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**IAS ACADEMY**<sup>TM</sup>  
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# MAINSTORMING 2023 RAPID

TAMIL NADU | BENGALURU | DELHI | TRIVANDRUM

STARTS ON  
**03<sup>rd</sup> OCTOBER**

# 100 + Ranks in 2 consecutive years from Mainstorming (CSE 2020–2021)

## GS Pan India Scores

Our Students have secured some of the highest marks in GS and Essay in CSE 2021 and CSE 2020

## 10 Ranks in Top 50

Mainstorming is the primary choice of toppers, preferred by in service candidates to improve ranks and experienced students to secure ranks

## HIGH QUESTION REFLECTION

Refer Mainstorming reflections, see our questions matching themes and context with UPSC in CSE 2020–2021

## Few of our successful candidates from Mainstorming over the years

### • CSE 2021

Yaksh Chaudhary (Rank 6)  
Abhinav Jain (Rank 14)  
Avinash V (Rank 31)  
V Sanjana Simha (Rank 37)  
Kushal Jain (Rank 40)  
Swathi Sree T (Rank 42)  
Shubham Shukla (Rank 43)  
Divyansh Singh (Rank 49)  
Arpit Sangal (Rank 53)

### • CSE 2020

Nitish Kumar Jain (Rank 22)  
Kishan Kumar Singh (Rank 24)  
Divya Mishra (Rank 28)  
Narayan Sharma (Rank 33)  
Jubin Mohabatra (Rank 46)  
Ahinsa Jain (Rank 53)  
Utkarsh Kumar (Rank 55)  
Jayant Nahata (Rank 56)

### • CSE 2019

Bhosle Neha Prakash (Rank 15)  
Ishwarya R (Rank 47)  
Saranya R (Rank 36)  
Arun S Nair (Rank 55)  
Priyanka S (Rank 68)  
Yashaswini B (Rank 71)  
Srutanjay Narayanan (Rank 75)

### • CSE 2018

Rishab C A (Rank 23)  
Lakshmi N (Rank 45)  
Renjina Mary Varghese (Rank 49)  
Abishek V (Rank 79)  
Deepana Visweswari (Rank 117)

### • CSE 2017

Madhu Balan L (Rank 71)  
Pratibha Rani (Rank 78)  
Priyanka Bothra A (Rank 106)  
Balachander S (Rank 129)  
Sivakrishna Murthy V (Rank 207)

### • CSE 2016

Naveen Bhat Y (Rank 37)  
Anu S (Rank 42)  
Akshay Sridhar (Rank 45)  
K Nandhini Devi (Rank 54)  
Vishwanath K S (Rank 71)

\*Full list of toppers and their copies can be viewed on [www.iasparliament.com](http://www.iasparliament.com)

# WHY SHOULD YOU JOIN A MAINS TEST SERIES FOR CSE 2023



## 01 GIVES YOU A WELL THOUGHT OUT PLAN

PHASE	PLAN	SYLLABUS	TESTS	RATIONALE
01	PHASE 1 3rd OCT – 13th NOV 2022	MAINS EXCLUSIVE TOPICS	08 TESTS	These tests will cover mains exclusive topics in a span of 7 weeks through 6 Full and 1 Half tests. This phase will also include 1 UPSC format Full Essay paper.
02	PHASE 2 20th NOV– 29th JAN 2023	PRELIMS MAINS OVERLAP TOPICS	12 TESTS	These tests will cover prelims–mains overlapping topics in a span of 10 weeks through 9 Full and 2 Half tests. This phase will also include 1 UPSC format Full Essay paper.
03	PHASE 3 JUNE 4TH– 15TH SEPT 2023	POST PRELIMS TEST PLAN	10 TESTS	From June 2023 you can consolidate your mains preparation through 10 tests spread across 15 weeks (8GS Full+2 Essays). This will be followed by 5 All India Open Tests (unevaluated) conducted across the country.

## 02 HELPS YOU DEVELOP AN APPROACH TO ANSWER WRITING

Among the various arguments in favour of joining a test series, the most compelling one is the need to experiment with your answer writing approach. Before you go for the actual exam, you need to see whether you will be able to write 20 answers in 3 hours. You need to develop an approach to express what you know in the best possible way within the given time. Find out how you will react, when you run short of time, so that you know what to do when this happens in the examination hall. Develop strategies to frame answers when the questions get tough or what to do when you don't know the question itself.

## MAINSTORMING REFLECTIONS CSE 2020-2022

## OUR QUESTIONS VIS a VIS CSE 2020/ 2021/2022 MAINS QUESTIONS

### UPSC QUESTION CSE 2020 /2021&2022

### SHANKAR IAS MAINSTORMING QUESTION

1.	Explore and evaluate the impact of 'Work From Home' on family relationships	Technology led employment generation is a double edged sword for woman empowerment. Legends - 1, 2022, Q 10
2.	Discuss the role of the National Commission for Backward Classes in the wake of its transformation from a statutory body to a constitutional body. (UPSC 2021)	Has the constitutional status of the National Commission for Backward Classes( NCBC) helped improve the working of the commission and the outcomes? Legends - 10, 2022, Q17
3.	BIMSTEC is a parallel organisation like the SAARC ? What are the similarities and dissimilarities between the two ? How are Indian foreign policy objectives realised by forming this new organisation? (UPSC 2021)	Do you think BIMSTEC can fill the vacuum left behind by the obsolescence of SAARC? Also, discuss the factors that have so far severed concrete participation of member nations in the BIMSTEC. Legends - 6, 2022, Q20
4.	What are the major challenges of the Public Distribution System (PDS) in India? How can it be made effective and transparent? (UPSC 2021)	The Public Distribution System is acknowledged all over the world for its success in addressing hunger and poverty in India, however it has still not been effective in addressing nutritional security. Discuss. Legends - 7 - 2022, Q 4
5.	What are the different elements of cyber security? keeping in view the challenges in cyber security, examine the extent to which India has successfully developed a comprehensive National Cyber Security Strategy. (UPSC 2021)	With the digital push, India's essential infrastructure is now dependent on cyber networks for service delivery. Discuss the possible threats posed by cyber warfare and suggest changes in the security architecture to counter them. Q10 Legends 7, 2022, Q19
6.	The rock-cut architecture represents one of the most important sources of our knowledge of early Indian art and history. Discuss (10 Marks 150 Words) (UPSC 2020)	Prehistoric rock paintings and other art forms are significant in the reconstruction of various facets of ancient history. Explain 10 ( INTERIM BATCH FT 1 Q5)
7.	How will the melting of Himalayan glaciers have a far reaching impact on the water resources of India? (10 Marks 150 Words) (UPSC 2020)	Discuss the causes of depletion of glaciers and explain their impact on ecology and economy. (Batch V T2, Q7)
8.	Has caste lost its relevance in understanding the multicultural Indian society?Elaborate your answers with illustrations (10 Marks 150 Words) (UPSC 2020)	The major paradox of caste today is the rising caste groups/identities, declining caste system. Clarify your argument on this paradox. (Batch L T1, Q14)
9.	Evaluate the nature of Bhakti Literature and its contribution to Indian culture. (Answer in 150 words) 10 (UPSC 2021)	Evaluate the contribution of Bhakti saints to development of vernacular literature. (10 Marks 150 Words) Mainstorming-2021, T19, Q1
10.	How have digital initiatives in India contributed to the functioning of the education system of India. Elaborate your answer (15 Marks 250 Words) (UPSC 2020)	Recent pandemic has disrupted the traditional education system and has resulted in the emergence of e-learning as a viable option. Discuss. (150 Words, 10 marks) BATCH L TEST 2 Q4
11.	Once a Speaker, Always a Speaker! Do you think this practice should be adopted to impart objectivity to the office of the Speaker of Lok Sabha? What could be its implications for the robust functioning of parliamentary business in India? (10 Marks 150 Words) (UPSC 2020)	The Speaker of Lok Sabha is placed very high in the order of precedence. Do you think the office of the speaker 'can' act impartially? Explain the controversy regarding the powers of the speaker with respect to deciding money bills and disqualification of members. BATCH L TEST2 Q 17
12.	To what extent, in your view, the Parliament is able to ensure accountability of the executive in India? (Answer in 150 words) 10 (UPSC 2021)	Parliamentary control over the Executive remains at best ineffective"- Critically analyse Mainstorming-2021, T14, Q10

13.	The Indian diaspora has a decisive role to play in the politics and economy of America and European countries. Comment with examples. (10 Marks 150 Words) (UPSC 2020)	Indian diaspora policy has evolved from Nehruvian non-interference to active engagement in recent times. However, this engagement comes with its own challenges. Critically examine. (250 words, 15 marks) Batch L T10 Q19
14.	National educational policy 2020 is in conformity with the sustainable development goal for (2030). It intends to restructure and reorient the education system in India. Critically examine the statement. (15 Marks 250 Words) (UPSC 2020)	Explain the salient features of the National Education Policy, 2020. Do you think it is efficacious enough to resolve the long pending issues in the education sector? (15 marks, 250 words) OT T2 Q 16
15.	Can the vicious cycle of gender inequality, poverty and malnutrition be broken through microfinancing of women SHGs? Explain with examples. (Answer in 150 words) 10 (UPSC 2021)	SHGs and women collectives are ideal systems to build linkages with mainstream institutions to address livelihood issues and other dimensions of poverty. In this context examine how the network of DAY-NRLM collectives may help address multidimensional poverty. Mainstorming, Full test-2, Q 18
16.	Though the Human Rights Commissions have contributed immensely to the protection of human rights in India, yet they have failed to assert themselves against the mighty and powerful. Analysing their structural and practical limitations, suggest remedial measures. (Answer in 250 words) 15 (UPSC 2021)	The NHRC needs a complete overhaul for it to actually serve as a watchdog of human rights violations in the country. Discuss Mainstorming, Full test-2, Q 4
17.	The newly tri-nation partnership AUKUS is aimed at countering China's ambitions in the Indo-Pacific region. Is it going to supersede the existing partnerships in the region? Discuss the strength and impact of AUKUS in the present scenario. (Answer in 250 words) 15 (UPSC 2021)	How can the new AUKUS alliance upset the balance of power in the Indo-Pacific. What should be India's role in securing shared interests in the region. Mainstorming, Full test-2, Q 10
18.	What do you understand about Nanotechnology and how is it helping the health sector? (10 Marks 150 Words) (UPSC 2020)	Why is nano-technology considered as the most promising technology in the world? Critically evaluate their potential applications in the strategic sectors of India. (250 words, 15 marks). Batch L FT 3 Q 15 What are Carbon nanotubes? Enumerate potential application of Carbon nanotubes in the field of science and technology. Batch OT FT 3 Q 9
19.	What are the salient features of the National Food Security Act, 2013? How has the Food Security Bill helped in eliminating hunger and malnutrition in India? (Answer in 250 words) (UPSC 2021)	Illustrate the key components of 'Green Revolution – Krishonnati Yojana' and evaluate the performance of the national food security act, 2013. Mainstorming –2021, test 16, Q6
20.	Explain the rationale behind the goods and services tax (compensation to states) act of 2017. How has COVID-19 impacted the GST compensation fund and created new federal tensions? (15 Marks 250 Words) (UPSC 2020))	Enumerate the concerns of the states with respect to the GST taxation regime. How far can GST compensation cess address these concerns? Batch OT T3 Q1
21.	How did land reforms in some parts of the country help to improve the socio-economic conditions of marginal and small farmers? (Answer in 150 words) (UPSC 2021)	Critically evaluate the land reform and its impact in the post Independence period. (250 words, 15 marks) Mainstorming-2021, Batch L Test 1, Q13
22.	What are the determinants of left-wing extremism in Eastern part of India? What strategy should the Government of India, Civil administration and Security forces adopt to counter the threat in the affected areas? (15 Marks 250 Words) (UPSC 2020)	Security as well as the development has to run hand in hand to counter the left-wing extremism in India. Analyse. (10 Marks, 150 Words) Batch L T7 Q 9
23.	Analyse internal security threats and transborder crimes along myanmar, bangladesh and pakistan borders including Line of control (LoC). Also discuss the role played by various security forces in this regard. (15 Marks 250 Words) (UPSC 2020)	India's border management is subject to different challenges in different areas, some more gruelling than others. What are the challenges which makes border management challenging in the Western and Eastern Sector (15) Batch OT T3 Q19



# REASONS

## WHY YOU SHOULD CHOOSE **MAINSTORMING?**

### 01

#### OUR TRACK RECORD ON RESULTS

WITH 15 OUT OF TOP 100 RANKS  
AND 100 + SELECTIONS IN CSE  
2020 AND CSE 2021  
MAINSTORMING IS THE PRIMARY  
CHOICE OF TOPPERS

### 02

#### OUR MENTORSHIP SUPPORT

GUIDED BY REAL EXPERTS,  
BACKED BY YEARS OF  
EXPERIENCE, ACQUIRE THE EDGE  
IN BOTH ONLINE AND OFFLINE  
MODE

### 03

#### OUR EVALUATION

BASED ON CLEARLY DEFINED  
PARAMETERS, WE PROVIDE  
OBJECTIVE EVALUATION OF  
SUBJECTIVE ANSWERS WITH  
CORRECTIVE, SUGGESTIVE AND  
CONSTRUCTIVE INPUTS.

### 04

#### OUR SOLUTIONS

CONCISE AND ELABORATE,  
VALUE ADDITION DRIVEN, MOST  
APPROPRIATE POINT OF  
REFERENCE ON CONTEMPORARY  
ISSUES

### 05

#### OUR QUESTIONS

IT'S IMPORTANT TO PRACTICE  
WITH QUESTIONS THAT ARE  
LIKELY TO REPEAT FOR MAINS,  
OUR REFLECTIONS VALIDATES US  
AS THE RIGHT CHOICE IN THIS

### 06

#### OUR TEST DISCUSSION

DISCUSSION ARE IN ONLINE  
MODE, DELIVERED BY EXPERTS,  
EXPLAINING BOTH CONTENT AND  
APPROACH

### 07

#### OUR TEST ANALYTICS

WE PROVIDE ANALYSIS OF MARKS OBTAINED QUESTION WISE, GS PAPER WISE,  
SUBJECT WISE QUESTION DIFFICULTY WISE, QUESTION TYPE WISE AND BASED ON  
QUESTIONS ATTEMPTED

# MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE, CHOOSE MAINSTORMING



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ'S)

### ISN'T PRACTICING ANSWER WRITING ON ALL THE TOPICS ENOUGH ?

Answer writing practice and mains mock tests are **entirely two different things**. Writing a couple of answers might give you clarity with respect to the topics of those questions. But a mock test simulated to match the original mains exam is what will equip you to **handle the anxiety, attain a composure** required to run through 20 questions, **and develop the speed to do it in 3 Hours**.

### HOW CAN I INTEGRATE PRELIMS PREPARATION WITH THIS ?

Mainstorming 2023 RAPID will help you complete **all mains oriented topics by december 2022** and then you are left with **5 months to exclusively prepare for CSE Prelims 2023**. We have also kept prelims mains overlapping topics ahead of mains exclusive topics to ensure that you have a continuity while starting your prelims preparation.

### CAN I PREPARE FOR ESSAY WITH THIS AS WELL ?

Essay is one paper in the mains examination that has a weightage in marks equal to all other GS papers, but takes significantly less time to prepare. As and when your proficiency in GS papers improves, your scope of writing good essays gets better. So if you integrate your essay preparation with GS, you will be saving both time and effort. We have included **5 Essays in the program** to ensure that you get sufficient practice prior to your actual mains. .

## WHAT DO WE COMMIT TO PROVIDE?

### SERVICE

### TIMELINE

QUESTION PAPER

By 9 AM on Exam Date

ORIENTATION SESSION

Uploaded On Portal Before 1st Test

SOLUTION

1 day from exam date 5 PM

TEST DISCUSSION

Uploaded On Portal 4 days from exam date

EVALUATION

Under 09 Days

MENTORSHIP

Within 2-4 Days from raising ticket

PROGRAM MODE

Online and Offline

GOOD ANSWERS

After 25 % Enrolled Students write the test

COURSE FULFILMENT

Through Shankar ias Online Dashboard

# PROGRAM FEES DETAILS

MODULE	PROGRAM	TESTS	FEES <small>(inclusive of GST)</small>
MAINSTORMING P2P BATCH	MAINS EXCLUSIVE TOPICS 8 TESTS (7 GS + 1 ESSAY) + PRELIMS MAINS OVERLAP TOPICS 12 TESTS (11 GS + 1 ESSAY)	20 TESTS	17,500
MAINSTORMING P2M BATCH	MAINS EXCLUSIVE TOPICS 8 TESTS (7 GS + 1 ESSAY) + PRELIMS MAINS OVERLAP TOPICS 12 TESTS (11 GS + 1 ESSAY) + 8 GS + 2 ESSAY POST PRELIMS + 5 ALL INDIA OPEN (UNEVALUATED)	30 TESTS	25,000

\*Special Concession for In service Candidates (UPSC Civil Services) and previous years CSE rank holders

\*All India Open Test Will Not Be Evaluated And Will Not Be Provided With Solution, Discussion And Mentorship.

## 2023 MAINSTORMING RAPID SCHEDULE

### DATES

### SYLLABUS

### TEST

### SYLLABUS

## PHASE-1 MAINS EXCLUSIVE TOPICS

01	03/10/2022	ETHICS HALF PAPER	HALF PAPER 125	Ethics Part A + Case Studies
02	09/10/2022	ETHICS FULL PAPER	FULL PAPER 250	Ethics Part B + Case Studies
03	16/10/2022	ETHICS FULL PAPER	FULL PAPER 250	Ethics Complete Syllabus
04	22/10/2022	ESSAY TEST 1	FULL PAPER 250	Essay Full Syllabus
05	23/10/2022	SOCIETY FULL	FULL PAPER 250	Indian Society
06	30/10/2022	SOCIAL JUSTICE FULL	FULL PAPER 250	Social Justice
07	06/11/2022	INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS + DISASTER MANAGEMENT FULL	FULL PAPER 250	International Relations + Disaster management
08	13/11/2022	SECURITY + DISASTER MANAGEMENT FULL	FULL PAPER 250	Disaster Management + Security

**MAINS EXCLUSIVE TOPICS OCTOBER 3rd-13 NOVEMBER  
(42 DAYS) 7 TESTS ( 6 FULL + 1 HALF TEST) + 1 ESSAY**



**DATES****SYLLABUS****TEST****SYLLABUS****PHASE-2 PRELIMS MAINS OVERLAP TOPICS**

09	20/11/2022	POLITY + GOVERNANCE FULL	HALF PAPER 125	Indian Polity Part A + Governance
10	26/11/2022	ESSAY TEST 2	FULL PAPER 250	ESSAY FULL SYLLABUS
11	27/11/2022	POLITY + GOVERNANCE FULL	FULL PAPER 250	Indian Polity Part B + Governance
12	04/12/2022	POLITY + GOVERNANCE FULL	FULL PAPER 250	Indian Polity + Governance Full
13	11/12/2022	MODERN HISTORY + ART AND CULTURE FULL	FULL PAPER 250	Modern History + Art and Culture
14	18/12/2022	MODERN HISTORY + ART AND CULTURE FULL	FULL PAPER 250	Modern History + Art and Culture
15	25/12/2022	ECONOMY FULL	FULL PAPER 250	Economy Full Syllabus
16	01/01/2023	AGRICULTURE FULL	FULL PAPER 250	Agriculture Full Syllabus
17	08/01/2023	GEOGRAPHY + ENVIRONMENT HALF	HALF PAPER 125	Geography Part A + Environment
18	15/01/2023	GEOGRAPHY + ENVIRONMENT FULL	FULL PAPER 250	Geography Part B + Environment
19	22/01/2023	GEOGRAPHY + ENVIRONMENT FULL	FULL PAPER 250	Geography + Environment Full
20	29/01/2023	SCIENCE AND TECH SECTIONAL	FULL PAPER 250	Science and Technology Full

**PRELIMS MAINS OVERLAP TOPICS : NOV 20- 29 JAN (70 DAYS)  
12 TESTS (9 FULL + 2 HALF TESTS) + 1 ESSAY**

**DATES****SYLLABUS****TEST****SYLLABUS****PHASE-3 POST PRELIMS MAINS TESTS  
(ONLY FOR P-M BATCH)**

21	18/06/2023	LEGENDS TEST 1	GS1 FULL	GS 1 Full Syllabus
22	25/06/2023	EGENDS TEST 2	GS 2 FULL	GS 2 Full Syllabus
23	02/07/2023	LEGENDS TEST 3	GS 3 FUL	GS 3 Full Syllabus
24	09/07/2023	LEGENDS TEST 4	GS 4 FULL	GS 4 Full Syllabus
25	09/07/2023	ESSAY 3	ESSAY FULL	ESSAY FULL SYLLABUS

**1 WEEK CONSOLIDATION BREAK**

26	23/07/2023	LEGENDS TEST 5	GS1 FULL	GS 1 Full Syllabus
27	30/07/2023	LEGENDS TEST 6	GS 2 FULL	GS 2 Full Syllabus
28	06/08/2023	LEGENDS TEST 7	GS 3 FUL	GS 3 Full Syllabus
29	13/08/2023	LEGENDS TEST 8	GS 4 FULL	GS 4 Full Syllabus
30	20/08/2023	ESSAY 4	ESSAY FULL	ESSAY FULL SYLLABUS

**8 GS + 2 ESSAY POST PRELIMS BEFORE MAINS  
ALL INDIA OPEN TEST (UN EVALUATED)**

31	01/09/2023	ESSAY OPEN	ESSAY FULL	ESSAY FULL SYLLABUS
32	02/09/2023	AIO GS 1	GS1 FULL	GS 1 Full Syllabus
33	02/09/2023	AIO GS 2	GS 2 FULL	GS 2 Full Syllabus
34	03/09/2023	AIO GS 3	GS 3 FULL	GS 3 Full Syllabus
35	03/09/2023	AIO GS 4	GS 4 FULL	GS 4 Full Syllabus

The Key to progress is having the courage to start **before you're ready** and trusting yourself to figure it out along the way. Perfectionism slows progress, procrastination kills it.

THE PERFECTIONIST →

THE ITERATOR



THE PROCRASTINATOR



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