

Suggested GD Topics

This is especially to people looking for both on campus and off campus jobs. Now that the campus recruitment has started in many colleges, here comes another important step in acquiring that elusive step towards selection - **Group Discussion's**. I present here a few topics that I have collected which I think will certainly help you all. These are topics that are generally asked or are likely to be asked. Along with the topics I have also given the broad points along which these topics can be discussed.

1. Is coalition politics here to stay?
2. Does India need a dictator?
3. Is India moving away from a secularist state?
4. Education in India - or the lack of it
5. What ails Indian sports?
6. The Age of Information
7. Is Philosophy just an armchair theory?
8. Success is all about human relations
9. Borderless worlds - Dream or reality?
10. Quality is a myth in India.
11. Education and success - Is there a correlation?
12. We don't learn from history, we repeat it
13. Do we need a global policeman?
14. Indian villages - our strength or our weakness?
15. Agrarian Economy in India - boon or bane
16. if there were no armies in the world.....
17. Indian customs - are we in a time warp?
18. "How green was my valley.....". Is nature paying the price ?
19. Management Education - Is it necessary to succeed in business
20. The role of NGOs in economics and politics
21. NGOs - Do they serve peoples interests or are they pressure groups?
22. Death of Socialism
23. Role of women in development
24. Kids today are not what they used to be
25. Casteless India - A pipe dream
26. Should Trade Unionism be banned in India
27. Repeated elections - Should taxpayers pay for it?
28. Indian bureaucracy - foundation strengths or colonial hangovers?
29. In India, the whole is less than the parts - Do we lack in team spirit?
30. Generation X - Drivers of our future or are they our lost souls?
31. Do we need a cut in the defence budget?
32. "Dot.com" companies - Is there room for everyone?
33. Artificial Intelligence - Will man be ever replaced by machines?
34. if I were to choose my person of the millennium...
35. All the world is a stage....
36. when managers become Hamlets...
37. If Patel were our first Prime Minister.....
38. Materialism - Have we sold our souls to the Devil?
39. You've come a long way, baby - The rise and rise of feminist power .
40. Role of ethics in tobacco industry, liquor industry etc.
41. Should gambling be legalised in India?
42. Are we unfit for Democracy?
43. Survival tools for the new millennium
44. Examinations - has it killed education

45. Cultural Invasion through the air waves
 46. Should doctors be tried in Consumer Courts
 47. Abortion and Euthanasia - Is it morally right for society
 48. Are beauty pageants necessary?
 49. The relevance of Gandhism today
 50. India and the WTO
 51. Did India handle the hijack issue properly?
 52. Is E-Commerce the best thing for India
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Is coalition politics here to stay?

The following points could be discussed under this topic:

Nature of coalition politics. Indecisiveness of elections. No particular party is getting the people's mandate. Advantage of coalition politics in enabling formation of government. Flipside of coalition politics- a party with a handful of seats become powerful. Government falls before tenure. Fresh elections each time. Suggest a way out of this problem, for e.g.: once a party pledges support to a coalition, it will not withdraw its support until it has watched a government's performance for at least three years...etc The future -will it only have coalitions, emerging political trends...etc...

Does India need a dictator?

The following points could be discussed under this topic:

The current political structure. Drawbacks of it. Bureaucracy, layers in decision making, anarchy. Dictatorship would mean centralised power and faster decision making. But, country run on whims and fancies of an individual. Freedom on individuals could be clamped ..etc.. Present a balanced argument for and against and take up your position on the issue.

Is India moving away from a secularist state?

The following points could be discussed under this topic:

Define secularism. Constitution calls our country such a state, but how things have changed over the last 50 years. Spread of nationalism. Division into majority and minority groups-e.g. benefits given to minority groups perceived as a threat by others. Role of non-tolerant neighbors in fuelling fundamentalism. It is a passing phenomenon. We have the national character to overcome this.. Points along these lines can be discussed.

Education in India-or the lack of it.

The following points could be discussed under this topic:

Discuss current education system. Discuss our sociological structure. Poverty which forces kids to drop out to supplement family income. Vicious circle-poverty due to lack of education and vice versa. Suggest solutions to get out of this-for e.g., governments are doing a commendable job with the midday meal schemes but we need more of such efforts. Going down further, why restrict it to government alone? why can't private people, NGOs and other voluntary bodies come forward to do the same? How about tapping corporate funds for such causesetc.

What ails Indian sports?

The following points could be discussed under this topic:

A nation of 950 million, we fail to produce great champions barring the occasional Vishwanathan Anand or Geet Sethi. Sports system steeped in bureaucracy. Overriding popularity of cricket leading to neglect in other sports. Traditionally, sports not accorded much importance by us as a career. Need to develop sports from the primary school level- "catch em young". Various incentives to be given to budding sportsmen like academic credits, sports in lieu of a few other subjects etc. Development of sports infrastructure, making it amenable and affordable...etc.....

The Age of Information.

The following points could be discussed under this topic:

Today a plethora of sources to provide information-Newspapers, radio, Television, [Internet](#) etc. Information available at the touch of a button. Greater decision making power to the individual. Also easier decision making for the individual. Information is the key to ones success today. One who is more informed forges ahead. The flipside-information overkill. At times deciding is tough due to too much information ...etc.....

Is Philosophy just arm chair theory?

(This is an example of an abstract topic which is thrown up to students once in a while by the examiners)

The following points could be discussed under this topic:

Talk what you know about this topic . Talk of its relevance in day to day life(or irrelevance if you feel so..). Talk of its influence in literature e.g. Influence of Kant on the romantic poets especially Wordsworth or of Bacon, Voltaire et al on the "Enlightenment" period etc. Talk of its influence in politics e.g. Influence of Nietzsche on Hitler and subsequent genocide during Nazi regime etc. Talk of ethics and morals and their importance in life. talk of Indian philosophy. the Gita. Discuss whether we use any of these in our lives and their importance in moulding our values...etc...

Success is all about human relations

The following points could be discussed under this topic:

The most important skill for success is to have people on your side. One can get a lot of work done by superiority and hierarchy but one cannot be a leader of men unless one maintains excellent human relations. Its importance not only in professional life but personal life too. Knowledge and expertise does one no good if one cannot maintain proper human relations...etc.

Borderless worlds-Dream or reality?

The following points could be discussed under this topic:

Globalisation of business. Opening up of the various economies. Cross cultural exchanges. More and more people getting an opportunity to work in different lands among different peoples and absorbing a bit of their values and culture. This leads to greater tolerance and understanding of others' problems. The other side-people despite all this have nationalistic and regionalist chauvinism. A world divided into first, second and third worlds. People still talk of "their" economy and not world economy. Europe has shown a step in this direction with EU but its feasibility remains to be seen. So while people clamour for globalisation, they still think only in terms of their national interests...etc...

Quality is a myth in India.

The following points could be discussed under this topic:

The Indian products and manufacturing techniques. Why are we unable to sustain against global competition. Our mindset towards quality. Indian attitude of "chalta hai" which leads to an undemanding customer which in turn lets people get away with substandard products and services. Today competition is forcing our industry to adhere to global standards so we are getting there in terms of quality. Examples of our software industry which is recognised for its ability to meet global standards etc. Since the topic is general, we can extrapolate it to our quality of life-the air, the water, the facilities we have, the infrastructure we have, the services we get and put up withetc.....

Education and success-Is there a correlation?

The following points could be discussed under this topic:

This is a topic which provides ample scope for dialectics. One can argue for and against it. One of the best examples is Bill Gates who went on to become the richest man in the world despite dropping out of his education. Closer home we have the example of Dhirubhai Ambani. What a person learns and what he really wants to do has no correlation many a times. A person succeeds only if he likes what he does. The argument for education will be that, in practice, it is your marks and qualifications that opens doors for you. While one can become successful without education, education brings about a richness in one's life. One is able to appreciate many facets of life due to the extended knowledge that education provides. It opens a new window and provides a different perspective towards things, ability to distinguish between ethical and unethical, moral and amoraletc.

We don't learn from history, we repeat it

The following points could be discussed under this topic:

Relevance of history. Reminder of our past telling us what to do and what not to do. Still we have numerous examples which have occurred again and again for e.g. Time and again we have had innumerable wars and bloodshed, Hitler made the same mistake as Napoleon and Napoleon in turn the same ones as Alexander and all the three wanted to rule the world, countries making similar mistakes in world war II as they did during world war Ietc....

But despite this there are also many examples which have not been repeated (or rather not brought out to the fore as they were not repeated). This could mean we have indeed learnt from history and avoided those mistakes. In fact that has been the purpose of teaching history so as not to repeat them. Today fear of war is directly due to the record history places before us...etc....

Indian villages-our strength or our weakness?

The following points could be discussed under this topic:

A typical Indian villages and its myriad problems. Lack of basic amenities and infrastructure. their contribution to the economy both in goods and services vis-a-vis their urban counterparts. they could be an even bigger drivers of our economy if they are made self reliant by improving infrastructure and reducing the general disparities between cities and villages ...etc...etc

Agrarian Economy in India-boon or bane

The following points could be discussed under this topic:

Speaking for the topic one can argue the following- time and again it has made us self reliant in food. This increases our bargaining power tremendously in the world economy. Internally also food prices can be kept low and this will have a direct bearing on [inflation](#). This would bolster the economy and provide us freedom from world bodies and other nations.

Against the topic-agrarian economy is at the mercy of climatic conditions. A bad summer, monsoon, or winter could bring the nation down. It will have a spiral effect as increased prices will lead to inflation and problems associated with it. World bodies and other nations will dictate terms..etc....

If there were no armies in the world.....

The following points could be discussed under this topic:

Wishful thinking indeed! It would be the key element for world peace. There will be no instrument to wage a war. It will also remove fear and distrust among various nations. We wont have a defence budget. This means more funds channelised into other productive areas. Reduced terrorism and very little separatist groups

But the disadvantage could be imposition by one group, anarchy, laissez faire politics, lawlessness..etc..

Do we need a global policeman?

The role of some countries in "disciplining" others. Assuming on itself to decide what is right and what is wrong for the whole world. Bullying others into submission by its sheer economic power. Overriding the brief of world bodies in world politics

Suggest alternatives like more authority to world bodies like UN etc which is more representative of everyone's interests. More assertiveness to be shown by other nations to such policing nations . making more nations self reliant so that we have less of "Big Brother" Syndrome.....etc.....

Indian customs-are we in a time warp?

The following points could be discussed under this topic:

Some undesirable practices over a long time. Dowry- prevalent even among the educated class, Sati- recent example of a lady in North India, Child marriages- still prevalent in backward areas etc. Reason on why do we still follow such customs. Traditional subjugation of women-present even in big cities among upper class society. Allied problems due to such customs- intolerance, fundamentalism, exploitation, etc

Suggest ways out of this like education the masses, indicating the outmodedness and irrelevance of such practices today...etc...

"How green was my valley.....".Are we paying the price of nature?

The following points could be discussed under this topic:

As every one tries to be one up on the other in the race for industrialisation, deforestation is taking place on a large scale. This effect is more pronounced in developing countries. It has made a perceptible difference in the last 50 years with rising temperatures. Global warming. Greenhouse effect. Ozone layer depletion. El Nino type effects. Similarly it has affected other living beings-both plant and animals driving many of them to extinction..etc...

But people have realised it now. A lot of NGOs and voluntary bodies are working on it. Infact there is even a Greens party in Germany which has been winning elections using the environmental plank...etc....

Management Education-Is it necessary to succeed in business

The following points could be discussed under this topic:

This is again a topic where we can have for and against arguments. There are many examples of great visionaries and leaders in business who have succeeded without any formal management education. People have simply done it by their will, passion and desire. But management education has also produced many bigwigs. A management education gives a perspective towards analysis and problem solving. It enables one to take decisions in a scientific manner, it enables you to handle the stress and strains of a demanding job...etc...

The role of NGOs in economics and politics

The following points could be discussed under this topic:

NGOs have become very powerful today. They have a major role to play in politics as they swerve peoples opinion. They enjoy a lot of support and goodwill of the people. They can also make or break a business. They protect the interests of the people and represent a collective voice against anything that goes against their interests. Most of the times NGOs are more capable in securing a fair deal for the general good. Also the NGOs have shown that they are in a better position to handle social issues than most governments ...etc...