

Economic and Social Issues

15 Markers

Q.1) Despite spread of urbanization in villages, challenges such as race, caste, gender discrimination still persist.

Q.2) What is meant by economic reforms? Discuss the Economic reforms in India from 1990s till date.

Q.3) "Financial stability is essential to any financial institution/business." Discuss in the light of financial stability report of RBI and economic reforms in view of COVID outbreak in India.

10 Markers

Q.1)

What are the challenges associated with rural entrepreneurship? How young enterprises can solve these problems?

Q.2)

Write a short note on current monetary policy framework in India

Q.3)

What is NBFC? How is it different from banks? What are the five types of NBFCs registered with RBI?

Finance and Management

15 Markers

Q.1)

What is communication? What are the common barriers to interpersonal communication in an organization? How can these barriers be reduced by a manager?

Q.2)

Why is change resisted in an organization? What can the management do to overcome it?

Q.3)

What do you understand by blockchain technology. In the current era, where blockchain is at its peak, will it disrupt banking?

10 Markers

Q.1) What is targeted long-term repo operations (TLTRO)?

Q.2) Describe India's response to the Global Financial Crisis 2008.

Q.3) What is the importance of ethical behavior in society and throw some light on the manager's role in encouraging ethical behavior in an organization.

English Descriptive

Q.1)

Write an essay on any one of the following topics in about 600 Words. (40 Marks)

- "Peace cannot be kept by force; it can only be achieved by understanding" - Elaborate.
- Role of female entrepreneurs in India .
- Advantages and disadvantages of renewable energy. How the OSOWOG initiative will help in eliminating these disadvantages.
- India has become a medical destination for the world.

Q.2)

Write a precis from the given paragraph in about 180 words. (30 Marks)

As controversies swirl about funding, resources, motives and methods for spaceflight, it is well to consider the consequences of exploring space – and of choosing not to do so. Earlier essays have already analyzed in broad terms some of the potential consequences of not exploring, especially the lack of creativity that an inward-looking society may bring, by analogy with Ming China. Others have pointed out that the Age of Discovery was only a mixed blessing, especially when it came to culture contact.

The consequences of space exploration as already undertaken stand before us for examination. They occur on many levels: commercial applications, education and inspiration to youth, applications satellites, scientific benefits, and philosophical implications. All are open to analysis, and as we approach the fiftieth anniversary of the Age of Space, we should examine, with historical objectivity, precisely what the impact of the Age of Space has been.

One feature unlikely to be paralleled with the Age of Discovery, at least in the near future, is contact with other cultures. Shipboard observers often carefully noted exotic plants and animals seen during the course of their voyages, and the ultimate experience was contact with exotic humans.

In the Age of Space, the search for microbial life has been a main driver of space exploration, in particular with regard to Mars, but also now extended to more exotic environments like the Jovian moon Europa. With that search for life on new worlds, planetary protection protocols have been put in place, both for our own planet and others.

Contact with intelligent extraterrestrials beyond the solar system will remain a more remote possibility, and when and if it happens, we should learn from the history of culture contacts on

Earth.

But the immediate impact of the Space Age is far more diverse than the ultimate discovery of life in space. In her new book *Rocket Dreams: How the Space Age Shaped Our Vision of a World Beyond*, Marina Benjamin argues that space exploration has shaped our worldviews in more ways than one. "The impact of seeing the Earth from space focused our energies on the home planet in unprecedented ways, dramatically affecting our relationship to the natural world and our appreciation of the greater community of mankind and prompting a revolution in our understanding of the Earth as a living system," she wrote.

Benjamin thinks it is no coincidence that the first Earth Day on April 20, 1970, occurred in the midst of the Apollo program; or that one of the astronauts developed a new school of spiritualism; or that people "should be drawn to an innovative model for the domestic economy sprung free from the American space program by NASA administrator James Webb." Exploration shapes world views and changes cultures in unexpected ways, and so does lack of exploration.

Space has had more tangible impacts on society. To take only one, imagine where we would be without applications satellites. We now take for granted photographs of weather and Earth resources data from space, as well as navigation and worldwide communications made possible by satellite.

Along with human and robotic missions, the late twentieth century will be remembered collectively as the time when humans not only saw the Earth as a fragile planet against the backdrop of space, but also utilized near-Earth space to study the planet's resources, to provide essential information about weather, and to provide means for navigation that was both life-saving and had enormous economic implications. Worldwide satellite communications brought the world closer together, a factor difficult to estimate from a cost-benefit analysis. Names like Landsat, GOES (Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellites), Intelsat and Global Positioning System may not be household words, but they affect humanity in significant ways not always appreciated.

Important as they are, applications satellites pale in significance to what space may represent for the future of humanity. While some argue that robotic spacecraft are cheaper and less risky than human spaceflight, it is my belief that humans will nevertheless follow robotic reconnaissance as night follows day.

Humans will not be content with a Space Odyssey carried out by robotic surrogates, any more than the other great voyages of human history. Robots extend the human senses but will not replace the human mind in the foreseeable future, even with advances in artificial intelligence. HAL in Arthur C. Clarke's famous novel and movie, was not as smart as he thought and will not be for a long time. As President Bush said in announcing his new initiative in January 2004, humans will spread through the solar system, fulfilling the vision of what British philosopher Olaf Stapleton 55 years ago called "interplanetary man."

Eventually humans will spread into the cosmos at large. One cannot set a timeline, but by 3001 "interstellar humanity" will likely follow. We do not know what surprises and challenges we will find. But they will be there, and humans will revel in them. That is the nature of humans with their inbuilt curiosity and penchant for exploration, one might say the very definition of what it is to be human.

Historians and social scientists have analyzed this kind of argument, and not all agree that the utopian ideal of spreading humanity to outer space is a valid reason for going, or that utopia is what we will build when we get there. In a democratic society such arguments must be fully

voiced. Others have demonstrated the complex relation of such space goals to social, racial and political themes. One such study is De Witt Kilgore's recent book *Astro futurism: Science, Race and Visions of Utopia in Space*. In this book Kilgore examines the work of Wernher von Braun, Willy Ley, Robert Heinlein, Arthur C. Clarke, Gentry Lee, Gerard O'Neill and Ben Bova, among others in what he calls the tradition of American Astro futurism.

Such studies remind us that, like it or not, the idea of space exploration has been woven into the fabric of society over the last 50 years, even as exploration has raised our cosmic consciousness. The historical analysis of that transformation, in ways large and small, should help us make informed choices about our future in space.

Q.3)

Read the following comprehension and answer the questions that follow (5X6 = 30 Marks)

Financial derivatives are financial instruments that are linked to a specific financial instrument or indicator or commodity, and through which specific financial risks can be traded in financial markets in their own right. Transactions in financial derivatives should be treated as separate transactions rather than as integral parts of the value of underlying transactions to which they may be linked. Two prominent market players in derivatives are hedgers and speculators/traders. Hedgers are the underlying asset owners, who wish to transfer the future price fluctuation risk, while speculators are the risk consumers, who take positions in derivative contracts based on the predictions of future movement of prices of the underlying asset. Speculators hold derivative positions with or without owning the underlying assets. Arbitrageurs are the third category market participants, whose approach is to risk-proof themselves. They take advantage of the price difference in a product in two different market locations. This trade takes place where the buyer purchases an asset for a cheaper price in one market/location and arranges to sell the same simultaneously in a different market/location at a higher price.

The value of a financial derivative derives from the price of an underlying item, such as an asset or index. Unlike debt instruments, no principal amount is advanced to be repaid and no investment income accrues. Financial derivatives are used for a number of purposes including risk management, hedging, arbitrage between markets, and speculation.

Forwards are contracts signed between two parties to buy or sell the underlying asset on any future date for a price agreed upon on the date of signing of the contract. Forwards are decentralized and customizable contracts based on the requirements of the parties involved and are traded over the counter (OTC) and not on any exchanges.

Futures are standardized forward contracts which are traded through any regulated exchanges. Forwards and futures are a commitment to buy or sell the asset ..

Financial derivatives enable parties to trade specific financial risks (such as interest rate risk, currency, equity and commodity price risk, and credit risk, etc.) to other entities who are more willing, or better suited, to take or manage these risks—typically, but not always, without trading in a primary asset or commodity. The risk embodied in a derivatives contract can be traded either by trading the contract itself, such as with options, or by creating a new contract which embodies risk characteristics that match, in a countervailing manner, those of the existing contract owned.

This latter is termed offset ability and occurs in forward markets. Offset ability means that it will often be possible to eliminate the risk associated with the derivative by creating a new, but "reverse", contract that has characteristics that countervail the risk of the first derivative. Buying the new derivative is the functional equivalent of selling the first derivative, as the result is the elimination of risk. The ability to replace the risk on the market is therefore considered the equivalent of tradability in demonstrating value. The outlay that would be required to replace the existing derivative contract represents its value—actual offsetting is not required to demonstrate value.

Who participates in the derivative market?

Discuss the three uses of the derivative.

What is the difference between forward and the future market?

What is offset ability?

From where do financial derivatives derive their price?