

UPSC Mains 2026 Aug 23 GS 4 Question Paper with Solution

Q. No.	Question	Detailed Solution
Q1 (A)	Owing to paucity of time, a university professor generates a Ph.D. evaluation report using Artificial Intelligence and submits it with some modifications. Discuss this from the perspective of accountability and integrity.	Check Solution
Q1 (B)	A business house is working on a project that could displace a forest community from their habitat. As the administrative officer of that district, what ethical challenges are you likely to face?	Check Solution
Q2 (A)	An endangered tribe has developed a severe skeletal deformity. A university research has identified a mineral supplement as a possible remedy, though clinical trials are yet to be conducted. Should the District Magistrate (DM) use this research on the tribe? Discuss from the perspective of medical and administrative ethics.	Check Solution
Q2 (B)	Discuss how national security can be balanced with concerns of human rights.	Check Solution
Q3 (A)	Dr. B. R. Ambedkar had cautioned that employing civil disobedience within a constitutional democracy equates to endorsing 'anarchy'. How should modern democracies navigate the ethical dilemmas posed by civil disobedience movements that aim to promote social justice against policies that may raise genuine concerns?	Check Solution
Q3 (B)	In what ways can an Indian Administrative Officer apply Gandhi's notion of 'trusteeship' to ensure fairness in governance?	Check Solution
Q3 (C)	Shakespeare in Henry IV says, "The arms are fair when the intent of bearing them is just". What ethical implications does this have in governance?	Check Solution
Q4 (A)	Citing the serious adverse effects of long-term medication, a doctor convinces the family of a female patient for surgery. This led the patient to reluctantly consent for the surgery, though her original choice was to opt for medication. Explain the concepts of paternalism and beneficence by analysing the doctor's action.	Check Solution
Q4 (B)	Efficiency is doing things right, while effectiveness is doing the right thing. How do you strike a balance between the two to enhance productivity?	Check Solution
Q5 (A)	Usually schools, working in remote areas, do not fully comply with government regulations. However, if the rules are enforced strictly, it would lead to most schools closing down. How should an administrator strike a balance between enforcement of rules and educational rights of children?	Check Solution
Q5 (B)	In international relations, ethical considerations are often subjugated to the strategic interests of nation-states. Discuss this from an ethical perspective.	Check Solution
Q6 (A)	On the request of his Personal Assistant (PA), the District Magistrate (DM) stops the transfer of a schoolteacher who takes private tuition for his daughter diagnosed with	Check Solution

	learning disability. In this context, discuss the aspects of empathy versus compliance with rules.	
Q6 (B)	Some moral philosophers argue that spending some of your resources—without significantly affecting your financial stability—to help other people who badly suffer is our moral duty and not merely a matter of charity. Justify this claim by explaining the distinction between duty and charity.	Check Solution
Q7 (A)	Discuss the ethical issues involved in this case.	Check Solution
Q7 (B)	Discuss the moral conduct of the doctor in this situation.	Check Solution
Q8 (A)	What are the ethical issues including biases involved in the use of AI in data-driven policing?	Check Solution
Q8 (B)	Place yourself in Ravi's role and discuss the alternatives available. Justify the action that optimises compliance with ethics.	Check Solution
Q9 (A)	What are the ethical issues involved in this case?	Check Solution
Q9 (B)	Discuss the options open to Seema. Identify the recommended option and justify it.	Check Solution
Q10 (A)	What are the options open to Vikas? How should he balance fiscal probity with empathy towards the designated beneficiaries?	Check Solution
Q10 (B)	Discuss the ethics of using technology as a gatekeeper for welfare schemes.	Check Solution
Q11 (A)	Discuss the ethical issues that need to be addressed in this case.	Check Solution
Q11 (B)	What are the options open to Rajan? Which option would ensure protection of his non-partisan image without compromising ethics?	Check Solution
Q12 (A)	Discuss the options available to Ajit. Which option should he select and why?	Check Solution
Q12 (B)	How can Ajit balance nation's economic and strategic interests with ethical considerations?	Check Solution