

General Essay

UPSC has not prescribed any syllabus for General Essay, except a below directive:

“Candidates are expected to keep closely to the subject of the essay to arrange their ideas in an orderly fashion, and to write concisely. Credit will be given for effective and exact expression.”

However, going by the previous year General Essay Questions, the topics for the General Essay are sourced from Syllabus prescribed for four General Studies papers.

Generally, there are two sections and candidates are expected to write one essay from each section.

Topics to be covered include:

- Socio-economic
- Socio-political
- Environmental
- Technological
- Quotes of Famous Personalities
- Reflective Topics

Tips for writing a Good Essay:

- Structure- Introduction, Main Body/Argument and Conclusion
- Simple Language
- Cover all dimensions – social, economic, political, economic, legal and ethical etc.
- Logical Flow between paragraphs
- Connectives/Linking words- But, When, Because, Unlike, Nevertheless, On the other hand, Nonetheless, Despite / in spite of, However, In contrast (to), Alternatively, Therefore, Conversely and Then.

