

Test - 1

Section - A

Start writing from the below line:

① Not knowing is a good place to start

Right after Independence, as a country we realised our biggest threat i.e., low literacy levels. In late 1950's our literacy level was just 20%. Nobody knew what to do to bring more children to the schools through persuasion. It was during the same time the then chief minister of Tamil Nadu, "Shri. K. Kamaraj" started a new program as an

experiment.

~~Seem~~ ~~out~~ ~~to~~ ~~fit~~

C.M, K. KamaRaj did not know much about the chances of success of the program but he surely felt that it was the right time to start it to promote literacy in our country. That bold step took the form of a scheme called "Mid-day Meals scheme" which changed the fate of Indian Education system.

It was due to those strong decisions taken in the times of uncertainty, today we are having literacy near 80% and emerging as greatest human capital resource.

Therefore 'not knowing' should not be the reason to stop, rather it should be the reason to find a new path.

Nobody in this world is all knowledgeable. Irrespective of our social capabilities and mental capacities we all have to face and embrace the uncertainty.

Balance ???

Therefore lack of knowledge, perspectives, experience etc should not be a barrier to start new initiatives, to do new things and to find new paths. At the moment we might lack knowledge but with time in the process of experiment and exploration we can find the wisdom for lifetime.

Before we delve deep into the essay, let us try to understand and analyse what exactly is "not knowing" and what is a "good place to start".

The phrase "Not knowing" represents various aspects such as lack of experience, knowledge, uncertainty, exploration, wandering, humility.

The phrase "Good place to start" refers to mental and physical readiness to materialise our thoughts, ideas and concepts into actions.

Therefore to achieve our goals through actions, first we need to start without blaming the circumstances.

Let us ponder upon the idea, "Why Not Knowing is a good place to start?" When we don't know and start things there are only two outcomes. One is you moving forward and other is learning from the mistakes.

Irrespective of the outcomes we will be a better individual due to the experience.

ant These very experiences through experiments paves path to new discoveries. This can be understood by the various sea routes developed by Europeans such as Christopher Columbus, Vasco da Gama etc.

Eventhough, those bold decisions take us to beautiful destinations we still fear to start many things. One main reason for that is the societal conditioning for not taking risks. Not knowing completely is often seen in a negative light as

Society believes that "half knowledge is dangerous"

But from an optimistic perspective, little or half knowledge is a step towards the right direction. The self realisation of less knowledge or not knowing something will instill humility into any individual. Good

This can be clearly understood by Nobel prize winning physicist, Richard Feynman. He frequently acknowledges things that he don't know and get clarifications from the experts. This shows his intellectual humility when he don't know anything about any subject.

On contrary, Sometimes we should know something as it provides us a good place to start. Prepared to be knowledge

Knowing or prior experience/knowledge will make us better prepared to face the crisis effectively. This can be seen in

The way Japan as a Country handled Earthquake early this year. Their prior knowledge helped them to handle the disasters effectively.

NOT
an apt
example
like

Not just Japan, Even countries like India which faces frequent cyclones were able to handle them effectively with the help of prior knowledge aided by technology and local capacity building.

In the above case we have seen the importance of knowing something before we start, What about knowing too much? and, is that a good place to start?

→ structure
it
better

As it is rightly said "Having too much of anything results into chaos,

confusion and clutter. This will make

it a bad place to start anything.

The recent issue of "infodemic" in Social media platforms is creating too much chaos and confusion. often we hear diverse perspectives with fake information making our decision process even more challenging.

These kind of falsified information dump can hamper our democratic processes such as Elections and at times can lead to Communal tensions.

Unlike the previous scenario, sometimes we should intentionally restrict what we know, to make it a good place to start.

In this day and age, Internet is inevitable and very much part and parcel of everyone's life. When young children start their internet exploration journey as a parent, guardian or ~~wish~~ well wisher it is our duty to hide the disturbing content.

Such as violence, drugs, pornography from those young minds. Not knowing all these unnecessary things will make internet a good place to start.

Along ~~in~~ the same lines, Sometimes we should restrict ourselves not to start something. Lack of wisdom will make us take quick decisions without any proper brainstorming about merits and de-merits.

This will become a perfect recipe for a disaster. The decisions ~~taken~~ by Mohammad - Bin - Thuglaq is a case in point.

His idea of capital transfer from Delhi to Devagiri is considered as one

of the biggest administrative failure of

Medieval India. Therefore sometimes its better to restrict ourselves to start something without doing indepth critical analysis.

Now the final question is, irrespective of the knowledge "what makes any place a good place to start?"

Any state of mind with good intensions, positive outlook, ability to accept and learn from mistakes, courage of conviction etc. is a good place to start.

The beauty of ones journey doesn't defined by how you got started rather where you have reached. The knowledge gaps will get filled with the experiences in the lifes journey.

The very same philosophy can be seen in Robert Forst's poem "The Road ^{less} not Taken". In this poem the lines go b

"
Two roads diverged in a wood and
I took the one less travelled by and
That has made all the difference"

Robert Frost, don't know anything about
the road that was less travelled despite
that he felt that it would be a
good place to start to explore new
avenues of life.

To summarise, ^{level of} One's Knowledge should
never become a fence, stopping an
individual to start and explore new
things. With good state of mind, every
single place or situation is a good
place to start.

Sometimes we are forced to start
things without knowing. Don't worry there is
no better way to learn things from giving

it a try. The hands on experience and learnings from the mistakes will be the greatest knowledge one can get in the process of achieving something.

Not knowing might feel like we are struck in a tunnel full of darkness on a new moon day. Even in those times all we need is to start. We have to start and take few more careful steps in those darkness to meet the swamp of fireflies at the end of the tunnel which will light up the dark sky into a full moon day. Therefore start and know more about life rather than waiting for the right time and knowledge.

Good Conclusion!