

**Please answer all four questions. Each question carries 15 marks, and wherever necessary, the break-up for each specific query is given in parentheses. Please structure your answers for which you might want to use a page for ordering your thoughts while keeping an eye on the time.**

**4Qs x 15 marks = 60; 90 minutes**

1. MK Gandhi has been accused of having uttered disdainful racial remarks against native South Africans. An example of one such utterance was:

“Ours is one continual struggle against a degradation sought to be inflicted upon us by the Europeans, who desire to degrade us to the level of the raw Kaffir whose occupation is hunting, and whose sole ambition is to collect a certain number of cattle to buy a wife with and, then, pass his life in indolence and nakedness.” ~ *Collected Works of Mahatma Gandhi*, Vol. I, pp. 409-410 (26 Sep 1896).

However, in his *Satyagraha in South Africa*, written between 1923 and 1925, Gandhi has a different set of utterances about native South Africans. How did Gandhi perceive native South Africans in his *Satyagraha in South Africa*? (5) How would you explain the change in Gandhi’s thoughts on native South Africans? (5) How did Gandhi view people of other ‘races’ like the Boers? (5)

2. In the “introduction” to *The story of my experiments with truth*, Gandhi mentions that a “god-fearing friend” had expressed his reservations about writing an autobiography. What were these reservations? (2) And against these reservations, what were Gandhi’s reasons for writing his autobiography? (3) By writing *The story of my experiments with truth* - argues Bhikhu Parekh - Gandhi was taking a radical political step of Indianizing the genre of the autobiography while simultaneously Westernising Indian cultural tradition. Parekh proceeds to say that Gandhi’s writing of his autobiography was a “profoundly political act with great therapeutic and inspirational value”. Explain these two remarks of Bhikhu Parekh. (10)

3. List out any two ways/modes in which Gandhi has been portrayed in popular culture and explain how these representations have influenced public discourse. (6) While there are agencies to propagate the thoughts of Gandhi, there has since long been a concerted effort to malign Gandhi as well. Unduly praising Gandhi and being wilfully prejudiced against him alienates us from the truth of Gandhian thoughts. Enumerate three prominent criticisms against Gandhi and critically explain the rationale behind each of these. (9)
4. The *Hind Swaraj* is Gandhi's seminal work. It was written partially with his left hand (approximately 40/275 pages) on board the ship SS Kildonan Castle, while he was travelling from London to South Africa. Write a short note explaining the context within which it was written with reference to the portraits of individuals given below. (5) The *Hind Swaraj* is a dialogue between a Reader and the Editor. How does the Reader perceive Swaraj? (5) On what grounds does Gandhi critique Modern Western Civilization? (5)



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