

THE FIRST AND LAST 30 WORDS DECIDE THE IMPRESSION

# Introduction & Conclusion Bank

Examiners form a view in the opening lines and remember the closing ones. Rotate these openers and closers so your answers never start with "In today's world..." again. Keep each to 25–35 words.

## Six ways to open

### Definition **SAFEST DEFAULT**

Define the key term precisely, then pivot to the question.  
"Cooperative federalism refers to..."

### Data / statistic **SHOWS RIGOUR**

Open with a current figure. "With 65% of India under 35, the demographic window..."

### Context / background **FRAMES THE ISSUE**

One line of historical or policy context that sets up the body.

### Committee / report **AUTHORITY**

"The 2nd ARC observed that..." — borrow credibility from a recognised source.

### Constitutional / legal **GS-II GOLD**

Anchor to an Article or judgment. "Article 21's expanding ambit now covers..."

### Apt quote **USE SPARINGLY**

A short, relevant quote — only when it genuinely fits the theme.

## Five ways to close

### Way forward **MOST RELIABLE**

End with a concrete step — committee recommendation, scheme, reform direction.

### Aspirational / vision **UPLIFTING**

Tie to a national vision. "...realising the promise of a \$5-trillion, equitable economy."

### SDG / constitutional value **VALUES-LINKED**

Map to an SDG or a Preamble value — justice, liberty, equality, fraternity.

### Balanced verdict **FOR 'CRITICALLY'**

State your reasoned position clearly — no fence-sitting.

### Quote / Gandhian touch **GS-IV FRIENDLY**

A value-anchored closing line, especially for ethics answers.

**Never:** restate the question, summarise the body, or end mid-thought. The conclusion adds a forward step — it doesn't recap.

## My go-to openers & closers (build your own bank)
