

the actual exam. The examiner checking your copy will have no idea about the number of books you've read or the number of hours you've slogged. Your answers are all that he has to judge you on. So, it makes sense to learn, practice, and perfect the art of answer writing.

It is this specific addition on the topic of answer and essay writing that this book seeks to make. In the following pages, I have refined and condensed everything I learnt about essay and answer writing. This is a book I wish someone gave me when I started my preparation in 2012.

HOW SHOULD YOU USE THIS BOOK?

No two aspirants are the same. Some might be just starting out with Prelims, while others may be struggling with scoring well in Mains. Given this diversity, I tried my best to make this book relatable to everyone.

Given the practical nature of the book, I've made an effort to include many examples to drive home the point I am making. Though many would be tempted to use the same examples in your exam, I urge you to desist from it. The best way is to understand the principles and try to come up with your own examples.

Moreover, it would be a mistake to think that reading this book alone would be sufficient to write great answers. This book is merely a compass. Don't just read this book. Get into the habit of writing consistently, and incorporate the learning as you write. Doing is the best form of learning.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

No idea is entirely unique or original. Every idea is inspired from something or someone else. The same goes for this book. Over the years, I have benefited immensely from the works of great authors whose writings have helped me become a better writer, a better thinker, and a better person. In the book, I've given due credit wherever I referred to their work.