

# UPSC Mains

# Write Smart

## Class No. 1

## Orientation Session

# How To Access Everything



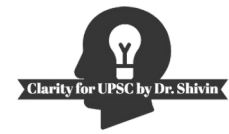
- Login to the portal using your phone number
- Live Classes at 12pm
- Recorded Sessions available
- Lets see what your portal looks like

# Schedule and Timings of the Course



- Timings : Live Class at 12 pm
- I would strongly recommend that you join live
- Classes : Alternate Days, Monday to Friday

# Course Schedule



Date	Day	Class			
5/6/2023	Monday	Orientation	3/7/2023	Monday	Polity
7/6/23	Wednesday	Society	5/7/2023	Wednesday	IR
9/6/23	Friday	Society	7/7/2023	Friday	IR / Governance
13/6/2023	Tuesday	Geography	11/7/2023	Tuesday	Governance
15/6/2023	Thursday	Geography	13/7/2023	Thursday	Social Justice
19/6/2023	Monday	Geography and History	17/7/2023	Monday	Security
21/6/2023	Wednesday	History	19/7/2023	Wednesday	Science and Tech
23/6/2023	Friday	History	21/7/2023	Friday	Environment and Disaster Management
27/6/2023	Tuesday	Polity	25/7/2023	Tuesday	Economy
29/6/2023	Thursday	Polity	27/7/2023	Thursday	Economy and Agriculture
			31/7/2023	Monday	Agriculture

# Course Schedule post july



- Only GS 4 will be left
- Will be taught by Varun Jain sir
- Content will be similar
- Schedule will be shared soon

# My expectations from you



- Attend the course live
- This Course only works if you participate with me
- Complete the reading assignments I give you (will explain)
- Work Hard : after you finish the class here, practice those things
- Please keep a mains answer sheet notebook handy
- Mains 2023 vs Mains 2024 : Poll

# Mains 2023



- You have less time
- You need to be extremely focused and be on schedule for everything
- PYQs with me : learn the content too
- Repetition is very high in mains
- Every single mark matters
- 959 vs 999
- 10-11 hours a day, Sunday half break
- Write tests on schedule even if you haven't studied

# Mains 2024



- You have a LOT of time?
- Need to consolidate this approach
- A sluggish start is acceptable but catch up the pace
- 5-6 hours a day
- If for now you're just able to meet the targets here, that is good enough.
- Most people will be eliminated from this year's mains, they are your competition every year.



# What you can expect from me



- Barring any force majeure, the course will be completed on time
- Mindmaps based content so that you can remember easily
- I will put in my best possible effort for you and I expect the same from you
- By the end of this course, you will NOT have any fear of answer writing
- Coverage of all relevant PYQs from 2013-2022
- Thank you for your trust, I will repay it.

# How the course works



- Every subject will have some sessions
- In the first session of that subject, I will write PYQs with you so that you can understand the thinking process behind them.
- In the second / third session, you will do most of the work while I guide you and we see the model answers.
- Content PDFs will be given to you.
- In case you have already read some content for the given subject, you can use the subject PDFs as value addition.

# Example : Indian Society



- In the first session I will write the PYQs with you while you brainstorm
- In the second session you will do most of the work. By this time you would have read the content and also learnt how answers are to be framed.
- The document for Indian Society would be shared by today. Give it a read (as much as you can) by Wednesday
- Wednesday : First Session of Indian Society
- Friday : Second Session of Indian Society
- Then we would move on to a different subject.

# The Mains Mindset



- How is the Mains Conducted?
- Friday : Essay
- Saturday : GS1 / GS2
- Sunday : GS3 / GS4
- Monday to Friday : Break for Optional
- Saturday : Hindi / English (qualifying)
- Sunday : Optional Paper 1 / Optional Paper 2

# What do we need?



- Consolidated Notes that can be revised in 1/2 days
- Let's look at what happens one week before mains
- Sunday : GS 4
- Monday : GS 3
- Tuesday : GS 2
- Wednesday : GS 1
- Thursday : Essay
- Friday : Mains Starts

# Lets look at a single mains paper



- GS 1 / GS 2 / GS 3
- 10 markers : 7 minutes
- 15 markers : 11 minutes
- How to approach?
- 2 schools of thought :
- A) 1-5 / 11-20 / 6-10
- B) 11-20 / 1-10

# What do we need?



- In the first minute, you need to understand the demand of the question
- Once you've understood the demand, you need to categorize into sub parts
- Then you need to recall points as you write
- Hence, you have very little thinking time.
- Filling 2 pages of mains answer sheet in 6 minutes is a difficult task even if you remember the task at hand completely.
- If you have to think alongside, it becomes almost impossible.

- Write the following answer :
- Explain the format of the UPSC CSE Mains Examination (10M)
- I will give you 8 minutes
- Please do this with me, this will help you learn what you lack and what you need to do



# Model Answer



- Did you know the content?
- Did you understand the demand?
- Did you write a good answer?
- Knowing the content is not enough.
- We need 2 more things :
  1. Write in a structured manner : subheadings
  2. Recall in a structured manner : approaches of answer writing

# Components of an answer



- Introduction
- Body
- Conclusion
  
- Nobody knows how UPSC marks the papers and whether subparts are marked separately.
- However we need to hit every part sufficiently in order to succeed.

# Introduction



- The First thing the examiner reads
- Needs to catch the attention of the examiner
- Generate an element of Interest

# Introduction



- Various Types :
- Current Affairs Based
- Definition Based
- Data / Fact based
- Quotes : mainly in GS 4 / Social issues / Indian Society
- Historical Evolution
- Your mains answer sheet must contain an ideal mixture of all of this.

- Main Part
- Understand all parts of the question
- Breaking question down as soon as you look at it
- Generating Dimensions and Logical Thinking through approaches
- This is where you will fetch marks
- This is the skill we need to learn

# Conclusion



- Examiner will give marks after he/she reads the conclusion
- Must be positive and futuristic
- Use Value Addition points : SDG / DPSP / FD
- Home work 1 : Remember all SDG / DPSP / FDs
- Acronym Based Conclusions in some places :
- Internal Security : Naxalism : SAMADHAN
- Name of Committees
- Best Practices

# Generating Dimensions



- STAPLE approach
- Social : education / health / social security / exploitation / identity
- Technology : Access / vulnerability / Infrastructure (enabling)
- Administration : Data (lack thereof) / Institutions / Implementation / Inter ministerial Coordination
- Political : Policies / Political Participation
- Legal : Laws / Constitutional Provisions / SC verdicts
- Economic : Gainful employment / Skills / Capital / Marketing / Poverty Trap

# Generating Dimensions



- Temporal Approach
- Traditional vs Required Administration
- Status quo vs Change Oriented
- Rigid vs Flexible and Dynamic
- Ivory tower approach vs People centric Approach
- Authoritative vs Democratic
- Veil of Secrecy vs Transparency and Accountability
  
- Think : Evolution of Indian Federalism?



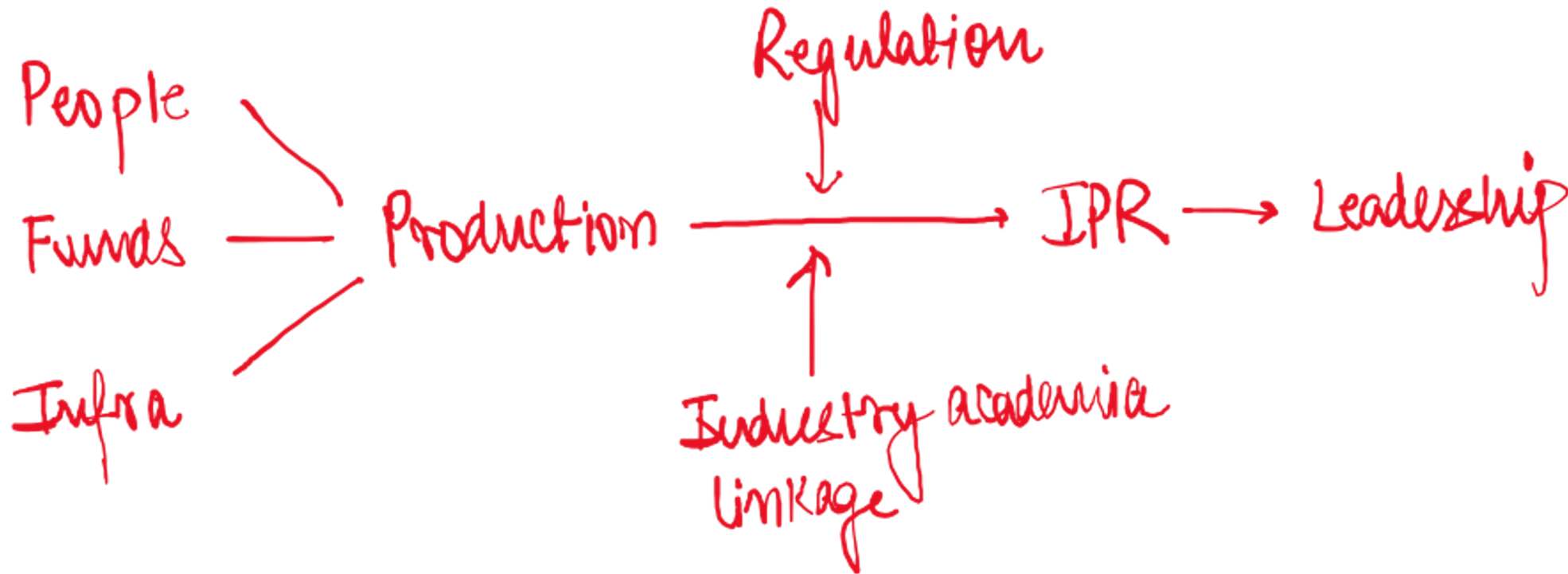
# Level Analysis



- Thinking at various levels of institutions
- Individual level
- Group Level / Society Level
- National Level
- International Level
  
- Ex : What does happiness mean to you? (GS4)

# Life Cycle Based Approach

- Analyzing something across its life cycle and generating various dimensions :



# Stakeholder Based Approach



- Considering all the stakeholders in a process and generating points for each of them
- Why is there a rise in NPA (non performing assets) in the banking sector and what is its impact?
- Think for body : Who are the stakeholders for NPAs?

# NPA stakeholders



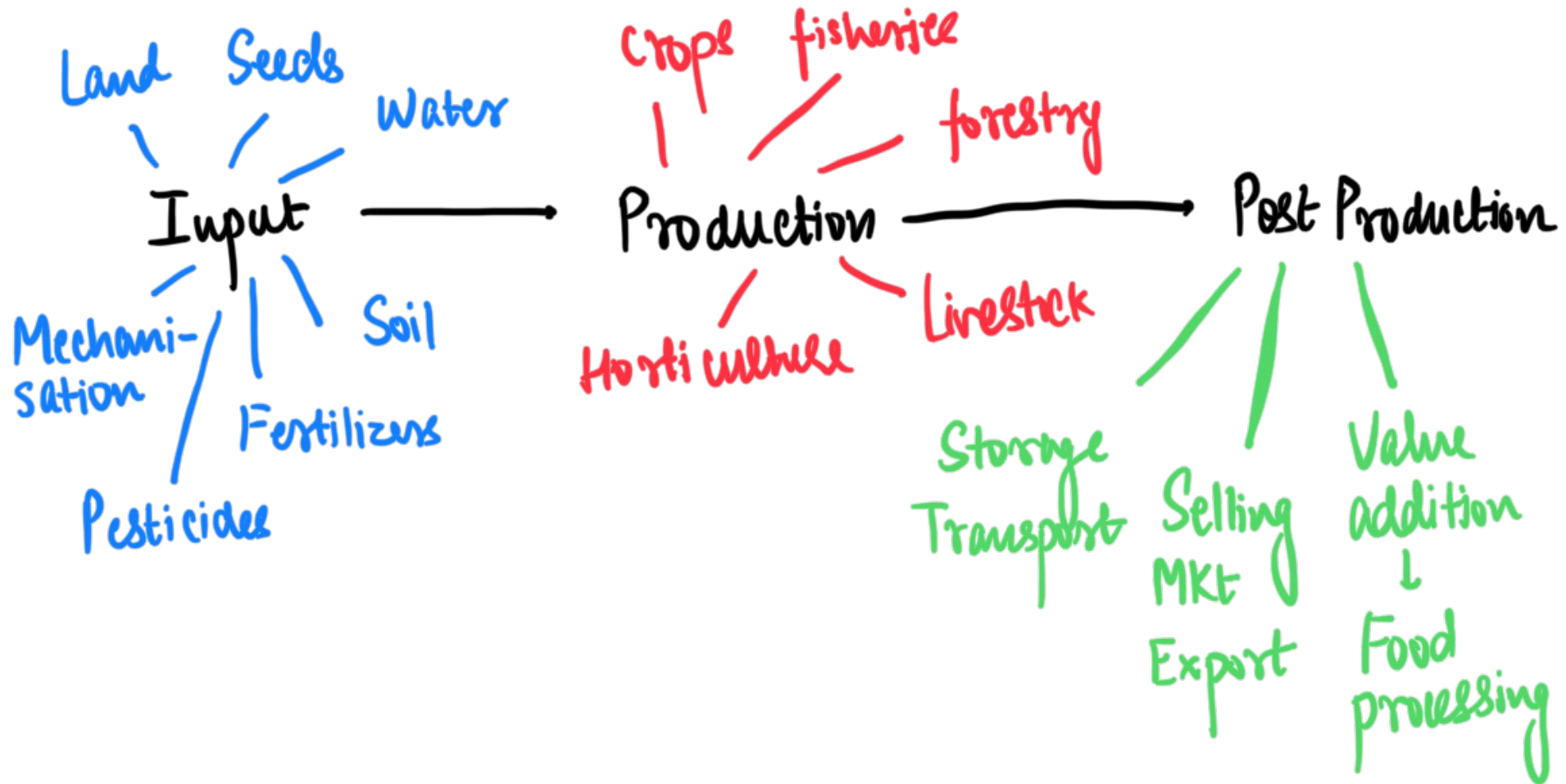
- Government
- Borrowers
- Depositors
- Banks
- Regulator

# Demonstration



- Why is there a rise in NPA (non performing assets) in the banking sector and what is its impact?
- Intro : Data / Fact
- Body 1 : Reasons for NPA rise : Life Cycle approach
- Body 2 : Stakeholder Approach
- Body 3 : Reforms : Stakeholders : Only if 15 marker
- Conclusion : Committee Recommendations / Best Practices

# Supply Chain Approach



# GS paper wise



- Any question : Take dimensions from GS papers
- Historical / Social / Geographical
- Political / International / Governance Based
- Economic / Environmental / Technological / Security
- Ethical
  
- Ex : Cryptocurrency based question

# SWOT Analysis



- Strengths
- Weakness
- Opportunity
- Threat



# Social Divide



- Rich vs Poor
- Urban vs Rural
- Men vs Women vs Transgender

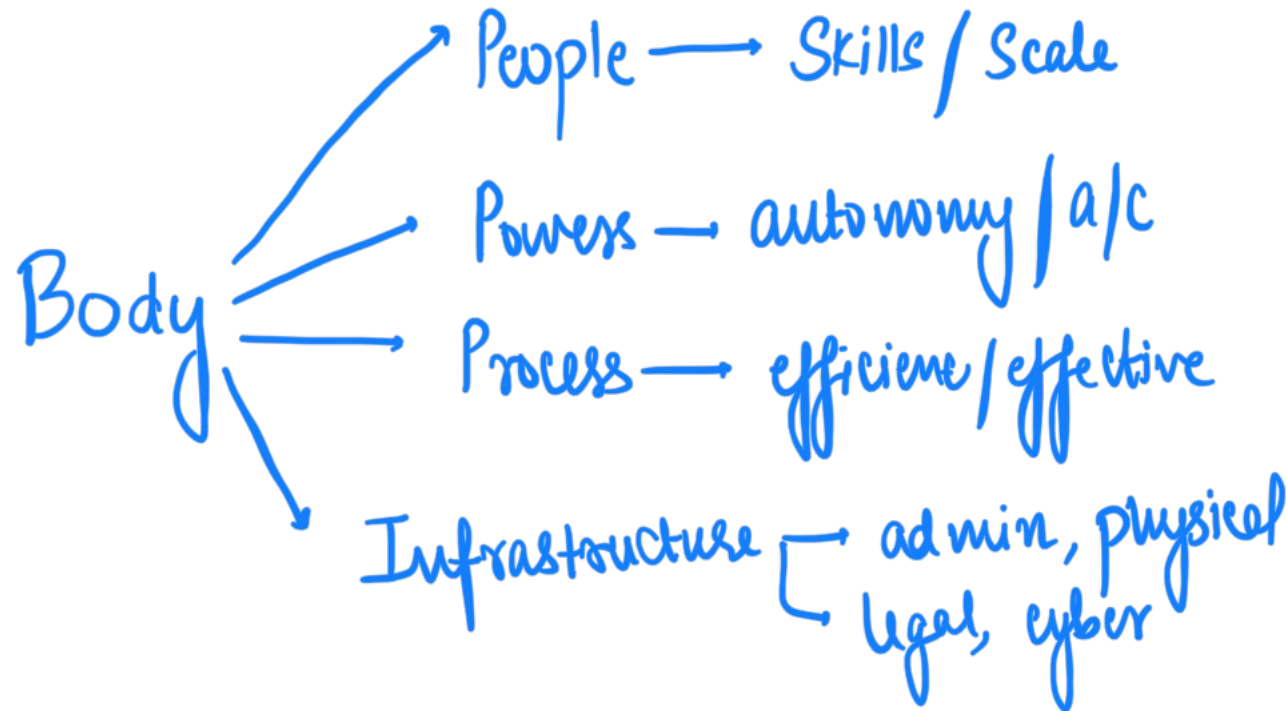
# Definition Based



- Good Governance :
- Consensus Orientation
- Responsive
- Accountable
- Participatory
- Transparency
- Rule of Law
- Equity and Inclusiveness
- Effective and Efficient

# Component Based

- Issues / Challenges of any Body
- Ex : NHRC asked in 2021 and 2022



# Lets See how much you have understood



- What are the challenges in the implementation of the Right to Information act?
- Take 5 minutes and write down all that you can

# Demand and Supply



- Thinking from the perspective of the seeker and the supplier
- Ex : RTI challenges
- Demand : Citizen
- Awareness
- Difficulty in filing : only 77% literacy
- Many exemptions
- Victimisation of Activists
- Lack of Last mile delivery
- Poor quality of information

# Demand and Supply



- Thinking from the perspective of the seeker and the supplier
- Ex : RTI challenges
- Supply : Government
- Misuse of Section 8
- Bureaucratic Resistance
- Training lacking
- Lack of Digitisation of Information
- Penalties not enforced
- Overburdened

# Demand and Supply



- Thinking from the perspective of the seeker and the supplier
- Ex : RTI challenges
- Adjudication
- Vacancy in Information Commissioner in 9 states
- No contempt power with Information Commissioners
- Culture of Secrecy
- Lack of Infrastructure and Staff

# Revise this today



- Revise all of this today
- Look at some previous year questions and try and revise the approaches