Ethics & Morality · GS - IV

“What really matters for success, character, happiness and lifelong achievements is a definite set of emotional skills — your EQ — not just purely cognitive abilities that are measured by conventional IQ tests.”

Do you agree with this view? Give reasons in support of your answer.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
2023	GS - IV	Ethics & Morality

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

IQ provides cognitive capability, but EQ determines how effectively knowledge is applied through self-awareness, emotional regulation, empathy, motivation and social skills. Sustainable success requires a balance between intellectual competence and emotional maturity.

Model Answer

Introduction:

Intelligence is essential for understanding problems and generating solutions, but human achievement also depends on the ability to understand and manage emotions. Hence, **EQ complements rather than completely replaces IQ**.

Why EQ Matters:

Emotional intelligence enables **self-awareness**, helping individuals recognise their strengths, weaknesses and emotional triggers. **Self-regulation** prevents impulsive decisions under pressure. **Empathy** improves relationships and enables leaders to understand diverse perspectives.

EQ also supports resilience, motivation, teamwork and conflict resolution. A technically brilliant administrator who cannot manage anger or understand citizens may perform poorly, whereas an emotionally mature officer can build cooperation and trust.

Why IQ Still Matters:

Cognitive abilities remain crucial in fields requiring analytical reasoning, technical expertise and complex problem-solving. Scientific research, engineering and policy analysis require strong cognitive capabilities.

Conclusion:

The most desirable combination is **high competence with emotional maturity**. IQ may determine what one can understand, while EQ significantly influences how responsibly and effectively one applies that ability to achieve lasting success.