

General Studies

Paper I

Civil Services (Main) Examination, 2026

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

- There are TWENTY questions printed both in HINDI and in ENGLISH.
- All questions are compulsory.
- The number of marks carried by a question or part is indicated against it.
- Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of the Question-cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in a medium other than the authorized one.
- Answers to Question Nos. 1 to 10 should be in 150 words, whereas answers to Question Nos. 11 to 20 should be in 250 words.
- Keep the word limit indicated in the questions in mind.
- Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

1. Analyze the importance of Ashokan inscriptions for reconstructing Mauryan history.

Answer in 150 words | 10 marks

2. Discuss the impact of Macaulay's Minute on colonial administration and education in India.

Answer in 150 words | 10 marks

3. The significance of the Gandhian movements lay in the masses they mobilized. Elucidate.

Answer in 150 words | 10 marks

4. What is the Fujiwhara effect? Explain its impact on the movement and intensity of tropical cyclones.

Answer in 150 words | 10 marks

5. "Tundra regions are ecologically fragile but economically important." Examine this statement critically.

Answer in 150 words | 10 marks

6. Discuss the role of aeolian processes in desertification and land degradation.

Answer in 150 words | 10 marks

7. "Water resources are both an asset and a source of conflict in South Asia." Examine this statement giving examples.

Answer in 150 words | 10 marks

8. Unity in diversity remains the defining feature of Indian society despite the challenges from communalism and regionalism. Comment.
- Answer in 150 words | 10 marks
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9. How do you understand disability? Substantiate the need for inclusive policy framework in India in this regard.
- Answer in 150 words | 10 marks
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10. Do you think digital technology promotes social empowerment? Explain with examples.
- Answer in 150 words | 10 marks
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11. Vijayanagara architecture exemplifies the amalgamation of past traditions with contemporary practices. Elucidate with examples.
- Answer in 250 words | 15 marks
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12. Linguistic reorganization of Indian States was driven by popular pressure from below. Comment.
- Answer in 250 words | 15 marks
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13. The model of planned economy was adopted in India to address the regional imbalances left behind by colonial rule. Comment.
- Answer in 250 words | 15 marks
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14. Compare the Loo, Chinook and Foehn winds with respect to their regions of prevalence, their nature and climatic impacts.
- Answer in 250 words | 15 marks
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15. Analyze the role of satellite-based technologies in achieving climate-smart agriculture and food security in India.
- Answer in 250 words | 15 marks
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16. "The centre of global trade is gradually shifting from the Atlantic region to the Indo-Pacific region." Examine this statement.
- Answer in 250 words | 15 marks
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17. Analyze the major drivers of human-induced land-use changes in India and their geographical consequences.
- Answer in 250 words | 15 marks
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18. Is caste disappearing in urban India? Illustrate your answer with examples.
- Answer in 250 words | 15 marks
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19. Critically examine the challenges of demographic transition in contemporary India.
- Answer in 250 words | 15 marks
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20. Evaluate the impact of globalization on Indian youths with reference to social, political, economic and cultural spheres.
- Answer in 250 words | 15 marks
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