

CIVIL SERVICES GURUKUL

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HCS MAINS 2023

English (including English Essay)

Time: 3 Hours Maximum Marks: 100

Question Paper specific instructions

1. All questions are compulsory.
2. The number of marks carried by a questions/part is indicated against it.
3. Mention question number before attempting the question.
4. The parts of the question must be answered together.
5. Word limit in questions, where specified, should be adhered to.

1. Make a precis of the following passage reducing it to one-third of its length. Also assign a suitable title: (20)

The rapid advancements in the field of artificial intelligence (AI) have sparked debates and concerns across various sectors. AI, with its ability to analyze vast amounts of data and perform complex tasks, has transformed industries such as healthcare, finance, and transportation. However, its rapid integration also raises ethical, privacy, and security concerns that need careful consideration.

One area greatly impacted by AI is healthcare. AI algorithms can now analyze medical records and diagnostic images to provide accurate diagnoses and personalized treatment plans. This has the potential to enhance patient outcomes and improve the efficiency of healthcare systems. However, concerns arise regarding data privacy and the potential biases that can be embedded in AI algorithms, which can lead to disparities in healthcare delivery.

In finance, AI-powered algorithms are used to make complex trading decisions and manage investment portfolios. These algorithms can process vast amounts of financial data and execute trades at high speeds, improving profitability for investors. However, the use of AI in finance also raises concerns about market manipulation, as algorithms can exploit market patterns and create volatility. Moreover, the opaque nature of AI decision-making poses challenges in ensuring accountability and transparency in financial systems.

Transportation is another sector experiencing significant AI-driven transformations. Self-driving cars, powered by AI, have the potential to reduce accidents and increase road safety. AI algorithms can process real-time traffic data and make split-second decisions to prevent collisions. However, the deployment of autonomous vehicles also raises ethical dilemmas. For instance, in situations where accidents are unavoidable, should the AI prioritize the safety of the vehicle occupants or pedestrians? Addressing such ethical questions is crucial for the widespread acceptance and adoption of AI in transportation.

The integration of AI into various sectors also has broader societal implications. The automation of jobs through AI has the potential to reshape the labour market, leading to job displacement and income inequality. Furthermore, the concentration of AI power in a few tech giants raises concern about monopolistic practices and the influence these companies wield over society. It becomes imperative to establish regulations and policies that ensure fair competition, protection of individual rights, and equitable distribution of AI benefits.

Thus, the rapid progress in AI technology has brought about significant transformations in healthcare, finance, transportation, and society as a whole. While AI holds immense potential for improving

efficiency and advancing human capabilities, it also poses ethical, privacy, and security challenges that require careful consideration and regulation. Safeguarding data privacy, mitigating biases, ensuring transparency, and making informed decisions regarding safety and societal impact are essential. Data privacy protection is paramount in the development and deployment of AI systems. As AI relies on extensive data collection, storage, and analysis, safeguards must be in place to prevent unauthorized access and misuse of personal information. Adhering to robust privacy protocols and implementing strict security measures is crucial to maintain public trust and confidence in AI technologies.

Ensuring safety in the development and deployment of AI is crucial. Ethical decision-making frameworks play a crucial role in guiding the development of AI systems. As artificial intelligence becomes more integrated into various aspects of our lives, it is essential to ensure that these technologies are created, constructed and implemented in an ethical and responsible manner.

AI systems have the potential to impact society profoundly. Therefore, without proper ethical considerations, these technologies can perpetuate biases, invade privacy, and reinforce inequalities. To prevent such negative consequences, ethical decision-making frameworks provide a systematic approach to assess the impact of AI systems.

One widely recognized framework is the principles-based approach, which involves identifying a set of fundamental ethical principles that guide the development and use of AI. These principles may include fairness, transparency, accountability, and privacy. By adhering to these principles, developers can ensure that systems are designed to treat all individuals fairly, provide understandable explanations for their decisions, and take responsibility for their actions.

Another approach is the consequentialist framework, which focuses on the outcomes and consequences of AI systems. This framework considers the potential benefits and harms of AI technology and weighs them against each other. It requires developers to consider the potential impact on individuals, communities, and society as a whole. Moreover, including diverse perspectives and stakeholders in the decision-making process is crucial to address potential biases and ensure fairness. Ethical frameworks should incorporate input from experts in various fields, including ethicists, social scientists, and representatives from impact communities.

In conclusion, ethical decision-making frameworks are essential to guide the development of AI systems, by integrating these frameworks into the design process, we can create AI technologies that align with our values, minimize harm, and contribute positively to society's well-being. By prioritizing these ethical considerations, we can take the full advantage of AI while minimizing potential risks and ensuring a fair and equitable future for all.

(7963 words = 265)

2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow in your own words: (20)

Immanuel Kant, a prominent figure in modern philosophy, proposed a unique framework for understanding knowledge, ethics, and the nature of reality. Central to his philosophy is the concept of transcendental idealism, which distinguishes between the noumenal and phenomenal realms.

According to Kant, the noumenal realm represents things as they are in themselves, independent of our perceptions. However, because we are limited to our sensory experiences, we can only access the phenomenal realm, which comprises our subjective perceptions and interpretations of the world. Kant argues that our knowledge is not solely determined by external reality but is shaped by the interaction between our cognitive faculties and the raw data provided by our senses.

Furthermore, Kant introduced the notion of synthetic a priori knowledge, which refers to propositions that are both informative and necessarily true, yet not derived solely from experience. He posited that certain fundamental principles and concepts, such as the principles of mathematics and causality, are necessary for coherent thought and meaningful experience. These principles are not derived from observation but are inherent in the structure of human cognition.

In the realm of ethics, Kant developed the concept of moral autonomy and the categorical imperative. He believed that moral actions must be guided by universal moral principles that can be applied to all rational beings without contradiction. According to Kant, moral worth lies in acting out of a sense of duty and respect for rationality, rather than pursuing personal desires or consequences. For Kant, the moral law is

derived from reason itself and is independent of any specific cultural or religious context. Kant's philosophical ideas have had a profound impact on various fields, from epistemology to ethics, and continue to shape philosophical discourse to this day.

Questions:

- (i) What is the distinction between the noumenal and phenomenal realms in Kant's philosophy?
- (ii) What is synthetic a priori knowledge according to Kant?
- (iii) What is the categorical imperative in Kant's ethical philosophy?
- (iv) What does Kant consider the basis of moral worth?

3. Write an essay in about 600 words on any one of the following topics: (30)

- a) Balancing Economic Growth with Environmental Protection
- b) Skill Development for Youth Empowerment
- c) Northeast India: Exploring Opportunities for Development and Addressing Regional Issues.
- d) The Pen is Mightier than the Sword

4. Rewrite the following sentences as directed: (5)

- a) Read the book. (Change the voice)
- b) This is a fan. (Change the voice)
- c) You ought to get involved in this matter. (Negative form)
- d) Have you ever been to Chennai? (Negative form)
- e) No sooner can they manage, then they should change their house. (Change with as soon as)

5. Mention one word substitute: (5 marks)

- a) Capable of working successfully; feasible or practical.
- b) Clear and easily understood; rational and sane.
- c) A person who lives in seclusion, often for religious or spiritual reasons.
- d) A person who watches an event or performance.
- e) A person who is new to or inexperienced in a field or activity.

6. Use the following idioms into sentences to bring out their meanings (5)

- a) Call a spade a spade
- b) Fish out of water
- c) Once in a blue moon
- d) Through thick and thin
- e) At a snail's pace

7. Fill in the blanks with suitable forms of the words from the list given below: (5)

(Bacteria, translate, remain, increase, particular)

- a) The 18th century saw an _____ emphasis on America itself as fit subject matter for its poets.
- b) The field of _____ was founded in the 19th century.
- c) The Rigveda is considered _____ difficult to translate, owing to its length, poetic nature, the language itself.
- d) The internet blackout and curfew _____ in place on 16 May.
- e) The term emblem refers to the body movements or gestures that are directly _____ to into a word or phrase.

8. Correct the following sentences: (5)

- a) Every man, woman and child were rescued.
- b) Time and tide waits for none.
- c) Either of the four singers will sing tonight.
- d) The book is laying on the table.
- e) Me and Sara are good friends.

9. Write the antonyms of the following: (5)

- a)** Hyperbole
- b)** Ecstasy
- c)** Altruistic
- d)** Camouflage
- e)** Clandestine