

ANANTAM IAS · PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTION PAPER

UPSC Civil Services (Main) Geography Optional

Paper I · Principles of Geography

2019

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 phreatic eruptions and their consequences. | 10 |
| (b) | Explain the techniques to calculate potential evapotranspiration suggested by Thornthwaite. | 10 |
| (c) | How are sandspits and tombolos formed? | 10 |
| (d) | Amensalism is a biotic factor that determines the geographic limits of species. Explain. | 10 |
| (e) | How do mountaineers constitute a threat to Mount Everest? | 10 |

Q2.

- | | | |
|------------|--|-----------|
| (a) | Why is it necessary to conserve genetic diversity of species? Do protected areas serve any useful purpose in this context? | 20 |
| (b) | Compare and contrast different types of plate boundaries. | 15 |
| (c) | Explain the nature of urban climates and their impact on global environmental change. | 15 |

Q3.

- | | | |
|------------|---|-----------|
| (a) | Discuss in detail the tri-cellular model of atmospheric circulation. | 20 |
| (b) | How are soil acidity and alkalinity related to soil fertility? | 15 |
| (c) | “The web of life is seamless and the consequences of disruption to one part of the ecosystem ripple throughout the whole.” Elaborate. | 15 |

Q4.

- | | | |
|------------|--|-----------|
| (a) | Discuss the methods of measuring the intensity and magnitude of earthquakes. How are seismic zones demarcated? | 20 |
|------------|--|-----------|

- (b)** The impact of floods on life and property can be most effectively reduced by hazard mapping. Comment. **15**
- (c)** How are ocean waves formed? Distinguish between a wave of oscillation and a wave of translation. **15**

SECTION B

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

- (a)** “A language originates at a particular place and diffuses to other locations through the migration of its speakers.” Examine this statement in the context of language hot spots and endangered language hot spots. **10**
- (b)** Define stunting and wasting. Why are these more prevalent among children in developing countries? **10**
- (c)** Explain the relationship between net reproductive rate (NRR) and true replacement level of population. **10**
- (d)** What are natural regions? How are they different from planning regions? **10**
- (e)** Discuss the genetic classification of boundaries suggested by Hartshorne. **10**

Q6.

- (a)** HDI has brought about a paradigm shift in the way people think about the development process. Critically examine the inherent limitations of HDI. **20**
- (b)** “A large-scale global shift in manufacturing is the outcome of deindustrialization in the developed world matched by industrialization in the developing world.” Analyze this statement. **15**
- (c)** What do you mean by 'climate migrants'? Suggest appropriate policies and programmes for their resettlement. **15**

Q7.

- (a)** What changes in the current planning, management and governance of human settlements are needed to face the changing environment including climate change and disaster vulnerabilities in cities? **20**
- (b)** Globalization can often subsume folk culture. What are its positive and negative effects? **15**
- (c)** “Growth is not uniform in different places.” Critically examine this statement in the context of the growth pole theory. **15**

Q8.

- (a)** Distinguish between 'isodapanes' and 'isotims'. Critically examine the least cost theory of industrial location given by Alfred Weber. **20**
- (b)** Assess the challenges for countries with the largest shares of aged populations. **15**
- (c)** Examine the relevance of the 'rimland theory' in the contemporary world. **15**

