

TARGET UPSC (CSE) 2023

GS Mains Answer Writing Program

UA Mains Test Series Commencement: September 11, 2022



UA Mains Test Series End Date (Sectional Tests): March 19, 2023



8 Full Length Tests Post Prelims (After May 28, 2023)



UPSC CSE Mains Examination: September 15, 2023

UA Total Mains Tests: 34 Tests (3 Essay + 23 GS Sectional Tests + 8 Full Length Tests)

- **Essay: 3 Tests**
- **General Studies -I : 6 Sectional Tests + 2 Full Length Test**
- **General Studies-II : 6 Sectional Tests + 2 Full Length Test**
- **General Studies-III : 6 Sectional Tests + 2 Full Length Test**
- **General Studies-IV : 5 Sectional Tests + 2 Full Length Test**

- ✓ Questions based on recent trend of UPSC
- ✓ Comprehensive Model Answers
- ✓ Detailed explanations session
- ✓ Timely and detailed evaluation within 7 working days of writing the test

UPSC Mains Examination Details

Mains Examination

Paper I ESSAY

- Duration: 3hrs
- Max. Marks: 250

Paper II GENERAL STUDIES-I

- Duration: 3hrs
- Max. Marks: 250
- Indian Heritage & Culture, History & Geography of the World and Society

Paper III GENERAL STUDIES-II

- Duration: 3hrs
- Max. Marks: 250
- Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice & International Relations

Paper IV GENERAL STUDIES-III

- Duration: 3hrs
- Max. Marks: 250
- Technology, Economic Development, Biodiversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management

Paper V GENERAL STUDIES-IV

- Duration: 3hrs
- Max. Marks: 250
- Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude

Paper VI OPTIONAL SUBJECT – PAPER 1

- Duration: 3hrs
- Max. Marks: 250

Paper VII OPTIONAL SUBJECT – PAPER 2

- Duration: 3hrs
- Max. Marks: 250

Qualifying Papers

Paper A INDIAN LANGUAGE

- Qualifying (25% marks required)
- Duration: 3hrs
- Max. Marks: 300
- *Indian Language Compulsory Paper will not be compulsory for candidates hailing from the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Sikkim.

Paper B ENGLISH

- Qualifying (25% marks required)
- Duration: 3hrs
- Max. Marks: 300



Directives for Mains Answer Writing

Define:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Such questions demand you to give the meaning of any concept, term and terminology. It is always better to explain any concept, term and terminology by giving reference to some authoritative sources. It is desirable to mention the problem associated with the definition if there is more than one interpretation of the concept.
Discuss:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It requires bringing out the argumentative aspect of any issue i.e. writing for and against or advantage and disadvantage of the given issue. You should carefully mention the major points in the hierarchy based on their importance. Try to substantiate each argument with facts or other authentic sources.
Describe:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basically “describe” is often associated with questions that need to explain the process or occurrence of any event. Such questions require a detailed explanation of the process or unfoldment of events.
Elaborate:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is similar to the directive “describe” with the difference that it needs a more detailed explanation.
Explain:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> While explaining any issue you should first give a comprehensive and crisp account of the factual aspect like the sequence of unfoldment of any events, defining the key terms, and any recent developments. Then you should write the argumentative aspect i.e. for and against the particular issue in a neutral tone. Try to substantiate your arguments with facts, reports or recent research.
Give an account for:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This directive is similar to “explain” except for more detailed and multidimensional information is to be written about what is asked in the question.
Illustrate:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Illustrate” is similar to the directive “explain” except for the fact that in such types of answers examples, facts and statistics are required to support your point.
Elucidate:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This directive requires explaining something in order to simplify. To make the answer “lucid” you need to write the answer in a structured way like writing context, background, if there is debate around the issue then both advantages and disadvantages and one or two line conclusion.
Demonstrate:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Similar to the directive “explain” except here you need to provide evidence that proves the proposition given in the question.
Analyse:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In such type of answer you should examine each part or the structure of the question in detail, various aspects, pros and cons and substantiate your answer with evidence, facts, and statistics. Finally, in last you should give an optimistic opinion about the future course of action.
Compare:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writing about the similarities and differences between the two or more concepts or terms or processes or phenomena. If possible try to compare in tabular format with respect to the same set of parameters. Mention significant differences and similarities in an orderly fashion.
Contrast:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is similar to the directive comparison except it needs more focus on striking differences. Differences should be written first and should be given more weight. However, similarity should be also emphasised.
Compare and contrast:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In such type of question, the focus should be on writing striking similarities as well as striking differences. In the last write a balanced opinion reconciling the differences and signifying the importance of differences.
Examine:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluating the given proposition, concept or event in a multi-dimensional way. Write the objective or rationale behind the concept, proposition or event and state how these objectives come in conflict with another phenomenon. Then write challenges associated with achieving such objectives and in conclusion, write corrective measures with an optimistic tone.

Comment upon:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Such kinds of questions are mainly concerned with your opinion about the events, concept and proposition asked in the question. Write your opinion in an unbiased manner supported by logic and facts. You can support your opinion by referring to books, academicians, recent research, laurate, or reports so that you can bring more objectivity to your answer. In the last write a progressive conclusion.
To what extent:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This type of question again demands your opinion and the level of agreement with the given proposition, event or concept in the question. Write on which parameters you agree and other parameters on which you disagree. Support your argument with facts or authentic resources.
Critically examine:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In such questions, you need to focus on the issues /challenges associated with the given proposition provision, event or concept. Give a brief explanatory background and then write different points highlighting major issues, conflicts with other phenomena and associated challenges. Substantiate your points with authentic resources. In the last, write a balanced and optimistic conclusion.

Unacademy Test Series Schedule

Test Details	Syllabus	Detailed Syllabus
Test 1 September 11, 2022 (Sunday) Sectional Test	GS-I Modern Indian History + Current Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modern Indian history from about the middle of the eighteenth century until the present significant events, personalities, issues. The Freedom Struggle - its various stages and important contributors/contributions from different parts of the country.
Test 2 September 18, 2022 (Sunday) Sectional Test	GS-I World History + Post Independence India + Current Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country. History of the world will include events from 18th century such as industrial revolution, world wars, redrawing of national boundaries, colonization, decolonization, political philosophies like communism, capitalism, socialism etc. - their forms and effect on the society
Test 3 September 25, 2022 (Sunday) Sectional Test	GS-I Geography + Current Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salient features of world's physical geography. Important Geophysical phenomena such as earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity, cyclone etc., geographical features and their location changes in critical geographical features (including waterbodies and ice-caps) and in flora and fauna and the effects of such changes. Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including South Asia and the Indian subcontinent); factors responsible for the location of primary, secondary, and tertiary sector industries in various parts of the world (including India)
Test 4 October 9, 2022 (Sunday) Sectional Test	GS-I Art and Culture + Society + Current Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indian culture will cover the salient aspects of Art Forms, Literature and Architecture from ancient to modern times. Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India. Role of women and women's organization, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues, urbanization, their problems and their remedies. Effects of globalization on Indian society. Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism
Test 5 October 16, 2022 (Sunday) Sectional Test	GS-II Polity (Part I) + Current Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indian Constitution- historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure. Functions and responsibilities of the Union and the States, issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein. Comparison of the Indian constitutional scheme with that of other countries. Parliament and State Legislatures - structure, functioning, conduct of business, powers & privileges and issues arising out of these.

<p>Test 6 October 23, 2022 (Sunday) Sectional Test</p>	<p>GS-II Polity (Part II) + Current Affairs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structure, organization and functioning of the Executive and the Judiciary Ministries and Departments of the Government; pressure groups and formal/informal associations and their role in the Polity. • Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional Bodies. • Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies • Separation of powers between various organs dispute redressal mechanisms and institutions. • Salient features of the Representation of People's Act
<p>Test 7 October 30, 2022 (Sunday) Sectional Test</p>	<p>ESSAY</p>	
<p>Test 8 November 6, 2022 (Sunday) Sectional Test</p>	<p>GS-II Governance and Social Justice + Current Affairs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance- applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential; citizens charters, transparency & accountability. • Role of civil services in a democracy. • Development processes and the development industry- the role of NGOs, SHGs, various groups and associations, donors, charities, institutional and other stakeholders. • Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation
<p>Test 9 November 13, 2022 (Sunday) Sectional Test</p>	<p>GS-II International Relations + Current Affairs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India and its neighborhood- relations. Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests • Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests, Indian diaspora. • Important International institutions, agencies and fora- their structure, mandate.
<p>Test 10 November 20, 2022 (Sunday) Sectional Test</p>	<p>GS-III Economic Development (Part 1) + Current Affairs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization of resources, growth, development and employment. • Inclusive growth and issues arising from it. • Government Budgeting. • Effects of liberalization on the economy, changes in industrial policy and their effects on industrial growth. • Investment models. • Infrastructure: Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc.

<p>Test 11 November 27, 2022 (Sunday) Sectional Test</p>	<p>GS-III Economic Development (Part 2) + Current Affairs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land reforms in India • Major crops cropping patterns in various parts of the country, different types of irrigation and irrigation systems storage, transport and marketing of agricultural produce and issues and related constraints; e-technology in the aid of farmers. • Issues related to direct and indirect farm subsidies and minimum support prices; Public Distribution System- objectives, functioning, limitations, revamping; issues of buffer stocks and food security; Technology missions; economics of animal-rearing. • Food processing and related industries in India- scope and significance, location, upstream and downstream requirements, supply chain management.
<p>Test 12 December 4, 2022 (Sunday) Sectional Test</p>	<p>GS-III Internal security + Disaster Management + Current Affairs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linkages between development and spread of extremism. • Role of external state and non-state actors in creating challenges to internal security. • Challenges to internal security through communication networks, role of media and social networking sites in internal security challenges, basics of cyber security; money laundering and its prevention. • Security challenges and their management in border areas; linkages of organized crime with terrorism • Various Security forces and agencies and their mandate. • Disaster and disaster management.
<p>Test 13 December 11, 2022 (Sunday) Sectional Test</p>	<p>GS-III Science and Technology, Environment and Agriculture + Current Affairs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science and Technology- developments and their applications and effects in everyday life. • Achievements of Indians in science & technology; indigenization of technology and developing new technology. • Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nanotechnology, bio-technology and issues relating to intellectual property rights. • Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment.
<p>Test 14 December 18, 2022 (Sunday) Sectional Test</p>	<p>ESSAY</p>	
<p>Test 15 December 25, 2022 (Sunday)</p>	<p>GS-IV Ethics (Part I) + Current Affairs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important Definitions and Concepts • Civil Services Values • Basic Ethical Dilemmas • Fundamentals of Different Schools of Ethical Behaviour contribution of Moral thinker.

<p>Test 16 January 8, 2023 (Sunday)</p>	<p>GS-IV Ethics (Part II) + Current Affairs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethics and Human Interface: Essence, determinants and consequences of Ethics in human actions; dimensions of ethics; ethics in private and public relationships. Human Values - lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators; role of family, society and educational institutions in inculcating values. • Attitude: content, structure, function; its influence and relation with thought and behaviour; moral and political attitudes; social influence and persuasion. • Emotional intelligence-concepts, and their utilities and application in administration and governance • Aptitude and foundational values for Civil Service, integrity, impartiality and non-partisanship, objectivity, dedication to public service, empathy, tolerance and compassion towards the weaker sections. • Public/CivilservicevaluesandEthicsinPublicadministration:Status and problems; ethical concerns and dilemmas in government and private institutions; laws, rules, regulations and conscience as sources
<p>Test 17 January 15, 2023 (Sunday)</p>	<p>GS-IV Ethics (Part III) + Current Affairs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aptitude and foundational values for Civil Service, integrity, impartiality and non-partisanship, objectivity, dedication to public service, empathy, tolerance and compassion towards the weaker sections. • Public/CivilservicevaluesandEthicsinPublicadministration:Status and problems; ethical concerns and dilemmas in government and private institutions; laws, rules, regulations and conscience as sources • ProbityinGovernance:Conceptofpublicservice;Philosophicalbasis of governance and probity; Information sharing and transparency in government,RighttoInformation,CodesofEthics,CodesofConduct, Citizen's Charters, Work culture, Quality of service delivery, Utilization of public funds, challenges of corruption
<p>Test 18 January 22, 2023 (Sunday)</p>	<p>GS-IV Ethics (Part IV) + Current Affairs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case studies

<p>Test 19 January 29, 2023 (Sunday)</p>	<p>GS-I History (Art and Culture, Modern India, Post Independence and World History) + Current Affairs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indian culture will cover the salient aspects of Art Forms, Literature and Architecture from ancient to modern times. Modern Indian history from about the middle of the eighteenth century until the present significant events, personalities, issues. The Freedom Struggle - its various stages and important contributors/contributions from different parts of the country. Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country. History of the world will include events from 18th century such as industrial revolution, world wars, redrawal of national boundaries, colonization, decolonization, political philosophies like communism, capitalism, socialism etc.- their forms and effect on the society
<p>Test 20 February 5, 2023 (Sunday)</p>	<p>GS-I Society and Geography (India and World) + Current Affairs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India. Role of women and women’s organization, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues, urbanization, their problems and their remedies. Effects of globalization on Indian society. Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism Salient features of world’s physical geography. Important Geophysical phenomena such as earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity, cyclone etc., geographical features and their location changes in critical geographical features (including waterbodies and ice-caps) and in flora and fauna and the effects of such changes. Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including South Asia and the Indian subcontinent); factors responsible for the location of primary, secondary, and tertiary sector industries in various parts of the world (including India)”
<p>Test 21 February 12, 2023 (Sunday)</p>	<p>ESSAY</p>	

<p>Test 22 February 19, 2023 (Sunday)</p>	<p>GS-II Polity and Governance + Current Affairs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indian Constitution- historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure. • Functions and responsibilities of the Union and the States, issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein. • Comparison of the Indian constitutional scheme with that of other countries. • Parliament and State Legislatures- structure, functioning, conduct of business, powers & privileges and issues arising out of these. • Structure, organization and functioning of the Executive and the Judiciary Ministries and Departments of the Government; pressure groups and formal/informal associations and their role in the Polity. • Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional Bodies. • Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies • Separation of powers between various organs dispute redressal mechanisms and institutions. • Salient features of the Representation of People's Act • Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance- applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential; citizens charters, transparency & accountability. • Role of civil services in a democracy.
<p>Test 23 February 26, 2023 (Sunday)</p>	<p>GS-II Governance and International Relations + Current Affairs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development processes and the development industry- the role of NGOs, SHGs, various groups and associations, donors, charities, institutional and other stakeholders. • Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation • India and its neighborhood- relations. Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests • Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests, Indian diaspora. • Important International institutions, agencies and fora- their structure, mandate.

<p>Test 24 March 5, 2023 (Sunday)</p>	<p>GS-III Economic Development and Science and Technology + Current Affairs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization of resources, growth, development and employment. • Inclusive growth and issues arising from it. • Government Budgeting. • Effects of liberalization on the economy, changes in industrial policy and their effects on industrial growth. • Investment models. • Infrastructure: Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc. • Land reforms in India • Major crops cropping patterns in various parts of the country, different types of irrigation and irrigation systems storage, transport and marketing of agricultural produce and issues and related constraints; e-technology in the aid of farmers. • Issues related to direct and indirect farm subsidies and minimum support prices; Public Distribution System- objectives, functioning, limitations, revamping; issues of buffer stocks and food security; Technology missions; economics of animal-rearing. • Food processing and related industries in India- scope and significance, location, upstream and downstream requirements, supply chain management. • Science and Technology- developments and their applications and effects in everyday life. • Achievements of Indians in science & technology; indigenization of technology and developing new technology. • Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nanotechnology, bio-technology and issues relating to intellectual property rights.
<p>Test 25 March 12, 2023 (Sunday)</p>	<p>GS-III Internal Security, Disaster Management, Environment and Agriculture + Current Affairs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linkages between development and spread of extremism. • Role of external state and non-state actors in creating challenges to internal security. • Challenges to internal security through communication networks, role of media and social networking sites in internal security challenges, basics of cyber security; money laundering and its prevention. • Security challenges and their management in border areas; linkages of organized crime with terrorism • Various Security forces and agencies and their mandate. • Disaster and disaster management. • Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment.

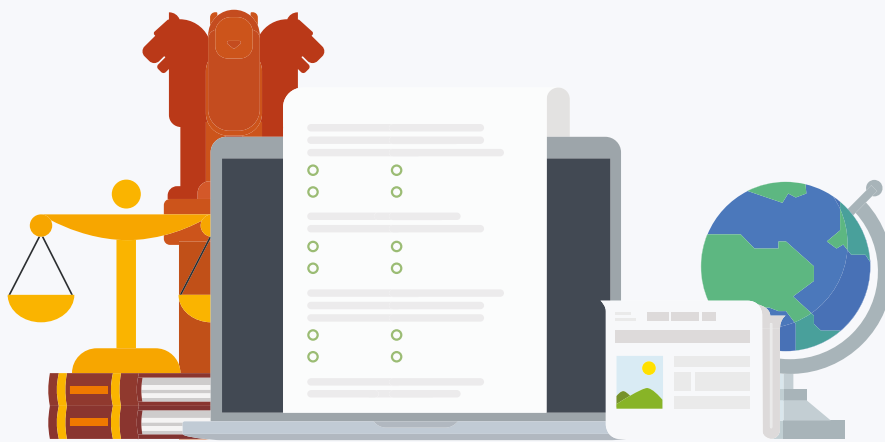
<p>Test 26 March 19, 2023 (Sunday)</p>	<p>GS-IV Ethics + Current Affairs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethics and Human Interface: Essence, determinants and consequences of Ethics in human actions; imensions of ethics; ethics in private and public relationships. Human Values - lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators; role of family, society and educational institutions in inculcating values. • Attitude: content, structure, function; its influence and relation with thought and behaviour; moral and political attitudes; social influence and persuasion. • Emotional intelligence-concepts, and their utilities and application in administration and governance • Aptitude and foundational values for Civil Service, integrity, impartiality and non-partisanship, objectivity, dedication to public +service, empathy, tolerance and compassion towards the weaker sections. • Public/CivilservicevaluesandEthicsinPublicadministration:Status and problems; ethical concerns and dilemmas in government and private institutions; laws, rules, regulations and conscience as sources CASE STUDIES
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FULL LENGTH TESTS

8 Full Length Tests Post Prelims

Disclaimer: The test plan is subject to change.

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