Ethics in Governance (2007)
Ethics (the discipline)	The discipline that examines one's moral standards, or the moral standards of a society, and asks whether they are reasonable. · Manuel Velasquez, Business Ethics
Morality	The standards that an individual or a group holds about what is right and wrong, or good and evil. · Velasquez
Values	"An enduring belief that a specific mode of conduct or end-state of existence is personally or socially preferable" to its opposite. · Milton Rokeach, The Nature of Human Values (1973)
Law	The command of the sovereign, backed by a sanction. · John Austin (1832)
Moral agent	A person able to tell right from wrong, to choose, and to be held answerable for the choice; the reason a child or a coerced person is judged differently. · plain definition, safe unattributed
Determinants of ethics	What decides whether an act is judged right: the intention, the act itself, its consequences and its context; shaped by conscience, upbringing, religion, law and culture. · plain definition, safe unattributed
Ethical dilemma	A situation in which a choice must be made between two courses of action, each of which breaks a moral principle or sacrifices a value: two rights, or two wrongs, never right against wrong. · plain definition, safe unattributed
Universalisability	"Act only on that maxim through which you can at the same time will that it should become a universal law." · Kant, Groundwork (1785)
Persons as ends	"Treat humanity, whether in your own person or in that of any other, always as an end and never merely as a means." · Kant, Groundwork (1785)
Social capital	Features of social organisation, such as trust, norms and networks, that improve the efficiency of society by facilitating coordinated action. · Robert Putnam, Making Democracy Work (1993)

Dimensions · structure your answer on these

Essence	Ethics concerns the **rightness of an act**, not merely its legality or its outcome. It prescribes (says what ought to be); it does not just describe.
Determinants	What decides whether an act is ethical: the **intention** (Kant), the **act itself** (duty-based ethics), the **consequences** (utilitarianism), and the **context** in which it occurs. A complete answer touches all four.

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THEORY SHEET 01 · ETHICS AND HUMAN INTERFACE

Definitions that score, then the dimensions.



ASPIRANTS HUB · ETHICS · ONE-PAGER NOTES — SET A · THE PERSON AND THE OFFICE

SET A · THE PERSON AND THE OFFICE · THEME 01

Conflict of Interest and Procurement

Personal relationship versus professional duty, where the rule may allow what ethics forbids

HOT asked in 2018, 2023, 2024 and twice in 2025; expect it again

ANCHOR SHEET · ONE-PAGER NOTES: REVISE THIS, MANY TIMES

A conflict of interest is a position, not an act: a private interest inside a public decision. The wrong is often not statutory; it is the appearance of bias, which destroys trust even when no rule is broken. The cure is a pair, disclosure plus recusal, done before the bids open.

Ethical issues · name the value at stake

- **Conflict of interest**: personal loyalty inside a fiduciary role
- **Appearance of bias**, and the loss of public trust without any wrongdoing
- **Fairness to other bidders**: equal opportunity, a level contest
- **Institutional integrity**: the credibility of every decision she signs
- **Misuse of position** for family benefit: the Conduct Rules' oldest prohibition
- **Patient welfare**: beneficence and non-maleficence against a vendor's balance sheet

Ethical dilemmas · X versus Y

- **Personal relationship vs professional duty**: a brother in trouble against a committee she chairs
- **Compassion vs equal treatment**: one struggling firm against a fair contest for all
- **Disclosure vs recusal**: transparency that shares the guilt against stepping aside
- **Management's trust vs the process**: "they would back any decision" against a process that must not depend on trust

Options · each with a real cost

OPTION	WHAT IT COSTS, AND WHETHER IT SURVIVES
Award, disclose nothing	Helps the family; if it surfaces, every past decision is retrospectively suspect. Unacceptable.
Award, but disclose	Permissible in a private firm; but disclosure does not cure bias, it only shares the guilt.
Disclose, recuse, independent committee decides	Costs nothing but ego; the brother still bids on merit; the institution is protected. **This is the answer.**
Bar the relative	Over-correction: punishes him for being related to you; moral cowardice dressed as rectitude.

Anchor · Constitution, law, code

- **CCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964**: Rule 4 (no use of position to benefit family), Rule 13 (gifts), Rule 15 (private trade)
- **Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988** (amended 2018): s.7, s.11 (undue advantage), s.13(1)(b)
- **2nd ARC, 4th Report**: mandatory declaration of conflict of interest; recusal norms
- **Nolan principles**: Objectivity, by name; **Companies Act, 2013, s.166** for the private sector

Thinker and quote · one at the decision

- **Rawls, veil of ignorance**: a process you would accept not knowing whether you were the brother or a rival bidder
- **Kant**: universalise it; if every chair awarded contracts to family, procurement would collapse
- **"Caesar's wife must be above suspicion."** Once, at the decision

Action plan · immediate, short term, systemic

Immediate	Written disclosure and recusal to the competent authority **before the bids are opened**; after seeing them, recusal is worthless.
Short term	Independent committee; sealed technical and financial bids; external domain expert; weighted criteria; minutes.
Systemic	Conflict-of-interest declaration at the start of every procurement cycle; e-tendering (GeM); cooling-off period for vendors related to committee members.

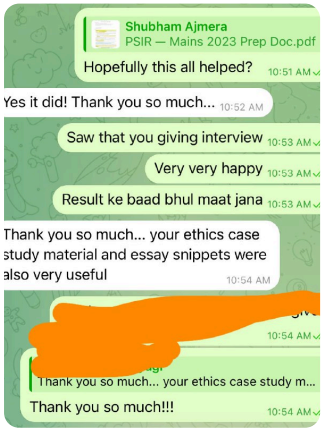
EXAMINER'S TRAP

Do not moralise about the brother. UPSC gives him financial difficulty to see whether you can be fair without being cruel. Recusal lets him compete honestly.

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CASE-STUDY SHEET 01 · CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Issues, dilemmas, options and an action plan.



"Your ethics case study material and essay snippets were also very useful."

A MAINS 2025 CANDIDATE · after reaching the interview, to Shubham on Telegram

THE PLAN · DAY 1 TO DAY 6

Every day planned, every sheet named.

Each writing day has **three questions**, and a **revision day** follows it. Before you write, revise the Anchor Sheets in the last column. Page numbers are from the Ethics Anchor Sheets file. **The next day opens as soon as you finish the current one.**

☐ Writing day ☐ Revision day

DAY	WHAT YOU WRITE (3 QUESTIONS)	REVISE FIRST: ANCHOR SHEETS
ETHICS THEORY		
Day 1	Ethics and human interface: essence, determinants, consequences and dimensions of ethics; ethics in private and public relationships	**Theory 01–03** · pp. 6-11
Revision	**Revision day** · check Day 1 answers against the model answer and topper copy. Revise the Day 2 sheets.	
Day 2	Human values: lessons from the lives of leaders, reformers and administrators; role of family, society and educational institutions	**Theory 04–05** · pp. 12-15
Revision	**Revision day** · check Day 2 answers against the model answer and topper copy. Revise the Day 3 sheets.	
Day 3	Attitude: content, structure, function; its influence and relation with thought and behaviour; moral and political attitudes; social influence and persuasion	**Theory 06–07** · pp. 16-19
Revision	**Revision day** · check Day 3 answers against the model answer and topper copy. Revise the Day 4 sheets.	
Day 4	Aptitude and foundational values for civil service: integrity, impartiality and non-partisanship, objectivity, dedication to public service, empathy, tolerance and compassion towards the weaker sections	**Theory 08** · pp. 20-21
Revision	**Revision day** · check Day 4 answers against the model answer and topper copy. Revise the Day 5 sheets.	
Day 5	Emotional intelligence: concepts, and their utility and application in administration and governance	**Theory 09** · pp. 22-23
Revision	**Revision day** · check Day 5 answers against the model answer and topper copy. Revise the Day 6 sheets.	
Day 6	Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and the world	**Theory 10–11** · pp. 24-27
Revision	**Revision day** · check Day 6 answers against the model answer and topper copy. Revise the Day 7 sheets.	

THE PLAN · DAY 7 TO DAY 11

Theory closes, case studies begin.

The tests are open all through. Write them whenever you feel ready.

☐ Writing day ☐ Revision day

DAY	WHAT YOU WRITE (3 QUESTIONS)	REVISE FIRST: ANCHOR SHEETS
Day 7	Public service values and ethics in public administration: ethical concerns and dilemmas; laws, rules, regulations and conscience; accountability; ethical issues in international relations and funding; corporate governance	**Theory 12-17** · pp. 28-39
Revision	**Revision day** · check Day 7 answers against the model answer and topper copy. Revise the Day 8 sheets.	
Day 8	Probity in governance: information sharing and RTI, codes of ethics and conduct, citizen's charters, work culture, quality of service delivery, use of public funds, challenges of corruption	**Theory 18-19** · pp. 40-43
Revision	**Revision day** · check Day 8 answers against the model answer and topper copy. Revise the Day 9 sheets.	
CASE STUDIES		
Day 9	Case-study framework, with personal and professional dilemmas	**Case Set A 01-06** · pp. 44-49
Revision	**Revision day** · check Day 9 answers against the model answer and topper copy. Revise the Day 10 sheets.	
Day 10	Administrative dilemmas: corruption, political pressure, allocation of resources	**Case Set B 07-10** · pp. 50-53
Revision	**Revision day** · check Day 10 answers against the model answer and topper copy. Revise the Day 11 sheets.	
Day 11	Mixed full-length practice: society, environment, disaster and international-relations cases	**Case Sets C + D 11-20** · pp. 54-63
Day 11 · GS4 complete: every heading of the syllabus written and evaluated.		
Any time	**2 sectional tests + 1 Full-Length Test** · open from day one · evaluated by interview-given candidates, then discussed with a ranker or the best top mentor available	

Aspirants Hub AI

ENROLMENT
TAPASYA · GS4 PAPER

ONE PAPER. ONE HABIT.

Start Day 1 the day you join.

- **Every GS4 heading** in **11 writing days**, theory and case studies
- **Three questions** each day: PYQ with a handwritten model answer, topper copy, new question with the best model answer
- **Instant AI evaluation** on every answer, built on topper copies
- **39 Ethics Anchor Sheets** (one-pager notes), with the sheets to revise named for every day
- **2 sectional tests + 1 Full-Length Test**, evaluated by interview-given top scorers, open from day one
- **Test discussion** with a ranker or the best top mentor available
- **Day by day:** a revision day after every writing day; the next day opens when you finish the current one
- Runs on your **Aspirants Hub dashboard**

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