

UPSC Civil Services (IAS, IPS, IFS etc) Examination

Scheme of Examination for Preliminary and Main Examinations

A. Preliminary Examination

The examination will consist of two papers.

Paper I General Studies	150 marks
Paper II One subject to be selected from the list of optional subjects set out in Para 2 below	300 marks
Total :	450 marks

2. List of optional subjects for Preliminary Examination.

Agriculture	Mathematics
Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Science	Mechanical Engineering
Botany	Medical Science
Chemistry	Philosophy
Civil Engineering	Physics
Commerce	Political Science
Economics	Psychology
Electrical Engineering	Public Administration
Geography	Sociology
Geology	Statistics
Indian History	Zoology
Law	

Note (i) Both the question papers will be of the **objective type** (multiple choice questions).

(ii) The question papers will be set both in **Hindi and English**.

(iii) The course content of the syllabi for the optional subjects will be of the degree level. Details of the syllabi are indicated in Part A of Section III.

(iv) Each paper will be of two hours duration. Blind candidates will, however, be allowed an extra time of twenty minutes at each paper.

B. Main Examination

The written examination will consist of the following papers:

Paper I	One of the Indian languages to be selected by the candidate from the Languages included in the Eighth Scheduled to the Constitution.	300 marks
Paper II	English	300 marks
Paper III	Essay	200 marks
Papers IV and V	General Studies	300 marks for each paper
Papers VI, VII, VIII and IX	Any two subjects to be selected from the list of the optional subjects set out in <u>para 2</u> below. Each subject will have two papers.	300 marks for each paper

Interview Test will carry 300 marks.

Note (i) The papers on Indian Languages and English 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.

(ii) Evaluation of the papers, namely, 'Essay, General Studies' and 'Optional subjects' of all the candidates would be done simultaneously along with evaluation of their qualifying papers on 'Indian Languages' and 'English' but the papers on 'Essay', 'General Studies' and 'Optional Subjects' of only such candidates will be taken cognizance of as attain such minimum standard as may be fixed by the Commission at their discretion for the qualifying papers on 'Indian Language' and 'English' and, therefore, the marks in 'Essay', 'General Studies' and 'Optional Subjects' will not be disclosed to those candidates who fail to obtain such minimum qualifying standard in 'Indian Language' and 'English'

(iii) The paper-I on Indian Languages will not, however, be compulsory for candidates hailing from the North-Eastern States of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland and also for candidates hailing from the State of Sikkim.

(iv) For the Language papers, the script to be used by the candidates will be as under:–

Language	Script
Assamese	Assamese
Bengali	Bengali
Bodo	Devanagari
Dogri	Devanagari
Gujarati	Gujarati

Hindi	Devanagari
Kannada	Kannada
Kashmiri	Persian
Konkani	Devanagari
Maithili	Devanagari
Malayam	Malayalam
Manipuri	Bengali
Marathi	Devanagari
Nepali	Devanagari
Oriya	Oriya
Punjabi	Gurmukhi
Sanskrit	Devanagari
Santhali	Devanagari or Olchiki
Sindhi	Devanagari or Arabic
Tamil	Tamil
Telugu	Telugu
Urdu	Persian

Note:- For Santhali language, question paper will be printed in Devanagari script; but candidates will be free to answer either in Devanagari script or in Olchiki.

2. List of optional subjects for Main Examination

Agriculture
Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Science
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

Literature of **one** of the following languages :

Arabic, Assamese, Bodo, Bengali, Dogri, Chinese, English, French, German, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Maithili, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Oriya, Pali, Persian, Punjabi, Russian, Sanskrit, Santali, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu.

Note (i) Candidates will not be allowed to offer the following combinations of subjects:—

- (a) Political Science & International Relations **and** Public Administration;
 - (b) Commerce & Accountancy **and** Management;
 - (c) Anthropology **and** Sociology;
 - (d) Mathematics **and** Statistics;
 - (e) Agriculture **and** Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Science.
 - (f) Management **and** Public Administration;
 - (g) Of the Engineering subjects, viz., Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering and Mechanical Engineering—not more than one subject.
 - (h) Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Science **and** Medical Science.
- (ii) The question papers for the examination will be of **conventional (essay) type**.
- (iii) Each paper will be of **three hours** duration. Blind candidates will, however be allowed an extra time of thirty minutes at each paper.
- (iv) Candidates will have the option to answer all the question papers, except the language papers viz. Papers I and II above in any one of the **languages** included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution or in English.

(v) Candidates exercising the option to answer papers III to IX in any one of the languages included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution may, if they so desire, give English version within brackets of only the description of the technical terms, if any, in addition to the version in the language opted by them.

Candidates should, however, note that if they misuse the above rule, a deduction will be made on this account from the total marks otherwise accruing to them and in extreme cases, their script(s) will not be valued for being in an unauthorised medium.

(vi) The question papers other than language papers will be set both in Hindi and English.

(vii) The details of the syllabi are set out in Part B of Section III

General Instructions (Preliminary as well as Main Examination):

(i) Candidates must write the papers in their own hand. In no circumstances, will they be allowed the help of a scribe to write the answers for them. However, blind candidates will be allowed to write the examination with the help of a scribe.

(ii) An extra time of twenty minutes per hour shall be permitted for the candidates with locomotors disability and cerebral palsy where dominant (writing) extremity is affected to the extent of slowing the performance of function (minimum of 40% impairment) **in the Civil Services (Main) Examination only**. However, no scribe shall be permitted to such candidates.

Note (1) : The eligibility conditions of a scribe, his/her conduct inside the examination hall and the manner in which and extent to which he/she can help the blind candidate in writing the Civil Services Examination shall be governed by the instructions issued by the UPSC in this regard. Violation of all or any of the said instructions shall entail the cancellation of the candidature of the blind candidate in addition to any other action that the UPSC may take against the scribe.

Note (2) : For purpose of these rules the candidate shall be deemed to be a blind candidate if the percentage of visual impairment is 40% or more. The criteria for determining the percentage of visual impairment shall be as follows :

	All with corrections		Percentage
	Better eye	Worse eye	
Category 0	6/9-6/18	6/24 to 6/36	20%
Category I	6/18-6/36	6/60 to nil	40%
Category II	6/60-4/60 or field of vision 10-20°	3/60 to nil	75%

Category III	3/60-1/60 or field of vision 10^o	F.C. at 1 ft to nil	100%
Category IV	FC. at 1 ft to nil field of vision 100^o	F.C. at 1 ft to nil field of vision 100^o	100%
One eyed person	6/6	F.C. at 1 ft to nil	30%

Note (3) :For availing of the concession admissible to a blind candidate, the candidate concerned shall produce a certificate in the prescribed proforma from a Medical Board constituted by the Central/State Governments alongwith his application for the Main Examination.

Note (4) : The concession admissible to blind candidates shall not be admissible to those suffering from Myopia.

(ii) The Commission have discretion to fix qualifying marks in any or all the subjects of the examination.

(iii) If a candidate's handwriting is not easily legible, a deduction will be made on this account from the total marks otherwise accruing to him.

(iv) Marks will not be allotted for mere superficial knowledge.

(v) Credit will be given for orderly, effective and exact expression combined with due economy of words in all subjects of the examination.

(vi) In the question papers, wherever required, SI units will be used.

(vii) Candidates should use only international form of Indian numerals (i.e. 1,2,3,4,5,6 etc.) while answering question papers.

(viii) Candidates will be allowed the use of Scientific (Non-Programmable type) calculators at the conventional (Essay) type examination of UPSC. Programmable type calculators will however not be allowed and the use of such calculators shall tantamount to resorting to unfair means by the candidates. Loaning or interchanging of calculators in the Examination Hall is not permitted.

It is also important to note that candidates are not permitted to use calculators for answering objective type papers (Test Booklets). They should not therefore bring the same inside the Examination Hall.

C. Interview test

The candidate will be interviewed by a Board who will have before them a record of his career. He will be asked questions on matters of general interest. The object of the interview is to assess the personal suitability of the candidate for a career in public service by a Board of competent and unbiased observers. The test is intended to judge the mental calibre of a candidate. In broad terms this is really an assessment of not only his intellectual qualities but also social traits and his interest in current affairs. Some of the qualities to be judged are mental alertness, critical powers of assimilation, clear and logical exposition, balance of judgement, variety and depth of interest, ability for social cohesion and leadership, intellectual and moral integrity.

2. The technique of the interview is not that of a strict cross-examination but of a natural, though directed and purposive conversation which is intended to reveal the mental qualities of the candidate.

3. The interview test is not intended to be a test either of the specialised or general knowledge of the candidates which has been already tested through their written papers. Candidates are expected to have taken an intelligent interest not only in their special subjects of academic study but also in the events which are happening around them both within and outside their own state or country as well as in modern currents of thought and in new discoveries which should rouse the curiosity of well educated youth.
