

UPSC CSE 2020 Exam Pattern of Preliminary Examination

Paper	No. of Questions	Marks	Duration
Paper I (General Studies)	100	200 (Each Q carries 2 marks)	2 hours
Paper II (CSAT)	80	200 (Each Q carries 2.5 marks)	2 hours
<p>Note: There is one-third negative marking for each question if attempted wrong.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The General Studies Paper-II of the Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination will be a qualifying paper with minimum qualifying marks fixed at 33%. The question papers will be set both in Hindi and English. 			

UPSC CSE 2020 Preliminary Examination Syllabus

Paper I (General Studies)

200 marks

S. No.	Subjects
1.	History of India and Indian National Movement
2.	Indian and World Geography <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical Geography of India and the World Social Geography of Indian and the World Economic Geography of India and the World
3.	Indian Polity and Governance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Constitution of India Political System Panchayati Raj Public Policy Rights Issues, etc.
4.	Economic and Social Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable Development Poverty Inclusion Demographics Social Sector Initiatives, etc
5.	General Science
6.	General issues on Environmental ecology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity and Climate Change (that do not require subject specialization)
7.	Current events of national and international importance

Paper II (Civil Services Aptitude Test) marks

200

S. No.	Subjects
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)

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.

UPSC CSE 2020 Exam Pattern of Main Examination

The Main Examination is Descriptive in nature and consists of the following papers:

QUALIFYING PAPER			
Paper	Subject	Marks	Duration
Paper A	(One of the Indian Language to be selected by the candidate from the Languages included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution)	300	3 hours
Paper B	English	300	3 hours
PAPERS TO BE COUNTED FOR MERIT			
Paper I	Essay	250	3 hours
Paper II	General Studies I (Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society)	250	3 hours
Paper III	General Studies II (Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations)	250	3 hours
Paper IV	General Studies III (Technology, Economic Development, Bio-diversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management)	250	3 hours
Paper V	General Studies IV (Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude)	250	3 hours
Paper VI	Optional Subject – Paper I	250	3 hours
Paper VII	Optional Subject – Paper II	250	3 hours
Sub Total (Written test)		1750	
Personality Test		275	
Grand Total		2025	

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. 25% marks in 'Indian Language' and 25% in English is regarded as the minimum qualifying standards in these qualifying papers.

Note:

- 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
- 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.
- 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.

UPSC CSE 2020 Main Examination Syllabus

S. No.	Syllabus	
1.	Paper A	
	The pattern broadly covers questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehension of given passage • Precis Writing • Usage and Vocabulary • Short Essays 	
2.	Paper B	
	Indian Language Paper covers questions from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehension of given passages • Precis Writing • Usage and Vocabulary • Short Essays • Translation from English to the Indian Language and Vice-Versa <p>Note: 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.</p>	
3.	Paper I	
	Essay	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 	
4.	PAPER-II	
	General Studies-I: Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indian culture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Salient aspects of Art Forms, literature and Architecture from ancient to modern times
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modern Indian history 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - From about the middle of the eighteenth century until the present

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Significant events, personalities, issues
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Freedom Struggle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - various stages and important contributors/contributions from different parts of the country
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of the world 	<p>Including events from 18th Century such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - industrial revolution - world wars - re-drawal of national boundaries - colonization - decolonization <p>political philosophies like communism, capitalism, socialism etc. their forms and effect on the society</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indian Society 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India - Effects of globalization on Indian society - Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism - Role of women and women's organization, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues, urbanization, their problems and their remedies.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Geography 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Salient features of world's physical geography - Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including South Asia and the Indian sub-continent) - factors responsible for the location of primary, secondary, and tertiary sector industries in various parts of the world (including India) - Important Geophysical phenomena such as earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity, cyclone etc., geographical features and their location-changes in critical geographical features (including

		waterbodies and icecaps) and in flora and fauna and the effects of such changes.
5.	PAPER-III	
	General Studies- II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indian Constitution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure - Comparison of the Indian constitutional scheme with that of other countries
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Functions and responsibilities of the Union and the States 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure - devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein - Separation of powers between various organs dispute redressal mechanisms and institutions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parliament and State legislatures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - structure, functioning, conduct of business, powers & privileges and issues arising out of these - Salient features of the Representation of People's Act
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structure, organization and functioning of the Executive and the Judiciary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministries and Departments of the Government; pressure groups and formal/informal associations and their role in the Polity - Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional Bodies - Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies - Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development processes and the development industry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the role of NGOs, SHGs, various groups and associations, donors, charities, institutional and other stakeholders

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources. - Issues relating to poverty and hunger. - 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
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role of civil services in a democracy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential; citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India and its neighborhood- relations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Important International institutions, agencies and fora- their structure, mandate. - Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests, Indian diaspora - Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests
6.	Paper IV General Studies-III: Technology, Economic Development, Biodiversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indian Economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - issues relating to planning, mobilization, of resources, growth, development and employment - Inclusive growth and issues arising from it - Government Budgeting
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major crops-cropping patterns in various parts of the country 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 - 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.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land reforms in India 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food processing and related industries in India 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - scope' and significance, location, upstream and downstream requirements - supply chain management
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects of liberalization on the economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - changes in industrial policy and their effects on industrial growth
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc. - Investment models
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science and Technology-developments and their applications and effects in everyday life 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Achievements of Indians in science & technology - indigenization of technology and developing new technology - Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nano-technology, bio-technology and issues relating to intellectual property rights
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment and Ecology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disaster and disaster management 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal Security 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Linkages between development and spread of extremism - Role of external state and non-state actors in creating challenges to internal security - Challenges to internal security through communication networks, role of media and social networking sites in internal security challenges, basics of cyber security; money-laundering and its prevention - Security challenges and their management in border areas - linkages of organized crime with terrorism - Various Security forces and agencies and their mandate
7.	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.	
	Ethics and Human Interface	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Essence, determinants and consequences of Ethics in-human actions; dimensions of ethics; ethics - in private and public relationships
	Human Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators; role of Government strives to have a workforce which reflects gender balance and women candidates are encouraged to apply. family society and educational institutions in inculcating values
	Attitude	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - content, structure, function; its influence and relation with thought and behaviour; moral and political attitudes; social influence and persuasion
	Aptitude and foundational values for Civil Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - integrity, impartiality and non-partisanship, objectivity, dedication to public service, empathy, tolerance and compassion towards the weaker sections

	Emotional intelligence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - concepts, and their utilities and application in administration and governance - Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and world
	Public/Civil service values and Ethics in Public administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Status and problems; ethical concerns and dilemmas in government and private institutions - laws, rules, regulations and conscience as sources of ethical guidance - accountability and ethical governance - strengthening of ethical and moral values in governance - ethical issues in international relations and funding - corporate governance
	Probity in Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 <p>Note: Case Studies on above issues.</p>
8 & 9.	Optional Subject Papers I & II	
	Candidate may choose any optional subject from amongst the List of Optional Subjects	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ AGRICULTURE ✓ ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND VETERINARY SCIENCE ✓ BOTANY ✓ CHEMISTRY ✓ CIVIL ENGINEERING ✓ COMMERCE AND ACCOUNTANCY ✓ ECONOMICS ✓ ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING ✓ GEOGRAPHY ✓ GEOLOGY ✓ HISTORY ✓ LAW ✓ ASSAMESE ✓ BENGALI 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ DOGRI✓ ENGLISH✓ GUJARATI✓ HINDI✓ KANNADA✓ KASHMIRI✓ KONKANI✓ MAITHILI✓ MALAYALAM✓ MANIPURI✓ MARATHI✓ NEPALI✓ ODIA✓ PUNJABI✓ SANSKRIT✓ SANTHALI✓ SINDHI✓ TAMIL✓ TELUGU✓ URDU✓ MATHEMATICS✓ MECHANICAL ENGINEERING✓ MEDICAL SCIENCE✓ PHILOSOPHY✓ PHYSICS✓ POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS✓ PSYCHOLOGY✓ PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION✓ SOCIOLOGY✓ STATISTICS✓ ZOOLOGY
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For the detailed syllabus of the Optional Papers, please visit the official notification.