

UPSC EXAM PATTERN

1) PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION

The Examination shall comprise of two compulsory Papers of 200 marks each.

Paper Name	Time Duration	Total Marks	No. of Questions	Nature of Paper	Subjects/Topics	Qualifying Criteria
Paper I – General Studies (GS Paper I)	2 hours	200	100	Merit Ranking	Current Affairs, History, Geography, Polity, Economy, Environment, Science & Tech	Marks counted for Prelims merit
Paper II – CSAT (Aptitude Test)	2 hours	200	80	Qualifying in Nature	Comprehension, Logical Reasoning, Basic Numeracy, Decision Making and etc.	Minimum 33% (i.e. 66 marks) required to qualify

Additional Details:

- **Mode of Exam:** Offline (Pen-Paper Based)
- **Negative Marking:** Yes
- **GS Paper I:** 1/3rd (0.66) marks deducted for each wrong answer
- **CSAT:** 1/3rd (0.83) marks deducted for each wrong answer
- **Language:** English and Hindi

2) MAINS EXAMINATION - (1750 Marks):

The Written Examination will consist of the following papers:

Paper Name	Time Duration	Total Marks	Nature of Paper	Subjects
Paper A – Compulsory Indian Language Paper	3 hours	300	Qualifying in nature	One Indian Language (as per 8th Schedule)
Paper B – English Language Paper	3 hours	300	Qualifying in nature	English (10 th standard)
Paper I – Essay	3 hours	250	Merit Basis	Essay Writing on General Topics
Paper II – General Studies I	3 hours	250	Merit Basis	General Studies-I: Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society.

Paper III –General Studies II	3 hours	250	Merit Basis	General Studies- II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations
Paper IV – General Studies III	3 hours	250	Merit Basis	General Studies- III: Technology, Economic Development, Bio diversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management
Paper V – General Studies IV	3 hours	250	Merit Basis	General Studies- IV: Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude
Paper VI – Optional Paper I	3 hours	250	Merit Basis	Optional Subject – Paper I (chosen by candidate)
Paper VII Optional Paper II	3 hours	250	Merit Basis	Optional Subject – Paper II (same subject as Paper VI)
Total (Written Exam)	–	1750		
Interview/Personality Test	–	275	Considered for Final Merit	General personality assessment, career suitability and mental alertness
Grand Total	–	2025		