

Brief report of Performance Evaluation of student in the paper

	Poor	Average	Good	Very good	Excellent
Understanding the context and demand of the questions			✓		
Relevancy of the content		✓			
Structure and flow of the answer			✓		
(a) Introduction			✓		
(b) Body		✓			
(c) Conclusion			✓		
Subject knowledge			✓		
Language of the answer			✓		
Presentation			✓		
(a) Underline to the keywords		✓			
(b) Use of flowcharts or diagrams					
(c) Paragraph limits and overall		✓			
Understanding of directives		✓			
Factual correctness			✓		
Number of attempts					
Overall performance			✓		

Candidates must not write on this margin.

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2025-Section A

UPSC

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g.

Best Lessons are Learnt Through Bitter experiences.

He was born in poverty, lost his mother in childhood, failed in business and suffered defeat in almost every election he contested. Burdened by debt and mocked by peers, he might have seen destined obscurity. Yet each bitter setback forged patience and wisdom in him. When his nation was torn apart in civil war, it was these scars that shaped his leadership enabling him to abolish slavery and promote unity. History remembers him not for his failures but his triumphs. This man is Abraham Lincoln.

can add this point
1. He balanced the need for military victory with a vision for reconciliation and healing after the conflict, advocating for a gradual reintegration of the Southern states and opposing harsh retribution.
2. Domestically, he supported important legislation such as the Homestead Act, which helped poorer Americans acquire land.
Such acts shows his emotional stability and empathy for weaker section without being driven by bitter experience of past

Abraham Lincoln's life reminds us often ^{the} most painful setbacks carry within them the seeds of growth.

Best lessons

In this essay, we will explore how

new acts as a powerful teachers - shaping societies and humanity at large - while acknowledging that some leave behind permanent scars.

Before explaining the different aspects of Essay briefly explain thesis statement of the essay in few lines

> The phrase "best lessons are learned through bitter experience" expresses a profound truth about human growth: our most significant, lasting learning often comes from hardship, failure, or adversity.

> Bitter experiences serve as powerful teachers because they force confrontation with reality, breaking down false confidence and compelling genuine reflection and adaptation.

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1

scars, making it essential to seek a balanced path between suffering and wisdom.

Good Elaboration is fine

ADVERSITY AS THE FORGE OF WISDOM

"Adversity presents opportunities for introspection."
— APJ Abdul Kalam.

Hard times often push people and societies to pause, reflect and learn. Painful experiences may look like setbacks in the moment, but they usually are the building blocks of future progress.

Philosophical traditions across the world remind ^{about} us the truth. Gautama Buddha discovered the path of enlightenment only after he faced the harsh reality of sickness, old age, and death. In the Mahabharata, the Pandava's exile gave them strength and wisdom to later rule just after the war. Nietzsche also said "that which doesn't kill us make us stronger".

Good points with relevant example and scholars view Flow and structure of the argument is fine

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2

At individual level, failures and setbacks are often turning points. Michael Phelps struggled with depression but converted his pain into Olympic success. Steve Jobs was once removed from Apple, but ~~he~~ the setback made him more creative and eventually brought him back as one of the world's greatest innovators. Malala Yousafzai's ~~near-fatal attack~~ ^{near fatal-attack} turned her into a global symbol of education. Komal Panda from Odisha invented a portable cooler for insulin after seeing her father suffer. Sometimes, ~~though~~, adversity is ~~not~~ forced on people by the cruelty of others, like in case of Rape or Robbery. Such tragedies, though painful, often push society to demand stronger laws and reforms.

History also shows how adversity shaped collective destiny. The Jaliyanwala Bagh massacre (1919) was a bitter wound, but it gave new energy to India's freedom struggle. Partition, ^{and British Rule} left scars, yet also influenced Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and others to create

Points are valid
But lots of
example in
single passage
seems
overwhelming
> Use 2-3
example and
try to link with
theme and
explain
different
aspects like
ethical
standards,
social norms
and values
gained from
such action

Try to
explain more

In this point transition is not effective

> For example as you have mentioned about the partition

1. To overcome communal identity India learned through the bitter experience and made change like SECULARISM as a basic structure and state doesn't promote any single religion. However, Pakistan and Bangladesh facing sectarian violence and persecution of minority due to theocratic state
2. Highlight constitution has created a strong centre with adequate safeguard provision like emergency and President rule to prevent secession movement for addressing the bitter experience in future eg: Khalistan movement

This is part five

a constitution that promised equality and justice. Globally, the horrors of the World Wars pushed nations to form the United Nations and draft the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Great Depression of 1930 forced government to design welfare programs that are still relevant today.

Environmental and Resource Crises have taught similar lessons. Land degradation costs India about 2% of its GDP every year (MoEFCC), which has led to tree plantation and land restoration schemes. Dependence on costly oil imports pushed India towards Renewable Energy, which now makes up 42% of installed capacity (Ministry of Power 2023). The melting of Arctic ice failing by 12.6% every decade since 1979 (IPCC 2011). reminds humanity of the urgency of fighting climate change.

Good points with relevant facts

Highlight the global push for Net zero emissions under Paris agreement and later under 2021 Glasgow meet pledge due to the bitter experience of climate change

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3

Economic Struggles also became turning points. In 1991, when India's foreign reserves could cover just three weeks of imports (RBI Report 1992) the country had to adopt LPI reforms that opened up the economy. The 2008 Global Financial Crisis, which shrank world GDP by 0.1% in 2009 (World Bank), forced tighter rules for Global Banking.

But lack of coherence and explanation is not complete

Even today, contemporary challenges show this pattern. The Ukraine war disrupted energy and food chains, raising global food inflation by 14% (FAO). India faces a youth unemployment rate among the 15-29 age group (PLFS 2022-23).

In response, the govt is promoting entrepreneurs skilling, with over 1.25 lakh recognised start-ups of 2024 (DPIIT). Globally, the Global South demanding reforms in institution like the IMF, since old structures are failing to today's needs.

Mention such global geopolitical and economic vulnerability gives bitter experience
1. India realized the need for structural reforms in banking sector with many legislation and schemes Eg: IBC act, Indradhanush scheme for reinvestment of Bank, creating bad bank for addressing the NPA challenge.
2. Similarly, If you are mentioning about inflation, unemployment highlight poor structural reforms like lack of manufacturing sector strength, skill gap, too much focus on service sector result in slow development with jobless growth.

You have mentioned about global crisis but after that suddenly jumped into some contemporary challenge
> Again Multiple facts without proper explanation and smooth transition

Points are valid but brief explanation about the bitter experience followed by slow transition into the measure can make transition better

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Good this is how you should make transition between topics

In all these cases, adversity has been the forge of wisdom. It may wound us in present, but it also equips us with resilience and new ideas for a better future. Yet, every such lesson comes at a heavy price, reminding us that pain never comes

cheap.

PAIN NEVER COMES CHEAP

While adversity often teaches lessons, the price of such learning is painfully high. At the level, crimes like Rape or incidents of Suicide

that no wisdom can fully erase.

At the ^{mid National} societal level, some damage

le. large-scale land degradation and

of natural resources have already

cultural productivity, and the recovery

decades, if it is possible at all.

This points are general
> You have touched different dimensions without proper structure and explanation is not sufficiently accompanied with relevant example and facts

In environment aspects
Eg: Like Uttarakhand flood, Joshimath land subsidence, deforestation of Amazon and expulsion of tribals can be elaborated

1. For incident like acquisition of selling Indian satellite details to Pakistan against the scientist Dr. Nambi Narayan resulting in bitter experience and he faced lots of pain and humiliation. In such incidents the amount lesson learnt is enormous for many people to stand by justice and perseverance to prove honesty. Later got relief from court and award from President.

2. Similarly women's faced the bitter experience of sati and social isolation due to death of her partner denying widow remarriage and dignified life. After centuries of bitter experience and harsh life, due to continuous struggle by many freedom fighters. such practices were legally abolished and relevant provisions were added to address such incidents. It shows values of compassion and empathy towards women empowerment.

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4

At the Global level, the tragedies of war reveal the most brutal costs of human lives.

The atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki ended a world war, but they also left generations suffering radiation effect. as a reminder that certain lessons come with irreparable human loss.

Thus while adversity forges it also warns us that pain never comes ch
This The wiser path for individuals and so is to learn not only from personal suffering also from the experiences of others.

LEARNING WITHOUT BLEEDING

At the individual level, can observations, mentorship, and study other's journey can serve us from repenting costly mistakes. Civil service aspirants, for instance, learn strategies by reading toppers' copies. Biographies like APJ Abdul Kalam or Nelson Mandela show how one can draw

This part of the essay is very short
> Try to write atleast 2 -3 pages for Explanation about how certain inevitable situation make it difficult for one to learn and correct those mistakes.
> Similarly in this part different dimensions like individual and social aspects are not analysed properly with examples

This part can be written with multiple examples with good points

Not so effective point

This passage is fine with relevant linkage with theme and example is valid

It's not just about understanding answer copies
> Rather experience for each Aspirants can varies so learning from our own experience and also taking insights from different dimensions of preparation can be better points
Then merely saying answer copies.

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valid
arguments

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lessons without living through identical hardships.

At the Societal and National level

collective memory and shared experience are invaluable.

India after independence, observed the successes and

failures of others economies. Through it initially leaned

on the Soviet Model, it later corrected course by

adopting mixed economy principles. Similarly,

Public Health Programs against COVID-19 or Polio

were strengthened by observing global best practices.

Ultimately, wisdom need not always

come through bitter experiences. The mark of progress

is not just resilience in adversity but also the

maturity to learn with out bleeding. Nelson

Mandela, who reminded us: "I don't never

lose, I either win or learn". True triumph

points are valid
Try to mention
some points
about society
> India adoption
of human rights
into law.
> Global
integration
helped in cross
country flow of
investment,
people etc. Eg;
UPI SUCCESS
story mentioned
in G20
> Similarly
certain global
values were
recognised like
accepting
LGBTQ
community.

Good
points
Optimistic
Way
Ahead

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lies not ~~or~~ merely in suffering, but in trans-
forming wounds into strength. As the verse

tells us —

Scars are not signs of weakness,
they are proof we dared to fight
from the ashes of bitter trials
rise the lesson that gives us light.

Good
we
poem
Conclusion &
Well Summarised

Mark -52/125

#Introduction - 5/12.5

✓ Body part- 41 / 100.

✓ content (Thesis Elaboration and different dimensions)-28/65

✓ structure and presentation -1.75/4

✓ Arrangement of idea/ coherence/ interlinking -2.5/6

✓ Analysis, Examples and scholars view, quote - 6.5/20

✓ critical evaluation and way forward - 2.25/5

#conclusion -6/12.5

Remarks

1. Well tried. Appreciation for your efforts.
2. Essay should be holistic and comprehensive, Try to analyse different dimensions including some counter argument while elaborating the answer.
Eg: In pain is not cheap passage not enough example and events are included.
3. POSITIVE aspects of the answer
 - > Use of anecdote in introduction is Good but little ELABORATION is needed as mentioned in the feedback
 - > SUBHEADING IS FINE WITH APPROPRIATE use of quote and different dimensions eg: Nelson Mandela is fine
 - > USE of multiple examples in JUSTIFICATION OF your argument is fine but don't write everything in single passage. Use in different dimensions and arguments.
 - > covered different dimensions from historical to environmental problems.
 - > wayforward is fine with relevant arguments. still some more points about how to overcome such bitter experience can be written.
 - > USE of appropriate quote and poem based ending in the conclusion is good
4. AREA OF IMPROVEMENT REQUIRED
 - > THESIS STATEMENT SHOULD BE WRITTEN PROPERLY as highlighted in the feedback.
 - > Use of example in certain arguments can be better eg: civil service example is not effective, similarly in Economic dimensions lack of coherence in explanation about financial crises is visible
 - > critical evaluation part need to be improved Eg: In facing such adverse situation and how it is not always possible to learn from other mistakes because each person situations may differ eg:
Eg: Nepal politics failure to understand the china political motive even after learning from Sri Lanka incidents of foreign interference in economic and security issue.
 - > Maintain proper transition between different arguments by writing coherent arguments Eg: In Learning without bleeding started without any proper explanation .Try careful while explaining and giving suggestions to reduce irrelevant or less effective analysis.
 - > certain arguments should be written before conclusion as mentioned in the feedback.
5. Don't follow just PETAL FORMAT alone to explain about different dimensions. Try to ensure explanation is not to cover multiple dimensionS ALONE .Rather it should come within the flow and demand of the question. Not all essays looks good with structure of political economic etc.
So make sure to arrange argument with different dimensions within that Highlight the VARIOUS dimension that is necessary. It will ensure coherence in explanation not just standard TEMPLATE BASED EXPLANATION.
For example: Cultural nationalism is one dimension that can be discussed to show german bitter experience and how now certain nations following similar path like USA, CHINA etc
6. overall well tried still scope for improvement and better score.
Keep writing and improving.
All the best 👍