Essay · Essay

Truth knows no color.

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EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
2025	Essay	Essay

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
125	~1200 words

Answer Hint

Truth transcends race, caste, religion, nationality and social identity; examine truth as an objective moral and epistemic principle; distinguish truth from perception, prejudice and propaganda; explore truth in personal life, science, law, democracy, social justice and international relations; acknowledge that access to truth may be shaped by power and privilege even though truth itself is not; argue for evidence, transparency, empathy and constitutional morality as pathways to truth.

Model Answer

Introduction

“Truth knows no color” expresses the universal and impartial character of truth. Truth does not become different because the person speaking it belongs to a particular race, caste, religion, gender, nationality or social group. Yet human beings often interpret reality through the lens of identity, prejudice and power. The statement therefore invites us to distinguish **truth itself from the social identities through which truth is perceived, communicated and sometimes distorted**.

Truth is colour-blind, but society's access to and acceptance of truth is not always so.

Truth Beyond Identity

Human identity is diverse, but factual and moral truths cannot be determined merely by identity.

The truth of a scientific proposition does not change according to the scientist's nationality. The validity of a mathematical principle is independent of religion or ethnicity. Similarly, evidence concerning a crime remains evidence regardless of the social status of the accused or victim.

This universality makes truth a foundation for human coexistence. If every community were permitted to define facts according to its own identity, meaningful dialogue and collective problem-solving would become impossible.

Thus, **truth creates a common ground amid human diversity**.

Truth and the Human Tendency Towards Bias

Although truth itself is impartial, human beings are not.

People may selectively accept information that confirms their existing beliefs. Prejudice can cause individuals to believe allegations against an unfamiliar community while dismissing similar allegations against their own group.

This phenomenon appears in everyday life as well as politics and social relations. Rumours, stereotypes and misinformation become powerful when people evaluate claims according to **“who said it”** rather than **“what evidence supports it.”**

Education and critical thinking therefore require individuals to ask:

What is the evidence? Is the claim independently verifiable? Are alternative explanations possible?

Such questions help separate truth from identity-based perception.

Truth in Science

Science provides perhaps the clearest illustration of the colour-blind nature of truth.

Scientific knowledge is expected to be based on observation, experimentation, evidence and reproducibility rather than the identity of the researcher. A discovery becomes credible because it survives scrutiny, not because of the race, nationality or social status of its discoverer.

The scientific method therefore institutionalises a principle implicit in the statement: **claims must be judged by evidence rather than by the identity of the claimant.**

At the same time, scientific institutions themselves can suffer from historical inequalities. Greater diversity among researchers can broaden the questions asked and reduce blind spots. Thus, while truth is universal, the human process of discovering it benefits from diverse perspectives.

Truth, Law and Justice

The principle becomes especially important in the justice system.

The rule of law requires that evidence and legal principles, rather than caste, wealth, race or political influence, determine outcomes. An accused person should neither be presumed guilty because of social identity nor protected because of privilege.

Similarly, victims belonging to marginalised communities deserve the same recognition and protection as everyone else.

Therefore, truth in law is closely connected with **fair investigation, due process, equality before law and institutional independence**.

When identity determines whose testimony is believed or whose suffering is ignored, the search for truth becomes compromised.

Truth and Democracy

Democracy requires citizens to share a sufficiently common factual foundation.

If political communities inhabit entirely separate realities created by misinformation, propaganda or manipulated information, democratic deliberation becomes difficult. Citizens may disagree about values and policies, but factual claims should remain open to verification.

Independent media, transparency laws, credible institutions, fact-checking, judicial oversight and an informed citizenry can strengthen the public's access to truth.

However, truth should not be confused with the opinion of a majority. A majority can be mistaken. Democratic legitimacy therefore requires both **popular participation and respect for evidence, constitutional principles and institutional checks**.

Truth and Social Justice

“Truth knows no color” also has a deeper social meaning. Historically disadvantaged communities may have experienced discrimination that dominant groups failed to recognise or acknowledge.

Here, discovering truth requires listening to multiple experiences.

For example, statistical data may reveal unequal access to education, healthcare or employment, while lived experiences explain how such inequality operates in practice. Recognising these realities does not mean assigning truth according to identity; rather, it means ensuring that identity does not silence relevant evidence.

Thus, **truth is universal, but the path to discovering social truth must be inclusive.**

Truth in Personal Life

The statement also applies to interpersonal relationships.

Trust is built when people communicate honestly without manipulating facts according to convenience. A person who admits a mistake demonstrates greater ethical strength than one who hides behind status or social identity.

Truthfulness also requires consistency: one should not demand honesty from others while making excuses for one's own dishonesty.

In this sense, truth is an ethical discipline that transcends personal ego.

Truth and Power

One of the greatest obstacles to truth is power.

Powerful individuals and institutions may possess greater resources to shape narratives, while vulnerable individuals may struggle to make their experiences heard. Propaganda, censorship, selective disclosure and information asymmetry can distort public understanding.

Therefore, the principle that truth knows no colour must be accompanied by institutions capable of protecting the **right to seek, receive and communicate truthful information**.

Whistleblower protection, transparency, independent journalism, open data and accountable institutions can reduce the ability of power to suppress inconvenient truths.

Truth in the Digital Age

Technology has dramatically increased the speed at which information travels. It has also increased the scale of misinformation.

Algorithms may reinforce existing preferences, creating information bubbles in which individuals encounter only views compatible with their identities.

Deepfakes and manipulated content can further blur the distinction between reality and fabrication.

In such an environment, the principle of “truth knows no color” requires stronger **digital literacy, source verification, media literacy and responsible technology governance**.

The answer is not to distrust every source, but to develop methods of distinguishing credible evidence from manufactured narratives.

Truth and International Relations

Truth also transcends national boundaries.

Climate change, pandemics, terrorism, biodiversity loss and nuclear risks cannot be addressed effectively if countries manipulate facts for short-term political advantage.

International cooperation requires shared factual foundations, scientific transparency and trust.

At the same time, nations may interpret historical events differently. Reconciliation therefore requires acknowledging competing memories while distinguishing legitimate differences of interpretation from deliberate falsification.

Truth can become a bridge between societies when it is pursued through evidence and dialogue rather than nationalism.

The Limits and Complexity of the Statement

The statement should not be interpreted simplistically.

Not every disagreement is between truth and falsehood. Many questions involve incomplete evidence, uncertainty or legitimate differences in values. Scientific conclusions can evolve as new evidence emerges, and historical interpretations may differ while still respecting factual evidence.

Therefore, respect for truth requires **epistemic humility**—the willingness to say, “I do not know,” or “the evidence is insufficient.”

Truth is universal, but human understanding of truth can remain incomplete.

Towards a Culture of Truth

A society committed to truth must cultivate:

Evidence over identity: judge claims through reliable evidence.

Dialogue over prejudice: listen to competing perspectives.

Transparency over secrecy: disclose information relevant to public interest.

Institutions over personalities: ensure that truth does not depend on who holds power.

Education over misinformation: build critical and scientific thinking.

Justice over privilege: apply rules equally.

Humility over certainty: recognise the limits of knowledge.

Such a culture does not eliminate disagreement; it makes disagreement more constructive.

Conclusion

“Truth knows no color” ultimately asserts the **universality and impartiality of truth**. A fact does not become true because it is convenient to one community or false because it challenges another. Yet human beings can distort, suppress or selectively interpret truth through identity, prejudice and power.

The ethical task, therefore, is to create conditions in which truth can be pursued without fear and evaluated without prejudice. **Truth should be judged by evidence, not by the colour, caste, creed, nationality or status of the person who speaks it.**

In a diverse society, equality does not require everyone to think alike; it requires everyone to have an equal moral commitment to the truth. **When truth rises above identity, diversity becomes a source of understanding rather than a barrier to it.**

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