

Syllabus and Contents of UPSC/ IAS Exams

IAS Examination -Indian Administrative Services Examination is one of the civil services among others and is considered toughest and prestigious examinations conducted in India. Hence to face this challenge that gives a chance to get most eminent designation offered by Indian Government a comprehensive look throughout the syllabus is essential, especially for those candidates who are going to appear for UPSC exams or IAS for the first time.

UPSC Civil Services Exam is conducted in three phases:

- **Phase 1:** Preliminary Examination or CSAT (*Objective Section*)
- **Phase 2:** Main Examination (*Subjective Section*)
- **Phase 3:** Interview (*Vocal Section*)

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION

Phase 1: Preliminary Examination (*Objective Section*)-

IAS prelims exam consists of two papers of objective type, each of 200 marks (total of 400 marks) and two hours of duration and candidates must take both the papers.

The preliminary examination is meant for screening the candidate and the marks obtained by a candidate in the prelims who qualifies to the mains exam will not be taken in account to determine their final merit.

Paper	Subjects	Total Marks	Duration
I	General Studies	200 marks	120 Minutes
II	Aptitude Skills	200 marks	120 Minutes



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SYLLABUS- PAPER- I

GS Syllabus:

- Current events of national and international importance.
- History of India and Indian National Movement.
- Indian and World Geography – Physical, Social, Economic Geography of India and the World.
- Indian Polity and Governance – Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues, etc.
- Economic and Social Development – Sustainable Development, Poverty, Inclusion, Demographics, Social Sector initiatives, etc.
- General issues on Environmental Ecology, Bio-diversity and Climate Change – that do not require subject specialisation General Science

SYLLABUS- PAPER- II

CSAT Syllabus:

CSAT or Civil Services Aptitude Test is the first phase of preliminary examination of UPSC. This test is intended to assess the aptitude of examinees in solving the ‘Reasoning and Analytical’ questions.

- Comprehension
- Interpersonal skills including communication skills;
- Logical reasoning and analytical ability
- Decision-making and problem solving
- General mental ability
- Basic numeracy (numbers and their relations, orders of magnitude, etc.) (Class X level), Data interpretation (charts, graphs, tables, data sufficiency etc. – Class X level)



SYLLABUS-MAINS

Phase 2: Mains Examination (Subjective Section)–

The phase 2 tests candidate's academic talent in depth and his/her ability to present understanding in a reasonable way. The IAS mains examination is designed to analyse the comprehensive intellectual quality and the understanding of candidates rather than just determining their information and memory.

Total Marks- 1750

- **Paper – I- Essay**
Can be written in the medium or language of the candidate's choice
Marks- 250
- **Paper-II- General Studies- I**
Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society
Marks- 250
- **Paper-III - General Studies- II**
Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations
Marks- 250
- **Paper-IV- General Studies- III**
Technology, Economic Development, Bio-diversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management
Marks- 250
- **Paper-V- General Studies- IV**
Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude
Marks- 250
- **Paper-VI- Optional Subject – Paper 1 - Marks- 250***
- **Paper-VII- Optional Subject – Paper 2 - Marks- 250***
- **Paper-VIII- Any Indian Language (Qualifying Paper- Marks- 300)**
- **Paper-IX- English (Qualifying Paper- Marks- 300)**
(Qualifying Papers just need to qualify which is compulsory and marks obtained will not be considered or counted.)



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****Candidates may choose any one of the 'Optional Subjects' from the list of subjects given below:***

- Agriculture
- Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Scien
- Anthropology
- Botany
- Chemistry
- Civil Engineering
- Commerce and Accountancy
- Economics
- Electrical Engineering
- Geography
- Geology
- History
- Law
- Management
- Mathematics
- Mechanical Engineering
- Medical Science
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Political Science and International Relations
- Psychology
- Public Administration
- Sociology
- Statistics
- Zoology

Candidates may choose any one of the 'Indian Language' from the list of Languages given below:

- Assamese
- Arabic
- Bengali
- Bodo
- Dogri
- French
- German
- Gujarati
- Hindi
- Kannada
- Kashmiri
- Konkani
- Maithili
- Malayalam
- Manipuri
- Marathi
- Nepali
- Oriya
- Persian
- Punjabi
- Russian
- Sanskrit
- Santhali
- Sindhi

Candidates who obtain minimum qualifying marks in the written part of the UPSC Main Examination as may be fixed by the Commission at their discretion enters the next and final phase that is the 'personality test' or 'Interview' round.



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INTERVIEW

Total Marks-275

Phase 3: Interview (Vocal Section)-

Candidates who qualify the UPSC Mains Exam will move to the next and final phase called 'Personality Test/Interview' who will be interviewed by a Board of competent and unbiased intended to assess social traits and his interest in current affairs and analyze the personal aptness of the candidate for a career in public service. Some of the qualities evaluated during the personality test are mental alertness, clear and logical exposition, critical powers of assimilation, variety and depth of interest, balance of judgement, intellectual and moral integrity ability for social cohesion and leadership.

The interview is more of purposive conversation intended to divulge the mental qualities of the candidate

Grand Total (Including Mains and Interview) -2025 Marks



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