

SOMP Key Idea Approach for Mains Mentorship 2023

SOCIAL ISSUES

SOMP KEY IDEA APPROACH

Often when students write answers, despite knowing content and all nit-picks of answer writing they find themselves ranging in average and sometimes even below average marks. The answer writing is not just about writing the right content but also **about writing it in the right manner**. Now the question arises what is the right manner that SOMP speak off?

Students write with the knowledge that they acquire over hour readings and learning and try to produce it in their own language in answer sheets. But is writing in general language sufficient to **fetch that 1 marks extra**? Then how are you making our answer subject specific, by using the same words in every subject. That definitely doesn't seem right and surely is questionable. Therefore, it is essential to understand that while following norms of answer writing, its structure or presentation is essential, use of appropriate language which is subject specific is equally needed.

This study material prepared by SOMP is to fulfill this demand of answers and make them specific from general. It gives valuable key ideas which can be readily included in answers at suitable places to acquire specificity. Not only this, after going through this material an aspirant can quickly revise the key terminologies used to express critical ideas. While substituting them for a larger sentence will make answers enriched as well as well composed, sentencing the quotes in answers has the possibility of fetching more marks in this tug of war.

The purpose of the document is to provide key words used in every sub section of the syllabus of UPSC CSE and help ***SOMP Mains Mentorship 2023 students*** to understand their importance and use. To fulfill this objective the material contains Theme areas, Key ideas associated with it, Context of these key ideas and a statement which provides a glimpse of its use. Alongside it also consist of quotes related to themes which are general in nature and can be quoted in answers. The material also guides you about various specific areas in which these materials can be utilized to replace general casual words.

SOMP hopes to help and ensure that our students get through their tough journey and our support in this process eventually makes them realize it. So we hope that you will utilize this study material well and enrich your answers in the exam hall. All the best.

Quotes- SOCIETY-SOCIAL ISSUES

- "Empower a woman - Empower a community"-**Kofi Annan**
- Freedom comes in three forms. The first is political emancipation from the conqueror, the second is economic and the third is social... India has only achieved the first. - **Captain Lakshmi Sahgal**
- "We cannot all succeed when half of us are held back"-**Malala Yusufzai**
- When there is oppression, the only self-respecting thing is to rise and say this shall cease today because my right is justice. - **Sarojini Naidu**
- "So long as you do not achieve social liberty, whatever freedom is provided by the law is of no avail to you."-**B.R. Ambedkar**
- Oppression and discrimination must be challenged and fought against. - **Savitribai Phule**
- Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the whole community. - **Savitribai Phule**
- I measure the progress of a community by the degree of progress which women have achieved"- **B. R. Ambedkar**
- "Unity is meaningless without the accompaniment of women. Education is fruitless without educated women and agitation is incomplete without the strength of women." - **B. R. Ambedkar**
- "Child labor perpetuates poverty, unemployment, illiteracy, population growth, and other social problems." **Kailash Satyarthi**
- There are people in the world so hungry, that God cannot appear to them except in the form of bread.- **Mahatma Gandhi**
- "Every child matters. If we fail our children, we are bound to fail our present, our future, faith, cultures, and civilisations as well." **Kailash Satyarthi**
- "Corruption is like a termite, it spreads slowly, reaches everywhere but it can be beaten with timely injections." **PM Modi**
- "It is the women who are the leaders in change and without their participation poverty can never be removed." **Ela Bhatt**
- "It is our moral failure that we still tolerate poverty." **Ela Bhatt**
- "The internal and external ethics of an organization must be the same; you cannot talk about minimum wages for poor people and not pay minimum wages to your own workers." **Aruna Roy**
- "India may be a land of over a 100 problems, but it is also a place for a billion solutions." **Kailash Satyarthi**

SUB THEME: Indian Society

Key Idea: Multi-Cultural Conundrum

- **Context:** Multi-cultural conundrum refers to the complex and sometimes perplexing challenges that arise when managing diverse cultures within a single society, organization, or context.
- **Statement:** The multi-cultural conundrum of India highlights the need for effective communication, understanding, and inclusive practices to navigate the intricacies of cultural differences and promote harmonious coexistence in a diverse world.

Key Idea: Myriad magnitudes of diversities

- **Context:** A myriad magnitude of diversities captures the vast range and various dimensions of differences found in cultures, languages, traditions, and perspectives across the globe.
- **Statement:** The myriad magnitudes of diversities showcase the incredible richness and complexity of human societies, highlighting the unique beauty and depth that stem from the multiplicity of backgrounds and experiences.

Key Idea: Prismatic Society

- **Context:** Prismatic society metaphorically depicts a diverse and colorful social landscape, much like light passing through a prism and refracting into a spectrum of vibrant hues.
- **Statement:** The prismatic society celebrates the dynamic interactions of individuals from various backgrounds, resulting in a multifaceted tapestry of identities, cultures, and perspectives that contribute to the vibrant mosaic of a harmoniously diverse community.

Key Idea: Multi-Colored Canvas of Culture

- **Context:** India is a multi-colored canvas of multiple identities, diverse custom, costume, cuisine, color, creed, caste etc., bound by another “C” called consensus, its societal feature would be filled with peculiarities.
- **Statement:** The multi-colored canvas of culture portrays the intricate tapestry of human heritage, where each cultural thread adds a unique shade, contributing to the vivid and captivating portrait of the world's diverse societies.

Key Idea: Microcosmic Societies

- **Context:** Microcosmic societies refer to smaller, localized communities or groups that reflect and embody the characteristics, interactions, and dynamics of larger societies on a smaller scale.
- **Statement:** Microcosmic societies offer insights into human interactions, relationships, and social structures, providing a lens through which we can understand and analyze broader societal phenomena in a more manageable context.

Key Idea: Functional Interdependence

- **Context:** Functional interdependence refers to the mutual reliance and interconnectedness of different parts, components, or entities within a system to achieve a common goal or maintain smooth operations.
- **Statement:** Functional interdependence fosters cooperation and collaboration, recognizing that the success of a complex system often relies on the seamless interaction and coordination of its various elements.

Key Idea: Caste Consciousness

- **Context:** Caste consciousness refers to the awareness and identification with one's social caste or group, often influencing an individual's self-perception, interactions, and choices.
- **Statement:** Caste consciousness shapes social dynamics, affecting how individuals view themselves within the larger social structure and how they engage with others based on their caste affiliation, impacting aspects of culture, identity, and community.

Key Idea: Quintessential land of religious diversity

- **Context:** Quintessential land of religious diversity characterizes a place known for its remarkable variety of religious beliefs, practices, and traditions that coexist harmoniously within its cultural tapestry.
- **Statement:** The quintessential land of religious diversity celebrates the cohabitation of different faiths, illustrating the richness of human spirituality and the capacity of communities to peacefully share their beliefs while fostering mutual understanding and respect.

Key Idea: Transitional Society

- **Context:** Transitional society refers to a community or nation in the process of undergoing significant changes, often on economic, political, social, or cultural levels, as it moves from one developmental phase to another.
- **Statement:** A transitional society represents a period of transformation, characterized by shifts in norms, institutions, and attitudes, and often marked by both opportunities and challenges as the society adapts to new circumstances and aspirations.

Key Idea: Ideological resilience

- **Context:** Ideological resilience refers to the ability of an ideology, belief system, or set of values to withstand challenges, criticism, or changing circumstances while retaining its influence and adherence.
- **Statement:** Ideological resilience reflects the durability of certain principles or ideas in the face of opposition or change, demonstrating their capacity to endure and continue shaping individuals' perceptions, actions, and societal dynamics over time.

Key Idea: Ideological Diversity

- **Context:** Ideological diversity refers to the existence of a wide range of differing beliefs, perspectives, and worldviews within a society, organization, or group.
- **Statement:** Ideological diversity enriches discussions and decision-making processes, fostering a deeper understanding of complex issues and promoting a balanced exchange of ideas that contributes to well-rounded and inclusive societal progress.

Key Idea: Co-existence of traditionalism and modernity

- **Context:** Co-existence of traditionalism and modernism signifies the harmonious cohabitation of longstanding cultural values, practices, and beliefs with the innovative ideas, aesthetics, and approaches of the modern era.
- **Statement:** The co-existence of traditionalism and modernism showcases the synthesis of past and present, enriching societies with the depth of history and the possibilities of progress, fostering a dynamic and culturally diverse environment.

Key Idea: Povertarianism

- **Context:** Povertarianism is a term used to describe the perception, portrayal, or romanticization of poverty as a virtuous or authentic way of life, often in literature, media, or artistic works.
- **Statement:** Povertarianism raises questions about the ethical implications of glamorizing poverty and the importance of addressing the root causes of poverty to ensure that individuals have access to basic necessities and opportunities for a better quality of life.

Key Idea: Sanskritisation

- **Context:** Sanskritization is a socio-cultural process where individuals or groups adopt higher caste practices, rituals, and values to improve their social status within the caste hierarchy.
- **Statement:** Sanskritisation reflects the dynamics of caste mobility and the pursuit of upward social mobility, as people aspire to align themselves with the norms and practices associated with higher castes in order to attain greater social recognition and respect.

SUB THEME: COMMUNAL HARMONY

Key Idea: Consciously-shared religious Heritage

- **Context:** Consciously-shared religious heritage refers to the deliberate and mutual recognition, appreciation, and preservation of religious traditions, artifacts, and sites among different religious communities.
- **Statement:** Consciously-shared religious heritage fosters mutual understanding and respect among diverse faiths, showcasing the capacity for collaboration in preserving and celebrating cultural and spiritual legacies that hold significance for multiple religious groups.

Key Idea: Homogeneous religious Consciousness

- **Context:** Homogeneous religious consciousness refers to a collective awareness or shared understanding of religious beliefs, practices, or values within a specific religious community or group.
- **Statement:** Homogeneous religious consciousness can strengthen a community's cohesion and identity, influencing how individuals perceive their faith and engage with its teachings, rituals, and moral principles as a unified whole.

Key Idea: Religious Cleavages

- **Context:** Religious cleavages refer to divisions or conflicts within a society, often based on religious differences, leading to tensions, disputes, or separations along religious lines.
- **Statement:** Religious cleavages underscore the complexities of managing diversity and highlight the importance of dialogue, understanding, and tolerance to navigate the challenges and foster peaceful coexistence in culturally diverse communities.

Key Idea: Religious Superstructure

- **Context:** Religious superstructure refers to the overarching framework of beliefs, rituals, institutions, and values that form the foundation of a particular religion and shape the way its followers perceive the world and their role within it.
- **Statement:** The religious superstructure provides a guiding framework that influences the spiritual, ethical, and social dimensions of individuals' lives, impacting how they interact with their community, society, and the broader universe.

Key Idea: Transcendental Viewpoint

- **Context:** Transcendental viewpoint of societies refers to a perspective that goes beyond the surface characteristics of a society, examining the deeper, underlying aspects that influence its culture, values, and collective identity.
- **Statement:** The transcendental viewpoint of societies encourages us to consider the spiritual, philosophical, and ideological dimensions that shape the course of human interactions, progress, and the pursuit of meaning within a broader societal context.

Key Idea: Cultural Exchanges

- **Context:** Cultural exchanges refer to the sharing, interaction, and mutual influence of cultural practices, ideas, and expressions between different societies, often leading to cross-cultural learning and enrichment.
- **Statement:** Cultural exchanges bridge gaps, foster understanding, and create opportunities for people to appreciate the diversity of human creativity, forging connections that promote global harmony and the growth of shared knowledge.

SUB THEME: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Key Idea: Collective assets and Capabilities

- **Context:** Collective assets and capabilities in a cooperative society refer to the combined resources, skills, knowledge, and strengths that member of the society pool together for the common benefit and progress.
- **Statement:** Collective assets and capabilities in a cooperative society empower individuals to work collaboratively, leveraging their diverse talents and resources to address challenges, achieve shared goals, and build a resilient and harmonious community.

Key Idea: Humiliation-Subordination

- **Context:** Humiliation-subordination refers to a power dynamic where one group or individual subjects another to degrading or degrading treatment, reinforcing a sense of inferiority or subservience.
- **Statement:** Humiliation-subordination perpetuates inequality and social injustice, highlighting the need for empathy, respect, and efforts to create inclusive environments that promote dignity, equity, and the empowerment of all individuals and groups.

Key Idea: Paradox of exclusion

- **Context:** Paradox of exclusion refers to the contradictory situation where efforts to maintain social cohesion or unity inadvertently result in excluding certain individuals or groups from participation or opportunities.
- **Statement:** The paradox of exclusion underlines the complexity of balancing inclusive principles with the unintentional consequences of marginalization, urging societies to continually reassess their policies and practices to ensure equitable access and representation for all.

Key Idea: Development Silos

- **Context:** Development silos refer to isolated and specialized areas of focus within organizations, governments, or projects, where different departments or entities work independently and do not effectively share information or collaborate.
- **Statement:** Development silos can hinder holistic progress by impeding communication, synergy, and the exchange of ideas, emphasizing the importance of breaking down barriers to achieve comprehensive and integrated development outcomes.

Key Idea: Dominant Gender Identities

- **Context:** Dominant gender identities refer to the prevailing and culturally accepted norms and roles associated with specific genders within a given society, often reinforcing traditional expectations and hierarchies.
- **Statement:** Dominant gender identities shape societal perceptions, behaviors, and opportunities, underscoring the need to challenge stereotypes and promote inclusivity to ensure that all genders are recognized, respected, and empowered to thrive.

Key Idea: Gender-just Society

- **Context:** Gender-just society refers to a community or environment where gender equality is upheld, and all individuals, regardless of their gender, have equal rights, opportunities, and access to resources.
- **Statement:** A gender-just society is characterized by the elimination of discrimination and the promotion of social, economic, and political conditions that empower people of all genders to participate fully, free from bias and injustice.

Key Idea: Commoditization of Female Sexuality

- **Context:** Commoditization of female sexuality refers to the process where aspects of women's bodies, appearance, and sexuality are treated as commodities for sale or consumption, often perpetuating objectification and reinforcing harmful stereotypes.
- **Statement:** The commoditization of female sexuality raises concerns about the dehumanization of women, highlighting the need to challenge societal attitudes that reduce women to mere objects and work towards fostering respectful, empowering, and equitable representations of women in all aspects of society.

Key Idea: Social Reprobates

- **Context:** Social reprobates refer to individuals who are deemed to have deviated from societal norms, values, or moral standards, often leading to their exclusion or negative perceptions within the community.
- **Statement:** Labelling individuals as social reprobates can perpetuate stigma and marginalization, emphasizing the importance of understanding the complexities of human behaviour and addressing the root causes that contribute to such deviations in order to promote empathy and rehabilitation.

SUB THEME: Community Development

Key Idea: One for all and All for one

- **Context:** "One for all and all for one" is a motto that emphasizes unity, cooperation, and mutual support among individuals, highlighting the importance of working together for the common good.
- **Statement:** "One for all and all for one" underscores the power of collective effort and solidarity, reminding us that by joining forces and embracing shared goals, we can achieve greater impact and overcome challenges as a unified community.

Key Idea: For the women, By the women and Of the women

- **Context:** "For the women, by the women, and of the women" is an expression that emphasizes women's involvement and agency in creating solutions, opportunities, and initiatives that cater to their needs and aspirations.
- **Statement:** "For the women, by the women, and of the women" encapsulates the idea of women empowerment, where women themselves take the lead in shaping their own destinies, fostering gender equality, and contributing to positive change in society.

Key Idea: Demographic Distortion

- **Context:** Demographic distortion refers to significant imbalances or irregularities in the distribution of population characteristics, such as age, gender, or ethnicity, which can have social, economic, and political implications.
- **Statement:** Demographic distortion can impact resource allocation, social services, and policy decisions, underscoring the importance of understanding and addressing demographic imbalances to ensure equitable development and societal harmony.

Key Idea: Demographic Nightmare

- **Context:** Demographic nightmare refers to a scenario characterized by severe population challenges, such as rapid population growth, aging populations, or imbalanced demographics, which pose significant social, economic, or environmental difficulties.
- **Statement:** A demographic nightmare highlights the urgency of addressing population-related issues through comprehensive policies and strategies that promote sustainable development, social well-being, and balanced growth for the long-term benefit of societies.

Key Idea: Cultural shift in Values

- **Context:** Cultural shift in values refers to a significant change or transformation in the fundamental beliefs, ethics, norms, and principles held by a society or community, often resulting from evolving social, economic, or technological influences.
- **Statement:** Cultural shift in values reflects the adaptability of societies to changing contexts, influencing behaviors, attitudes, and priorities, and shaping the way people interact with one another and engage with their environment.

Key Idea: Unlearn-Relearn gender Identity

- **Context:** Unlearn-relearn gender identity suggests the process of questioning and challenging preconceived notions and biases about gender, followed by actively acquiring new, more inclusive understandings and perspectives on gender identity.
- **Statement:** Unlearn-relearn gender identity encourages individuals to critically examine societal constructs, shedding harmful stereotypes and embracing a more enlightened respectful approach to understanding and supporting diverse gender identities.

Key Idea: Gender Expression

- **Context:** Gender expression refers to the external manifestation of one's gender identity through appearance, clothing, behaviours, and mannerisms, which may or may not conform to societal expectations.
- **Statement:** Gender expression encompasses the diverse ways individuals express their inner sense of gender, emphasizing the importance of self-expression and acceptance of people's right to define and present themselves authentically.

SUB THEME: URBANISATION

Key Idea: Exclusionary Urbanisation

- **Context:** Gender expression refers to the external manifestation of one's gender identity through appearance, clothing, behaviours, and mannerisms, which may or may not conform to societal expectations.
- **Statement:** Gender expression encompasses the diverse ways individuals express their inner sense of gender, emphasizing the importance of self-expression and acceptance of people's right to define and present themselves authentically.

Key Idea: Plastic Sexuality

- **Context:** Gender expression refers to the external manifestation of one's gender identity through appearance, clothing, behaviours, and mannerisms, which may or may not conform to societal expectations.
- **Statement:** Gender expression encompasses the diverse ways individuals express their inner sense of gender, emphasizing the importance of self-expression and acceptance of people's right to define and present themselves authentically.

Key Idea: Social Alienation

- **Context:** Social alienation refers to a sense of isolation, detachment, or disconnection that individuals may feel from society, often due to factors such as exclusion, lack of belonging, or perceived differences.
- **Statement:** Social alienation highlights the importance of fostering inclusive communities and promoting meaningful connections, recognizing that a sense of belonging and engagement are essential for individuals' well-being and the cohesion of society.

Key Idea: Cities without Growth

- **Context:** Cities without growth refers to urban areas where population, economic activity, and infrastructure expansion remain stagnant or decline over time, potentially leading to issues such as declining services, unemployment, and underutilized resources.
- **Statement:** Cities without growth present challenges that require innovative strategies to revitalize urban areas, focusing on sustainable development, resource optimization, and community engagement to ensure the well-being and vibrancy of residents despite limited or negative population growth.

Key Idea: De-globalization Sentiments

- **Context:** De-globalization sentiments refer to the growing skepticism or resistance towards global interconnectedness, international trade, and cross-border cooperation, often driven by concerns about economic inequality, cultural identity, or the impact of globalization on local industries.
- **Statement:** De-globalization sentiments reflect the complexities of balancing the benefits of global integration with the desire to protect national interests and preserve local cultures, emphasizing the need for nuanced approaches to global economic and social dynamics.

Key Idea: Suburbanization

- **Context:** Suburbanization refers to the process of population movement from urban centres to surrounding suburban areas, often driven by factors such as improved transportation, housing options, and a desire for a more spacious and less congested lifestyle.
- **Statement:** Suburbanization shapes the spatial and demographic dynamics of cities, impacting urban development, infrastructure, and social patterns as people seek a balance between urban conveniences and suburban comforts.

Key Idea: Urban Resilience

- **Context:** Urban resilience refers to the capacity of a city or urban area to effectively prepare for, adapt to, respond to, and recover from various shocks, stresses, and challenges, including natural disasters, economic shifts, and social disruptions.
- **Statement:** Urban resilience involves proactive planning, community engagement, and infrastructure development to ensure cities can withstand and bounce back from adverse events, enhancing the well-being and sustainability of urban populations.

Key Idea: India Vs Bharat

- **Context:** "India vs. Bharat" highlights the contrast between the modern, urban, and developed aspects of India and the rural, traditional, and often economically marginalized aspects referred to as "Bharat."
- **Statement:** The dichotomy between India and Bharat underscores the complex and multifaceted nature of the country, highlighting the disparities and challenges that exist within its diverse population and regions.

Key Idea: Pluralistic Sensibilities

- **Context:** Pluralistic sensibilities refer to the capacity of individuals or societies to embrace and respect diverse perspectives, cultures, beliefs, and values, fostering an inclusive and open-minded approach to interactions and relationships.
- **Statement:** Pluralistic sensibilities promote empathy, dialogue, and harmonious coexistence among individuals from different backgrounds, enriching the fabric of society by recognizing and celebrating the richness of human diversity.



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AIR 663 RAHUL RAMESH ATRAM
AIR 724 MOHIT GUPTA
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