

COLLEGE TRB PAPER 2
VICTORY COUNTDOWN SERIES
DAY 6
DESCRIPTIVE ESSAY

POINTS TO KEEP IN MIND

Read the question very carefully:

1. Understand the theme clearly
2. Write a crisp introduction
3. Use structured headings
4. Cover multi-dimensional analysis
5. Use Indian/TN examples
6. End with a thoughtful conclusion

If you follow this, you will consistently write high-scoring TRB-standard essays.

“UPI is not just a payment system; it is a public digital utility.”

Unified Payments Interface (UPI) has emerged as one of India's most transformative digital innovations. Introduced by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), UPI goes far beyond being a simple payment platform. It functions as a **public digital utility** that supports inclusion, efficiency, and trust in the digital economy.

- 1. UPI as a foundation for financial inclusion** - UPI enables instant bank-to-bank transfers using a mobile phone, eliminating the need for physical cash, cards, or complex banking procedures. By allowing transactions through basic smartphones and regional languages, UPI has brought millions of people—especially small vendors, rural users, and the informal sector—into the formal financial system.
- 2. Interoperability and openness** - Unlike closed payment systems, UPI is fully interoperable. Users can transact across different banks and apps seamlessly. This open architecture encourages competition, innovation, and user choice while preventing monopoly control. Such openness is a defining feature of a public utility.
- 3. Economic efficiency and transparency** - UPI has significantly reduced transaction costs and improved payment efficiency. Instant settlements enhance business liquidity,

while digital trails improve transparency and reduce tax leakages. This strengthens formal economic activity and supports better governance.

4. Empowering small businesses and everyday transactions - From street vendors and small retailers to large enterprises, UPI has simplified payments across all levels of the economy. Its QR-based system has lowered entry barriers for micro-entrepreneurs, enabling digital participation without heavy investment.

5. Resilience and scalability - UPI's ability to handle billions of transactions securely each month demonstrates its reliability and scalability. During crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic, UPI ensured uninterrupted financial transactions, proving its role as essential digital infrastructure.

6. Global influence and future potential - India's UPI model is now being adopted and studied globally, highlighting its success as a public digital good. Integration with credit, international payments, and new digital services further expands its utility.

UPI has transformed the way Indians transact, interact, and participate in the economy. By being inclusive, interoperable, and reliable, UPI functions not merely as a payment system but as a public digital utility that underpins India's digital and economic transformation.