

ANANTAM IAS · PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTION PAPER

UPSC Civil Services (Main) Geography Optional

Paper I · Principles of Geography

2016

Time allowed: **Three hours** Maximum marks: **250**

Typeset from the question paper published by the Union Public Service Commission. English text of all 28 printed questions, with marks and section as printed.

Question Paper Specific Instructions

1. There are EIGHT questions divided in TWO SECTIONS.
2. Candidate has to attempt FIVE questions in all.
3. Question Nos. 1 and 5 are compulsory and out of the remaining, THREE are to be attempted choosing at least ONE question from each Section.
4. The number of marks carried by a question or part is indicated against it.
5. 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.
6. Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.
7. Illustrate your answers with suitable sketches, maps and diagrams wherever considered necessary. These shall be drawn in the space provided for answering the question itself.
8. Attempts of questions shall be counted in sequential order. Unless struck off, attempt of a question shall be counted even if attempted partly. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

SECTION A

Q1. Answer the following in about 150 words each. **10×5=50**

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|------------|---|-----------|
| (a) | Describe the “Basket of eggs topography”. | 10 |
| (b) | Differentiate between insolation and temperature and explain anomalous temperature. | 10 |
| (c) | Discuss Maritime Zones. | 10 |
| (d) | Bring out the ecological significance of Tropical Rainforest Biome. | 10 |
| (e) | Explain the hydro-meteorological hazards in the Himalayas. | 10 |

Q2.

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|------------|---|-----------|
| (a) | “In explaining the concept of 'Pediplanation', King combined the ideas of Davis, Penck and Wood with his own.” Elaborate. | 20 |
| (b) | Compare the origin and weather conditions associated with the tropical and temperate cyclones. | 15 |
| (c) | Give a reasoned account on how the impact of Global Warming differs from one part of the Earth to the other. | 15 |

Q3.

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|------------|--|-----------|
| (a) | Discuss the significance of World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) and its core projects in the understanding of climatic change. | 20 |
| (b) | “The relationship between the winds and the currents is best seen in the Indian Ocean.” Justify. | 15 |
| (c) | Write a critical note on the tendency of “use and throw” in the context of economic status and environment. | 15 |

Q4.

- (a) Bring out the various ecological problems associated with the exploitation and use of oceans and their resources. 20
- (b) “Geological structure has a dominant control on landforms and is reflected on them.” Discuss. 15
- (c) Describe Newbigin's scheme of Floristic regions of the world and explain the Mediterranean Floristic region. 15

SECTION B

Q5. Answer the following in about 150 words each. **10×5=50**

- (a) “Areal differentiation forms the core theme in Geography.” Explain. 10
- (b) Explain 'Isodapane'. 10
- (c) Discuss the major characteristics of 'CBD'. 10
- (d) Elaborate the idea of 'Compage'. 10
- (e) Discuss the application of Gravity model in Geographical studies. 10

Q6.

- (a) Trace the origin and progress of Quantitative Revolution in Geography and bring out its merits and demerits. 20
- (b) Discuss the role of site in determining the types and patterns of rural settlements. 15
- (c) What is a 'region'? Describe 'Thiessen' polygon method of regional delimitation. 15

Q7.

- (a) Describe the regional pattern of Life Expectancy in the world and bring out the challenges faced by developing countries due to increasing life expectancy. 20
- (b) Discuss the relevance of 'Stop and Go Determinism' in the present day context. 15
- (c) Define and differentiate between boundaries and frontiers. Describe the geometrical boundaries with suitable examples. 15

Q8.

- (a) Give a critical account of Losch's theory of central places. 20
- (b) “Linkages between resource-endowed regions and resource-utilizing regions determine the pattern of international trade.” Elaborate with suitable examples. 15
- (c) In what ways can geographers contribute towards optimal land use planning in a region? 15