

SYLLABUS AND ANALYSIS OF LAST YEARS' QUESTION-PAPERS

Syllabus of UPSC Civil Services Examination

Preliminary Examination

Syllabus of Paper-I (200 marks)

Duration: Two 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 Environment & Ecology, Bio-diversity and Climate Change; that do not require any subject specialisation
- General Science

Syllabus for Paper II – (200 marks)

Duration: Two 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 1: Paper-II of the Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination will be a qualifying paper with minimum qualifying marks fixed at 33%.

Note 2: The questions will be of multiple choice type.

Note 3: 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/she does not appear in both the papers of Civil Services (Prelim) Examination.

Main Examination

The written examination will consist of the following papers:

Paper A - Modern Indian Language 300 Marks - Qualifying nature - Marks not considered for merit - Passing mandatory-

- (i) Comprehension of given passages.
- (ii) Precis Writing
- (iii) Usage of words and Vocabulary
- (iv) Short Essay
- (v) Translation from English to the Indian languages and vice-versa.

Note 1: The Papers on Indian Languages and English will be of High School level and will be of qualifying nature only. The marks obtained in these papers will not be considered for final ranking.

Note 2: The candidates will have to answer the English and Indian Languages papers in English and the respective Indian language (except where translation is involved).

Paper B - English - 300 marks - Qualifying nature - Marks not considered for Merit- Passing mandatory

The aim of the paper is to test the candidates' ability to read and understand serious discursive prose, and to express his ideas clearly and correctly in English and the Indian Language concerned.

Syllabus and Analysis of Last Years' Question-Papers

The pattern of questions would be broadly as follows:

- (i) Comprehension of given passages
- (ii) Precis Writing
- (iii) Usage of words and Vocabulary
- (iv) Short Essay

Paper-I

Essay - 250 Marks - To be written in the medium or the language of the candidate's choice. Candidate is required to write an essay on a specific topic. The choice of subjects will be given. They are expected to keep their thoughts closely to the subject and arrange their ideas in an orderly fashion and be concise. Credit will be given to effective and coherent 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 reorganisation within the country
- History of the world will include events from 18th century such as industrial revolution, world wars, redrawing of national boundaries, colonisation, decolonisation, 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 organisation, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues, urbanisation, their problems and remedies
- Effects of globalisation 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 sub-continent); 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 the 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 the other countries
- Parliament and State Legislatures - structure, functioning, conduct of business, powers & privileges and issues arising out of these
- Structure, organisation 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 related to the development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources
- Issues related 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 relations with its neighbours
- 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 their structure and mandate

Paper-IV

General Studies -III: 250 Marks (Technology, Economic Development, Biodiversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management)

- Indian Economy and issues related to planning, mobilisation of resources, growth, development and employment.
- Inclusive growth and issues arising from it
- Government Budgeting
- Major crops and cropping patterns in various parts of the country, different types of irrigation and irrigation systems, storage, transport and marketing of agricultural produce 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 liberalisation 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; indigenisation of technology and developing new technology
- Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nano-technology, bio-technology and issues related 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 organised crime with terrorism
- Various Security forces and agencies and their mandate

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 related 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.

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- 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 the 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, Utilisation of public funds, challenges of corruption.
- Case Studies on above issues

Paper-VI & Paper VII

Optional Subject Papers I & II (250 Marks each)

Candidates may choose any ONE optional subject from amongst the list of subjects given below:

List of Optional Subjects for Main Examination

1. Agriculture
2. Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Science
3. Anthropology
4. Botany
5. Chemistry
6. Civil Engineering
7. Commerce and Accountancy
8. Economics
9. Electrical Engineering
10. Geography
11. Geology
12. History
13. Law
14. Management
15. Mathematics
16. Mechanical Engineering
17. Medical Science
18. Philosophy
19. Physics
20. Political Science and International Relations
21. Psychology
22. Public Administration
23. Sociology
24. Statistics
25. Zoology
26. Literature of any one of the following:

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

| Subjects | Topics | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |
|--|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Indian History and Art & Culture | Ancient History | 3 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| | Medieval History | 0 | 1 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| | Modern History | 9 | 12 | 0 | 5 | 7 | 6 | 7 | 12 |
| | Art & Culture | 1 | 3 | 4 | 13 | 6 | 6 | 4 | 7 |
| Geography | Physical Geography | 9 | 5 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | Indian Geography | 6 | 4 | 5 | 13 | 7 | 4 | 7 | 5 |
| | World Geography | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| Indian Economy and Social Development | Basic Concepts | 7 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 4 |
| | Primary Sector | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 4 |
| | Manufacturing Activities and Services Sector | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | Banking, Trade and Fiscal Management | 7 | 6 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 14 | 5 | 9 |
| | Poverty Alleviation and Social Development | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 8 | 6 |
| Indian Polity and Governance | Constitutional Development and Framing of Constitution | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 2 |
| | Fundamental Rights, Fundamental Duties and Directive Principles of State Policy | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 8 | 2 |
| | The Union and State Governments | 5 | 10 | 12 | 8 | 6 | 3 | 11 | 8 |
| | Judiciary | 0 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| | Local Self Government | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| General Science | Physics | 2 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | Chemistry | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| | Biology | 4 | 3 | 10 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| | Science and Technology | 9 | 11 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 11 | 7 | 9 |
| Environment & Ecology, Biodiversity and Climate Change | Environment & Ecology, Biodiversity and Climate Change | 17 | 16 | 14 | 17 | 16 | 18 | 13 | 14 |
| General Knowledge | General Knowledge-India | 2 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 4 |
| | General Knowledge-World | 4 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 7 | 14 | 7 | 8 |
| Total | | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Topic-wise Analysis of CSP GS-II (CSAT) Examination 2011-2018

| Topics | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |
|--------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Comprehension | 39 | 40 | 33 | 31 | 30 | 28 | 30 | 26 |
| Logical & Analytical Reasoning | 17 | 28 | 21 | 23 | 18 | 21 | 22 | 22 |
| Decision Making | 8 | 7 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Maths and Basic Numeracy | 11 | 5 | 11 | 20 | 30 | 31 | 28 | 18 |
| Data Interpretation | 5 | 0 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 14 |
| Total | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 |