

UPSC IAS Mains Pattern/Syllabus

B. MAIN EXAMINATION :

The written examination will consist of the following papers :—

Qualifying Papers :

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 Marks**

Paper-B

English **300 Marks**

Paper-VI

Optional Subject - Paper 1 **250 Marks**

Paper-VII

Optional Subject - Paper 2 **250 Marks**

Sub Total (Written test) **1750 Marks**

Personality Test **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 :—

Paper-VI

Optional Subject - Paper 1 **250 Marks**

Paper-VII

Optional Subject - Paper 2 **250 Marks**

Sub Total (Written test) **1750 Marks**

Personality Test **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 :—

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 :—

The aim of the paper is to test the candidates's 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) Precis Writing.
- (iii) Usage and Vacabulary.
- (iv) Short Essays.

Indian Languages :—

- (i) comprehension of given passages.
- (ii) Precis Writing.
- (iii) Usage and Vacabulary.
- (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.