

STEP 4 — LOCK YOUR SOURCES

# Source & Booklist Checklist

The rule is firm: **one standard text + one supplement + your notes = enough**. Maximum three sources per subject. Tick the source you commit to, then close the shopping app. Students who master one source outperform those who half-read four.

PAPER / SUBJECT	STANDARD TEXT	SUPPLEMENT	NCERT BASE
<b>Polity (GS-II)</b>	Laxmikanth — Indian Polity	DD Basu / Vision summary	IX–XII
<b>Modern History (GS-I)</b>	Spectrum — Modern India	Bipan Chandra (struggle)	Old NCERT
<b>Art &amp; Culture (GS-I)</b>	Nitin Singhanian	CCRT / NCERT XI Fine Arts	XI
<b>Geography (GS-I)</b>	GC Leong — Physical	Atlas + NCERT XI–XII	XI–XII
<b>Economy (GS-III)</b>	Ramesh Singh / Sanjiv Verma	Economic Survey highlights	XI–XII
<b>Environment (GS-III)</b>	Shankar IAS — Environment	PIB / MoEFCC notes	—
<b>Sci &amp; Tech (GS-III)</b>	Current affairs compilation	PIB / ISRO updates	VI–X (basics)
<b>Ethics (GS-IV)</b>	Lexicon / Subba Rao	Your own case-study bank	—
<b>Essay</b>	Your quotes + examples bank	Toppers' essays (analyse)	—
<b>Optional _____</b>			—

## Current affairs sources (pick a lane)

- ☐ One newspaper daily (The Hindu / Indian Express)
- ☐ One monthly magazine / CA compilation
- ☐ PIB + government schemes tracker
- ☐ Year-end CA Compass for revision

## The three-source ceiling

Adding a fourth source does not add knowledge — it adds confusion and guilt. If you catch yourself buying a new book in Month 5, that is retail therapy disguised as preparation. Finish what you own first.

**NCERT first.** Build the base with NCERTs (classes VI–XII) before standard texts — they make every advanced book read faster. Tick a book only when you have *finished and revised* it once, not when you have bought it.