

UPSC SYLLABUS

Preliminary Examination

| Subject | Paper Type | Duration | No. of Question | Marks | Negative Marking |
|--------------------------------|------------|----------|-----------------|-------|---|
| Paper -I General Studies | Objective | 2 Hours | 100 | 200 | 1/3 of Marks allotted to the ques (0.666) |
| Paper -II CSAT | Objective | 2 Hours | 80 | 200 | 1/3 of Marks allotted to the ques (0.833) |

NOTE: 33% marks are the minimum qualifying marks for paper-II.

Paper I (200 marks) - General Studies

Duration: 2 hours

- Current events of national and international importance
- History of India and Indian National Movement
- Indian and World Geography - Physical, Social, Economic Geography of India and the World
- Indian Polity and Governance - Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues, etc
- Economic and Social Development - Sustainable Development, Poverty, Inclusion, Demographics, Social Sector initiatives, etc
- General issues on Environmental Ecology, Bio-diversity and Climate Change - that do not require subject specialisation General Science

Paper II-(200 marks) - CSAT

Duration: 2 hours

- Comprehension
- Interpersonal skills including communication skills;
- Logical reasoning and analytical ability

- Decision-making and problem solving
- General mental ability
- Basic numeracy (numbers and their relations, orders of magnitude, etc.) (Class X level), Data interpretation (charts, graphs, tables, data sufficiency etc. - Class X level)

Note: It is mandatory for the candidate to appear in both the papers of Civil Services (Prelim) examination for the purpose of evaluation. Therefore, a candidate will be disqualified in case he or she does not appear in both the papers of the (Prelims) exam. Question paper is set in both Hindi and English Languages.

Main examination

Qualifying Papers

Paper A - Modern Indian language - 300 Marks

Qualifying nature: Marks not counted, Passing mandatory

(One of the Indian Language to be selected by the candidate from the Languages included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution).

- Comprehension of given passages
- Precis Writing
- Usage and Vocabulary
- Short Essay
- Translation from English to the Indian language and vice-versa

Paper B -English - 300 marks

Qualifying nature: Marks not counted, passing mandatory

The pattern of questions would be broadly as follows: -

- Comprehension of given passages

- Precise Writing
- Usage and Vocabulary
- Short Essay

- *The Papers on Indian Languages and English will be of Matriculation or equivalent standard and will be of qualifying nature only. The marks obtained in these papers will not be counted for ranking.*
- *The candidates will have to answer the English and Indian Languages papers in English and the respective Indian language (except where translation is involved).*
- *The paper A on Indian Language will not, however, be compulsory for candidates hailing from the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Sikkim.*
- *The paper A on Indian Language will not, however, be compulsory for Candidates belonging to Persons with Benchmark Disability (only Hearing Impairment sub-category) provided that they have been granted such exemption from 2nd or 3rd language courses by the concerned education Board/University. The candidate needs to provide an undertaking/self-declaration in this regard in order to claim such an exemption to the Commission.*

For the Language medium/literature of languages, the scripts to be used by the candidates will be as under: —

| Language | Script |
|-----------|-------------------------|
| Assamese | Assamese |
| Bengali | Bengali |
| Gujarati | Gujarati |
| Hindi | Devanagari |
| Kannada | Kannada |
| Kashmiri | Persian |
| Konkani | Devanagari |
| Malayalam | Malayalam |
| Manipuri | Bengali or Meitei Mayek |
| Marathi | Devanagari |
| Nepali | Devanagari |
| Odia | Odia |
| Punjabi | Gurumukhi |
| Sanskrit | Devanagari |
| Sindhi | Devanagari or Arabic |

| | |
|-----------|-----------------------|
| Tamil | Tamil |
| Telugu | Telugu |
| Urdu | Persian |
| Bodo | Devanagari |
| Dogri | Devanagari |
| Maithilli | Devanagari |
| Santhali | Devanagari or Olchiki |

- **Note 1: For Santhali language, question paper will be printed in Devanagari script; but candidates will be free to answer either in Devanagari script or in Olchiki.**
- **Note 2: For Manipuri Language, question paper will be printed in Bengali Script; but candidates will be free to answer either in Bengali Script or in Meitei Mayek Script.**

PAPER-I Essay: 250 Marks

- Candidates may be required to write essays on multiple topics.
- They will be expected to keep closely to the subject of the essay to arrange their ideas in orderly fashion, and to write concisely.
- Credit will be given for effective and exact expression.

Paper II - General Studies I - 250 Marks

(Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society)

- Indian culture will cover the salient aspects of Art Forms, literature and Architecture from ancient to modern times.
- Modern Indian history from about the middle of the eighteenth century until the present-significant events, personalities, issues.
- The Freedom Struggle — its various stages and important contributors/contributions from different parts of the country.
- Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country.
- History of the world will include events from 18th century such as industrial revolution, world wars, redrawing of national boundaries, colonization, decolonization, political philosophies like communism, capitalism, socialism etc.— their forms and effect on the society.

- Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India.
- Role of women and women's organization, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues, urbanization, their problems and their remedies.
- Effects of globalization on Indian society.
- Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism.
- Salient features of world's physical geography.
- Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including South Asia and the Indian subcontinent); factors responsible for the location of primary, secondary, and tertiary sector industries in various parts of the world (including India).
- Important Geophysical phenomena such as earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity, cyclone etc., geographical features and their location-changes in critical geographical features (including water-bodies and ice-caps) and in flora and fauna and the effects of such changes.

Paper III - General Studies II - 250 Marks

(Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.)

- Indian Constitution—historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure.
- Functions and responsibilities of the Union and the States, issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein.
- Separation of powers between various organs dispute redressal mechanisms and institutions.
- Comparison of the Indian constitutional scheme with that of other countries.
- Parliament and State legislatures—structure, functioning, conduct of business, powers & privileges and issues arising out of these.
- Structure, organization and functioning of the Executive and the Judiciary—Ministries and Departments of the Government; pressure groups and formal/informal associations and their role in the Polity.
- Salient features of the Representation of People's Act.
- Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional Bodies.
- Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies.
- Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.
- Development processes and the development industry —the role of NGOs, SHGs, various groups and associations, donors, charities, institutional and other stakeholders.
- Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States and the performance of these schemes; mechanisms, laws, institutions and Bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections.

- Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources.
 - Issues relating to poverty and hunger.
 - Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance- applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential; citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures.
 - Role of civil services in a democracy.
 - India and its neighborhood- relations.
 - Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests.
 - Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests, Indian diaspora.
 - Important International institutions, agencies and fora- their structure, mandate.
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Paper IV - General Studies III - 250 Marks

(Technology, Economic Development, Bio diversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management)

- Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization, of resources, growth, development and employment.
- Inclusive growth and issues arising from it.
- Government Budgeting.
- Major crops-cropping patterns in various parts of the country, - different types of irrigation and irrigation systems storage, transport and marketing of agricultural produce and issues and related constraints; e-technology in the aid of farmers.
- Issues related to direct and indirect farm subsidies and minimum support prices; Public Distribution System- objectives, functioning, limitations, revamping; issues of buffer stocks and food security; Technology missions; economics of animal-rearing.
- Food processing and related industries in India- scope' and significance, location, upstream and downstream requirements, supply chain management.
- Land reforms in India.
- Effects of liberalization on the economy, changes in industrial policy and their effects on industrial growth.
- Infrastructure: Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc.
- Investment models.
- Science and Technology- developments and their applications and effects in everyday life.
- Achievements of Indians in science & technology; indigenization of technology and developing new technology.
- Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nano-technology, bio-technology and issues relating to intellectual property rights.

- Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment.
 - Disaster and disaster management.
 - Linkages between development and spread of extremism.
 - Role of external state and non-state actors in creating challenges to internal security.
 - Challenges to internal security through communication networks, role of media and social networking sites in internal security challenges, basics of cyber security; money-laundering and its prevention.
 - Security challenges and their management in border areas - linkages of organized crime with terrorism.
 - Various Security forces and agencies and their mandate.
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Paper V - General Studies IV - 250 Marks

(Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude)

- This paper will include questions to test the candidates' attitude and approach to issues relating to integrity, probity in public life and his problem solving approach to various issues and conflicts faced by him in dealing with society. Questions may utilise the case study approach to determine these aspects. The following broad areas will be covered:
- Ethics and Human Interface: Essence, determinants and consequences of Ethics in-human actions; dimensions of ethics; ethics - in private and public relationships.
- Human Values - lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators; role of family society and educational institutions in inculcating values.
- Attitude: content, structure, function; its influence and relation with thought and behaviour; moral and political attitudes; social influence and persuasion.
- Aptitude and foundational values for Civil Service, integrity, impartiality and non-partisanship, objectivity, dedication to public service, empathy, tolerance and compassion towards the weaker-sections.
- Emotional intelligence-concepts, and their utilities and application in administration and governance.
- Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and world.
- Public/Civil service values and Ethics in Public administration: Status and problems; ethical concerns and dilemmas in government and private institutions; laws, rules, regulations and conscience as sources of ethical guidance; accountability and ethical governance; strengthening of ethical and moral values in governance; ethical issues in international relations and funding; corporate governance.
- Probity in Governance: Concept of public service; Philosophical basis of governance and probity; Information sharing and transparency in government, Right to Information, Codes of Ethics, Codes of Conduct, Citizen's Charters, Work culture, Quality of service delivery, Utilization of public funds, challenges of corruption.
- Case Studies on above issues.

Paper VI - Optional Subject - Paper I - 250 Marks

- Candidates may choose any ONE optional subject from amongst the list of subjects given below.
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Paper VII - Optional Subject - Paper II - 250 Marks

- Candidates may choose any ONE optional subject from amongst the list of subjects given below.
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List of optional subjects for Main Examination:

- (i) Agriculture
- (ii) Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Science
- (iii) Anthropology
- (iv) Botany
- (v) Chemistry
- (vi) Civil Engineering
- (vii) Commerce and Accountancy
- (viii) Economics
- (ix) Electrical Engineering
- (x) Geography
- (xi) Geology
- (xii) History
- (xiii) Law
- (xiv) Management
- (xv) Mathematics
- (xvi) Mechanical Engineering
- (xvii) Medical Science
- (xviii) Philosophy
- (xix) Physics
- (xx) Political Science and International Relations
- (xxi) Psychology
- (xxii) Public Administration
- (xxiii) Sociology
- (xxiv) Statistics
- (xxv) Zoology
- (xxvi) Literature of any one of the following languages:

Assamese, Bengali, Bodo, Dogri, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Maithili, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Odia, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Santhali, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu and English.

- *Candidates exercising the option to answer Papers in any one of the languages included in the Eight Schedule to the Constitution of India mentioned above may, if they so desire, give English version within brackets of only the description of the technical terms, if any, in addition to the version in the language opted by them. Candidates should, however, note that if they misuse the above rule, a deduction will be made on this account from the total marks otherwise accruing to them and in extreme cases; their script(s) will not be valued for being in an unauthorized medium.*
- *Candidates should note that if any irrelevant matter/signages/marks etc. are found written in the answer script(s), which would not be related to any question/answer and/or would be having the potential to disclose the candidate's identity, the Commission will impose a penalty of deduction of marks from the total marks otherwise accruing to the candidate or will not evaluate the said script(s) on this account.*
- *The question papers (other than the literature of language papers) will be set in Hindi and English only.*

Interview/Personality Test

275 Marks

- The candidate will be interviewed by a Board who will have before them a record of the candidate's career.
- The candidate will be asked questions on matters of general interest. The object of the Interview/Personality Test is to assess the personal suitability of the candidate for a career in public service by a Board of competent and unbiased observers.
- The Interview/Personality Test is intended to judge the mental calibre of a candidate. In broad terms this is really an assessment of not only intellectual qualities but also social traits and interest in current affairs.
- Some of the qualities to be judged are mental alertness, critical powers of assimilation, clear and logical exposition, balance of judgement, variety and depth of interest, ability for social cohesion and leadership, intellectual and moral integrity.
- The technique of the Interview/Personality Test is not that of a strict cross-examination but of a natural, though directed and purposive conversation which is intended to reveal the mental qualities of the candidate.

- The Interview/Personality Test is not intended to be a test either of the specialized or general knowledge of the candidates which has been already tested through their written papers.
- Candidates are expected to have taken an intelligent interest not only in their special subjects of academic study but also in the events which are happening around them both within and outside their own State or Country as well as in modern currents of thought and in new discoveries which should rouse the curiosity of well-educated youth.
- The UPSC interview can be conducted in any of the 22 official languages recognized under the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution.
- Candidate can give preference of the language in which they may like to be interviewed. UPSC will make arrangement for the translators.

