PRABHAT

UPSC

CIVIL SERVICES PRELIMINARY EXAM-2023

28 YEARS
TOPIC-WISE SOLVED PAPERS - I & II
1995–2022

With Complete Answers & Explanations

GENERAL STUDIES & CSAT

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DR. MANISH RANNJAN (IAS)

UPSC

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EXAMS

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PAPER-I & II

by Dr. Manish Rannjan (IAS)

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PAPER-II 12 YEARS TOPIC-WISE SOLVED PAPERS (2011–2022)

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ELIGIBILITY & ONLINE APPLICATION

Candidates to Ensure their Eligibility for the Examination

The Candidates applying for the examination should ensure that they fulfill all eligibility conditions for admission to examination. Their admission to all the stages of the examination will be purely provisional subject to satisfying the prescribed eligibility conditions. Mere issue of e-Admit Card to the candidate will not imply that his/her candidature has been finally cleared by the Union Public Service Commission. The Commission takes up verification of eligibility conditions with reference to original documents only after the candidate has qualified for Interview/Personality Test.

How to Apply?

Candidates are required to apply Online by using the website [https://upsconline.nic.in]. Detailed instructions for filling up online applications are available on the above mentioned website.

Candidate should have details of one Photo ID Card viz. Aadhaar Card/Voter Card/PAN Card/Passport/Driving Licence/Any other Photo ID Card issued by the State/Central Government. The details of this Photo ID Card will have to be provided by the candidate while filling up the online application form. The candidates will have to upload a scanned copy of the Photo ID whose details have been provided in the online application by him/her. This Photo ID Card will be used for all future referencing and the candidate is advised to carry this Photo ID Card while appearing for Examination/Personality Test.

Penalty for Wrong Answers

Candidates should note that there will be penalty (negative marking) for wrong answers marked by a candidate in the Objective Type Question Papers.

Facilitation Counter for Guidance of Candidates

In case of any guidance/information/clarification regarding their applications, candidature, etc. candidates can contact UPSC's Facilitation Counter near gate 'C' of its campus in person or over Telephone No. 011-23385271 011-23381125/ 011-23098543 on working days between 10.00 hrs and 17.00 hrs.

Mobile Phones Banned

(a) The use of any mobile phone (even in switched off mode), pager or any electronic equipment or programmable device or storage media like pen drive, smart watches, etc. or camera or bluetooth devices or any other equipment or related accessories either in working or switched off mode capable of being used as a communication device during the examination is strictly prohibited. Any infringement of these instructions shall entail disciplinary action including ban from future examinations.

(b) Candidates are advised in their own interest not to bring any of the banned items including mobile phones/pagers to the venue of the examination, as arrangement for safe-keeping cannot be assured.

Candidates are advised not to bring any valuable/costly items to the venue of the examination, as safe-keeping of the same cannot be assured. Commission will not be responsible for any loss in this regard.

SERVICES AND POSTS

(i) Indian Administrative Service.
(ii) Indian Foreign Service.
(iii) Indian Police Service.
(iv) Indian P & T Accounts & Finance Service, Group 'A'.
(v) Indian Audit and Accounts Service, Group 'A'.
(vi) Indian Revenue Service (Customs and Central Excise), Group 'A'.
(vii) Indian Defence Accounts Service, Group 'A'.
(viii) Indian Revenue Service (I.T.), Group 'A'.
(ix) Indian Ordnance Factories Service, Group 'A' (Assistant Works Manager, Administration).
(x) Indian Postal Service, Group 'A'.
(xi) Indian Civil Accounts Service, Group 'A'.
(xii) Indian Railway Traffic Service, Group 'A'.
(xiii) Indian Railway Accounts Service, Group 'A'.
(xiv) Indian Railway Personnel Service, Group 'A'.
(xv) Post of Assistant Security Commissioner in Railway Protection Force, Group 'A'
(xvi) Indian Defence Estates Service, Group 'A'.
(xvii) Indian Information Service (Junior Grade), Group 'A'.

 (xviii) Indian Trade Service, Group 'A'.

  (xix) Indian Corporate Law Service, Group 'A'.

   (xx) Armed Forces Headquarters Civil Service, Group 'B' (Section Officer's Grade).

  (xxi) Delhi, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli Civil Service, Group 'B'.

 (xxii) Delhi, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli Police Service, Group 'B'.

(xxiii) Pondicherry Civil Service, Group 'B'.

(xxiv) Pondicherry Police Service, Group 'B'.

The number of vacancies to be filled on the result of the examination varies from year to year. The final number of vacancies may undergo change after getting firm number of vacancies from Cadre Controlling Authorities. Reservation will be made for candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes. Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, the Economically Weaker Sections and Persons with Benchmark Disability in respect of vacancies as may be fixed by the Government.

As per the decision taken by the Government for increasing the access of unemployed to job opportunities, the Commission will publicly disclose the scores of the candidates (obtained in the Written Examination and Interview/Personality Test) through the public portals. The disclosure will be made in respect of only those willing candidates who will appear in the Interview/ Personality Test for the Civil Service Examination and are not finally recommended for appointment. The information shared through this disclosure scheme about the non-recommended candidates may be used by other public and private recruitment agencies to appoint suitable candidates from the information made available in the public portal.

Candidates will be required to give their options at the time of Interview/Personality Test, while downloading the e-Summon Letter from the Commission's website for the interview. A candidate may opt out of the scheme also and in that case his/her details will not be published by the Commission.

Besides sharing of the information of the non-recommended willing candidates of this examination, the Commission will not assume any responsibility or liability for the method and manner in which information related to such candidates is utilized by public/private organizations.

CENTRES OF EXAMINATIONS

A. Centres of Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination

AGARTALA	GORAKHPUR	PANAJI (GOA)
AGRA	GURGAON	PATNA
AJMER	GWALIOR	PORT BLAIR
AHMEDABAD	HYDERABAD	PRAYAGRAJ (ALLA-HA BAD)

AIZAWL	IMPHAL	PUDUCHERRY
ALIGARH	INDORE	PUNE
ANANTPUR (ANDHRA PRADESH)	ITANAGAR	RAIPUR
AURANGABAD	JABALPUR	RAJKOT
BANGALURU	JAIPUR	RANCHI
BAREILLY	JAMMU	SAMBALPUR
BHOPAL	JODHPUR	SHILLONG
BILASPUR	JORHAT	SHIMLA
CHANDIGARH	KOCHI	SILIGUDI
CHENNAI	KOHIMA	SRINAGAR
COIMBATORE	KOLKATA	THANE
CUTTACK	KOZHIKODE (CALICUT)	THIRUVANANTHA-PURAM
DEHRADUN	LUCKNOW	TIRUCHIRAPALLI
DELHI	LUDHIANA	TIRUPATI
DHARWAD	MADURAI	UDAIPUR
DISPUR	MUMBAI	VARANASI
FARIDABAD	MYSORE	VELLORE
GANGTOK	NAGPUR	VIJAYAVADA
GAYA	NAVI MUMBAI	VISHAKHAPATNAM
GHAZIABAD	GAUTAM BUD-DH NAGAR	WARANGAL

B. Centres of Civil Services (Main) Examination

AHMEDABAD	DELHI	PATNA
AIZAWL	DISPUR (GUWAHATI)	PRAYAGRAJ (ALLA-HABAD)
BANGALURU	HYDERABAD	RAIPUR
BHOPAL	JAIPUR	RANCHI
CHANDIGARH	JAMMU	SHILLONG
CHENNAI	KOLKATA	SHIMLA
CUTTACK	LUCKNOW	THIRUVANANTHA-PURAM
DEHRADUN	MUMBAI	VIJAYAWADA

The Centres and the date of holding the examination as mentioned above are liable to be changed at the discretion of the Commission. Applicants should note that there will be a ceiling on the number of candidates allotted to each of the Centres, except Chennai, Dispur, Kolkata and Nagpur. Allotment of Centres will be on the "first-apply-first allot" basis, and once the capacity of a particular Centre is attained, the same will be frozen. Applicants, who cannot get a Centre of their choice due

to ceiling, will be required to choose a Centre from the remaining ones. Applicants are, thus, advised that they may apply early so that they could get a Centre of their choice. NB: Notwithstanding the aforesaid provision, the Commission reserves the right to change the Centres at its discretion if the situation demands. All the Examination Centres for Civil Services (Preliminary), Examination, 20… will cater to examination for Persons with Benchmark Disability in their respective Centres. Candidates admitted to the examination will be informed of the time table and place or places of examination. The candidates should note that no request for change of Centre will be entertained.

ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS

Nationality

(1) For the Indian Administrative Service, the Indian Foreign Service and the Indian Police Service, a candidate must be a citizen of India.

(2) For other services, a candidate must be either:
   (a) a citizen of India, or
   (b) a subject of Nepal, or
   (c) a subject of Bhutan, or
   (d) a Tibetan refugee who came over to India before 1st January, 1962 with the intention of permanently settling in India, or
   (e) a person of Indian origin who has migrated from Pakistan, Burma, Sri Lanka, East African countries of Kenya, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Malawi, Zaire, Ethiopia and Vietnam with the intention of permanently settling in India.

Provided that a candidate belonging to categories (b), (c), (d) and (e) shall be a person in whose favour a certificate of eligibility has been issued by the Government of India.

A candidate in whose case a certificate of eligibility is necessary, may be admitted to the examination but the offer of appointment may be given only after the necessary eligibility certificate has been issued to him/her by the Government of India.

Age Limits

(a) A candidate must have attained the age of 21 years and must not have attained the age of 32 years on the 1st of August, 2019 (or appearing year for exam) i.e., he must have been born not earlier than 2nd August, 1987 and not later than 1st August, 1998. Necessary action to make corresponding changes in respective Rules/Regulations pertaining to various services is being taken separately.

(b) The upper age-limit prescribed above will be relaxable:
   (i) up to a maximum of five years if a candidate belongs to a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe;
   (ii) up to a maximum of three years in the case of candidates belonging to Other Backward Classes who are eligible to avail of reservation applicable to such candidates;
   (iii) up to a maximum of three years in the case of Defence Services Personnel, disabled in operations during hostilities with any foreign country or in a disturbed area and released as a consequence thereof;
   (iv) up to a maximum of five years in the case of ex-servicemen including Commissioned Officers and ECOs/SSCOs who have rendered at least five years Military Service as on 1st August, 2019 (appearing year for exam) and have been released.
   (v) up to a maximum of 10 years in the case of
      (a) blindness and low vision;
      (b) deaf and hard of hearing;
      (c) locomotor disability including cerebral palsy, leprosy cured, dwarfism, acid attack victims and muscular dystrophy;
      (d) autism, intellectual disability, specific learning disability and mental illness; and
      (e) multiple disabilities from amongst persons under clauses (a) to (d) including deaf-blindness.
   (vi) up to a maximum of five years if a candidate had ordinarily been domiciled in the State of Jammu and Kashmir during the period from the 1st day of January, 1980 to the 31st day of December, 1989.

Minimum Educational Qualifications

The candidate must hold a degree of any of Universities incorporated by an Act of the Central or State Legislature in India or other educational institutions established by an Act of Parliament or declared to be deemed as a University Under Section-3 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956, or possess an equivalent qualification.

Note I: Candidates who have appeared at an examination the passing of which would render them educationally qualified for the Commission's examination but have not been informed of the result as also the candidates who intend to appear at such a qualifying examination will also be eligible for admission to the Preliminary Examination.

All candidates who are declared qualified by the Commission for taking the Civil Services (Main) Examination will be required to produce proof of passing the requisite examination along with their application (i.e. Detailed Application Form-I) for the Main Examination, failing which such candidates will not be admitted to the Main Examination. Such proof of passing the requisite examination should be dated earlier than the due date (closing date) of Detailed Application Form-I of the Civil Services (Main) Examination.

Note II: In exceptional cases the Union Public Service Commission may treat a candidate who does not have any of the foregoing qualifications as a qualified candidate provided that he/she has passed examination conducted by the other Institutions, the standard of which in the opinion of the Commission justifies his/her admission to the examination.

Note III: Candidates possessing professional and technical qualifications which are recognised by the Government as equivalent to professional and technical degree would also be eligible for admission to the examination.

Note IV: Candidates who have passed the final professional M.B.B.S. or any other Medical Examination but have not completed their internship by the time of submission of their applications for the Civil Services (Main) Examination, will be provisionally admitted to the Examination provided they submit along with their application a copy of certificate from the concerned authority of the University/Institution that they had passed the requisite final professional medical examination. In such cases, the candidates will be required to produce at the time of their interview original Degree or a certificate from the concerned competent authority of the University/Institution that they had completed all requirements (including completion of internship) for the award of the Degree.

Number of Attempts

Every candidate appearing at the examination, who is otherwise eligible, shall be permitted six attempts at the examination:

(a) Provided that this restriction on the number of attempts will not apply in the case of

(b) Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates who are otherwise eligible,

(c) Provided further that the number of attempts permissible to candidates belonging to Other Backward Classes, who are otherwise eligible, shall be nine. The relaxation will be available to the candidates who are eligible to avail of reservation applicable to such candidates,

(d) Provided further that candidates of Persons with Benchmark Disability will get as many attempts as are available to other candidates who do not belong to Persons with Benchmark Disability of his or her community, subject to the condition that a candidate of Persons with Benchmark Disability belonging to the General Category shall be eligible for nine attempts.

Notes:

(I) An attempt at a Preliminary Examination shall be deemed to be an attempt at the Civil Services Exami-nation.

(II) If a candidate actually appears in any one paper in the Preliminary Examination, he/she shall be deemed to have made an attempt at the Examination.

(III) Notwithstanding the disqualification/cancellation of candidature, the fact of appearance of the candidate at the examination will count as an attempt.

Restrictions on Applying for the Examination

(a) A candidate who is appointed to the Indian Administrative Service or the Indian Foreign Service on the results of an earlier examination and continues to be a member of that service will not be eligible to compete at this examination. In case such a candidate is appointed to the IAS/IFS after the Preliminary Examination of Civil Services Examination of that year is over and he/she continues to be a member of that service, he/she shall not be eligible to appear in the Civil Services (Main) Examination, of that year notwithstanding his/her having qualified in the Preliminary Examination.

Also provided that if such a candidate is appointed to IAS/IFS after the commencement of the Civil Services (Main) Examination, of that appearing year but before the result thereof and continues to be a member of that service, he/she shall not be considered for appointment to any service/post on the basis of the result of this examination viz. Civil Services Examination, appear year.

(b) A candidate who is appointed to the Indian Police Service on the results of an earlier examination and continues to be a member of that service will not be eligible to opt for the Indian Police Service in Civil Services Examination of appearing year.

RESERVATION CRITERIA

Reservation for the Persons with Benchmark Disabilities

The eligibility for availing reservation against the vacancies reserved for the Persons with Benchmark Disabilities shall be the same as prescribed in "The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (RPwD Act, 2016)". The candidates of Multiple Disabilities will be eligible for reservation under category (e) - Multiple Disabilities only of Section 34(1) of RPwD Act, 2016 and shall not be eligible for reservation under any other categories of disabilities i.e. (a) to (d) of Section 34(1) of RPwD Act, 2016 on account of having 40% and above impairment in any of these categories of PwBD.

Provided further that the Persons with Benchmark Disabilities shall also be required to meet special eligibility criteria in terms of Functional Classification and Physical Requirements (abilities/disabilities) (FC&PR) consistent with requirements of the identified service/post as may be prescribed by its cadre controlling authority at note-II of Para-1 of this Notice.

The physical requirement and functional classification can for example be one or more of the following:

Code	Physical Requirements	Code	Functional Classification
S	Sitting	OH	Orthopaedically Handicapped
ST	Standing	VH	Visually Handicapped
W	Walking	HH	Hearing Handicapped
SE	Seeing	OA	One Arm
H	Hearing/Speaking	OL	One Leg
RW	Reading and Writing	BA	Both Arm
C	Communication	BH	Both Hands
MF	Manipulation by Finger	MW	Muscular Weakness

PP	Pushing & Pulling	OAL	One Arm One Leg
L	Lifting	BLA	Both Legs and Arms
KC	Kneeling and Crouching	BLOA	Both Legs One Arm
BN	Bending	LV	Low Vision
M	Movement	B	Blind
JU	Jumping	PD	Partially Deaf
CL	Climbing	FD	Fully Deaf
		BL	Both Legs
		D	Dwarfism
		CP	Cerebral Palsy
		LC	Leprosy Cured
		AAV	Acid Attack Victims
		MD	Multiple Disabilities

Note: The above list is subject to revision.

Benefit of Community Reservation

A candidate will be eligible to get the benefit of community reservation only in case the particular caste to which the candidates belong is included in the list of reserved communities issued by the Central Government. The candidates will be eligible to get the benefit of the Economically Weaker Section reservation only in case the candidate meets the criteria issued by the Central Government and in possession of such eligibility certification. If a candidate indicates in his/her application form for Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination that he/she belongs to General category but subsequently writes to the Union Public Service Commission to change his/her category to a reserved one, such request shall not be entertained by the Commission. Further, once a candidate has chosen a reserved category, no request shall be entertained for change to other reserved category viz. SC to ST, ST to SC, OBC to SC/ST or SC/ST to OBC, SC to EWS, EWS to SC, ST to EWS, EWS to ST, OBC to EWS, EWS to OBC. No reserved category candidates other than those recommended on General Merit shall be allowed to change his/her category from Reserved to Unreserved or claim the vacancies (Service/Cadre) for UR category after the declaration of final result by UPSC.

Further no Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) candidate of any subcategory thereunder shall be allowed to change his/her sub-category of disability.

While the above principle will be followed in general, there may be a few cases where there was a gap of not more than 3 months between the issuance of a Government Notification enlisting a particular community in the list of any of the reserved communities and the date of submission of the application by the candidate. In such cases the request of change of community from general to reserved may be considered by the Commission on merit. In case of a candidate unfortunately becoming physically disabled during the course of the examination process, the candidate should produce valid document showing him/her acquiring a disability to the extent of 40% or more as defined under The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 to enable him/her to get the benefits of PwBD reservation.

Certificates for Getting Benefits

Candidates seeking reservation/relaxation benefits available for SC/ST/OBC/EWS/PwBD/Ex-servicemen must ensure that they are entitled to such reservation/relaxation as per eligibility prescribed in the Rules/Notice. They should also be in possession of all the requisite certificates in the prescribed format in support of their claim as stipulated in the Rules/Notice for such benefits, and these certificates should be dated earlier than the due date (closing date) of the application of Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination of appearing year. Provided further that EWS Candidates can submit their Income and Asset Certificate (certificate of eligibility) at the time of submission of online Detailed Application Form (DAF-I). The Income and Asset Certificate must be dated earlier than 1st August of appearing year.

Withdrawal of Applications

NO request for withdrawal of candidature received from a candidate after he/she has submitted his/her application will be entertained under any circumstances.

(…)
JOINT SECRETARY
UNION PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

PLAN OF EXAMINATIONS

1. The competitive examination comprises two successive stages:
   (i) Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination (Objective Type) for the selection of candidates for Main Examination; and
   (ii) Civil Services (Main) Examination (Written and Interview) for the selection of candidates for the various Services and posts.

2. The Preliminary Examination will consist of two papers of Objective type (multiple choice questions) and carry a maximum of 400 marks in the subjects set out in sub-section (A) of Section II. This examination is meant to serve as a screening test only; the marks obtained in the Preliminary Examination by the candidates who are declared qualified for admission to the Main Examination will not be counted for determining their final order of merit. The number of candidates to be admitted to the Main Examination will be about twelve to thirteen times the total approximate number of vacancies to be filled in the year through this examination. Only those candidates who are declared by the Commission to have qualified in the Preliminary Examination in the year will be eligible for admission to the Main Examination of that year provided they are otherwise eligible for admission, to the Main Examination.

Note I: The Commission will draw a list of candidates to be qualified for Civil Services (Main) Examination based on the criterion of minimum qualifying marks of 33% in General Studies Paper-II of Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination and total qualifying marks of General Studies Paper-I of Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination as may be determined by the Commission.

Note II: There will be negative marking for incorrect answers (as detailed below) for all questions except some of the questions where the negative marking will be inbuilt in the form of different marks being awarded to the most appropriate and not so appropriate answer for such questions.

(i) There are four alternatives for the answers to every question. For each question for which a wrong answer has been given by the candidate, one-third (0.33) of the marks assigned to that question will be deducted as penalty.

(ii) If a candidate gives more than one answer, it will be treated as a wrong answer even if one of the given answers happen to be correct and there will be same penalty as above for that question.

(iii) If a question is left blank i.e. no answer is given by the candidate, there will be no penalty for that question.

3. The Main Examination will consist of written examination and an interview test. The written examination will consist of 9 papers of conventional essay type in the subjects set out in sub-section (B) of Section II out of which two papers will be of qualifying in nature. Also see Note (ii) under Para I of Section II (B) Marks obtained for all the compulsory papers (Paper-I to Paper-VII) and Marks obtained in Interview for Personality Test will be counted for ranking.

3.1 Candidates who obtain such minimum qualifying marks in the written part of the Main Examination as may be fixed by the Commission at their discretion, shall be summoned by them for an interview for a Personality Test, vide sub-section 'C' of Section II. The number of candidates to be summoned for interview will be about twice of the number of vacancies to be filled. The interview will carry 275 marks (with no minimum qualifying marks).

3.2 Marks thus obtained by the candidates in the Main Examination (written part as well as interview) would determine their final ranking. Candidates will be allotted to the various Services keeping in view their ranks in the examination and the preferences expressed by them for the various Services and posts.

SCHEME AND SUBJECTS FOR THE PRELIMINARY & MAIN EXAMINATIONS

A. Preliminary Examination

The Examination shall comprise of two compulsory Papers of 200 marks each.

Notes:

(i) Both the question papers will be of the objective type (multiple choice questions) and each will be of two hours duration.

(ii) The General Studies Paper-II of the Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination will be a qualifying paper with minimum qualifying marks fixed at 33%.

(iii) The question papers will be set both in Hindi and English.

(iv) Details of the syllabi are indicated in next Chapter 8.

B. Main Examination

The written examination will consist of the following papers:

Qualifying Papers			
Paper	**Subject**	**Topics**	**Marks**
Paper-A	Indian Language	One of the Indian Language to be selected by the candidate from the Languages included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution	300 Marks
Paper-B	English	-	300 Marks
Papers to Be Counted for Merit			
Papers	**Subject**	**Topics**	**Marks**
Paper-I	Essay		250 Marks
Paper-II	General Studies-I	Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society	250 Marks
Paper-III	General Studies-II	Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations	250 Marks
Paper-IV	General Studies-III	Technology, Economic Development, Bio-diversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management	250 Marks
Paper-V	General Studies-IV	Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude	250 Marks
Paper-VI (Optional Subject)	Paper-1	One of the subjects given in optional lists	250 Marks
Paper-VI (Optional Subject)	Paper-2	One of the subjects given in optional lists	250 Marks
Sub-total (Written Marks to be counted for recommendation to interview & Final Merit List)			1750 Marks
Personality Test (Interview)			275 Marks
Grand Total			2025 Marks

Candidates may choose any one of the optional subjects from amongst the list of subjects given in para 2 below:

Note:

(i) The papers on Indian languages and English (Paper A and Paper B) will be of Matriculation or equivalent standard and will be of qualifying nature. The marks obtained in these papers will not be counted for ranking.

(ii) Evaluation of the papers, namely, 'Essay', 'General Studies' and Optional Subject of all the candidates would be done simultaneously along with evaluation of their qualifying papers on 'Indian Languages' and 'English' but the papers on Essay, General Studies and Optional Subject of only such candidates will be taken cognizance who attain 25% marks in 'Indian Language' and 25% in English as minimum qualifying standards in these qualifying papers.

(iii) 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.

(iv) The paper A on Indian Language will not, however, be compulsory for Candidates belonging to Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (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.

(v) Marks obtained by the candidates for the Paper I-VII only will be counted for merit ranking. However, the Commission will have the discretion to fix qualifying marks in any or all of these papers.

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

Language	Script	Language	Script
Assamese	Assamese Bengali	Nepali	Devanagari
Bengali	Bengali	Odia	Odia
Gujarati	Gujarati, Hindi –Devanagari	Punjabi	Gurumukhi
Kannada	Kannada	Sanskrit	Devanagari
Kashmiri	Persian	Sindhi	Devanagari or Arabic
Konkani	Devanagari	Telugu	Telugu
Malayalam	Malayalam	Urdu	Persian
Manipuri	Bengali	Bodo	Devanagari
Marathi	Devanagari	Dogri	Devanagari
Maithilli	Devanagari	Santhali	Devanagari or Olchiki

Note: 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.

List of Optional Subjects for UPSC Main Exam

1. Agriculture	2. Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Science	3. Anthropology	4. Botany	5. Chemistry
6. Civil Engineering	7. Commerce & 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 & International Relations
21. Psychology	22. Public Administration	23. Sociology	24. Statistics	25. Zoology

Literature any one of the following languages				
1. Assamese	2. Bengali	3. Bodo	4. Dogri	5. Gujarati
6. Hindi	7. Kannada	8. Kashmiri	9. Konkani	10. Maithili
11. Malayalam	12. Manipuri	13. Marathi	14. Nepali	15. Odia
16. Punjabi	17. Sanskrit	18. Santhali	19. Sindhi	20. Tamil
21. Telugu	22. Urdu	23. English		

Note:

(i) The question papers for the examination will be of conventional (essay) type.

(ii) Each paper will be of three hours duration.

(iii) Candidates will have the option to answer all the question papers, except the Qualifying Language Papers, Paper-A and Paper-B, in any one of the languages included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution of India or in English. Notwithstanding this, the Candidate will have the choice to write the Optional Papers in English also if candidates opt to write Paper I-V except the Qualifying Language Papers, Paper-A and Paper-B, in any one of the language included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution of India.

(iv) 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.

SYLLABI FOR THE EXAMINATIONS

Note: Candidates are advised to go through the Syllabus published in this Section for the Preliminary Examination and the Main Examination, as periodic revision of syllabus has been done in several subjects.

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)   **Duration: Two hours**
1. Current events of national and international importance.
2. History of India and Indian National Movement.
3. Indian and World Geography: Physical, Social, Economic Geography of India and the World.
4. Indian Polity and Governance: Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues, etc.
5. Economic and Social Development: Sustainable Development, Poverty, Inclusion, Demographics, Social Sector Initiatives, etc.
6. General issues on Environmental ecology, Bio-diversity and Climate Change – that do not require subject speciali-zation.
7. General Science.

Paper II - (200 marks)   **Duration: Two hours**
1. Comprehension;
2. Interpersonal skills including communication skills;
3. Logical reasoning and analytical ability;
4. Decision making and problem solving;
5. General mental ability;
6. Basic numeracy (numbers and their relations, orders of magnitude, etc.) (Class X level);
7. 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 qualify-ing marks fixed at 33%.

Note 2: The questions will be of multiple choice, objective 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.

Part B—Main Examination

The main Examination is intended to assess the overall intellectual traits and depth of understanding of candidates rather than merely the range of their information and memory.

The nature and standard of questions in the General Studies papers (Paper II to Paper V) will be such that a well-educated person will be able to answer them without any specialized study. The questions will be such as to test a candidate's general awareness of a variety of subjects, which will have relevance for a career in Civil Services. The questions are likely to test the candidate's basic understanding of all relevant issues, and ability to analyze, and take a view on conflicting socio-economic goals, objectives and demands. The candidates must give relevant, meaningful and succinct answers.

The scope of the syllabus for optional subject papers (Paper VI and Paper VII) for the examination is broadly of the honours degree level i.e. a level higher than the bachelors' degree and lower than the masters' degree. In the case of Engineering, Medical Science and law, the level corresponds to the bachelors' degree.

Syllabi of the papers included in the scheme of Civil Services (Main) Examination are given as follows:

Qualifying Papers on Indian Languages and English

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 Indian language concerned.

The pattern of questions would be broadly as follows:
(i) Comprehension of given passages.
(ii) Précis Writing.
(iii) Usage and Vocabulary.
(iv) Short Essays.

Indian Languages
(i) Comprehension of given passages.
(ii) Précis Writing.
(iii) Usage and Vocabulary.
(iv) Short Essays.
(v) Translation from English to the Indian Language and vice-versa.

Note 1: 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.

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-I

Essay: 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: Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society.
(i) Indian culture will cover the salient aspects of Art Forms, literature and Architecture from ancient to modern times.
(ii) Modern Indian history from about the middle of the eighteenth century until the present-significant events, personalities, issues.

(iii) The Freedom Struggle — its various stages and important contributors/contributions from different parts of the country.

(iv) Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country.

(v) History of the world will include events from 18th century such as industrial revolution, world wars, redrawal of national boundaries, colonization, decolonization, political philosophies like communism, capitalism, socialism etc. — their forms and effect on the society.

(vi) Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India.

(vii) Role of women and women's organization, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues, urbanization, their problems and their remedies.

(viii) Effects of globalization on Indian society.

(ix) Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism and secularism.

(x) Salient features of world's physical geography.

(xi) Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including South Asia and the Indian sub-continent);

(xii) Factors responsible for the location of primary, secondary, and tertiary sector industries in various parts of the world (including India).

(xiii) Important Geophysical phenomena such as Earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity, cyclone etc.

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

(i) Indian Constitution—historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure.

(ii) 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.

(iii) Separation of powers between various organs dispute redressal mechanisms and institutions. Comparison of the Indian constitutional scheme with that of other countries.

(iv) Parliament and State legislatures—structure, functioning, conduct of business, powers & privileges and issues arising out of these.

(v) 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.

(vi) Salient features of the Representation of People's Act.

(vii) Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional Bodies.

(viii) Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies.

(ix) Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.

(x) Development processes and the development industry—the role of NGOs, SHGs, various groups and associations, donors, charities, institutional and other stakeholders.

(xi) 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.

(xii) Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources.

(xiii) Issues relating to poverty and hunger.

(xiv) Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance- applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential; citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures.

(xv) Role of civil services in a democracy. India and its neighborhood-relations.

(xvi) Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests.

(xvii) Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests, Indian diaspora.

(xviii) Important International institutions, agencies and for-their structure, mandate.

Paper-IV

General Studies-III: Technology, Economic Development, Biodiversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management

(i) Indian economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization, of resources, growth, development and employment.

(ii) Inclusive growth and issues arising from it. Government Budgeting.

(iii) 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.

(iv) 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.

(v) Food processing and related industries in India – scope and significance, location, upstream and downstream requirements, supply chain management.

(vi) Land reforms in India.

(vii) Effects of liberalization on the economy, changes in industrial policy and their effects on industrial growth.

(viii) Infrastructure: Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc.

(ix) Investment models.

(x) Science and Technology-developments and their applications and effects in everyday life.

(xi) Achievements of Indians in science and technology; indigenization of technology and developing new technology.

(xii) Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nano-technology, bio-technology and issues relating to intellectual property rights.

(xiii) Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment. Disaster and disaster management.

(xiv) Linkages between development and spread of extremism.

(xv) 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.

(xvi) Security challenges and their management in border areas – linkages of organized crime with terrorism.

(xvii) Various security forces and agencies and their mandate.

Paper-V

General Studies-IV: 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:

(i) 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.

(ii) Attitude: Content, structure, function; its influence and relation with thought and behaviour; moral and political attitudes; social influence and persuasion.

(iii) 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.

(iv) Emotional intelligence: Concepts, and their utilities and application in administration and governance.

(v) Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and world.

(vi) 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.

(vii) 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.

(viii) Case Studies on above issues.

Paper-VI & Paper VII

Optional Subject Papers I & II: Candidate may choose any optional subject from amongst the List of Optional Subjects.

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Analytical Tips & Strategic Approach to Crack CSE/IAS

ANALYTICAL TIPS FOR IAS PREPARATION

R&D on Syllabus and Previous Question Papers

Aspirants are advised to go through the current syllabus (PT & Main) and the previous years' question papers. Classify the syllabus subject-wise, each subject into topics. A thorough insight of the past question papers will appraise about the portions of the syllabus from where the questions are regularly being asked and secondly, it may also help to understand the nature of the questions being asked. This strategy will constantly guide throughout preparation of the exams. So, they must analyse the question papers and identify the pattern and select the topics which are asked very frequently. Once aspirants have clearly demarcated the topics, the rest of the preparation will be an easy task.

Source Material

All aspirants are advised not to go through a lot of books, instead rely on one standard book on each topic which deals with the basic concepts. It will not only save time but also enrich aspirants with right concept and factual information. They are also advised to collect required quality books on different topics in advance to save time and to avoid the last minute hurry.

Making Notes

Why should aspirants make notes?
- ♦ It makes familiar to the entire syllabus
- ♦ Aspirants' own notes will be of immense help for the revision of the syllabus.
- ♦ It makes them to understand the given topic clearly. As they have to pick up themselves important points and to condense in words and in graphics.
- ♦ Writing down any information by oneself helps to remember it.
- ♦ Aspirants become *an active reader* by making notes.
- ♦ When aspirants read their own notes, realize their *grammatical mistakes.* And self-corrections help in the exam.
- ♦ It is a good practice for thinking and understanding the given topic.

- ♦ Self-making notes *boost writing speed and develop the skill of precise and correct writing.*
- ♦ It helps to avoid going back to voluminous study material time and again.
- ♦ It helps aspirants to revise the entire topics in a short period.

How to Make Notes?

There are two types of making notes:

Linear Notes

In this method, aspirants condense the material they have read and jot down the most relevant points under headings and sub headings. This method is used to make notes after reading a book, newspaper or a magazine.

Pattern Notes

Here aspirants have to place the main topic at the center of the page and each line radiating from it represents a branch of the main topic. And like wise each branch line can be further divided into sub-branches using a key word or a phrase as per need. It has its own advantages, like

(i) It is more flexible because extra information can be added at any point of time.

(ii) Aspirants can see the entire pattern with important information at one go without actually turning the pages.

(iii) They can indicate the links between different topics more easily.

(iv) It is useful from aspirants' memory point of view as they can keep jotting down the points as and when these crop in their minds.

(v) It is in a shape format, so it is much easier to remember the content of the notes.

The pattern notes has its own disadvantage if there are too many facts and too much of information, as the notes becomes messy and overcrowded.

So the best method is either to adopt a combination of both Linear and Pattern graphic methods or to evolve their own unique pattern of making notes that may help the aspirants in their last minute revisions.

However, for any method of making notes it is essential to prepare into four basic stages:

♦ one outlining the topic,
♦ jotting its key points,
♦ jotting its advantages,
♦ its disadvantages and finally
♦ the conclusion.

Moreover, the notes have to be kept handy at all times and in a proper file. Aspirants should start making notes right from the very beginning of the preparation and never treat a set of notes as the final and keep adding important information to it from time to time.

STRATEGIC APPROACH FOR EXAMS PREPARATION

The competitive examination comprises two successive stages

(i) Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination (Objective Type) for the selection of candidates for Main Examination; and

(ii) Civil Services (Main) Examination (Written and Interview) for the selection of candidates for different Services and posts.

A. **Preliminary Examination:** The Examination shall comprise of two compulsory Papers of 200 marks each.

Note: (i) Both the question papers will be of the objective type (multiple choice questions) and each will be of two hours duration.

(ii) The General Studies Paper-II of the Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination will be a qualifying paper with minimum qualifying marks fixed at 33%.

(iii) The question papers will be set both in Hindi and English.

B. **Main Examination:** The written examination will consist of the following papers

Qualifying Papers			
Paper	**Subject**	**Topics**	**Marks**
Paper-A	Indian Language	One of the Indian Language to be selected by the candidate from the Languages included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution	300 Marks
Paper-B	English		300 Marks

Papers to Be Counted for Merit			
Paper	**Subject**	**Topics**	**Marks**
Paper-I	Essay		250 Marks
Paper-II	General Studies-I	Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society	250 Marks
Paper-III	General Studies-II	Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations: Technology, Economic Development, Bio-diversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management	250 Marks
Paper-IV	General Studies-III	Technology, Economic Development, Bio-diversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management	250 Marks
Paper-V	General Studies-IV	Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude	250 Marks
Paper-VI (Optional Subject)	Paper -1	One of the subjects given in optional lists	250 Marks
Paper-VI (Optional Subject)	Paper -2	One of the subjects given in optional lists	250 Marks
Sub-total (Written Marks to be counted for recommendation to interview & Final Merit List)			1750 Marks
Personality Test (Interview)			275 Marks
Grand Total			2025 Marks

Criteria to Recommend Number of Candidates
For Main and Interview

For Main: UPSC normally calls 12-13 times the number of actual vacancies reported for the corresponding year for Civil Services Main Exam.

Criteria: If the number of vacancies reported is 1200, UPSC will call 1200 × 12.5 = 15,000 (approx.) candidates for Main exam from the total number of candidates appeared in preliminary examination.

For Interview: UPSC will call about twice or 2.5 times the number of candidates of the reported vacancies in coming year.

For example, UPSC called about 3000 candidates for interview, if the number of vacancies reported is 1200, i.e. 2.5 times the number of vacancies. UPSC selects only about 1200 candidates among the top 3000 into the final list for training.

TREND ANALYSIS: CUT-OFF MARKS FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICES PRELIMS EXAM
Prelim Result: Year-wise Cut-off Marks

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Cut-Off Marks	107.34/200	116.00/200	105.34/200	98/200	98/200	92.51/200	87.54/200
Percentage	53.67	58.00	52.67	49.00	49.00	46.25	43.77

Note: UPSC uses the term 'minimum qualifying mark' instead of cut-off.

Prelims Category-wise Cut-off Marks 2021

Category	UPSC Prelims Cut off Marks (out of 200)
General	87.54
EWS	80.14
OBC	84.85
SC	75.41

ST	70.71
PwBD – 1	68.02
PwBD – 2	67.33
PwBD – 3	43.09
PwBD – 5	45.80

Note: UPSC uses the term 'minimum qualifying mark' instead of cut-off.

Prelims-GS-1 Subject-wise/Year-wise Questions Trend Analysis

The number of questions asked from subjects show wide variations except a few subjects every year as given below in the table.

Subject/Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Current Events	13	26	28	20	29	27	34	28	22	33	10	19
History	11	17	11	17	14	15	14	15	17	16	21	19
Geography	11	12	9	12	14	7	7	8	14	14	5	13
Polity	12	11	13	11	13	7	22	13	15	13	18	13
Economy	19	13	15	10	13	18	8	16	14	10	14	15
Environment	15	12	13	17	10	18	11	13	11	8	21	9
General Science	19	9	11	13	7	8	4	7	7	6	11	12

WHAT & WHERE FROM TO READ FOR PRELIM EXAM?

Every aspirant must analyse 5 to 10 years previous question papers for both Prelims and Main to understand the trend, nature and pattern of questions asked from each segment of syllabus. On the basis of trend analysis read only those topics of books recommended by IAS toppers and coaching experts covering static portion of syllabus both for Prelims and Main Exams.

Sources for Prelim Exam Preparation

1. **Current Events:** Important Sources [Follow any one newspaper for news items (preferably The Hindu); one for editorial (best Indian Express); and one Business newspaper only editorials (best is Livemint)].
   - The Hindu & The Indian Express
   - Press Information Bureau (PIB Gist)
   - PRS (Policy Research Studies' articles)
   - IDSA (Institute for Defense Studies and Analysis) articles
   - Yojana and Kurukshetra (selective articles)
   - Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Debates

2. **History**
   Modern India
   - NCERT – Class 8th (New) – 'Our Pasts – III'
   - NCERT – Class 12th 'Modern India' (OLD)
   - Tamil Nadu Edition – Class 12th
   - Bipan Chandra

Medieval India
   - NCERT – Class 7th (New) –'Our Pasts – II'
   - NCERT – Class 11th 'Medieval India' (OLD) – Satish Chandra
   - Tamil Nadu Edition – Class 11th

Ancient India
   - NCERT– Class 11th 'Ancient India' (OLD) – R.S. Sharma
   - NCERT– Class 12th 'Themes in Indian History – Part I' (NEW) – Chapters 1 to 6
   - Tamil Nadu Edition – Class 11th

   NOTE: Most part of '**Culture**' section overlaps with Ancient and Medieval History

3. **Geography**
   - NCERT Social Science, Class 6th (New) 'The Earth Our Habitat'
   - NCERT Social Science, Class 7th (New) 'Our Environment'
   - NCERT Social Science, Class 8th (New) 'Resource and Development'
   - NCERT Social Science, Class 9th (New) 'Contemporary India'
   - NCERT Social Science, Class 10th (New) 'Contemporary India-Part II'
   - NCERT – Class 11th (New)
     (i) Fundamentals of Physical Geography
     (ii) India physical environment
   - NCERT – Class 12th (New)
     (i) Fundamentals of Human Geography
     (ii) India – People and Economy
   - Atlas: Oxford School Atlas

   Reference Book: Certificate Physical and Indian Geography – Goh Cheng Leong; OLD NCERT Geography – Class 11th and 12th (if available)

4. **Polity**
   - NCERT – Class 6th to 8th (for basic understanding)
   - NCERT – Class 9th to 12th (for understanding more on democracy and federalism)
   - Indian Polity – M. Laxmikanth
   - Introduction to Indian Constitution – D.D. Basu
   - Commentary on the Constitution of India – Dr. P.K. Agrawal (in English & Bharat ka Samvidhan in Hindi)

5. **Economics**
   - NCERT – Class 12th Macroeconomics
   - NCERT – Class 11th Indian Economic Development
   - NCERT – Class 9th & 10th (for basics)
   - Indian Economy – Ramesh Singh (Selective Chapters)

6. **General Science**
   - The Hindu – Monday Edition (only application based Science & Tech.)
   - NCERT – Class 6th to 10th
   - NCERT – Biology – Class 11th (Unit IV & V basic concepts only)
   - NCERT – Biology – Class 12th (Chap. 4, 5 and from 7 to 16 except technical details)

◆ NCERT – Biology – Class 12th (OLD) – Chap. 9 onwards
◆ NCERT – Physics – Class 11th (Chap. 1, 5 & 8) and Class 12th (Chap. 15 only)
◆ NCERT – Chemistry – Class 11th (Chap. 1 & 14 only) and 12th (Chap. 14 & 16 only)

7. **Environment**
   ◆ ICSE Board – Environmental studies – Class 10th and 11th
   ◆ NCERT – Geography Books (in 6th to 12th chapters on Environment)
   ◆ downtoearth.org.in (Current affairs)

8. **Social Issues & New Policies/Schemes**
   ◆ India yearbook
   ◆ Yojana and
   ◆ Kurukshetra

TREND ANALYSIS: CUT-OFF MARKS FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICES MAIN EXAM

Main & Final: Year-wise Cut-off Marks for General Category

Year	Main Cut-Off (Total-1750)	Main Cut-Off %	Main+Interview Cut-Off (Total-2025)	Main+Interview Cut-Off %
2013	562	32.1	775	38.27
2014	678	38.74	889	43.90
2015	676	38.62	877	43.30
2016	787	44.97	988	48.79
2017	809	46.22	1006	49.67
2018	774	44.22	982	48.49
2019	751	42.91	961	47.45
2020	736	42.05	944	46.61
2021	745	42.57	953	47.06

Note: UPSC uses the term 'minimum qualifying mark' instead of cut-off.

Trend Analysis: Main Optional Subjects Among Candidates

Probability of Optional Subjects Candidates opt for IAS Main Exam

Optional Subjects	Probable Number of Candidates
Public Administration	2000–5000
Geography	2000–4000
History	2000–3000
Sociology	1500–2500
Philosophy	1000–2000
Psychology	800–1200
Anthropology	500–1000
Other subjects along with languages are offered by specialized graduates	1–300

Success Rate of Candidates with the Following Optional Subjects in 2019 IAS Main Exam

Literature of the Following Languages

Sl. No.	Optional Subject	Number of Candidates		Success Rate (Percent)
		Appeared	Recommended	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1.	Agriculture	124	13	10.5%
2.	Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Science	16	3	18.8%
3.	Anthropology	1189	108	9.1%
4.	Botany	28	2	7.1%
5.	Chemistry	156	13	8.3%
6.	Civil Engineering	146	15	10.3%
7.	Commerce and Accountancy	183	20	10.9%
8.	Economics	243	26	10.7%
9.	Electrical Engineering	200	16	8.0%
10.	Geography	1916	105	5.5%
11.	Geology	30	0	0.0%
12.	History	751	51	6.8%
13.	Law	186	19	10.2%
14.	Management	54	6	11.1%
15.	Mathematics	539	45	8.3%
16.	Mechanical Engineering	213	12	5.6%
17.	Medical Science	247	26	10.5%
18.	Philosophy	439	27	6.2%
19.	Physics	165	12	7.3%
20.	Political Science and International Relations	1662	137	8.2%
21.	Psychology	164	15	9.1%
22.	Public Administration	705	58	8.2%
23.	Sociology	1263	126	10.0%
24.	Statistics	2	0	0.0%
25.	Zoology	44	4	9.1%
26.	Literature of Assamese Language	3	0	0.0%
27.	Literature of Bengali Language	1	0	0.0%
28.	Literature of English Language	31	3	9.7%
29.	Literature of Gujarati Language	85	3	3.5%
30.	Literature of Hindi Language	191	13	6.8%

31.	Literature of Kannada Language	124	17	13.7%
32.	Literature of Maithili Language	53	2	3.8%
33.	Literature of Malayalam Language	105	13	12.4%
34.	Literature of Manipuri Language	7	0	0.0%
35.	Literature of Marathi Language	6	0	0.0%
36.	Literature of Oriya Language	3	0	0.0%
37.	Literature of Punjabi Language	18	1	5.6%
38.	Literature of Sanskrit Language	53	2	3.8%
39.	Literature of Sindhi (Devanagari) Language	2	1	50.0%
40.	Literature of Tamil Language	77	5	6.5%
41.	Literature of Telugu Language	32	1	3.1%
42.	Literature of Urdu Language	18	2	11.1%

Success Rate of Candidates with the Following Optional Subjects in 2018 IAS Main Exam

Literature of the Following Languages

Sl. No.	Optional Subject	Number of Candidates		Success Rate (Percent)
		Appeared	Recomm-ended	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1.	Agriculture	102	3	2.9%
2.	Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Science	15	1	6.7%
3.	Anthropology	797	65	8.2%
4.	Botany	21	1	4.8%
5.	Chemistry	114	12	10.5%
6.	Civil Engineering	115	6	5.2%
7.	Commerce and Accountancy	186	27	14.5%
8.	Economics	200	23	11.5%
9.	Electrical Engineering	164	17	10.4%
10.	Geography	1993	101	5.1%
11.	Geology	41	1	2.4%
12.	History	848	52	6.1%
13.	Law	201	27	13.4%
14.	Literature of Assamese Language	3	0	0.0%
15.	Literature of Bengali Language	4	0	0.0%
16.	Literature of English Language	21	3	14.3%
17.	Literature of Gujarati Language	91	6	6.6%
18.	Literature of Hindi Language	236	15	6.4%
19.	Literature of Kannada Language	79	4	5.1%
20.	Literature of Maithili Language	41	1	2.4%
21.	Literature of Malayalam Language	85	9	10.6%
22.	Literature of Manipuri Language	11	1	9.1%
23.	Literature of Marathi Language	7	0	0.0%
24.	Literature of Oriya Language	4	0	0.0%
25.	Literature of Punjabi Language	19	3	15.8%
26.	Literature of Sanskrit Language	54	2	3.7%
27.	Literature of Sindhi (Devanagari script) Language	2	0	0.0%
28.	Literature of Tamil Language	73	8	11.0%
29.	Literature of Telugu Language	57	3	5.3%
30.	Literature of Urdu Language	16	3	18.8%
31.	Management	59	8	13.6%
32.	Mathematics	344	28	8.1%
33.	Mechanical Engineering	152	9	5.9%
34.	Medical Science	220	24	10.9%
35.	Philosophy	463	42	9.1%
36.	Physics	120	13	10.8%
37.	Political Science and International Relations	1317	105	8.0%
38.	Psychology	128	9	7.0%
39.	Public Administration	726	67	9.2%
40.	Sociology	1072	107	10.0%
41.	Statistics	2	0	0.0%
42.	Zoology	43	6	14.0%

Percentage-wise Success Rates for Candidates with Optional Subjects: Languages (2012–2017)

Literature of the Following Languages

Optional Subject	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Bodo Literature	0	NA	NA	NA	100	100
Dogri Literature	0	0	NA	0	NA	NA
Sindhi Literature (Devanagari script)	0	0	0	33.3	20	50
Sindhi Literature (Arabic script)	NA	NA	66.7	50	0	NA
English Literature	21.9	16.7	9.1	9.5	4.8	9.5
Telugu Literature	11	4.3	10.7	9.1	7.0	1.4
Manipuri Literature	0	5	23.5	20	15.4	7.7
Tamil Literature	25	10.7	14.7	21.5	7.8	4.7
Marathi Literature	15.4	3.8	12	6.7	5.6	0
Malayalam Literature	15.2	8.7	10.8	7.7	12.2	7.2
Maithili Literature	14.7	10.7	14.7	12.3	4.0	6.4
Kannada Literature	13	12	10.6	10.3	15.6	3.5
Urdu Literature	22.2	17.9	19.4	4.9	3.3	19.4
Gujarati Literature	14.5	12.5	13.8	3.7	3.1	7.9
Sanskrit Literature	11.4	5.6	10	6.4	15	7.1
Hindi Literature	11.7	4.2	5.4	2.8	12.5	7.1
Punjabi Literature	10	11.1	6.6	11.5	4.3	15.4
Odia Literature	0	10	0	28.6	0	0
Bengali Literature	0	16.7	33.3	16.7	25	0
Santhali Literature	33.3	100	0	100	50	0
Assamese Literature	37.5	0	0	0	20	0

Percentage-wise Success Rates for Candidates with Optional Subjects (2012–2017)

Subjects of the Following Disciplines

Optional Subject	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Medical Science	23.4	16.4	19.9	23.4	16.6	10.2
Management	14.4	13.8	11.4	14.4	8.5	8.1
Anthropology	6.6	11.8	11	6.3	11.1	9.7
Sociology	9.2	9.1	10.6	9.2	8.1	0
Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Science	23.1	15.6	14.3	23.1	11.9	8.7
Physics	6.4	8.8	9.3	6.4	9.9	10.0
Public Administration	5.1	6.2	5.3	5.1	10.6	10.2
Geography	7.2	5.6	7.3	7.2	5.9	5.5
Geology	14.3	6.7	3.6	14.4	2.0	5.4

Optional Subject	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Psychology	7.9	9.8	15.8	7.9	15.6	10.3
Law	17.1	24.3	17	17.1	3.8	14.1
Political Science and IR	10.9	6.1	6.3	10.9	8.8	1
Commerce and Accountancy	14.9	7.5	10.3	14.9	8.3	12.5
Mathematics	7.1	6.1	10	7.1	7.1	5.9
Economics	19	20.2	12.1	19	8.2	6.9
Chemistry	10.6	7.1	7.1	10.6	9.5	8.7
Mechanical Engineering	4.7	6.7	6.3	4.7	11.2	11.2
Zoology	12.7	9.8	11.4	12.7	11.4	1.8
Electrical Engineering	6.3	11.5	7.8	6.3	8.9	9.8
History	8.3	7.7	6.5	8.3	4.2	5.5
Philosophy	8.9	7.9	7	8.9	5.2	7.0
Botany	11.5	14	0	11.5	14	11.4
Civil Engineering	10.6	13	7.7	10.6	2.5	8.9
Agriculture	16.4	9.1	10.8	16.4	9.3	12.4
Statistics	6.3	16.7	16.7	6.3	0	0

Notes

♦ As per data given in the above table, medical science has been the most consistent performer among all the subjects.

♦ Some of the literatures which have shown very high percentage (up to 100%) due to very less number of candidates with those subjects.

♦ Mark 'NA', indicates no candidates had opted for that optional subject that year.

Conclusion

From above trend analysis and rational approach, an aspirant can conclude that a particular optional subject for candidate X is not necessarily the best scoring as it is for candidate Y. So, candidates should always select optional subjects applying rational approach based on syllabus of the subject, personal background/interest, performance in the subject during postgraduate examination, time availability, quality study materials, etc.

SOURCES FOR MAIN EXAM PREPARATION

General Studies Paper I

A. **Indian Heritage & Culture, History**
   Sources:
   ♦ NCERT XI
   ♦ NIOS notes on culture
   ♦ NCERT Ancient History
   ♦ The Wonder That was India – A L Basham

- ◆ NCERT Medieval Indian History
- ◆ IGNOU material
- ◆ History of Medieval India – Satish Chandra
- ◆ India's Struggle for Independence – Bipan Chandra
- ◆ India After Independence – Bipan Chandra
- ◆ NCERT XII: Politics in India after Independence
- ◆ Mastering Modern World History – Norman Lowe
- ◆ NCERT XII: Indian Society
- ◆ NCERT XII: Social Change and Development in India
- ◆ Indian Culture, Art and Heritage – Dr. P.K. Agrawal

B. **Geography of the World and Society**
   Sources:
   - ◆ Certificate Physical and Human Geography – G C Leong
   - ◆ NCERT XI: Fundamentals of Physical Geography
   - ◆ NCERT XI: India: Physical Environment
   - ◆ NCERT XII: India: People and Economy
   - ◆ Geography of India – Majid Husain
   - ◆ World Geography – Majid Husain
   - ◆ Status of Forests Report
   - ◆ Orient BlackSwan School Atlas

General Studies Paper II

A. **Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice**
   Sources:
   - ◆ Indian Polity – M Laxmikanth
   - ◆ NCERT XI: Indian Constitution at Work
   - ◆ Introduction to the Constitution of India – D D Basu
   - ◆ Constitution of India Bare Act – Dr. P.K. Agrawal
   - ◆ Punchhi Commission Report
   - ◆ Constitution Commission (NCRWC)
   - ◆ Finance Commission Report
   - ◆ 2nd Arc Report
   - ◆ Five Year Plan Documents

B. **International Relations**
   Sources:
   - ◆ NCERT XII: Political Science: World Politics
   - ◆ India's Foreign Policy – Rajiv Sikri

General Studies Paper III

A. **Technology, Economic Development, Biodiversity, Environment**
   Sources:
   - ◆ Indian Economy – Ramesh Singh
   - ◆ NCERT XI: India's Economic Development
   - ◆ NCERT XII: Geography India People and Economy
   - ◆ Budget
   - ◆ Economic Survey
   - ◆ Science and Technology – Spectrum

B. **Security and Disaster Management**
   Sources:
   - ◆ Annual Report of the Ministry of Home Affairs

- ◆ Internal Security & Disaster Management – Ashok Kumar
- ◆ IGNOU material Security & Disaster Management

General Studies Paper IV

Ethics, Integrity & Aptitude

Sources: Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude for Civil Services Main Examination – G Subba Rao and P N Roy Chowdhury

TIPS TO CHOOSE MAIN EXAM OPTIONAL SUBJECT

Aspirants need to select an optional subject in which they are comfortable to score high in UPSC Mains. The level of comfort depends on many factors like the – knowledge of the subject, availability of books and other study materials, availability of time, scope of study-mates discussion, recent trends of marks, the level of difficulty as per the syllabus and previous question papers etc. If the subject they had in graduation or postgraduation is available in the list of subjects given, the same option will turn out as a comfortable option. All others look for an optional subject which can be finished in a time-bound manner without encroaching upon the time for GS preparation.

Selecting an overlapping optional subject with General Studies is a good strategy to save the time required to study an optional subject not mentioned as per GS syllabus. This case is not universally applicable. For example, Rachat Raj, UPSC 2013 Rank 3, scored exceptionally well with Zoology optional. There are also many who made it to the top with optional subjects like Medical Science. None of these optional subjects overlap with GS syllabus as subjects like History or Geography or Political Science and International Relations do. So aspirants should neither take an optional just for the sole reason of GS overlapping nor just based on advice from coaching institute gurus for the sake of commercial interests behind promoting each optional subject. Moreover, aspirants will have to be smart and mature enough to analyse the advice and come to conclusion on their own. The reason is that each and every optional subject is equally scoring. The real test of academic excellence is in the optimal subject only. One should not resort to short-cuts, made easy, or selected topics in the optimal subject but he or she should have indepth study in all facets of the subject. The candidate is supposed to give a balanced view point or any view point which is factually and logically sound and convincing. Some optional subjects might not turn high-scoring in some years because of scaling effects, but there is no universal trend or theory regarding any optional subject.

There are three important factors every aspirant must consider before selecting optional subject:
   (i)   Time available,
   (ii) The effort required and
   (iii) The possibility of maximum marks.

The Advice to Think Over

1. Aspirants should not take an overlapping optional if they are not strong in it, because it can be a counterproductive.

2. If aspirants have limited time (i.e. less than 4 months), they must not take an optional subject which requires extensive preparation.

3. A scoring overlapping optional subject with vast nature of syllabus, which requires extensive preparation, can be adopted, if aspirants have the following:
   - ♦ Background of the subject
   - ♦ Previous exposure in the subject, or
   - ♦ There is adequate time left.

   Otherwise, select an optional paper which requires less time for a decent level of preparation.

4. There are many hardworking candidate who start preparation 1-3 years before the Main exam and are able to finish quality textbooks of any optional subject. But they must be careful on compromising GS marks for optional preparation as it can also turn suicidal, and hence not advised to do so.

Optional Subjects List for UPSC Main Exam

1. Agriculture	2. Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Science	3. Anthropology	4. Botany	5. Chemistry
6. Civil Engineering	7. Commerce & 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 & International Relations
21. Psychology	22. Public Administration	23. Sociology	24. Statistics	25. Zoology
Literature of the following languages				
1. Assamese	2.Bengali	3. Bodo	4. Dogri	5. Gujarati
6. Hindi	7. Kannada	8. Kashmiri	9. Konkani	10. Maithili
11. Malayalam	12. Manipuri	13. Marathi	14. Nepali	15. Odia
16. Punjabi	17. Sanskrit	18. Santhali	19. Sindhi	20. Tamil
21. Telugu	22. Urdu	23. English		

READING TIPS FOR MAIN EXAM PREPARATION

- ♦ Aspirants are advised before reading on any topic, go through the questions asked in the previous exams on the given topic of the syllabus and jot down them with some more probable additions. This will help them forming an idea about the kind of study material they need to be studied for writing answer of such frequently asked questions (faqs) in coming exam.

- ♦ It is always wise to be selective on standard reading material advised by IAS toppers, because reading from too many sources can only confuse them.

- ♦ Sometimes notes from seniors in college or university or from friends preparing for IAS exam can be quite good option better than notes from the coaching institutions/ centres.

- ♦ It is important for aspirants that studying for Civil Service exam involves *'purposeful reading.'* It means they must focus on the given topic to prepare the possible questions and making bullet points for their possible answers from the topic.

- ♦ After this approach to reading, try to read logically and link all the points to construct a probable answer to the questions by elaborating on those points.

- ♦ Try to correct your knowledge of the subject to the recent trends in public life.

- ♦ This strategy of reading can help aspirants in preparing the short notes that can be revised periodically.

- ♦ This approach to reading will help to retain the salient points of the topic in their memory, improve grip over the topic and make them more confident about the subject.

- ♦ Moreover, the above approach and strategy will make the aspirants more confident on clearing Prelims and writing brilliant answers in the Mains exams.

ESSAY WRITING TIPS FOR CIVIL SERVICES MAIN EXAM

The Essay Paper is one of the UPSC Civil Services Main Exam papers carrying 250 marks counted for merit formulation of candidates. In this paper, candidates will have to write two essays each for 125 marks with a word count of 1000–1200 in 3 hours. Candidates have the choice to select one topic from each of the two sections providing four topics in each one. Hence, the candidates must prepare and attempt this paper with the same seriousness as all other papers in GS Main and learn the art of writing the essay as per topic requirement.

The candidates are advised to keep in mind certain steps while writing the essay paper in the main exam, like:

A. Read All the Topics Thoroughly Section-wise

The most important step in the process of writing essay for IAS Main exam is to choose one out of four topics from each section on which candidates can write better. While selecting the topics, candidates should make sure that they know the most about the chosen topics out of the given sections. What not to select:

♦ A sensitive or controversial topic like, Sabarimala temple in Kerala.

♦ A topic which is too complex in meaning and concept. This can work against the candidates' thought process and so the composition of essay.

B. How to Proceed after Selecting the Topics?

After the selection of topics, candidates should not start writing straight away. It is important to think for some time and note down the headings, subheadings, and points of information for different paragraphs of the body of essay. This is important because only then candidates can write their points in the required sequence. For example, if they are supposed to write about India's relations with her neighbours, they need to write the historical facts and events in the beginning. The reason is that, suppose candidates start writing on the topic, and realise only at the end that they have forgotten to mention an important point, then it would be too late to add it because of a space crunch. Therefore, it helps if candidates write their rough points in the beginning.

Once the candidates have the points in sequence on rough spaces, they can start writing without the fear of forgetting any important points. While writing, they must adhere to a good structure. The structure of a good essay is as follows:

(i) Introduction in brief
(ii) Historical information
(iii) Main issue/problem/subject
(iv) Current scenario related to the topic
(v) Positive and negative aspects
(vi) Reforms required
(vii) Conclusion

C. Add-on Points

♦ Relevant quotes/sayings by famous personalities
♦ Relevant government schemes and policies
♦ Any accurate figures or numbers

WRITING TIPS FOR MAIN EXAM BETTER ANSWERS

There are two important factors involved in evaluating an answer to fetch good marks:

(i) Understanding the question completely,
(ii) Sticking to the words limit.

Understanding a question fully, aspirants must know that questions asked in Main Exams have keywords. Every question is framed on a 'topic' with a 'directive'.

For example,

Q. *"Gandhian strategy of non-violence and satyagraha had its own limitations". Examine.*

In the above question,

Topic of the question: 'limitations of Gandhian strategy of non-violence and satyagraha.'

Directive for the Answer: 'Examine'.

If anyone gives an 'explanation' to this answer how Gandhian strategy had limitations and affected freedom struggle, the examiner will give less than average marks. Instead, the directive guides the aspirants for the *examination* of the statement to look into topic in detail, to understand it, inspect it, investigate it and establish issues and facts related to topic. Aspirants are advised to explain why these issues and facts are important and what implications they have with contemporary incidents if words limit permits.

Alternate Directive for Answer on the Same Topic: 'Critically Examine'.

In addition to previous directive aspirants are advised to give both positive and negative related to topic followed by a balanced conclusion for the satisfaction of examiner.

Likewise UPSC often gives many other directives in its questions and each demand a precise answer. For examples, 'Examine', 'Comment', 'Analyze', 'Evaluate', 'Discuss', 'Critically Examine', Critically Comment', 'Critically Analyze' and 'Assess', etc.

TIME MANAGEMENT FOR IAS EXAM PREPARATION

It is said that until we plan our time, we cannot manage anything else. This is even relevant when we talk about something. Thinking over it again and again and studying rigorously and continuously for definite time will be a habit and it will shape your perspective and character. A civil servant, who is always under work pressure, has to understand the importance of time. Hence, the selection process deliberately makes the candidates to give best of their time management skills.

Time management helps the candidates in two ways, firstly, during the preparation and secondly, during the exam. Time keeps moving, it does not stop for anyone. Just as we cannot hold the sand in our fist, we cannot stop time from passing. That's why we require time management.

Time management refers to reaching the clearly defined goals within the stipulated time. Both of these are interrelated. If there is no goal, there is no time management and if there is no time management, it's difficult to achieve success.

Set a routine for yourself. But it doesn't mean that you prepare a time table and display it on the wall or table and forget to follow it. In that case, you will be far from reaching your goal. It is important to be focussed and to implement a routine. This is a key factor of time management.

Time Table

♦ Include all daily routine work in time table.
♦ Assign proper time for each work.
♦ Wake up early in the morning positively.
♦ Make sure you sleep for at least 6 hours.
♦ Instead of studying all subjects on a single day, allot days for each subject.
♦ Remember, whatever you study, you must understand it well.

♦ The main intention of a time table is to make your study systematic and regular. Therefore, keep this in mind while preparing the time table.

♦ It is necessary to keep your mind fresh. You need entertainment for that. Schedule a time for entertainment. Due to some reason, if your routine is disturbed, don't get upset. Once it is normal, start following your time table and fill in the lost time.

♦ Prepare a schedule for the next day in advance. This will save your time.

♦ Decide about your priorities, what to do first and what to do later. This should be decided after giving it a serious thought.

♦ Time for television, internet, social websites should be decided strictly. We don't realise the time wasted in these activities. Avoid checking online updates and status frequently. This will not only waste your time but also lose your concentration. It will have an ill effect on your efficiency. Less you devote to these diversions, better it is.

♦ Pay keen attention to your physical health. It is important to exercise for half-an-hour daily, such as outdoor games, exercise, yogasanas, pranayam, visit of nature or walking. Set a time for this so that your wealth does not falter or fail you during crucial days of examinations.

♦ Some candidates divide time in three ways; for newspaper or magazine reading, for subject study (4-5 hours) and revision (at least for one hour). However, candidates, may fix their own time schedule based on their readyness and gaps to be filled in.

Things to Remember

♦ The one who wastes time, time spoils his life. Hence, make use of time properly.

♦ People say we never get anything before the right time. Try to live in the present and go with flow.

♦ Utilise time correctly and use the opportunity properly to gain victory.

♦ Your mind can have only one thought at a time, which could be positive or negative. But you have to convert your negative thoughts into positive, and you can do everything.

♦ Use time management tools, such as mobile phones, calendar or chart, etc. You should stop being idle.

♦ Don't waste your time in waiting for opportunities, have faith in yourself and do your work.

♦ If you keep your set of clothes ready for the next day in the night itself, then you will save time in the morning.

♦ Prepare a list of things you need while you go shopping. Most of our time is wasted in such activities. Make a list and bring all necessary things at one go.

♦ Students should know their priorities – how much time they need for studies and how much they can spend on other activities. Divide the syllabus into three parts: the best preparation, satisfactory preparation and less preparation part.

♦ Include solving the unsolved papers in your routine. Read and understand the topics well before making the notes. Try to divide the topic in small parts and assign a heading to all parts. Notes should always be short and full of facts.

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30 Years IAS Essay Papers Section-wise

1. UPSC ESSAY PAPER SECTIONWISE

Essay Paper–UPSC Civil Service Main 2021

Section-A: 125 Marks

Write any one of the following essays in 1000–1200 words:

1. The process of self-discovery has now been technologically outsourced.
2. Your perception of me is a reflection of you; my reaction to you is an awareness of me.
3. Philosophy of wantlessness is Utopian, while materialism is a chimera.
4. The real is rational and the rational is real.

Section-B: 125 Marks

Write any one of the following essays in 1000–1200 words:

1. Hand that rocks the cradle rules the world.
2. What is research, but a blind date with knowledge!
3. History repeats itlself, first as a tragedy, second as a farce.
4. There are better practices to "best practices".

2. ESSAY-LIST: TOPICWISE LAST 30 YEARS (1991–2021)

Economy and Development

5. Economic growth without distributive justice is bound to breed violence. (1993)
6. Ecological considerations need not hamper development. (1993)
7. Multinational corporations—Saviours or saboteurs? (1994)
8. Urbanisation is a blessing in disguise. (1997)
9. Resource management in the Indian context. (1999)
10. Globalisation would finish small-scale industries in India. (2006)
11. Protection of ecology and environment is essential for sustained economic development. (2006)
12. Globalisation would finish small-scale industries in India. (2006)
13. BPO boom in India. (2007)
14. Special economic zone: boon or bane? (2008)

15. Are our traditional handicrafts doomed to a slow death? (2009)
16. The focus of health care is increasingly getting skewed towards the 'haves' of our society. (2009)
17. Should a moratorium be imposed on all fresh mining in tribal areas of the country? (2010)
18. Is the criticism that the 'Public-Private-Partnership' (PPP) model for development is more of a bane than a boon in the Indian context, justified? (2012)
19. GDP (Gross Domestic Product) along with GDH (Gross Domestic Happiness) would be the right indices for judging the wellbeing of a country. (2013)
20. Was it the policy paralysis or the paralysis of implementation which slowed the growth of our country? (2014)
21. Tourism: Can this be the next big thing for India? (2014)
22. Innovation is the key determinant of economic growth and social welfare.
23. Crisis faced in India – moral or economic? (2015)
24. Can capitalism bring inclusive growth? (2015)
25. If development is not engendered, it is endangered. (2016)
26. Near jobless growth in India: An anomaly or an outcome of economic reforms? (2016)
27. Farming has lost the ability to be a source of subsistence for majority of farmers in India (2017)
28. Poverty anywhere is a threat to prosperity everywhere. (2018)

Education

1. Restructuring of Indian education system. (1995)
2. Literacy is growing very fast, but there is no corresponding growth in education. (1996)
3. Value-based science and education. (1999)
4. Irrelevance of the classroom. (2001)
5. Modern technological education and human values. (2002)
6. Privatisation of higher education in India. (2002)
7. What is real education? (2005)
8. 'Education for all' campaign in India: myth or reality? (2006)
9. Independent thinking should be encouraged right form the childhood. (2007)

10. Is an egalitarian society possible by educating the masses? (2008)
11. Credit-based higher education system—status, opportunities and challenges. (2011)
12. Is the growing level of competition good for the youth? (2014)
13. Are the standardised tests good measure of academic ability or progress? (2014)
14. Education without values, as useful as it is, seems rather to make a man more clever devil. (2015)
15. Destiny of a nation is shaped in its classrooms (2019)
16. Neglect of primary healthcare and education in India are reasons for its backwardness. (2019)
17. Culture is what we are, civilization is what we have. (2020)

Indian Democracy, Society, Culture and Mindset

1. The Indian society at the crossroads. (1994)
2. Modernisation and westernisation are not identical concepts. (1994)
3. New cults and godmen: a threat to traditional religion. (1996)
4. True religion cannot be misused. (1997)
5. The composite culture of India. (1998)
6. Youth culture today. (1999)
7. Mass media and cultural invasion. (1999)
8. Indian culture today: a myth or a reality? (2000)
9. Modernism and our traditional socio-ethical values. (2000)
10. Why should we be proud of being Indians? (2000)
11. Responsibility of media in a democracy. (2002)
12. Globalisations and its impact on Indian culture. (2004)
13. How has satellite television brought about cultural change in Indian mindsets? (2007)
14. National identity and patriotism. (2008)
15. 'Globalisation' versus 'nationalism'. (2009)
16. Geography may remain the same; history need not. (2010)
17. From traditional Indian philanthropy to the gates-buffet model—a natural progression or a paradigm shift? (2010)
18. Does Indian cinema shape our popular culture or merely reflect it? (2011)
19. In the context of Gandhiji's views on the matter, explore, on an evolutionary scale, the terms 'Swadhinata', 'Swaraj' and 'Dharmarajya'. Critically comment on their contemporary relevance to Indian democracy. (2012)
20. Is the Colonial mentality hindering India's Success? (2013)
21. Is sting operation an invasion of privacy? (2014)
22. Fifty Golds in Olympics: Can this be a reality for India? (2014)
23. Dreams which should not let India sleep. (2015)
24. Cooperative federalism: Myth or reality? (2016)
25. Biased media is a threat to Indian democracy. (2019)
26. South Asian societies are woven not around the state, but around their plural cultures & plural identities. (2019)

International Issues

1. The global order: political and economic. (1993)
2. Restructuring of UNO reflect present realities. (1996)
3. India's contribution to world wisdom. (1998)
4. The world of the twenty-first century. (1998)
5. The implications of globalisation for India. (2000)
6. My vision of an ideal world order. (2001)
7. The masks of new imperialism. (2003)
8. As civilisation advances culture declines. (2003)
9. India's role in promoting ASEAN co-operation. (2004)
10. Terrorism and world peace. (2005)
11. Importance of Indo-US nuclear agreement. (2006)
12. Good fences make good neighbours. (2009)
13. Preparedness of our society for India's global leadership role. (2010)
14. Has the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) lost its relevance in a multipolar world? (2017)

Quote based, Philosophy, Ethics Based Essay Questions

1. He would reigns within himself and folds his passions and desires and fears is more than a king. (1993)
2. Compassion is the basic of all morality would. (1993)
3. Youth is a blunder, manhood a struggle, old age a regret. (1994)
4. Useless life is an early death. (1994)
5. Our deeds determine us, as much as we determine our deeds. (1995)
6. Disinterested intellectual curiosity is the life blood of civilisation. (1995)
7. Truth is lived, not taught. (1996)
8. The pursuit of excellence. (2001)
9. If youth knew, if age could. (2002)
10. The paths of glory lead but to the grave. (2002)
11. Search for truth can only be a spiritual problem. (2002)
12. There is nothing either good or bad but thinking makes it so. (2003)
13. Attitude makes habit, habit makes character and character makes a man. (2007)
14. Discipline means success, anarchy means ruin. (2008)
15. Be the change you want to see in others (Gandhi). (2013)
16. With greater power comes greater responsibility. (2014)
17. Words are sharper than the two-edged sword. (2014)
18. Lending hands to someone is better than giving a dole. (2015)
19. Quick but steady wins the race. (2015)
20. Character of an institution is reflected in its leader. (2015)

21. Need brings greed, if greed increases it spoils breed. (2016)
22. Joy is the simplest form of gratitude. (2017)
23. We may brave human laws but cannot resist natural laws. (2017)
24. A good life is one inspired by love and guided by knowledge. (2018)
25. Customary morality cannot be a guide to modern life. (2018)
26. The past is a permanent dimension of human consciousness and values. (2018)
27. A people that values its privileges above its principles loses both. (2018)
28. Reality does not conform to the ideal, but confirms it. (2018)
29. Wisdom finds truth. (2019)
30. Values are not what humanity is, but what humanity ought to be. (2019)
31. Best for an individual is not necessarily best for the society. (2019)
32. Courage to accept and dedication to improve are two keys to success. (2019)
33. Life is long journey between human being and being humane. (2020)
34. Mindful manifesto is the catalyst to a tranquil self. (2020)
35. Ships do not sink because of water around them, ships sink because of water that gets into them. (2020)
36. Simplicity is the ultimate sophistication. (2020)
37. Your perception of me is a reflection of you; my reaction to you is an awareness of me. (2021)
38. Philosophy of wantlessness is Utopian, while materialism is a chimera. (2021)
39. The real is rational and the rational is real. (2021)
40. History repeats itself, first as a tragedy, second as a farce. (2021)
41. There are better practices to "best practices". (2021)

Polity, Administration, Media and Panchayati Raj

1. My vision of India in 2001 ad. (1993)
2. Politics, bureaucracy and business – fatal triangle. (1994)
3. When money speaks, the truth is silent. (1995)
4. Politics without ethics is a disaster. (1995)
5. Whither Indian democracy? (1995)
6. The VIP cult is a bane of Indian democracy. (1996)
7. Need for transparency in public administration. (1996)
8. Judicial activism. (1997)
9. What we have not learnt during fifty years of independence? (1997)
10. The misinterpretation and misuse of freedom in India. (1998)

11. The language problem in India: its past, present and prospects. (1998)
12. Reservation, politics and empowerment. (1999)
13. The country's need for a better disaster management system. (2000)
14. What have we gained from our democratic set-up? (2001)
15. How far has democracy in India delivered the goods? (2003)
16. How should a civil servant conduct himself? (2003)
17. Judicial activism and Indian democracy. (2004)
18. Water resources should be under the control of the central government. (2004)
19. Food security for sustainable national development. (2005)
20. Justice must reach the poor. (2005)
21. Evaluation of panchayati raj system in India from the point of view of eradication of power to people. (2007)
22. Is autonomy the best answer to combat balkanisation? (2007)
23. Role of media in good governance. (2008)
24. Urbanisation and its hazards. (2008)
25. Are we a 'soft' state? (2009)
26. Creation of smaller states and the consequent administrative, economic and developmental implication. (2011)
27. In the Indian context, both human intelligence and technical intelligence are crucial in combating terrorism. (2011)
28. Water disputes between states in federal India. (2016)
29. Impact of the new economic measures on fiscal ties between the union and states in India. (2017)
30. Management of Indian border disputes – a complex task. (2018)
31. There can be no social justice without economic prosperity but economic prosperity without social justice is meaningless. (2020)
32. Hand that rocks the cradle rules the world. (2021)

Science and Technology

1. Digital economy: A leveller or a source of economic inequality.
2. Cyberspace and internet: Blessing or curse to the human civilization in the long run?
3. Computer: the harbinger of silent revolution. (1993)
4. The modern doctor and his patients. (1997)
5. The cyber world: its charms and challenges. (2000)
6. The march of science and the erosion of human values. (2001)

7. Spirituality and scientific temper. (2003)
8. The lure of space. (2004)
9. Increasing computerisation would lead to the creation of a dehumanised society. (2006)
10. Science and Mysticism: Are they compatible? (2012)
11. Science and technology is the panacea for the growth and security of the nation. (2013)
12. Technology cannot replace manpower. (2015)
13. Social media is inherently a selfish medium. (2017)
14. Alternative technologies for a climate change resilient India. (2018)
15. Rise of Artificial Intelligence: The threat of jobless future or better job opportunities through reskilling and upskilling. (2019)
16. Technology as the silent factor in international relations. (2020)
17. The process of self-discovery has now been technologically outsourced. (2021)
18. What is research, but a blind date with knowledge! (2021)

Women Empowerment

1. Men have failed: let women take over. (1993)
2. The new emerging women power: the ground realities. (1995)
3. Greater political power alone will not improve women's plight. (1997)
4. Woman is god's best creation. (1998)
5. Women empowerment: challenges and prospects. (1999)
6. Empowerment alone cannot help our women. (2001)
7. Whither women's emancipation? (2004)
8. The hand that rocks the cradle. (2005)
9. If women ruled the world. (2005)
10. Women's reservation bill would usher in empowerment for women in India. (2006)
11. Managing work and home – is the Indian working woman getting a fair deal? (2012)
12. Fulfilment of a new woman in India is a myth. (2017)
13. Patriarchy is the least noticed yet the most significant structure of social inequality. (2020)

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350+ Probable Essay Topics

1. North-eastern India. Special attention needed
2. Nuclear power plants in India! Whether India should focus more on them, etc.
3. Attack on Africans in India
4. Farmer suicides
5. PM Modi's agricultural schemes
6. Demonetisation
7. Prohibition on liquor and its effects
8. 100 per cent FDI in e-commerce
9. Freedom of expression versus nationalism
10. Digitisation and Indian democracy
11. Pros and cons of 2017 Union Budget
12. Pollution in India! Environmental crisis
13. India's responsiveness to natural disasters like flooding, etc.
14. Make in India
15. Swachh Bharat Abhiyan
16. Beef politics
17. India against terrorism
18. Energy security in India
19. Syrian crisis
20. Jallikattu protests in Tamil Nadu
21. Intolerance debate in campus
22. Social media versus conventional media
23. India's educational system
24. Relevance of Gandhi today
25. Pros and cons of a cashless economy
26. Relevance of SAARC today
27. Relevance of BRICS
28. Water disputes between Indian states
29. Value education in India and corruption
30. Trial by media
31. Tiger conservation in India
32. Development and Green India
33. Poverty and crime
34. 'I do not know with what weapons World War III will be fought, but World War IV will be fought with sticks and stones.' (Albert Einstein)
35. Inclusion of women in the armed forces. More combat roles for women
36. Superstition in India
37. Is socialism relevant?
38. 'Good fences make good neighbours'. (Robert Frost)
39. Freedom of press in India
40. India's role in the changing global order
41. Poverty and gender equality
42. Beti Bachao
43. 'If you educate a man you educate an individual, but if you educate a woman you educate a family'. (Kwegyir-Aggrey)
44. Juvenile crime in India
45. Crime against women in India
46. Should there be priority for India's space missions amidst pressing issues like poverty, unemployment, etc.?
47. Corruption in the armed forces
48. Scrapping of the Planning Commission
49. 'No country for old men'.
50. 'The death of dogma is the birth of morality'. (Emmanuel Kant)
51. Population Growth and Explosion
52. Employment and Unemployment
53. Literacy and Illiteracy
54. Child Labour and Street Children
55. Drug Addiction and Trafficking
56. HIV and AIDS
57. Smoking and Alcoholism
58. Ragging
59. Generation Gap and Modernity
60. Marriage and Divorce
61. Nuclear and Joint Family
62. Old Age and Geriatric Care
63. Maintenance for Senior Citizen
64. Social Reforms
65. Human Rights Abuse and Violation
66. Status of Women
67. Crime/Violence Against Women
68. Professional Career Oriented Women
69. Discrimination /Hardships at Work Place
70. Dowry
71. Corruption and Integrity
72. Transparency and Accountability
73. Bribery

74. Casteism and Caste Politics
75. Religion and Society
76. Secularism Communalism and Communal Harmony
77. Social Problems
78. Superstitions
79. Cultural Heritage and Monuments
80. Unity in Diversity
81. National Integration
82. Festivals
83. Rural Development
84. Droughts and Hunger
85. Water Pollution
86. Global Warming and Climate Change
87. Globalisation
88. Role of Media
89. Impact of Television
90. Indian Cinema and Image of Women
91. Role of Advertising
92. Role of Youth
93. Role of Intellectual
94. NGOs
95. Begging
96. Terrorism
97. Adultery
98. Beauty Contests
99. Brain Drain
100. Capital Punishment/Death Penalty
101. City Problems and Metropolitan Mess
102. Impact of Computers
103. Impact of Mobile Phone/Smart Phones
104. Social Networking Sites
105. Electoral Reforms
106. Female Feticide
107. Environmental Conservation
108. Mercy Killing (Euthanasia)
109. Mars Expedition
110. Antarctic Expedition
111. Role of Forests
112. Strike
113. Human Cloning
114. Role of IT
115. Role of Internet
116. Nationalism
117. Panchayati Raj
118. Reservation Policy
119. Role of Ethics in Politics
120. Wildlife Conservation
121. Biodiversity Depletion and Species Extinction
122. Infrastructural Development
123. Disability Rights
124. Impact of Newspapers and Print Media
125. Nation Building
126. Role of Science and Technology
127. Science and Society
128. Rape, Molestation and Sexual Abuse
129. Examination System Reform
130. Prostitution
131. Student Politics
132. Lesbians, Gays, Bisexual and Transgenders
133. Role of School Uniforms
134. Internal Security
135. Civil Defence
136. Cyber Crime
137. School Curriculum
138. Education for All
139. Goals and Aims of Education
140. Sports and Society
141. Teacher Grading
142. Politics and Corruption
143. Vulgarity and Society
144. Coalition Government
145. Arrange Marriage and Love Marriage
146. Gender Justice
147. Aadhaar Card
148. Khap and Honour Killing
149. Multiculturalism
150. Tourism and Society
151. Public Administration
152. Good Governance
153. Impact of Computer Virus
154. Impact of Cinema on Society
155. Reservation for Women
156. Yellow Journalism
157. Politics and Crime
158. Participatory Democracy
159. Police Reform
160. Prison Reform
161. Uniform Civil Code
162. Polio Eradication
163. India as a Soft State
164. Judicial Activism and Advocacy
165. T-20 Cricket
166. POTA
167. Urbanisation
168. Sustainable Cities
169. Privatisation of Education
170. Women Empowerment
171. Energy Crisis
172. Power Pricing
173. North-East Students' Problem
174. Minority Politics
175. Distributive Justice

176. Religious Tolerance
177. Participatory Decentralised Development
178. Family Planning & Population Control
179. Torture and Custodial Death
180. Conversion
181. Freedom of Expression
182. Social Responsibility of Advertising
183. CSR: Corporate Social Responsibility
184. Adolescence and Teenage Violence
185. Foreign Universities
186. Foreign Media
187. Sustainable Development
188. Natural Disasters
189. Disaster Management
190. Non-Violence of Peace
191. English as Second Language
192. Materialism in Society
193. Animal Rights
194. Gandhism
195. Media Freedom
196. Child Welfare
197. Road Rage
198. Green Activism
199. Natural Resource Management
200. Value-Based Education
201. Space Travel
202. Food Security
203. Human Development Index
204. Communal Violence Bill
205. Child or Underage Marriage
206. Indian Slums
207. Widow Remarriage
208. Democracy and Development
209. Politics and Religion
210. Apolitical Defence Force
211. India's Defence Requirements
212. United Nations Challenges
213. Economic Liberalisation in India
214. Privatisation of Indian Economy
215. Law and Social Change
216. Law, Ethics and Morality
217. Impact of Television on Society
218. Politics of Information
219. Scientific Temper and Attitude
220. Science and Arts
221. Science and Literature
222. Science and Religion
223. Information Science
224. Colonisation
225. Media Freedom and Privacy of Individual
226. Cyber Stalking and Internet Abuse

227. Future of Nation-State
228. Liquor Prohibition
229. Freedom of Criticism
230. Smoking in Public Places
231. Reading Habit
232. Peace Use of Nuclear Energy
233. Advances in Biotechnology
234. Scientific Research and Innovation in India
235. Space Programme of India
236. Educating the Girl Child
237. Sex-Education
238. Upcoming Career Opportunities
239. Distance Education
240. Online Education
241. Role of Private Universities
242. Studying Abroad
243. Brain Drain
244. Rural Development in India
245. Character Building
246. Courageous Life
247. Wisdom and Knowledge
248. Leadership
249. Importance of Humour
250. Patriotism
251. Art of Living
252. Self-Reliance
253. Moral and Spiritual Deprivation
254. Happy Life
255. Planning in India
256. Service Sector in India
257. Special Economic Zone (SEZs)
258. India's Foreign Trade
259. MNCs (Multinational Corporations)
260. Land Reforms in India
261. Indian Agricultural Sector
262. Food grains Management
263. Indian Industrial Sector
264. India's Public Sector
265. India's Private Sector
266. India's Small Scale Industry
267. Banking Sector in India
268. Energy Sector in India
269. Tourism Sector in India
270. Poverty in India
271. Inflation and Price Rise
272. Presidential System of Government
273. Constitutional Review, Reform and Amendments
274. Centre-State Relations
275. India's Neighbourhood Relations

276. Bangladesh Immigrants in India
277. Indian Diaspora
278. Pravasi Bhartiya and NRIs
279. Women's Quota in Parliament
280. Immoral Trafficking
281. Malls/Brand Culture
282. World Peace
283. WTO (World Trade Organisation)
284. World Financial Crises and Global Depression
285. Hindu Identity
286. State Repression in India
287. Maoism and Naxal Movement in India
288. Nuclear Non-Proliferation
289. Collapse of Socialism
290. Racism in World
291. Drug Menace in Third World
292. New World Economic Order
293. Peace-keeping, Peace-Building
294. UNDP (United Nations Development Programme)
295. UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme)
296. NAM (Non-Aligned Movement)
297. Piracy at Sea
298. Global Armament and Arms Build-up
299. Global disarmament
300. UN Security Council
301. Indian Bureaucracy
302. Indian Judiciary
303. Regional Parties in India
304. Multi-Party System in India
305. India's Foreign Policy
306. Bank Scams in India
307. Stock Market in India
308. India's Economic Policy Agenda
309. India's Industrial Policy Reforms
310. Public Sector Privatisation in India
311. Dunkel Draft
312. Intellectual Property Rights
313. Natural Wealth of India
314. Coalgate in India
315. Communication Regulation in India
316. Farmers' Suicide in India
317. CSIR and Indian Industry
318. CSIR and Global Patents
319. Health-Hazards in India
320. Tourism and Environment
321. Environment Hazards in Himalayas
322. Ethnicity in India
323. Cultural Renaissance of India
324. Integrated Indian Culture
325. Green Tribunal
326. Positive Thinking
327. Kundankulam Reactors
328. Operations Vijay
329. Revival of Cold War
330. Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome
331. National Counterterrorism Centre (NCTC)
332. Right to Reject/Recall
333. Indo-UN Nuclear Deal
334. Ozone Depletion
335. Nuclear and Hazardous Waste Disposal
336. Nuclear Energy Revival
337. Solar Energy
338. Small Island Development Programme
339. Coastal-Zone Management
340. Wind Energy
341. Marine Pollution
342. Budget Airlines
343. Global Aviation Industry
344. Nuclear Submarine Disasters
345. Tsunami
346. Cyclones and Typhoons
347. Deforestation and Desertification
348. Anti-Defection Law
349. National Register of Citizens (NRC)
350. Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) 2019
351. National Population Register (NPR)
352. Economic Slowdown in India
353. Article 370

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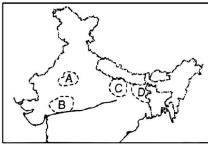
28 YEARS TOPIC-WISE SOLVED PAPERS (1995-2022)

- ☐ **History of India**
- ☐ **Physical, Indian & World Geography**
- ☐ **Indian Polity & Governance**
- ☐ **Economic & Social Development**
- ☐ **Environment and Ecology**
- ☐ **General Science**
- ☐ **General Knowledge**
- ☐ **Current Events**

Part-A
HISTORY OF INDIA

1. **The concept of Anuvrata was advocated by:** (1995)
   (a) Mahayana Buddhism
   (b) Hinayana Buddhism
   (c) Jainism
   (d) the Lokayukta school

2. **Match List I with List II and select the correct answer using the codes given below the lists.** (1995)

List I (Eras)	List II (Reckoned from)
A. Vikrama era	1. 3102 B.C.
B. Saka era	2. 320 A.D.
C. Gupta era	3. 78 A.D.
D. Kali era	4. 58 B.C.
	5. 248 A.D.

   Codes:

	A	B	C	D
(a)	2	4	5	1
(b)	1	3	2	4
(c)	4	5	2	1
(d)	4	3	2	1

3. **Who among the following was a Brahmavadini who composed some hymns of the Vedas?** (1995)
   (a) Lopamudra
   (b) Gargi
   (c) Leelavati
   (d) Savitri

4. **In Sanskrit plays written during the Gupta period, women and Shudras speak:** (1995)
   (a) Sanskrit
   (b) Prakrit
   (c) Pali
   (d) Shauraseni

5. **Who among the following anticipated Newton by declaring that all things gravitate to the earth?** (1995)
   (a) Aryabhatta
   (b) Varahamihira
   (c) Buddhagupta
   (d) Brahmagupta

6. **Zero was invented by:** (1995)
   (a) Aryabhatta
   (b) Varahamihira
   (c) Bhaskara I
   (d) an unknown Indian

7. **The term 'Yavanapriya' mentioned in ancient Sanskrit texts denoted:** (1995)
   (a) a fine variety of Indian Muslims
   (b) ivory
   (c) damsels sent to the Greek court for dance performance
   (d) pepper

8. **According to the Mimamsa system of philosophy, liberation is possible by means of:** (1995)
   (a) jnana
   (b) bhakti
   (c) yoga
   (d) karma

9. **Which one of the following is NOT a part of early Jain literature?** (1996)
   (a) Therigatha
   (b) Acarangasutra
   (c) Sutrakritanga
   (d) Brihatkalpasutra

10. **According to the ancient Indian cosmogonic ideas, the sequential order of the cycle of four aeons (yugas) is:** (1996)
    (a) Dvapara, Krita, Treta, and Kali
    (b) Krita, Dvapara, Treta, and Kali
    (c) Krita, Treta, Dvapara, and Kali
    (d) Treta, Dvapara, Kali, and Krita

11. **Match List I with List II and select the correct answer using the codes given below the lists:** (1996)

List I	List II
A. Visakhadatta	1. Medicine
B. Varahamihira	2. Drama
C. Charaka	3. Astronomy
D. Brahmagupta	4. Mathematics

	A	B	C	D
(a)	1	3	4	2
(b)	2	1	3	4
(c)	2	3	1	4
(d)	3	4	1	2

12. **Which of the following were common to both Buddhism and Jainism?** (1996)
    1. Avoidance of extremes of penance and enjoyment
    2. Indifference to the authority of the Vedas
    3. Denial of efficacy of rituals
    4. Non-injury to animal life

    Select the correct answer using the codes given below:
    (a) 1, 2, 3, and 4
    (b) 2, 3, and 4
    (c) 1, 3, and 4
    (d) 1 and 2

13. **Who among the following is known for his work on medicine during the Gupta period?** (1996)
    (a) Saumilla
    (b) Shudraka
    (c) Shaunaka
    (d) Susruta

14. **The river most mentioned in early Vedic literature is:** (1996)
    (a) Sindhu
    (b) Sutudri
    (c) Saraswati
    (d) Ganga

15. **The famous dialogue between Nachiketa and Yama is mentioned in the:** (1997)
    (a) Chhandogyopanishad (b) Mundakopanishad
    (c) Kathopanishad   (d) Kenopanishad

16. **The following map shows four of the sixteen Mahajanapadas that existed in ancient India:** (1997)

    The places marked as A, B, C and D respectively are:
    (a) Matsya, Cedi, Kosala and Anga
    (b) Surasena, Avanti, Vatsa and Magadha
    (c) Matsya, Avanti, Vatsa and Anga
    (d) Surasena, Cedi, Kosala, and Magadha

17. **Match List I with List II and select the correct answer using the codes given below the lists:** (1997)

List I		List II	
A. Gupta		1.	Badami
B. Chandella		2.	Panamalai
C. Chalukya		3.	Khajuraho
D. Pallava		4.	Deogarh

	A	B	C	D
(a)	4	3	1	2
(b)	4	2	3	1
(c)	2	3	4	1
(d)	3	4	1	2

18. **Which one of the following statements regarding Ashoka's stone pillars is incorrect?** (1997)
    (a) These are highly polished.
    (b) These are monolithic.
    (c) The shaft of pillars is tapering in shape.
    (d) These are parts of architectural structures.

19. **Milindapanho is in the form of a dialogue between King Menander and the Buddhist monk named:** (1997)
    (a) Nagasena   (b) Nagarjuna
    (c) Nagabhatta   (d) Kumarilabhatta

20. **The silver coins issued by the Guptas were called:**
    (1997)
    (a) rupaka   (b) karshapana
    (c) dinara   (d) pana

21. **Which one of the following was a corporation of merchants in ancient India?** (1997)
    (a) Chaturvedi Mangalam (b) Parishad
    (c) Ashtadiggajas   (d) Manigrama

22. **Which one of the following scripts of ancient India was written from right to left?** (1997)
    (a) Brahmi   (b) Nandnagari
    (c) Sharada   (d) Kharoshti

23. **In the Mahayana Buddhism, the Bodhisatva Avalokitesvara is also known as:** (1997)
    (a) Vajrepani   (b) Manjusri
    (c) Padmapani   (d) Maitreya

24. **Which one of the following edicts mentions the personal name of Ashoka?** (1997)
    (a) Kalsi
    (b) Rummindei
    (c) Special Kalinga Edict
    (d) Maski

25. **Which one of the following ancient Indian records is the earliest royal order to preserve food grains to be utilised during the crises in the country?** (1998)
    (a) Sohagaura Copper-plate
    (b) Rummindei pillar-edict of Ashoka
    (c) Prayaga-Prasasti
    (d) Mehrauli Pillar inscription of Chandragupta II

26. **The concept of Eight-fold path forms the theme of:**
    (1998)
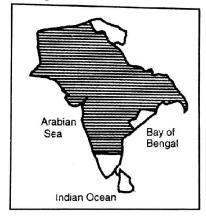   (a) Dipavamsa
    (b) Divyavadana
    (c) Mahaparinibbana Sutta
    (d) Dharma Chakra Pravartana Sutta

Directions: The following items consist of two statements, one labelled as Assertion '(A)' and the other as Reason '(R)'. You have to examine these two statements carefully and decide if the Assertion '(A)' and the Reason '(R)' are individually true and, if so, whether the Reason '(R)' is a correct explanation of Assertion '(A)'. Select your answer from these items using the codes given below and mark your answer sheet accordingly. (1998)
    (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
    (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
    (c) A is true, but R is false.
    (d) A is false, but R is true.

27. **Assertion (A): The Gandhara School of Art bears the mark of Hellenistic influence.**
    Reason (R): Hinayana form was influenced by that art.

28. **Assertion (A): According to Asoka's edicts, social harmony among the people was more important than religious devotion.**
    Reason (R): He spreaded ideas of equity instead of promotion of religion.

29. The given map relates to: **(1998)**

(a) Kanishka at the time of his death
(b) Samudragupta after the close of his South Indian campaign
(c) Ashoka towards close of his reign
(d) Empire of Thaneswar on the eve of Harsha's accession

30. Which of the following pairs are correctly matched? **(1998)**

1. Lothal	:	Ancient dockyard
2. Sarnath	:	First Sermon of Buddha
3. Rajgir	:	Lion capital of Ashoka
4. Nalanda	:	Great seat of Buddhist learning

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:
(a) 1, 2, 3, and 4   (b) 3 and 4
(c) 1, 2, and 4   (d) 1 and 2

31. The Ashoka's major rock edicts which tell us about the Sangam Kingdom include rock edicts: **(1998)**
(a) I and X   (b) I and XI
(c) II and XIII   (d) II and XIV

32. Many of the Greeks, Kushanas and Sakas embraced Buddhism rather than Hinduism because: **(1998)**
(a) Buddhism was in the ascendant at that time.
(b) they had renounced the policy of war and violence.
(c) caste-ridden Hinduism did not attract them.
(d) Buddhism provided easier access to Indian society.

33. What is the correct chronological order in which the following appeared in India? **(1998)**
1. Gold coins
2. Punch-marked silver coins
3. Iron plough
4. Urban culture
Select the correct answer using the codes given below:
(a) 3, 4, 1, and 2   (b) 3, 4, 2, and 1
(c) 4, 3, 1, and 2   (d) 4, 3, 2, and 1

34. The following persons came to India at one time or another. **(1998)**
1. Fa-Hien   2. I-Tsing
3. Megasthenese   4. Hieun-Tsang

The correct chronological sequence of their visits is:
(a) 3, 1, 2, and 4   (b) 3, 1, 4, and 2
(c) 1, 3, 2, and 4   (d) 1, 3, 4, and 2

35. The term 'Aryan' denotes: **(1999)**
(a) an ethnic group   (b) a nomadic people
(c) a speech group   (d) a superior race

36. The Indo-Greek kingdom set up in north Afghanistan in the beginning of the second century B.C. was: **(1999)**
(a) Bactria   (b) Scythia
(c) Zedrasia   (d) Aria

37. Which one of the following was initially the most powerful city state of India in the 6th century B.C.? **(1999)**
(a) Gandhar   (b) Kamboj
(c) Kashi   (d) Magadh

38. Which one of the following ports handled the north Indian trade during the Gupta period? **(1999)**
(a) Tamralipti   (b) Broach
(c) Kalyan   (d) Cambay

39. From the third century AD when the Hun invasion ended the Roman Empire, the Indian merchants relied more and more on the: **(1999)**
(a) African trade   (b) West-European trade
(c) South-East Asian trade (d) Middle-Eastern trade

40. The practice of military governorship was first introduced in India by the: **(2000)**
(a) Greeks   (b) Shakas
(c) Parthians   (d) Mughals

Directions (Q. Nos. 41-44): The following items consist of two statements, one labelled as Assertion 'A' and the other labelled as Reason 'R'. You have to examine these two statements carefully and decide if the Assertion 'A' and the Reason 'R' are individually true and, if so, whether the Reason is a correct explanation of the Assertion. Select your answer from these items using the codes given below and mark your answer-sheet accordingly.

Codes:
(a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
(b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(c) A is true, but R is false.
(d) A is false, but R is true.

41. **Assertion (A):** The Aham and Puram poems of the Pathinenilkanakku group formed a continuation of the Sangam composition. **(2000)**
Reason (R): They were included under the post-Sangam works as against the Sangam works proper.

42. **Assertion (A):** The emphasis of Jainism on non-violence (ahimsa) prevented agriculturalists from embracing Jainism. **(2000)**
    Reason (R): Cultivation involved killing of insects and pests.

43. **Assertion (A):** The origin of feudal system in ancient India can be traced to military campaigns.
    Reason (R): There was considerable expansion of the feudal system during the Gupta period. **(2000)**

Directions: The following items consist of two statements, one labelled as Assertion 'A' and the other labelled as Reason 'R'. You are to examine these two statements carefully and decide if the Assertion 'A' and the Reason 'R' are individually true and, if so, whether the reason is a correct explanation of the Assertion. Select your answer from these items using the codes given below and mark your answer-sheet accordingly.
    Codes:
    (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
    (b) Both A and R are true, and R is not the correct explanation of A.
    (c) A is true, but R is false.
    (d) A is false, but R is true.

44. **Assertion (A): Ashoka annexed kalinga to the Mauryan empire.** **(2000)**
    Reason (R): Kalinga controlled the land and sea routes to South India.

45. **Which one of the following dynasties was ruling over North India at the time of Alexander's invasion? (2000)**
    (a) Nanda   (b) Maurya
    (c) Sunga   (d) Kanva

46. **Which one of the Chola kings conquered Ceylon?**
                                                                (2001)
    (a) Aditya-I   (b) Rajaraja-I
    (c) Rajendra-I   (d) Vijayalaya

47. **Who among the following presided over the Buddhist Council held during the reign of Kanishka at Kashmir?**
                                                                (2001)
    (a) Parsva   (b) Nagarjuna
    (c) Shudraka   (d) Vasumitra

Directions: The following items consist of two statements, one labelled as Assertion 'A' and the other as Reason 'R'. You have to examine these two statements carefully and decide if the Assertion 'A' and the Reason 'R' are individually true and, if so, whether the reason 'R' is the correct explanation of the Assertion 'A'. Mark your answer-sheet accordingly.
    Codes:
    (a) Both A and R are individually true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
    (b) Both A and R are individually true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
    (c) A is true, but R is false.
    (d) A is false, but R is true.

48. **Assertion (A): Harshvardhana convened the Prayag Assembly.** **(2001)**

Reason (R): He wanted to popularise only the Mahayana form of Buddhism.

49. **The ancient Indian play 'Mudrarakshasa' of Vishakhadatta has its subject on:** **(2002)**
    (a) a conflict between Gods and Demons of ancient Hindu lore.
    (b) a romantic story of an Aryan prince and a tribal woman.
    (c) the story of the power struggle between two Aryans.
    (d) the court intrigues at the time of Chandragupta.

50. **In ancient Indian Buddhist monasteries, a ceremony called Pavarana used to be held. It was the:** **(2002)**
    (a) occasion to elect the Sanghparinayaka and two speakers – one on Dhamma and the other on Vinaya
    (b) confession by monks of their offences committed during their stay in the monasteries during the rainy season
    (c) gathering of initiation of new person into the Buddhist Sangha in which the head shaved and when yellow robes are offered
    (d) gathering of Buddhist monks on the next day to the full-moon day of Ashadha when they take up a fixed abode for the next months of rainy season

51. **Consider the following statements:** **(2003)**
    1. **The last Mauryan ruler, Brihadratha was assassinated by his commander-in-chief, Pushyamitra Sunga.**
    2. **The last Sunga king, Devabhuti was assassinated by his Brahmana minister Vasudeva Kanva who usurped the throne.**
    3. **The last ruler of the Kanva dynasty was deposed by Andhra Simuk.**
    Which of these statements is/are correct?
    (a) 1 and 2   (b) Only 2
    (c) Only 3   (d) 1, 2, and 3

Directions: The following items consist of two statements, one labelled as Assertion 'A' and the other as Reason 'R'. You have to examine these two statements carefully and decide if the Assertion 'A' and the Reason 'R' are individually true and, if so, whether the Reason is the correct explanation of the Assertion. Select your answer to these items using the codes given below and mark your answer-sheet accordingly.
    Codes:
    (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
    (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
    (c) A is true, but R is false.
    (d) A is false, but R is true.

52. **Assertion (A): Saluva Narasimha put an end to the old dynasty and assumed the royal title.**
    Reason (R): He wanted to save the kingdom from further degeneration and disintegration. **(2003)**

53. **Consider the following statements.** **(2003)**
    1. **Vardhaman Mahavira's mother was the daughter of Lichchhavi chief Chethaka.**

2. **Gautama Buddha's mother was a princess from the Koshalan dynasty.**
3. **Parshvanatha, the twenty-third Tirthankara, belonged to Banaras.**
   Which of the above statements is/are correct?
   (a) Only 1   (b) Only 2
   (c) 2 and 3   (d) 1, 2 and 3

54. **Consider the following statements.** (2003)
    1. **The Cholas defeated Pandya and Chera rulers and established their domination over peninsular India in the early medieval times.**
    2. **The Cholas sent an expedition against Sailendra empire of South-East Asia and conquered some of the areas.**
    Which of the above statements is/are correct?
    (a) Only 1   (b) Only 2
    (c) Both 1 and 2   (d) Neither 1 nor 2

55. **Emperor Harsha's Southward march was stopped on the Narmada river by:** (2003)
    (a) Pulakesin I   (b) Pulakesin II
    (c) Vikramaditya I   (d) Vikramaditya II

56. **With reference to ancient Jainism, which one of the following statements is correct?** (2004)
    (a) Jainism was spread in South India under the leadership of Sthalabahu.
    (b) The Jainas who remained under the leadership of Bhadrabahu were called Shvetambaras after the council held at Pataliputra.
    (c) Jainism enjoyed the patronage of the Kalinga king Kharavela in the 1st Century BC.
    (d) In the initial stage of Jainism, the Jains worshipped images unlike Buddhists.

57. **Consider the following statements.** (2004)
    1. **The Chinese pilgrim Fa-Hien attended the fourth Great Buddhist Council held by Kanishka.**
    2. **The Chinese pilgrim Hiuen-Tsang met Harsha and found him to be antagonistic to Buddhism.**
    Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
    (a) Only 1   (b) Only 2
    (c) Both l and 2   (d) Neither 1 nor 2

58. **Consider the following statements.** (2004)
    1. **Narasimha Saluva ended the Sangama dynasty and seized the throne for himself and started the Saluva dynasty.**
    2. **Vira Narasimha deposed the last Saluva ruler and seized the throne for himself.**
    3. **Vira Narasimha was succeeded by his younger brother, Krishnadeva Raya.**
    4. **Krishnadeva Raya was succeeded by his half brother, Achyuta Raya.**
    Which of the statements given above are correct?
    (a) 1, 2 and 3   (b) 2, 3 and 4
    (c) 1 and 4   (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

59. **Who among the following was not a contemporary of the other three?** (2005)
    (a) Bimbisara   (b) Gautama Buddha
    (c) Milinda   (d) Prasenjit

60. **Consider the following statements.** (2006)
    1. **The Ikshvaku rulers of Southern India were antagonistic towards Buddhism.**
    2. **The Pala Rulers of Eastern India were patrons of Buddhism.**
    Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?
    (a) Only 1   (b) Only 2
    (c) Both 1 and 2   (d) Neither 1 nor 2

61. **With reference to the invaders in ancient India, which one of the following is the correct chronological order?** (2006)
    (a) Greeks-Sakas-Kushanas
    (b) Greeks-Kushanas-Sakas
    (c) Sakas-Greeks-Kushanas
    (d) Sakas-Kushanas-Greeks

62. **Who among the following laid the foundation of Rashtrakuta empire?** (2006)
    (a) Amoghavarsha I   (b) Dantidurga
    (c) Dhruva   (d) Krishna I

63. **Mahamastakabhisheka, a great religious event, is associated with and done for who among the following?** (2009)
    (a) Bahubali   (b) Buddha
    (c) Mahavirji   (d) Nataraja

64. **Why did Buddhism start declining in India in the early medieval times?** (2010)
    1. **Buddha was by that time considered as one of the incarnations of Vishnu and thus, became a part of Vaishnavism.**
    2. **The invading tribes from Central Asia till the time of last Gupta king adopted Hinduism and persecuted Buddhists.**
    3. **The Kings of Gupta dynasty were strongly opposed to Buddhism.**
    Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?
    (a) Only 1   (b) l and 3
    (c) 2 and 3   (d) 1, 2, and 3

65. **With reference to the history of ancient India, which of the following statements was/were common to both Buddhism and Jainism?** (2012)
    1. **Avoidance of extremes of penance and enjoyment**
    2. **Indifference to the authority of the Vedas**
    3. **Denial of efficacy of rituals**
    Select the correct answer using the codes given below:
    (a) Only 1   (b) 2 and 3
    (c) l and 3   (d) 1, 2, and 3

66. **With reference to the scientific progress of ancient India, which of the statements given below are correct?** (2012)
    1. **Different kinds of specialised surgical instruments were in common use by 1st century AD.**
    2. **Transplant of internal organs in the human body had begun by the beginning of 3rd century AD.**

3. The concept of sine of an angle was known in 5th century AD.
4. The concept of cyclic quadrilaterals was known in 7th century AD.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:
(a) 1 and 2   (b) 3 and 4
(c) 1, 3, and 4   (d) 1, 2, 3, and 4

67. With reference to the guilds (Shreni) of ancient India that played a very important role in the country's economy, which of the following statements is/are correct? **(2012)**
   1. Every guild was registered with the central authority of the state and the king was the chief administrative authority on them.
   2. The wages, rules of work, standards, and prices were fixed by the guild.
   3. The guild had judicial powers over its own members.

   Select the correct answer using the codes given below:
   (a) l and 2   (b) Only 3
   (c) 2 and 3   (d) 1, 2, and 3

68. The religion of early Vedic Aryans was primarily: **(2012)**
   (a) Bhakti
   (b) Image worship and yajnas
   (c) Worship of nature and yajnas
   (d) Worship of nature and Bhakti

69. Lord Buddha's image is sometimes shown with the gesture called 'Bhumisparsha Mudra'. It symbolises: **(2012)**
   (a) Buddha's calling of the Earth to watch over Mara and to prevent Mara from disturbing his meditation.
   (b) Buddha's calling of the Earth to witness his purity and chastity despite the temptations of Mara.
   (c) Buddha's reminder to his followers that they all arise from the Earth and finally dissolve into the Earth and, thus, this life is transitory.
   (d) Both the statements (a) and (b) are correct in this context.

70. Which of the following statement(s) is/are applicable to Jain Doctrine? **(2013)**
   1. The surest way of annihilating Karma is to practice penance.
   2. Every object, even the smallest particle has a soul.
   3. Karma is the bane of the soul and must be ended.

   Select the correct answer using the codes given below:
   (a) Only 1   (b) 2 and 3
   (c) 1 and 3   (d) All of the above

71. Which one of the following describes best the concept of Nirvana in Buddhism? **(2013)**
   (a) The extinction of the flame of desire
   (b) The complete annihilation of self
   (c) A state of bliss and rest
   (d) A mental stage beyond all comprehension

72. Which one of the following pairs does NOT form, part of the six systems of Indian philosophy? **(2014)**

(a) Mimamsa and Vedanta
(b) Nyaya and Vaisheshika
(c) Lokayata and Kapalika
(d) Samkhya and Yoga

73. Chaitra 1 of the National calendar based on the Saka era corresponds to which one of the following dates of the Gregorian calendar in a normal year of 365 days? **(2014)**

(a) 22 March (or 21 March)
(b) 15 May (or 16 May)
(c) 31 March (or 30 March)
(d) 21 April (or 20 April)

74. Which of the following kingdoms were associated with the life of the Buddha? **(2014)**
   l. Avanti   2. Gandhara
   3. Kosala   4. Magadha

   Select the correct answer using the codes given below:
   (a) 1, 2, and 3   (b) 2 and 4
   (c) 3 and 4   (d) 1, 3, and 4

75. The national motto of India, 'Satyameva Jayate' inscribed below the Emblem of India, is taken from: **(2014)**
   (a) Katha Upanishad
   (b) Chandogya Upanishad
   (c) Aitareya Upanishad
   (d) Mundaka Upanishad

76. In the context of the history of India, consider the following pairs: **(2016)**

Term	Description
1. Eripatti :	Land, revenue from which was set apart for the maintenance of the village tank
2. Taniyurs :	Villages donated to a single Brahmin or a group of Brahmins
3. Ghatikas :	Colleges generally attached to the temples.

   Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?
   (a) 1 and 2   (b) Only 3
   (c) 2 and 3   (d) 1 and 3

77. With reference to the religious history of India, consider the following statements: **(2017)**
   1. Sautrantika and Sammitiya were the sects of Jainism.
   2. Sarvastivadin held that the constituents of phenomena were not wholly momentary, but existed forever in a latent form.

   Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
   (a) Only 1   (b) Only 2
   (c) Both 1 and 2   (d) Neither 1 nor 2

78. With reference to the cultural history of India, consider the following statements: **(2018)**
   1. Most of the Tyagaraja Kritis are devotional songs in praise of Lord Krishna.
   2. Tyagaraja created several new ragas.

3. Annamacharya and Tyagaraja are contemporaries.
4. Annamacharya kirtanas are devotional songs in praise of Lord Venkateshwara.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 3   (b) 2 and 4
(c) 1, 2, and 3   (d) 2, 3, and 4

79. With reference to the religious practices of India, the "Sthanakvasi" sect belongs to: (2018)
(a) Buddhism   (b) Jainism
(c) Vaishnavism   (d) Shaivism

80. With reference to the Indian history, who among the following is a future Buddha, yet to come to save the world?   (2018)
(a) Avalokiteshvara   (b) Lokesvara
(c) Maitreya   (d) Padmapani

81. Which one of the following is not a Harappan site?   (2019)
(a) Chanhudaro   (b) Kot Diji
(c) Sohgaura   (d) Desalpur

82. In which of the following relief sculpture inscriptions is 'Ranyo Ashoka' (King Ashoka) mentioned along with the stone portrait of Ashoka?   (2019)
(a) Kanganahalli   (b) Sanchi
(c) Shahbazgarhi   (d) Sohgaura

83. Consider the following: (2019)
1. Deification of the Buddha
2. Treading the path of Bodhisattvas
3. Image worship and rituals

Which of the above is/are the feature/features of Mahayana Buddhism?

(a) 1 only   (b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only   (d) 1, 2 and 3

84. With reference to forced labour (Vishti) in India during the Gupta period, which one of the following statements is correct?   (2019)
(a) It was considered a source of income for the State, a sort of tax paid by the people.
(b) It was totally absent in the Madhya Pradesh and Kathiawar regions of the Gupta Empire.
(c) The forced labourer was entitled to weekly wages.
(d) The eldest son of the labourer was sent as the forced labourer.

85. Which one of the following groups of plants was domesticated in the 'New World' and introduced into the 'Old World'?   (2019)
(a) Tobacco, cocoa and rubber
(b) Tobacco, cotton and rubber
(c) Cotton, coffee and sugarcane
(d) Rubber, coffee and wheat

86. Consider the following pairs: (2019)

Famous place		River
1. Pandharpur	–	Chandrabhaga
2. Tiruchirappalli	–	Cauvery
3. Hampi	–	Malaprabha

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?
(a) 1 and 2 only   (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only   (d) 1, 2 and 3

87. With reference to the scholars/litterateurs of ancient India, consider the following statements: (2020)
1. Panini is associated with Pushyamitra Shunga.
2. Amarasimha is associated with Harshavardhana.
3. Kalidasa is associated with Chandra Gupta - II

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only   (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only   (d) 1, 2 and 3

88. Consider the following events in the history of India: (2020)
1. Rise of Pratiharas under King Bhoja
2. Establishment of Pallava power under Mahendravaraman - I
3. Establishment of Chola power by Parantaka - I
4. Pala dynasty funded by Gopala

What is the correct chronological order of the above events, starting from the earliest time?

(a) 2-1-4-3   (b) 3-1-4-2
(c) 2-4-1-3   (d) 3-4-1-2

89. Who among the following rulers advised his subject through the inscription?   (2020)

"Whosoever praises his religious sect or blames other sects out of excessive devotion to his own sect, with the view of glorifying his own sect, he raither injures his own sect very severely."

(a) Ashoka   (b) Samudragupta
(c) Harshavardhana   (d) Krishnadeva Raya

90. With reference to the history of India, consider the following pairs: (2020)

Famous Place		Present State
1. Bhilsa	–	Madhya Pradesh
2. Dwarasamudra	–	Maharashtra
3. Girinagar	–	Gujarat
4. Sthanesvara	–	Uttar Pradesh

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?
(a) 1 and 3 only   (b) 1 and 4 only
(c) 2 and 3 only   (d) 2 and 4 only

91. With reference to the period of Gupta dynasty in ancient India, the towns Ghantasala, Kadura and Chaul were well known as   (2020)
(a) ports handling foreign trade
(b) capitals of powerful kingdoms
(c) places of exquisite stone art and architecture
(d) important Buddhist pilgrimage centres

92. With reference to the cultural history of India, which one of the following is the correct description of the term 'Paramitas'?   (2020)
(a) The earliest Dharmashastra texts written in aphoristic (sutra) style

(b) Philosophical schools that did not accept the authority of Vedas

(c) perfections whose attainment led to the Bodhisattva path

(d) Powerful merchant guilds of early medieval South India

93. **With reference to the religious history of India, consider the following statements:** **(2020)**

1. **Sthaviravadins belong to Mahayana Buddhism.**
2. **Lokottaravadin sect was an offshoot of Mahasanghika sect of Buddhism.**
3. **The deification of Buddha by Mahasanghikas fostered the Mahayana Buddhism.**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only   (b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 3 only   (d) 1, 2 and 3

94. **With reference to the history of India, the terms "kulyavapa" and "dronavapa" denote** **(2020)**

(a) measurement of land

(b) coins of different monetary value

(c) classification of urban land

(d) religious rituals

95. **With reference the history of ancient India, Bhavabhuti, Hastimalla and Kshemeshvara were famous** **(2021)**

(a) Jain monks   (b) Playwrights

(c) temple architects   (d) philosophers

96. **Which one of the following ancient towns is well-known for its elaborate system of water harvesting and management by building a series of dams and channelizing water into connected reservirs?** **(2021)**

(a) Dholavira   (b) Kalibangan

(c) Rakhigarhi   (d) Ropar

97. **From the decline of Guptas until the rise of Harshavardhana in the early seventh century, which of the following power in holding kingdoms were Northern India?** **(2021)**

1. **The Guptas of Magadha**
2. **The Paramaras of. Malwa**
3. **The Pushyabhutis of Thanesar**
4. **The Maukharis of Kanauj**
5. **The Yadavas of Devagiri**
6. **The Maitrakas of Valabhi**

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1, 2 and 5   (b) 1, 3, 4 and 6

(c) 2, 3 and 4   (d) 5 and 6

98. **Consider the following pairs:** **(2021)**

(Historical place)	(Well-known for)
1 Burzahom	Rock-cut shrines
2 Chandra-ketugarh	Terracotta art
3 Ganeshwar	Copper artefacts

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

(a) 1 only   (b) 1 and 2

(c) 3 only   (d) 2 and 3

99. **With reference to the history of ancient India, which of the following statements is/are correct?** **(2021)**

1. **Mitakshara was the civil law for upper castes and Dayabhaga was the civil law for lower castes.**
2. **In the Mitakshara system, the sons can claim right to the property during the lifetime of the father, whereas in the Dayabhaga system, it is only after the death of the father that the sons can claim right to the property.**
3. **The Mitakshara system deals with the matters related to the property held by male members only of a family, whereas the Dayabhaga system deals with the matters related to "the property held by both male and female members of a family.**

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 2   (b) 2 only

(c) 1 and 3   (d) 3 only

100. **According to Kautiyla's *Arthashastra*, which of the following are correct?** **(2022)**

1. **A person could be a slave as a result of a judicial punishment.**
2. **If a female slave bore her master a son, she was legally free.**
3. **If a son born to a female slave was fathered by her master, the son was entitled to the legal status of the master's son.**

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only   (b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 1 and 3 only   (d) 1, 2 and 3

101. **Consider the following pairs:** **(2022)**

King	*Dynasty*
1. Nannuka	– Chandela
2. Jayashakti	– Paramara
3. Nagabhata II	– Gurjara-Pratihara
3. Bhoja	– Rashtrakuta

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?

(a) Only one pair   (b) Only two pairs

(c) Only three pairs   (d) All four pairs

102. **Which one of the following statements about Sangam literature in ancient South India is correct?** **(2022)**

(a) Sangam poems are devoid of any reference to material culture.

(b) The social classification of Varna was known to Sangam poets.

(c) Sangam poems have no references to warrior ethic.

(d) Sangam literature refers to magical forces as irrational.

ANSWERS WITH EXPLANATIONS

1. (c) The 5 cardinal principles of Jainism is called Mahavrata if it is followed by a monk and the same is also called Anuvrata if observed by a lay follower.

2. (d) In 58 BC, Vikrama era was started by King Vikramaditya to mark his victory over Sakas. The Saka era was started in 78 AD. Which is most probably considered as the date of accession of Kanishka. The Gupta era was started by Chandragupta I in 319–20 AD. 3102 BC is considered as the beginning of Kali era. According to the Surya Siddhanta. Kali Yuga began at midnight on 18th Februaty, 3102 BC.

3. (a) Brahmavadini in Vedic period were women, who used to compose many hyms of Rigveda. Some of the prominent were copemudra, Ghosha Nivavari and Vishwawara.

4. (a) According to the Sanskrit plays written during Gupta period the males of upper three Varna used to speak Sanskrit while the lower Varna i.e. Shudra and women of all Varnas used to speak in Prakrit.

5. (d) Brahmagupta in his books 'Khanda Khadyaka and 'Brahmasphuta Siddhanta' anticipated Newton by declaring that all things gravitate to the Earth.

6. (d) An unknown Indian invented zero. Zero was traced to the Indian Mathematics Arybhatta in 520 AD. Later, the concept of zero as an independent number was developed by Brahmagupta.

7. (d) The term 'Yavanapriya' mentioned in ancient Sanskrit texts refers to the pepper. In ancient Roman Empire, there had a lot of demand of Pepper grown in India and surrounding part. By exporting pepper India earned a lot of gold from Rome. Due to this reason pepper was called 'Yavana priya i.e. the favourite of Greeks.

8. (d) The Veda as the final authority was recognized in Mimarisa system of Philosophy which emphasized on ritualism for liberation.

9. (a) Among these, Acarangasutra, Sutrakritanga and Brihatkalpasutra are a part of early Jain literature. While therigatha belongs to Buddhist literature which was compiled by Buddhist nuns.

10. (c) Krita, Treta, Dvapara, and Kaliyuga is the correct sequential order of yuga according to ancient Indian cosmogonic ideas.

11. (c) Vishakhadatta's great Sanskrit play was Mudrarakshasa. Varahamihira was an astronomer. Charaka wrote Charaka Samhita and Brahmagupta was a great mathematician during Gupta era.

12. (b) Extremism and penance were stressed in Jainism while Madhyam marg was stressed in Buddhism.

13. (d) During Gupta period, Susruta was known the best surgeon. Susruta Sumhita – a treatise on medicine was written by him. He belonged to 4th century.

14. (a) Sindhu River is the most mentioned river, however, Saraswati is considered to be the most sacred river.

15. (c) The Kathopanishad mentioned the famous dialogue between Nachiketa and Yama. The dialogue was about death and transmigration of soul.

16. (c) According to 16 Mahajanapadas mentioned in Anguttara Nikaya.
The given order A, B, C and D respectively are Matsya, Avanti, Vatsa, Anga.

17. (a)

Empire	Their Capital
1. Gupta	Deogarh
2. Chandellas	Khajuraho
3. Chalukya	Badami
4. Pallava	Panamalai

18. (d) Rock pillars of Ashoka are not architectural structures, they were intended to spread Ashoka's message to the people. They were erected with the edicts of Ashoka.

19. (d) Milindapanho was a compiled form of the dialogue between the king Menander and the Buddhist monk Nagasena.

20. (a) The 'Rupaka' was the silver coins issued by Gupta rulers. In Bharatpur, Rajasthan maximum number of these coins were found.

21. (d) In ancient India, Manigrama was a merchant's corporation.

22. (d) Kharoshti script is written from right to left, which is evolved from the Varnamala system of Indian language.

23. (c) In the Mahayana Buddhism, 'Padmpani' is known as Bodhisatva Avalokiteshvara.

24. (d) Ashoka's personal name was mentioned in Maski and Gurjara edicts.

25. (a) The Sohagaura copper plate inscription of Ashoka is considered as the earliest royal order to preserve foodgrains to be utilized during the crises in the country.

26. (d) The concept of eight-fold path is based on the theme of 'Dharma Chakra Pravartana Sutta' that means sermon of the turning of the wheel of law. It provides 'Noble Eight-fold path' and 'Four Noble Truths' those were accepted as basic categories of all Buddhist sects.

27. (c) Assertion is correct but Reason is wrong because it was Mahayana Buddhism which was influenced by that (Gandhara) art.

28. (a) After Kalinga war, Ashoka Spreded the idea of equity instead of promotion of religion, because of that the edicts of Ashoka emphasis social harmony rather than religious devotion.

29. (c) The given map is related to the empire of Ashoka towards the end of his reign.

30. (c) 1. Lothal Ancient — dockyard (Indus Valley Civilisation)
2. Sarnath — First sermon of Buddha and lion capital of Ashoka.

3. Nalanda — Known for the center of Buddhist learning.
4. Rajgir — Famous pilgrimage place known for hot water spring.

31. (c) Ashoka's major rock edicts II and XIII talks about the Sangam Kingdom.
I, II—Provides account of Ashoka's concern for the comforts of men and beasts.
X, XI—Talk about Dharma.

32. (d) Because of easier access to Indian society, many of the Greeks, Kushans and Sakas embraced Buddhism rather than Hinduism.

33. (b) In ancient period, Iron plough led to increase in agricultural production which helped in flourishing trade and growth of urban culture. Then the punch-marked silver coins appeared which were further succeeded by gold coins minted by Indo-Greek rulers.

34. (b) The correct chronological sequence of the visits is megasthenese, Fa-Hien, Hieun Tsang and I-Tsing. They visited during Mauryan period, Gupta period, post-Gupta period and post Harsha period respectively.

35. (d) The term 'Aryan' denotes a superior race.

36. (a) In the beginning of the second century BC, Bacteria an Indo-Greek Kingdom was set up in north Afghanisthan.

37. (d) Magadh was initially the most powerful city state of India in the 6th century BC.

38. (a) During the Gupta period, Tamralipti port of Bengal handled the north Indian trade.

39. (c) Due to the Hun invasion, after end of Roman Empire. From the third century AD, the Indian merchants availed the more and more trade opportunities with South-East Asia.

40. (a) The Greeks introduced the practice of military governship in India.

41. (a) The Aham and Puran are known as the post Sangam work because they were compiled after Sangam period.

42. (a) The believes of Jainism in extreme non-violence prevented the agriculturists group to embracing it, because cultivation involves the killing of insects and pests.

43. (b) In ancient India, the origin of feudal system can be traced from military campaigns. In war time, the feudal lords used to provide military help to the king. The Gupta period is known for the expansion of feudal system.

44. (a) The location of Kalinga was the prime cause of Kalinga conquest of Ashoka. It had control over both the land and sea routes to south India.

45. (a) At the time of Alexander's invasion North India was being ruled over by Nanda dynasty.

46. (c) Rajendra-I, the famous Chola King conquered the Ceylon. After that Ceylon could not dispose of Chola dominon for about 40 years.

47. (d) Vasumitra presided over the fourth Buddhist council, which was held at Kashmir during the reign of Kanishka.

48. (b) The Prayag Assembly was convened by Harshvardhana to popularise himself. He called a conference in Kannauj to popularise Mahayana Buddhism.

49. (d) The ancient Indian play 'Mudrarakshasa' of Vishakhdatta has its subject on the court intrigues at the time of Chandragupta Maurya.

50. (a) Pavarana was the confession by monks of their offences committed during their stay in the monasteries during the rainy season.

51. (d) The cast Mauryan ruler, Brihadratha was killed by his commander-in-cheif, Pushyamitra Sunga which resulted into the foundation of Sunga dynasty. The last rule of Sunga dynasty, Devbhuti was killed by his Brahmana minister Vasudeva Kanva. It resulted into foundation of Kanva dynasty. The last ruler of Kanva dynasty was deposed by Andhra Simuk who founded Satvahan dynasty.

52. (c) For the greed of power Saluva Narasimha put an end to the old dynasty and assumed the royal title.

53. (c) Statement 1 is wrong because Mahavira's mother was the sister of Lichchhavi Chief Chethaka. So, only statement 2 and 3 are correct.

54. (c) Both statements are correct. Chola expanded their dominion at the cost of Chera and Pandya and their expedition against Sailendra empire.

55. (b) The Southward March of Harsha was stopped on the Narmada river by a chalukyan ruler, Pulkesin II.

56. (c) Jainism enjoyed the patronage of the Kalinga king Kharvela in the first century BC. Other options (a), (b), and (d) are incorrect.

57. (d) Both the statements are wrong, because Fa-Hien visited during Gupta period and Harsha was not antagonistic to Buddhism when Hieun-Tsang met.

58. (d) Narasimha Saluva founded the Saluva dynasty, he was succeeded by his younger brother Krishnadeva Raya, who was further succeeded by his brother Achyuta Raya.

59. (c) Except (c), All other are contemporary to each other. Milinda existed in later Mauryan period.

60. (c) The Ikshvaku rulers of Southern India were not antagonistic of Buddhism. They supported Budhhism. Therefore, statement 1 is incorrect and statement 2 is correct.

61. (a) With reference to the invaders in ancient India, the correct chronological order is Greeks-Sakas-Kushanas.

62. (b) Dantidurga, laid the foundation of Rashtrakuta Empire. He was also known as Dantivarman.
Earlier they were a feudatory of the Badami Chalukyas and during the reign of Dantidurga, it overthrew Chalukya Kirtivarman.

63. (a) Mahamastakabhisheka, a great religious event, is related to Lord Bahubali. This event is held after an interval of twelve years in Shravanabelagola in Karnataka.

There is a mammoth statue of Gomateshwara Bahubali. Its height is eighteen metres. This Mahamasta-kabhisheka ceremony was held previously in 2006, 2018 next will be held in 2030.

64. (a) In the early medieval period, Buddhism start declining in India because Buddha was by that time considered as one of the incarnations of Vishnu and thus, became a part of Vaishnavism.

65. (b) Indifference to the authority of the Vedas and denial of efficacy of rituals were common to both Buddhism and Jainism. While avoidance of extremes of penance and enjoyment and adoption of middle path stressed in Buddhism.

66. (c) With reference to the scientific progress of ancient India, statement 2 is not correct, because transplant of internal organs in the human body had not begun by the beginning of 3rd century AD. All other statements 1, 3 and 4 are correct.

67. (c) According to 'Arthashastra', the methods devised for the regulation of guilds are :
1. Registration of the guilds
2. Laying down the checks and balances on the activities of the artisans, wages, etc.
3. Appointment of special tribunal.
However, the king was not the chief administrative authority to the guild.

68. (c) The religion of early Vedic Aryan was primarily worship of nature and yajnas.

69. (b) The Bhumisparsha Mudra of Lord Buddha image Symbolises Buddha's calling of the earth to witness his purity and chastity despite the temptations of Mura.

70. (d) All the statement 1, 2 and 3 are applicable to Jain Doctrine.

71. (c) The concept of Nirvana in Buddhism is considered as a state of bliss and rest. We can see it as the state of extinction of the flame of desire.

72. (c) The six systems of Indian philosophy include, (1) Mimansa (2) Nyaya (3) Vaisheshika (4) Yoga (5) Samkhya and (6) Vedanta.

73. (a) Chaitra 1 of the national Calender which is based on the Saka era corresponds to 22 March (or 21 March) of the Gregorian calender in normal year.

74. (c) Among the given, only Magadha and Kosala were associated with the life of the Buddha. Avanti and Gandhara were not associated to Buddha's life.

75. (d) The national motto of India, Satyameva Jayate, which is inscribed below the Emblem of India, is taken from Mundaka Upnishad.

76. (d)

	Term		Description
1.	Eripatti	–	Land revenue from which was set apart for the maintenance of the village tank.
2.	Taniyurs	–	They were distinet revenue unit under cholas.
3.	Ghatikas	–	Colleges generally attached to the temples. Ghatikas were run in temples.

77. (b) Sautrantika and Sammitiya were the sects of Buddhism. Survastivadin held that the constituents of phenomena were not wholly momentary, but existed forever in a latent form.

78. (b) Tyagaraja wrote numerous Kritis in the praise and honor of lord Rama. Tyagaraja composed numerous new janya as well as melakarta ragas. Tyagaraja born on 4th May 1767 and died on 6th January, 1847.
Annamacharya was born in 1408 and died in 1503. He composed Kirtanas in praise of Lord Venkateshwara.

79. (b) Sthanakvasi is a Svetambara Jainism sect. It was founded by Lavaji a merchant in 1653.

80. (c) According to Buddhist traditation, Maitreya is a future Buddha, who will come to save the world. Maitreya is a bodhisattiva who will appear in the future on earth.

81. (c) Chanhudaro, Kot Diji and Desalpur are Harappan sites. While Sohgaura is known for copper plate inscription of Mauryan era.

82. (a) In Kanganahalli relief Sculpture inscriptions, Rayno Ashoka (King Ashoka) is mentioned along with the stone portrait of Ashoka.

83. (d) All three statements 1, 2 and 3 are the features of Mahayana Buddhism.

84. (a) During the Gupta period, forced labour (Vishti) was considered a source of income of the state, a sort of tax paid by the people. Junagarh inscription mentions Vishti as a form of tax.

85. (a) Tobacco, cocoa and rubber were native crops of America (new world) and these were introduce in the Asia (old world).

86. (a) 1. Hampi is located on the bank of Tungbhadra river.
2. Pandharpur is located on the bank of Chandrabhaga river.
3. Tiruchirappalli is situated on the bank of Cauvery river.

87. (c) Pushyamitra's Guru, Patanajali, one of the greatest geniuses in Indian history was a student of another very famous genius Panini, has written Mahabhashya, a commentary on Panini's grammar and a very celebrated work on Sanskrit literary.
Amarasimha was a Sanskrit grammarian and poet from ancient India, of whose personal history hardly anything is known. He is said to have been "one of the nine gems that adorned the throne of Vikramaditya,"

and according to the evidence of Xuanzang, this is the Chandragupta Vikramaditya who flourished about CE 375.

Chandragupta II (also known as Chandragupta Vikramaditya) was one of the most powerful emperors of the Gupta Empire in India. His rule spanned c. 380 – c. 415 CE during which the Gupta Empire reached its peak. Kalidasa was a Classical Sanskrit writer, widely regarded as the greatest poet and dramatist in the Sanskrit language of India. His plays and poetry are primarily based on the Vedas, the Mahabharata and the Puranas.

88. (c) The Gurjara Pratihara dynasty was founded by Nagabhatta I in the region of Malwa in the 8th century AD. The greatest ruler of the Pratihara dynasty was Mihir Bhoja (836–885 CE).

The Pallavas reached their zenith during the reign of Mahendravarman I (c. 600–630).

The Chola ruler Parantaka succeeded his father Aditya I(Aditya I or Aditya Chola, the son of Vijayalaya Chola, is the second ruler of the Medieval Cholas) on the throne in 907 and ruled for forty-eight years.

The Pala Empire was an imperial power during 8th and 9th century AD which originated in the Bengal region. The empire was founded by Gopala in 750 CE.

89. (a) The quote is taken from Ashoka's Dhamma.

The Edicts of Ashoka are a collection of more than thirty inscriptions on the pillars, as well as boulders and cave walls, attributed to Emperor Ashoka of the Mauryan Empire who reigned from 268 BCE to 232 BCE.

Ashoka, based on a belief that all religions shared a common, positive essence, encouraged tolerance and understanding of other religions.

The Beloved of the Gods, the king Piyadassi, wishes that all sect may dwell in all places, for all seek self-control and purity of mind. (Major Rock Edict No.7.

For whosoever praises his own sect or blames other sects,—all (this) out of pure devotion to his own sect, (i.e.) with the view of glorifying his own sect,—if he is acting thus, he rather injures his own sect very severely. But concord is meritorious, (i.e.) that they should both hear and obey each other's morals. For this is the desire of Devanampriya, (viz.) that all sects should be both full of learning and pure in doctrine. And those who are attached to their respective (sects), ought to be spoken to (as follows). Devanampriya does not value either gifts or honours so (highly) as (this), (viz.) that a promotion of the essentials of all sects should take place. (Major Rock Edict No.12.

90. (a) Vidisha formerly known as Bhelsa and known as Besnagar in ancient times is a city in the state of Madhya Pradesh.

Dwarasamudra, the capital city of the Hoysala empire (karnataka) was destroyed by Islamic invader Malik Kafur.

Girnar or Girinagar is famous for lions. It is located in Gujarat.

Thanesar (also called Thaneswar and, archaically, Sthanishvara) is a historic town and an important Hindu pilgrimage in the state of Haryana.

91. (a) Ghantasala, Kadura and Chaul were major ports of the Gupta Dynasty.

92. (c) 'Paramitas' is a Buddhist term often translated as "perfection". It is described in Buddhist commentaries as noble character qualities generally associated with enlightened beings.

93. (b) The first division in the Buddhist community occurred as a result of the second council, said to have been held 100 years after the Buddha's death, at Vaishali (Bihar state), when the Acariyavadins (followers of the traditional teaching) split away from the Sthaviravadins (followers of the Way of the Elders) and formed their own school, known as the Mahasanghikas.

The Mahasanghikas's views on the nature of the Buddha and the arhat ("saint") foreshadowed the development of the Mahayana form of Buddhism. Further subdivisions of the Mahasanghikas over the next seven centuries included the Lokottaravadins, the Ekavyavaharikas, and the Kaukkutikas.

94. (a) Nivartana was a land measure in Gupta period. Different land measures were known in different regions, such as Nivartana, Kulyavapa and Dronavapa. Kulyavapa - 'an area of land requiring one kulya measure of seed grains to be sown'; a land measure which was not the same in different ages.

95. (b) Explanation:

Name of the writer	Explanation
Bhavabhuti	He was a famous scholar, often considered an equal of Kalidasa, and existed in 8th century in India. He wrote several plays in Sanskrit language.
Hastimalla	He write several plays in Kannada language, some of the prominent ones are, Vikrant Kaurava Subhadra Harana Hoysala Empire

The writers mentioned in the question wrote plays, and thus, option (b) is correct.

96. (a) Dholavira, is an ancient site of the famous Indus Valley Civilization, situated in Kacch, Gujarat. It was discovered by archaeologist J.P Joshi and consisted of a reservoir with 32 steps, which represents a unique

water management system. Thus, option (a) is correct.

97. (b) The following kingdoms were holding power:
The Guptas of Magadha, The Pushyabhutis of Thanesar, The Maukharis of Kanauj and The Maitrakas of Valabhi. Thus, option (b) is correct.

98. (d) Pair 2 and 3 are correct, however, Pair 1 is incorrect. This is because; Burzahom is a historical site, which is located in Srinagar, Kashmir and is famous for the birch trees, which are found here. In ancient times, the bark of these trees was used to write, and acted as an alternative for paper. Moreover, during excavations, stone tools, bone tools and pottery items pertaining to Neolithic age were also found here. This site is in no way related to the rock-cut shrines and thus, option (d) is correct.

99. (b) Explanation:

Statements	Reason
1	Incorrect, as both Mitakshara and Dayabhaga are Hindu laws, which deal with both upper and lower castes.
2	This statement is absolutely **correct**.
3	Incorrect, as both Mitakshara and Dayabhaga deals with matters related to both males and females.

Thus, option (b) is correct.

100. (c) According to Kautilya's Arthashastra:
A person could be a slave as a result of a judicial punishment.
If a son born to a female slave was fathered by her master, the son was entitled to the legal status of the master's son.

101. (b) The Chandelas Dynasty:
The Chandelas of Bundelkhand trace their descent to a mythical ancestor named Chandratreya, born of the moon. The Chandelas initially ruled as feudatories of the Gurjara−Pratiharas of Kannauj, and were involved in conflicts with the Pratiharas, the Palas, and the Kalachuris of Chedi. The Chandelas are well-known for their art and architecture, most notably for the fully developed Nagara- style temples at their original capital Khajuraho. The Lakshmana Temple (c. 930–950 CE), the Vishvanatha Temple (c. 999-1002 CE), and the Kandariya Mahadeva Temple (c. 1030 CE) were constructed during the reigns of Chandela rulers Yashovarman, Dhanga, and Vidyadhara respectively. They also commissioned a number of water bodies, palaces and forts at other places, including their strongholds of Jayapura-Durga (modern Ajaigarh), Kalanjara (modern Kalinjar), and their later capital Mahotsava-Nagara (modern Mahoba). In the first quarter of the 9th century CE, the dynasty was founded by Nannuka, who was the ruler of a small kingdom and established his capital at Kharjjuravahaka (Khajuraho). Nannuka (c.831−845 CE) Was the founder king of Chandelas.
Vakpati (c. 845−865 CE) According to the Chandela inscriptions, Nannuka's successor Vakpati defeated several enemies.
Jayashakti and Vijayashakti (c. 865−885 CE) Vakpati's sons Jayashakti (Jeja) and Vijayashakti (Vija) consolidated the Chandela power. According to a Mahoba inscription, the Chandela territory was named "Jejakabhukti" after Jayashakti.
The Pratihara dynasty:
The Pratiharas were also known as the Gurjara− Pratiharas, as they originated from the Gurjaras who were primarily pastoralists and fighters. Importanat kings:
Nagabhatta II (c. 800–833 CE): Nagabhatta II was succeeded by his son Ramabhadra, who ruled briefly, and was succeeded by his son Mihira Bhoja.
Bhoja I / Mihir Bhoja (c.836−885 CE): Grandson of Nagabhatta II, who had a long reign of over 46 years and proved to be the most successful and popular ruler of Pratiharas.
Bhoja was king from the Pratihara Dynasty.

102. (b) The social classification of Varna was known to Sangam poets.
The Sangam age refers to that period in the early history of south India when large numbers of poems in Tamil were composed by a number of authors. . The term Sangam refers to an assembly or "meeting together" of Tamil poets. Traditionally, three Sangams or assemblies are believed to have been convened one after the other. All the three Sangams took place at different places under the patronage of the Pandya kings of Madurai.

❑❑❑

1. Consider the map given below: **(1995)**

The route indicated in the map was followed, during the course of his military expedition by:
   (a) Chandragupta II   (b) Harshavardhana
   (c) Rajendra Chola   (d) Malik Kafur

2. Who among the following were famous jurists of medieval India ? **(1995)**
   1. **Vijnaneswara**   2. **Hemadri**
   3. **Rajasekhara**   4. **Jimutavahana**
   (a) 1, 2, and 3   (b) 2, 3, and 4
   (c) 1, 2, and 4   (d) 1 and 4

3. The 'Modi script' was employed in the documents of the: **(1995)**
   (a) Wodeyars   (b) Zamorins
   (c) Hoysalas   (d) Marathas

4. Ashta pradhan was a Council of ministers. **(1995)**
   (a) in the Gupta administration
   (b) in the Chola administration
   (c) in the Vijayanagar administration
   (d) in the Maratha administration

5. The Nagara, the Dravida, the Vesara are: **(1995)**
   (a) the three main racial groups of the Indian subcontinent.
   (b) the three main linguistic divisions into which the languages of India can be classified.
   (c) the three main styles of Indian temple architecture.
   (d) the three main musical gharanas prevalent in India.

6. Which one of the following monuments has a dome which is said to be one of the largest in the world?
   (1995)
   (a) Tomb of Sher Shah, Sasaram
   (b) Jama Masjid, Delhi
   (c) Tomb of Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq, Delhi
   (d) Gol Gumbaz, Bijapur

7. The Mughal school of painting formed the spinal column of the various schools of Indian miniature art.

Which one of the following painting styles was not affected by Mughal painting? **(1995)**
   (a) Pahari   (b) Rajasthani
   (c) Kangra   (d) Kalighata

8. Bronze icons of Nataraja cast during the Chola period invariably show the deity with: **(1995)**
   (a) eight hands   (b) six hands
   (c) four hands   (d) two hands

9. In medieval India, Mansabdari system was introduced mainly for: **(1996)**
   (a) making recruitment to the army.
   (b) facilitating revenue collection.
   (c) ensuring religious harmony.
   (d) effecting clean administration.

10. Prem Vatika, poem on the life of Krishna, was composed by: **(1996)**
   (a) Bihari   (b) Surdas
   (c) Raskhan   (d) Kabir

11. The sufi saint who maintained that devotional music was one way of coming close to God was: **(1996)**
   (a) Moinuddin Chishti
   (b) Baba Farid
   (c) Saiyid Muhammad Gesu Daraz
   (d) Shah Alam Bukhari

12. Mughal painting reached its zenith under: **(1996)**
   (a) Humayun   (b) Akbar
   (c) Jahangir   (d) Shah Jahan

13. Nastaliq was: **(1996)**
   (a) a Persian script used in medieval India.
   (b) a raga composed by Tansen.
   (c) a cess levied by the Mughal rulers.
   (d) a manual of code of conduct for the Ulemas.

14. Consider the following statements: **(1997)**
   Assertion (A): The sponsor and the most prominent figure of the Chishti order of Sufis in India is Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti.
   Reason (R): The Chishti Order takes its name from a village Chishti in Ajmer.
   In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?
   (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
   (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.