

UPSC Civil Services Prelims Exam Pattern & Syllabus

Exam Pattern:

Paper	Subjects	Marks	No. of Question	Duration
I	General Studies (GS)	200	100	2 hours
II	CSAT	200	80	2 hours

General Studies (GS)

1. Current Affairs (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, Biodiversity and Climate Change: that do not require subject specialization.
7. General Science

Detailed Syllabus for GS:

Geography

General Geography

- Universe
- Earth Evolution

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Geomorphology

- Earth's Interior
- Geology and Rock System
- Geomorphic Process
- Earthquakes and Volcanism
- Distribution of Continents and Oceans
- Landforms and their evolution
- Landforms across the world

Oceanography

- Hydrosphere
- Submarine Relief Features
- Temperature and Salinity
- Waves, Oceans, Currents, Tides
- Marine Resources
- Ocean, Deposits and Corals

Climatology

- Atmosphere
- Inversion of Temperature
- Insolation and Heat Budget
- Air Mass, Fronts, Cyclones and Jet Streams
- Wind and Pressure Belts
- Precipitation
- Climate Zones of the World

Bio Geography

- Soil Characteristics
- Vegetation Resources
- Human and Economic Geography
- Demography and Census
- Human Development
- Economic Activities

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- Transport and Communication
- International Trade
- Settlement

Indian Geography

- Physiography of India
- Drainage System
- Climate
- Soils in India
- Natural Vegetation
- Population
- Settlements and Urbanization
- Land Resource
- Mineral Resource
- Energy Resource
- Agriculture and Basic Terminology
- Recent development in agriculture
- Productivity of Crops
- Industry
- Transport
- Recent developments in Industry and Transport

World Regional Geography

- Continents, Countries, and Cities
- Location in News

Ecology & Environment

- Origin of Life Forms
- Basic Concepts of Ecology
- Ecosystem Functions
- Population Ecology
- Adaptation of Species and Interactions
- Terrestrial Ecosystem

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- Aquatic Ecosystem
- Nutrient Cycling

Biodiversity

- Basics of Bio-Diversity
- Animal and Plant Diversity
- Threats to Biodiversity
- Biodiversity Conservation
- Estuaries
- Mangroves
- Coral Reliefs
- Wetlands
- Resource Degradation and Management
- Environmental Pollution
- Climate Change
- Environmental Governance

History

Ancient History

- Pre-Historic Times
- Indus Valley Civilization
- Rig Vedic Period
- Later Vedic Period
- Jainism
- Buddhism
- Mahajanpadas
- Mauryan Period
- Post-Mauryan Period
- Gupta Period
- Harshwardhana Period
- Sangam Period (South-Indian Dynasties)

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Medieval History

- Major Dynasties of Early Medieval India (Pratiharas, Pallavas, Chalukyas, Rashtrakutas)
- Cholas and South-Indian Kingdoms
- Early Muslim Invasions
- The Delhi Sultanate
- Afghans, Rajputs & Mughals
- Establishment of North-Indian Empire
- The Mughal Empire
- Marathas and the Other Indian States
- The decline of the Mughal Empire
- Vijaynagar Empire

Modern History

- Advent of Europeans
- British Expansion
- Administration before 1857
- Economic Policies of the British
- Impact of British Administration
- Revolt of 1857
- Administrative Changes after 1857
- Development of Civil Services
- Development of Education
- Development of Press
- Socio-Religious Reforms
- Peasant Movements
- Revolutionary Nationalism
- Indian National Movement-I (1905-1918)
- Indian National Movement-II (1918-1929)
- Indian National Movement-III (1930-1947)
- Governors-General and Viceroys of India
- Constitutional Development of Indian

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Art & Culture

- Architecture
- Sculpture
- Paintings
- Pottery Tradition
- Numismatics
- Performing Arts
- Religion and Literature
- National and Regional Festivals

Polity

- Evolution of the Constitution
- Salient Features of Indian Constitution
- Union & Its Territory
- Citizenship
- Fundamental Rights
- Directive Principles of State Policy
- Fundamental Duties
- System of Governance
- Union Executive
- Union Legislature
- State Executive
- State Legislature
- Local Government
- UT and Special Areas
- Judiciary
- Constitutional & Non-Constitutional Bodies
- Political Dynamics (Political Parties, Election, Pressure Groups)
- Governance
- International Relations

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Economy

Basic Concepts

- Macroeconomic Concepts
- Microeconomic Concepts

Economic Measurements

- National Income & Its Calculation
- Economic Growth and Development
- Inflation

Money & Banking

- Money Function & Classification
- Financial Markets & Its Instruments
- Banking Structure in India

Public Finance in India

- Budgeting
- Fiscal Policy
- Centre-state Distribution
- Tax Structure in India

Planning

- Meaning, Objective & History
- Planning Institutions
- Five Year Plans in India
- NITI Aayog

Open Economy

- Foreign Trade Concepts
- International Organizations
- Trade Agreements
- Recent Development

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Economic Sectors

- Poverty
- Employment and Unemployment
- Government Schemes and Programmes

General Science

- Science & Technology in India
- Space
- IT and Communication
- Materials, Nano Technology and Robotics
- Defence
- Nuclear Technology
- Intellectual Property Rights and Other Miscellaneous Issues
- Biotechnology

CSAT

- Comprehension
- Interpersonal skills including communication skills
- Logical reasoning and analytical ability
- Decision-making and problem-solving
- General mental ability
- Basic numeracy Data interpretation