

PLAN OF CIVIL SERVICES EXAMINATION

The Civil Services Examination consists of two successive stages: (I) Civil Services Preliminary Examination; and (ii) Civil Services Main Exam(Written & Interview) for selection of candidates for the various services and posts given below:

1. Indian Administrative Service
2. Indian Foreign Service
3. Indian Police Service
4. India P&T Accounts & Finance Service, Group A
5. Indian Audit and Accounts Service, Group A
6. Indian Customs and Central Excise Service, Group A
7. Indian Defence Accounts Service, Group A
8. Indian Revenue Service, Group A
9. Indian Ordnance Factories Service, Group A
10. Indian Postal Service, Group A
11. Indian Civil Accounts Service, Group A
12. Indian Railway Traffic Service, Group A
13. Indian Railway Accounts Service, Group A
14. Indian Railway Personnel Service, Group A
15. Posts of Assistant Security Officer, Group A in Railway Protection Force
16. Indian Defence Estates Service, Group A
17. Indian Information Service(Junior Grade), Group A
18. Posts of Assistant Commandant, Group A in Central Industrial Security Force
19. Posts of Deputy Superintendent of Police Group A in the Central Bureau of Investigation
20. Central Secretariat Service, Group B(Section Officers' Grade)
21. Railway Board Secretariat Service(Section Officers' Grade)

22.Armed Forces Headquarters Civil Service, Group B

23.Customs Appraisers' Service, Group B

24.Pondicherry Civil Service, Group B

Scheme of CS (Preliminary) Examination

The Preliminary Examination consists of two papers of objective type (multiple-choice questions) carrying a maximum of 450 marks. The Question Papers (Test Booklets) are set in English & Hindi. Each paper is of two hours duration. The course content of the syllabi for the optional subjects is at the degree level. Blind candidates are allowed an extra time of 20 minutes for each paper.

Paper – I	General Studies	150 Marks
Paper – II	One of the optional subjects to be selected from the prescribed optional subjects	300 Marks

Negative marking

There will be negative marking for each wrong answer. A candidate will lose 1/3rd of the marks (0.33) assigned to a question in case it is wrong. Same rule will apply if they give more than one answer. However, if the question is left unanswered, there will be no penalty.

List of Optional Subjects CS (Preliminary) - Total 23

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

Normally, there are about 3 lakh applications for the preliminary examination. From this, the UPSC selects 10 to 12 folds of vacancies for the main examinations. This is only for the selection and not to be taken into consideration in the main ranking.

Scheme - CS (Main)

Only those who are declared by the Commission to have qualified in the Preliminary Examination in a year, are eligible for the Main examination of that year, provided they are otherwise eligible for the Main Examination. The Main Examination is intended to assess the overall intellectual traits and the depth of understanding of the candidates, rather than merely the range of their information and memory. Sufficient choice of questions is allowed in the question papers.

Paper-I*	One of the Indian Languages to be selected by the candidate from the 18 languages included in the VIIIth Schedule to the Constitution (Qualifying Paper)	300 Marks
Paper-II*	English (Qualifying Paper)	300 Marks
Paper-III	Essay	200 Marks
Papers IV & V	General Studies (300 Marks for each paper)	600 Marks
Papers VI, VII, VIII & IX	Any two subjects (each having 2 papers) to be selected from the prescribed optional subjects (300 marks for each paper)	1200 Marks
Total Marks for Written Examination		2000 Marks
Interview Test		300 Marks
Grand Total		2300 Marks

*There are two language papers one in Indian language and one in General English at the level of 10th standard. This is to test the ability of the candidate's proficiency in his mother tongue / Indian language and English. These two papers carry 300 marks each but it will not be considered for the ranking. It is must to clear these two papers. If a candidate fails to clear these papers, his other papers will not be evaluated.

List of Optional Subjects - CS (Main) - (Total 25)

See Note below List of Optional Subjects (Literature)

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

List of Optional Subjects (Literature) - CS (Main) - (Total 26)

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

Note : Total Optional Subjects : 51

Note (i) : Candidates have the option to answer all the question papers, except the language papers, viz, Paper-I and Paper-II, in any one of the languages included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution or in English

Note (ii) : Candidates who have opted for an Indian Language as language medium for the

Main Examination have an option of being interviewed either in English or in the same language which they have opted for the Main Examination

The combinations not allowed are as follows:

Political Science & International Relations and Public Administration

Commerce and Management

Anthropology and Sociology

Maths and Statistics

Agriculture and Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Science

Management and Public Administration

Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Science and Medical Science

Any two branches of Engineering.

Combination of two literatures in the above list

Interview

At interview stage, two-fold vacancies are called to appear before the UPSC Board. Interview carries 300 marks. Interview calls are sent on the basis of minimum marks fixed by the UPSC at its discretion. The overall ranking is done based on the Mains performance (i.e., 2000 marks) and interview. Therefore, the total marks involved in the ranking are 2300. Candidates are allotted various services keeping in view their ranks in the examination and preferences given by them in their main application form.

Note: If a person fails in either in mains or interview, he has to appear once again from the preliminary stage.

Tentative Timeline of UPSC Civil Services Examination

