

ANANTAM IAS · PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTION PAPER

UPSC Civil Services (Main) Geography Optional

Paper I · Principles of Geography

2024

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) | What are 'truncated spurs'? Where and how are they formed? | 10 |
| (b) | Formation of temperate cyclone depends on the condition of axis of dilation. Elucidate. | 10 |
| (c) | With suitable examples explain the factors causing sea level changes. | 10 |
| (d) | Examine the impacts of social forestry in socio-economic transformation of rural areas. | 10 |
| (e) | Mountain regions are more fragile to ecological changes. Elucidate. | 10 |

Q2.

- | | | |
|------------|---|-----------|
| (a) | Examine the recent views on mountain building process and divide the world mountains on the basis of their genesis. | 20 |
| (b) | Describe latitudinal distribution of Köppen's classification of world climate. | 15 |
| (c) | With suitable sketches elaborate the bottom topography of the Indian Ocean. | 15 |

Q3.

- | | | |
|------------|---|-----------|
| (a) | Explain air masses and associated weather dynamics. How do air masses influence the weather conditions of the Northern Hemisphere? | 20 |
| (b) | “Soil erosion is creeping death.” Explaining the statement, suggest various soil conservation measures. | 15 |
| (c) | Perception, Attitude, Value and Emotion (PAVE) are important components for biodiversity and sustainable environmental conservation. Elaborate. | 15 |

Q4.

- (a) How is carbon neutrality essential for future environmental conservation? Describe various efforts taken by nations in this regard. 20
- (b) What is a Yazoo stream? Why are Yazoo basins the areas of repeated flooding? Give examples of Yazoo stream/areas from various parts of the world. 15
- (c) “The latitudinal gradient in species richness is an important geographic trend in biodiversity.” Examine the statement. 15

SECTION B

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

- (a) Critically examine the significance of Behavioural Approach in the development of human geography. 10
- (b) “While scarcity of water resources are felt locally, but its causes are increasingly global.” Comment. 10
- (c) Central Business Districts (CBDs) are in decline as the economic core of metropolitan cities. Critically examine. 10
- (d) There is a need for gender-sensitive regional development. Elaborate. 10
- (e) Explain the theoretical framework and stages of economic growth proposed by Rostow's model. 10

Q6.

- (a) The urbanisation process is particularly pronounced in Asia and Africa, where too many urban residents grapple with extreme poverty, exclusion, vulnerability and marginalisation. Discuss. 20
- (b) Explain how the physical view of geographical space has impacted the forms of spatial analysis. 15
- (c) Explain the Heartland theory with reference to contemporary geopolitical scenario of the world. 15

Q7.

- (a) Explain the basis of D. Whittlesey's classification of agricultural regions of the world. 20
- (b) What is Transnationalism? Why has the scale and scope of transnational linkages of diaspora multiplied in recent times? 15
- (c) Assess the criteria required for selecting regions for developmental planning. 15

Q8.

- (a) What is complementary region? With reference to hierarchy of settlements, describe the different types of complementary regions as proposed by Christaller. 20
- (b) Analyse the spatial changes and emerging patterns of semiconductor manufacturing in the world. 15
- (c) “In developed countries, migration rather than fertility will be the main driver of population dynamics over the next few decades.” Examine the statement. 15