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# CIVIL SERVICES ACHIEVERS' POINT

A ONE STOP SOLUTION FOR UPSC/APSC/SSC & BANKING

## ANSWERWRITING PRACTICE- ESSAY

### TOPIC-

**CULTURE IS WHAT WE ARE, CIVILISATION IS WHAT WE HAVE.(1000-1200 WORDS)**

### MODEL ANSWER:

The culture in its simplest form refers to the ideas, customs, and social behaviour of particular people or society. Moreover, it denotes the arts, events, actions and objects that clearly show or represent something abstract or theoretical of human intellectual achievement regarded collectively. We also relate culture to the attitudes and behaviour characteristic of a specific social group whether it is hip hop culture or drug culture. In fact, a cultured person is one who is characterized by refined taste and manners and good education. All these attributes of culture imply that what we are is what our culture is. We reflect culture. Whereas civilization is a series of actions taken, by which a society or place reaches an advanced stage of social and cultural development and establishment, where the process of civilization not only brings better individual self-control but also the transformations of attitudes and values. This stage of human social and cultural development and the establishment is considered most advanced in order to achieve a particular end of what we are today. For instance, when we talk about "Western civilization", we converse about the society, culture, and way of life of the West, which is based on Greco-Roman and Judeo-Christian influences. Europeans and Americans have many cultures of European

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**heritage that share mutual cultural thoughts, metaphysical foundations, philosophical fundamentals and ancestral principles. Taken together, these cultures institute Western civilization which the people in Europe and the United States possess.**

**Culture exists because it could be embodied in civilization. The process of civilization brings a place and people to a phase where they can be developed socially and culturally to realise a more advanced stage of human existence. Large population regions, traditional architecture, distinctive art styles, communication patterns, systems for governing territories and the division of people into social and economic classes are some specific features of every civilization. These features cater to the ideas, customs, and social behaviour of particular people or society, every reason to get evolved. Civilizations from Mesopotamia and Egypt to civilizations appeared in the Indus Valley, China and Central America allowed diverse cultures to grow, spread and prosper.**

**Initially, societies were differentiated on the basis of their cultural superiority or inferiority. The usage of 'barbaric culture' was quite common then. But now, 'civilization' is being used for and considered morally good and culturally advanced. However, the countries like Canada find spousal exploitation and manipulation, honour killings, female genital mutilation, forced marriage or other gender-based violence culturally barbaric, no matter if there is the cultural acceptance of those practices across other cultures raised during the process of civilization. Canada has the Zero Tolerance for Barbaric Cultural Practices Act which does not let people there experience the practice of cultural traditions that deprive individuals of their human rights. Canada**

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**is a great example where civilization and culture are closely and inextricably intertwined. That is why it is regarded as a culture and diplomacy focused on civilization.**

**When civilizations fail or fall, cultures become extinct too. However, strong cultures have potential to save civilizations from failing or falling. Culture is what we are. The better it becomes, the more it delivers. What it delivers through us is what we create and this creation is what we have – the civilisation. Cultures could secure civilisations from the likely causes of their end, which are internal alteration, external insistence and environmental disintegration.**

**Human population and resources available determine the sustainability of a region. Uncontrolled concretization overexploits resources. Absence of resources can alter internal settings where we could fear the worst. Now, it is not about any cultural heritage, but poses a serious threat to the continuation of civilization. The advancement advocated by civilization has a saturation point. It depends on culture what changes it brings to discernment, realization and cognizance related to existing acquaintance, understanding, opinions, tenets, approaches, values, hierarchies, religion, material objects and possessions to accommodate better ideas, customs and social behaviour in the pursuit of sustainability.**

**Materialism has changed us the way we could never be able to understand it. We have learnt to adopt different cultures. The original is left behind, the adopted one is practised. There is no problem in doing so, if it is not the ramification of external insistence and internal conflicts. When cultures clash, they let civilization bow to pressure from**

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**social and cultural retrogression. Several distinct cultural or ethnic groups within a society can coexist if we can value the values of multiculturalism.**

**Cultural Intelligence (CQ) is an indispensably significant aptitude and skill recognized worldwide to deal with culturally diverse situations. It is important to assess and improve effectiveness across national, ethnic and organizational cultures and to cross boundaries and prosper in multiple cultures to redefine the civilization. Cultural Intelligence is the capability which eases this venture. A person with a high CQ understands absorption and assimilation instead of fanaticism. He or she doesn't evaluate other cultures on the basis of preconceptions originating in the standards and customs of his or her own culture.**

**The Apocalypse as described in the biblical book of Revelation is the complete final destruction of the world. Some experts believe that we have passed the Environmental Point which is irreversible. We have forgotten inter-generational equity and paid too much attention to our strong desires to do or achieve something, irrespective of consequences which this new culture of pursuing limitless growth offers. It exists in almost all societies. It has vandalized natural infrastructure and exposed human civilisation to an existential threat.**

**We should be careful about "cultural decay". We might be in a state where we will have no culture at all. Civilization is a system by which an advanced state of human society is achieved where the level of culture reaches new heights, which shows that if civilisation is a means, culture is an end. But this end has progressive nature. It mutates into different unreasonable aspirations and could turn into a Frankenstein's monster.**

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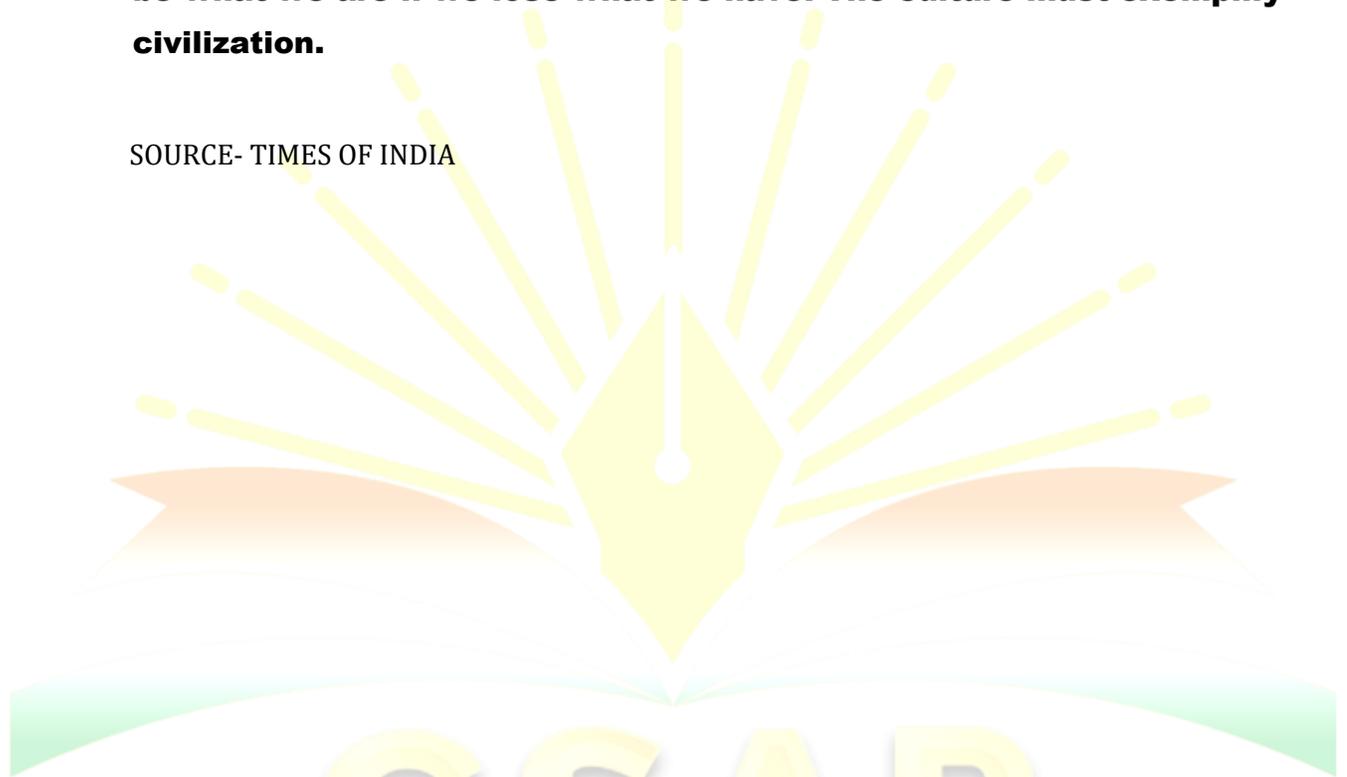
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**It is worth acknowledging that what we are is because of what we have. Our unmanageable and disorderly being can ruin what we have. We won't be what we are if we lose what we have. The culture must exemplify civilization.**

SOURCE- TIMES OF INDIA



# CSAP

## CIVIL SERVICES ACHIEVER'S POINT

*Leadership through knowledge...*

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