

ANANTAM IAS • PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS

UPSC Geography Optional Topic-Wise Question Compilation

2016–2026

All 605 questions from 22 papers, Paper I and Paper II, sorted into the syllabus unit each one came from, with marks and year.

22 papers • 605 questions • anantamias.com

How This Compilation Is Built

Every question printed in the UPSC Geography optional papers between 2016 and 2026 has been classified against the official syllabus unit it belongs to, then sorted by unit rather than by year. Each entry shows the exam year and the marks the question carried. Papers before 2016 are not published in the UPSC archive, so eleven years is the complete run.

Each paper prints 8 questions worth 400 marks; a candidate attempts 5 for 250. Question 1 and Question 5 are compulsory in both papers, and Paper II opens with a compulsory 20-mark map question every single year.

Paper I · Principles of Geography — Weightage

Unit	Questions	Marks	Share
1. Geomorphology	34	485	11.0%
2. Climatology	45	685	15.6%
3. Oceanography	20	285	6.5%
4. Biogeography	27	365	8.3%
5. Environmental Geography	35	475	10.8%
6. Perspectives in Human Geography	24	335	7.6%
7. Economic Geography	32	435	9.9%
8. Population and Settlement Geography	41	610	13.9%
9. Regional Planning	31	445	10.1%
10. Models, Theories and Laws in Human Geography	19	280	6.4%
Total	308	4400	100%

Paper I · Principles of Geography — Questions by Unit

1. Geomorphology

34 questions · 485 marks

2016 · 10 marks · Q1(a)

Describe the “Basket of eggs topography”.

2016 · 20 marks · Q2(a)

“In explaining the concept of 'Pediplanation', King combined the ideas of Davis, Penck and Wood with his own.” Elaborate.

2016 · 15 marks · Q4(b)

“Geological structure has a dominant control on landforms and is reflected on them.” Discuss.

2017 · 10 marks · Q1(a)

Write a note on pseudovolcanic features.

2017 · 10 marks · Q1(b)

Distinguish between low energy coasts and coral coasts.

2017 · 15 marks · Q2(b)

“The knowledge of slope analysis has limited field application in the slope management.” Explain.

2017 · 20 marks · Q4(a)

Discuss the concept of Periglacial cycle as propounded by Peltier.

2017 · 15 marks · Q4(b)

“Climate, slope gradient and rock structure influence the avulsion of channels.” Explain.

2018 · 10 marks · Q1(a)

“Landscape is a function of structure, process and stage.” Critique the statement.

2018 · 20 marks · Q2(a)

Evaluate how far Kober's geosynclinal theory explains the mountain building process.

2019 · 10 marks · Q1(a)

Describe phreatic eruptions and their consequences.

2019 · 10 marks · Q1(c)

How are sandspits and tombolos formed?

2019 · 20 marks · Q4(a)

Discuss the methods of measuring the intensity and magnitude of earthquakes. How are seismic zones demarcated?

2020 · 20 marks · Q4(a)

Discuss the problems of erosional surfaces and explain the different methods to identify them with suitable diagrams.

2021 · 10 marks · Q1(a)

Describe the concept of 'Altiplanation'.

2021 · 20 marks · Q2(a)

The concept of Plate tectonics has been derived from the isostasy and continental drift theory. Elaborate citing suitable examples.

2021 · 15 marks · Q4(b)

Stream basins and drainage divides are important components to delineate a watershed area. Explain.

2022 · 10 marks · Q1(a)

Define 'speleothem'. Discuss the various forms and features of speleothems.

2022 · 15 marks · Q2(b)

Explain how various aspects of channel morphology are used in transportation, settlement and land use planning, flood control and flood management?

2022 · 15 marks · Q3(c)

Discuss the role of Slope, Altitude and Relief (SAR) in landscape development.

2022 · 15 marks · Q4(c)

With the help of suitable sketches describe the mountain genesis and mountain types. Give suitable examples from various mountain systems of the world.

2023 · 15 marks · Q3(b)

Define Peneplains. Describe the landscape features associated with peneplains under different geomorphic cycles.

2024 · 10 marks · Q1(a)

What are 'truncated spurs'? Where and how are they formed?

2024 · 20 marks · Q2(a)

Examine the recent views on mountain building process and divide the world mountains on the basis of their genesis.

2024 · 15 marks · Q4(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.

2025 · 10 marks · Q1(a)

Explain the causes of glacial lake outburst flood.

2025 · 10 marks · Q1(b)

What is solifluction? What are its impacts?

2025 · 10 marks · Q1(c)

What geological and tectonic processes lead to the formation of nappes in orogenic belts?

2025 · 20 marks · Q2(a)

How does denudation chronology help in understanding the sequential development of landscapes and landforms? Elucidate.

2025 · 15 marks · Q4(c)

Describe the process of formation of barrier islands and explain their significance.

2026 · 10 marks · Q1(a)

What is 'Helical' flow? How Helical flow accounts for meander modifications?

2026 · 10 marks · Q1(c)

How are seamounts and Guyots the same and different? Comment.

2026 · 20 marks · Q2(a)

“Environmental geomorphology deals with the impact of natural landforms and processes.” Elucidate with suitable examples.

2026 · 15 marks · Q3(c)

What is scarification? List out various impacts and examples of scarification on land.

2. Climatology

45 questions · 685 marks

2016 · 10 marks · Q1(b)

Differentiate between insolation and temperature and explain anomalous temperature.

2016 · 15 marks · Q2(b)

Compare the origin and weather conditions associated with the tropical and temperate cyclones.

2016 · 15 marks · Q2(c)

Give a reasoned account on how the impact of Global Warming differs from one part of the Earth to the other.

2016 · 20 marks · Q3(a)

Discuss the significance of World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) and its core projects in the understanding of climatic change.

2016 · 15 marks · Q3(b)

“The relationship between the winds and the currents is best seen in the Indian Ocean.” Justify.

2017 · 10 marks · Q1(c)

Discuss the impacts of ocean currents on air mass behaviour.

2017 · 20 marks · Q2(a)

Discuss the forces which govern the air movement on the Earth's surface.

2017 · 20 marks · Q3(a)

“Climate change is a reality.” Explain with suitable examples.

2018 · 10 marks · Q1(b)

Explain the role of evaporation in the hydrologic cycle.

2018 · 15 marks · Q2(b)

Critically examine the basis and scheme of climatic classification proposed by G.T. Trewartha.

2018 · 20 marks · Q3(a)

Explain the origin, progress and retreat of the Indian monsoon and discuss its impact on the Indian economy.

2019 · 10 marks · Q1(b)

Explain the techniques to calculate potential evapotranspiration suggested by Thornthwaite.

2019 · 15 marks · Q2(c)

Explain the nature of urban climates and their impact on global environmental change.

2019 · 20 marks · Q3(a)

Discuss in detail the tri-cellular model of atmospheric circulation.

2019 · 15 marks · Q6(c)

What do you mean by 'climate migrants'? Suggest appropriate policies and programmes for their resettlement.

2020 · 10 marks · Q1(a)

Write a geographical note on Halloween Storm.

2020 · 15 marks · Q2(c)

Explain the currents of the North Atlantic Ocean and their significant role in the climate of Western Europe.

2020 · 20 marks · Q3(a)

Explain how various factors influence the origin and development of the Indian monsoon system.

2020 · 15 marks · Q3(c)

Explain the characteristic features of Frontogenesis and Frontolysis.

2021 · 10 marks · Q1(b)

What are the important factors responsible for airmass modifications?

2021 · 10 marks · Q1(c)

Discuss the hazards associated with rise of sea-surface temperature.

2021 · 20 marks · Q3(a)

Examine major influencing factors for varied patterns of precipitations on the continents.

2021 · 15 marks · Q3(c)

Explaining the concept of carbon neutrality, describe the measures taken by carbon positive and negative nations.

2021 · 15 marks · Q4(c)

Indicating the causes of lightning, describe the threats associated with it.

2022 · 10 marks · Q1(c)

What is pollution dome? Discuss its formation and impacts.

2022 · 15 marks · Q3(b)

With suitable examples describe the impacts of movement of airmasses on weather and winds in different parts of the continents.

2022 · 20 marks · Q4(a)

Rise of surface temperature brings severe consequences. Elaborate the potential changes and threats associated with it in the world.

2022 · 15 marks · Q4(b)

Describe how short term variations in temperature are related to the processes of receiving energy from the sun to the Earth's surface and dissipating it to the atmosphere.

2022 · 20 marks · Q7(a)

“Climate change is a serious problem to global food security and poverty eradication”. Critically examine.

2023 · 10 marks · Q1(a)

What is “Geostrophic Wind”? Explain the relationship between barometric slope and air circulation.

2023 · 15 marks · Q2(b)

Explain the characteristics and weather conditions associated with 'Anticyclones' giving suitable examples.

2023 · 20 marks · Q3(a)

What are the causes of origin of local winds? Discuss their significance on prevailing weather and climate in various regions, with suitable examples.

2023 · 15 marks · Q4(c)

How does inversion of temperature occur? Explain its significance on local weather with suitable examples.

2024 · 10 marks · Q1(b)

Formation of temperate cyclone depends on the condition of axis of dilation. Elucidate.

2024 · 15 marks · Q2(b)

Describe latitudinal distribution of Köppen's classification of world climate.

2024 · 20 marks · Q3(a)

Explain air masses and associated weather dynamics. How do air masses influence the weather conditions of the Northern Hemisphere?

2025 · 10 marks · Q1(d)

Explain the relationship between air masses and local winds.

2025 · 20 marks · Q3(a)

Examine the formation of atmospheric tricellular circulation system. Describe with example its importance in making the Earth a living planet.

2025 · 15 marks · Q4(b)

Examine the distribution and balance of energy in the Earth's atmosphere system.

2026 · 10 marks · Q1(b)

Define 'pseudo monsoon' and explain its spatial distribution.

2026 · 15 marks · Q2(b)

Discuss the potential consequences of the collapse of the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC) for the world.

2026 · 20 marks · Q3(a)

Describe the general characteristics and structure of a thunderstorm and suggest suitable classification of thunderstorm.

2026 · 20 marks · Q4(a)

How does the annual variations in temperature and precipitation influence plants growth, development and distribution? How do animals cope up with variations in climate?

2026 · 15 marks · Q4(b)

Examine the importance of axis of dilation of airmasses in frontogenesis and the origin of Temperate cyclones.

2026 · 15 marks · Q6(c)

Write an essay on disease and global warming according to the report of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

3. Oceanography

20 questions · 285 marks

2016 · 10 marks · Q1(c)

Discuss Maritime Zones.

2016 · 20 marks · Q4(a)

Bring out the various ecological problems associated with the exploitation and use of oceans and their resources.

2017 · 15 marks · Q2(c)

Describe the configuration of the Pacific Ocean floor.

2018 · 10 marks · Q1(c)

Describe the causes and consequences of sea level changes.

2019 · 15 marks · Q4(c)

How are ocean waves formed? Distinguish between a wave of oscillation and a wave of translation.

2020 · 10 marks · Q1(c)

Marine resources are economically very significant. Discuss citing suitable examples.

2020 · 20 marks · Q2(a)

Write an essay on the evolution of continents and oceans using various theories and models.

2020 · 15 marks · Q2(b)

Discuss the concept of coral bleaching, its recovery and macroalgal regime shifts due to this process.

2021 · 15 marks · Q2(b)

Give a detailed account of bottom topography of the Pacific Ocean.

2021 · 15 marks · Q3(b)

Maritime security is being neglected. Indicate the major challenges and suggest solutions in the context of Law of the Sea.

2022 · 10 marks · Q1(d)

When corals are affected by stress it causes them to turn completely white. Explain the reasons of such an occurrence.

2022 · 15 marks · Q2(c)

What is the relationship between ocean currents and global surface wind systems? Explain with examples how does the gyre in the Northern Hemisphere differ from the one in the Southern Hemisphere.

2023 · 10 marks · Q1(b)

What is ocean ranching? How are aqua-cowboys related to such activities?

2023 · 20 marks · Q2(a)

“Evidences from palaeomagnetism and sea floor spreading have validated that continents and ocean basins have never been stationary.” Elucidate with suitable diagrams.

2023 · 15 marks · Q2(c)

How are ocean currents generated? Discuss their effects on coastal climates with special reference to the Pacific Ocean.

2023 · 20 marks · Q4(a)

Give an account of marine resources and their economic significance. How has marine pollution affected such resources?

2024 · 10 marks · Q1(c)

With suitable examples explain the factors causing sea level changes.

2024 · 15 marks · Q2(c)

With suitable sketches elaborate the bottom topography of the Indian Ocean.

2025 · 10 marks · Q1(e)

What are the fundamental differences among ocean wave, ocean current and tide?

2025 · 15 marks · Q2(b)

What is deep-sea mining? What are the potential benefits and risks associated with it?

4. Biogeography

27 questions · 365 marks

2016 · 10 marks · Q1(d)

Bring out the ecological significance of Tropical Rainforest Biome.

2016 · 15 marks · Q4(c)

Describe Newbigin's scheme of Floristic regions of the world and explain the Mediterranean Floristic region.

2017 · 10 marks · Q1(d)

Describe the characteristics of biological deserts.

2017 · 15 marks · Q3(b)

Distinguish between the characteristics of Chernozem and Sierozem soils.

2017 · 15 marks · Q3(c)

Give a classification of plants based on the amount of water requirement.

2018 · 10 marks · Q1(d)

Distinguish between intrazonal and azonal soils. Describe in brief the characteristics and importance of azonal soils.

2018 · 15 marks · Q4(b)

Explain the ecosystem approach to environmental management and highlight its advantages and disadvantages.

2019 · 10 marks · Q1(d)

Amensalism is a biotic factor that determines the geographic limits of species. Explain.

2019 · 20 marks · Q2(a)

Why is it necessary to conserve genetic diversity of species? Do protected areas serve any useful purpose in this context?

2019 · 15 marks · Q3(b)

How are soil acidity and alkalinity related to soil fertility?

2019 · 15 marks · Q3(c)

"The web of life is seamless and the consequences of disruption to one part of the ecosystem ripple throughout the whole." Elaborate.

2020 · 10 marks · Q1(d)

Which factors influence the growth of wild plants in India? Discuss their economic significance.

2020 · 15 marks · Q3(b)

Explain the effects and causes of deforestation, and its impact on the pattern of agriculture in India.

2021 · 10 marks · Q1(d)

Gene pool centres are 'Good Hope' for biodiversity conservation. Elucidate.

2021 · 10 marks · Q1(e)

Describe how ecosystem services of Himalaya are essential for Highland-Lowland sustainability in Asia.

2021 · 15 marks · Q2(c)

Soil erosion and soil degradation are threat to food supply. Discuss.

2022 · 10 marks · Q1(e)

Well developed soils typically exhibit distinct layers in their soil profile. Elaborate.

2022 · 20 marks · Q3(a)

Plants and animals that exist in a particular ecosystem are those that have been successful in adjusting to their habitat and environmental conditions. Elucidate with examples.

2023 · 10 marks · Q1(c)

Explain the natural processes of soil enrichment and its impact on food production.

2024 · 10 marks · Q1(d)

Examine the impacts of social forestry in socio-economic transformation of rural areas.

2024 · 15 marks · Q3(b)

“Soil erosion is creeping death.” Explaining the statement, suggest various soil conservation measures.

2024 · 15 marks · Q4(c)

“The latitudinal gradient in species richness is an important geographic trend in biodiversity.” Examine the statement.

2025 · 15 marks · Q2(c)

Man and wildlife conflicts are ever increasing. Discuss its causes, consequences and remedies.

2025 · 15 marks · Q3(b)

What is the 'UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration'? How does it balance ecological goals with emerging socio-economic needs like food security and development?

2025 · 20 marks · Q4(a)

What are the ecological consequences of agricultural deforestation in the Amazon and Congo Basins, particularly concerning biodiversity and climate regulation?

2026 · 10 marks · Q1(d)

How a 'Solum' as a concept different from 'Pedon'? Describe.

2026 · 15 marks · Q2(c)

“Overgrazing has become an alarming situation of bioloss in many bio-geographical regions of the world.” Illustrate with examples.

5. Environmental Geography

35 questions · 475 marks

2016 · 10 marks · Q1(e)

Explain the hydro-meteorological hazards in the Himalayas.

2016 · 15 marks · Q3(c)

Write a critical note on the tendency of “use and throw” in the context of economic status and environment.

2017 · 10 marks · Q1(e)

Explain the concept of micro carbon sink and its relevance.

2017 · 15 marks · Q4(c)

Discuss the Perception, Attitude, Value and Emotion (PAVE) Theory of environmental management.

2017 · 10 marks · Q5(e)

Give an account on sustainable development and its components.

2018 · 10 marks · Q1(e)

Explain the natural and anthropogenic causes and mitigation measures of frequent flooding in Mumbai.

2018 · 15 marks · Q2(c)

Discuss the objectives and principles of environmental education. Describe the basic concerns of formal and non-formal environmental education in India.

2018 · 15 marks · Q3(b)

“Geomorphological changes are largely responsible for environmental hazards in the Himalayan region.” Comment with relevant examples.

2018 · 15 marks · Q3(c)

“Controlling population growth is the sustainable solution to environmental problems.” Express your views with suitable arguments.

2018 · 15 marks · Q4(c)

Discuss the causes of degradation of tropical rainforests and suggest remedial measures for their prevention, conservation and development.

2018 · 15 marks · Q8(c)

Discuss in brief the main thesis in “Limits to Growth” (1972) and also provide a critique of the same.

2019 · 10 marks · Q1(e)

How do mountaineers constitute a threat to Mount Everest?

2019 · 15 marks · Q4(b)

The impact of floods on life and property can be most effectively reduced by hazard mapping. Comment.

2019 · 20 marks · 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?

2020 · 10 marks · Q1(e)

Discuss the problems associated with the living environment in million plus cities in India. How can these be managed?

2020 · 15 marks · Q4(b)

Land use / Land cover and soil types influence forage quantity and quality in semi-arid regions of the world. Discuss with relevant examples.

2020 · 15 marks · Q4(c)

Discuss the human response to and management of hazards and disasters in India.

2020 · 15 marks · Q6(b)

“Land degradation is a threat to productivity and sustainable resource management.” Explain with suitable examples from India.

2020 · 15 marks · Q8(c)

“Human ecology is the study of mutual relationship of people and their environment both natural and social.” Discuss in detail using ecological concepts.

2021 · 20 marks · Q4(a)

With suitable examples, elaborate human ecological adaptations. Explain its impacts on ecology and environment in various parts of the world.

2022 · 10 marks · Q1(b)

What are the high altitude environmental hazards? Explain with suitable examples.

2022 · 20 marks · Q2(a)

Sequential changes in land use and land cover have brought global and regional ecological changes and imbalances. Elucidate.

2023 · 10 marks · Q1(d)

How is 'Deep Ecology' as a concept different from 'Shallow Ecology'? Explain.

2023 · 10 marks · Q1(e)

What are the environmental implications of economic geology? Discuss.

2023 · 15 marks · Q3(c)

What are the factors affecting regional ecological changes? How do these affect human health?

2023 · 10 marks · Q5(a)

Explain the sequential development of areal differentiation as a fundamental concept in Human Geography.

2023 · 15 marks · Q6(c)

Explain population, resource use and development nexus in the Limits to Growth Model. Why has this model been criticized intensively?

2023 · 15 marks · Q7(b)

How can Sustainable Land Management (SLM) harmonise the complimentary goals of environmental, economic and social opportunities? Discuss.

2024 · 10 marks · Q1(e)

Mountain regions are more fragile to ecological changes. Elucidate.

2024 · 15 marks · Q3(c)

Perception, Attitude, Value and Emotion (PAVE) are important components for biodiversity and sustainable environmental conservation. Elaborate.

2024 · 20 marks · Q4(a)

How is carbon neutrality essential for future environmental conservation? Describe various efforts taken by nations in this regard.

2025 · 10 marks · Q5(b)

What are the key environmental and economic challenges linked to the extraction and processing of critical minerals?

2026 · 10 marks · Q1(e)

With suitable examples describe the hazards of flood plain settlement.

2026 · 15 marks · Q4(c)

Construction of large dams poses serious challenges. Describe the threats and solutions associated with it.

2026 · 10 marks · Q5(d)

“Sustainable development requires Intergenerational and Intragenerational equity.” Comment with examples.

6. Perspectives in Human Geography

24 questions · 335 marks

2016 · 10 marks · Q5(a)

“Areal differentiation forms the core theme in Geography.” Explain.

2016 · 10 marks · Q5(d)

Elaborate the idea of 'Compage'.

2016 · 10 marks · Q5(e)

Discuss the application of Gravity model in Geographical studies.

2016 · 20 marks · Q6(a)

Trace the origin and progress of Quantitative Revolution in Geography and bring out its merits and demerits.

2016 · 15 marks · Q7(b)

Discuss the relevance of 'Stop and Go Determinism' in the present day context.

2017 · 10 marks · Q5(a)

Explain the concept of Time-Geography.

2017 · 10 marks · Q5(c)

Write an explanatory note on geographical systems.

2017 · 20 marks · Q6(a)

Discuss the contemporary paradigms of Geography.

2018 · 10 marks · Q5(a)

“Geography is a contested and multiparadigmatic discipline with a strong eurocentricity that has only recently been challenged.” Comment.

2018 · 15 marks · Q6(c)

Comment upon the contributions of D.M. Smith in outlining 'welfare' as a key focus in the geographies of social well-being.

2018 · 15 marks · Q7(b)

Provide a brief outline of ideas related to “sense of place” as propounded by Yi-Fu Tuan and Relph in the humanistic geography that emerged in the 1970's.

2018 · 15 marks · Q7(c)

Elaborate upon the influence of Marxist philosophy on geographical research, outlining key themes addressed by Marxist geographers since the 1970's.

2018 · 20 marks · Q8(a)

“Welfare geography emphasizes spatial inequality and territorial justice.” Comment with reference to the main ideas and scope of the subfield.

2018 · 15 marks · Q8(b)

Discuss critically the manner in which quantitative revolution provided the methodological foundation for models and modelling in geography.

2020 · 10 marks · Q1(b)

Why is mapping important for analysing geo-hydrological investigations? Explain with relevant examples.

2021 · 10 marks · Q5(a)

The interrelationships between social and spatial structure are complex. Explain in the context of socio-spatial dialectic.

2021 · 20 marks · Q8(a)

Why is radicalism seen as a major paradigm shift in geography? Explain its causes, approaches and criticism.

2022 · 15 marks · Q7(b)

Critically examine the significance of the Quantitative Revolution and its influence in the development of Geography.

2024 · 10 marks · Q5(a)

Critically examine the significance of Behavioural Approach in the development of human geography.

2024 · 15 marks · Q6(b)

Explain how the physical view of geographical space has impacted the forms of spatial analysis.

2025 · 10 marks · Q5(a)

Why did the Welfare Approach in Human Geography emerge as a significant perspective in 1970s?

2025 · 20 marks · Q6(a)

How have dichotomy and dualism affected the methodological development of Geography? Describe.

2026 · 10 marks · Q5(a)

“Systematic Geography is essentially analytical and makes generic concepts and Universal Laws.” Elucidate with examples.

2026 · 20 marks · Q7(a)

What are the main concerns of radical geography? Describe the salient features and objectives of radicalism in geography.

7. Economic Geography

32 questions · 435 marks

2016 · 10 marks · Q5(b)

Explain 'Isodapane'.

2016 · 15 marks · Q8(b)

“Linkages between resource-endowed regions and resource-utilizing regions determine the pattern of international trade.” Elaborate with suitable examples.

2017 · 10 marks · Q5(b)

“Whittlesey's agricultural regions are relevant even today.” Discuss.

2017 · 15 marks · Q6(b)

“The intensity of energy crisis varies regionally.” Explain.

2018 · 20 marks · Q4(a)

Describe the potential marine energy resources with reference to their benefits, harvestability and environmental impacts.

2018 · 10 marks · Q5(b)

Discuss the degree of importance of transportation costs as a factor of industrial location with respect to “footloose industries”.

2018 · 20 marks · Q7(a)

“Famine is a social phenomena rooted in institutional and political economic arrangements, which determine access to food by different classes and strata.” Comment.

2019 · 15 marks · Q6(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.

2019 · 15 marks · Q7(b)

Globalization can often subsume folk culture. What are its positive and negative effects?

2019 · 20 marks · Q8(a)

Distinguish between 'isodapanes' and 'isotims'. Critically examine the least cost theory of industrial location given by Alfred Weber.

2020 · 10 marks · Q5(a)

Analyse India's food security in the context of population growth.

2020 · 10 marks · Q5(b)

Identify the causes and effects of energy crisis, and suggest suitable measures to solve the problem.

2020 · 10 marks · Q5(e)

Write a note on the relevance of von Thünen's agricultural location theory in the present context.

2020 · 15 marks · Q7(b)

Analyse the dynamics of industrial location in the metropolitan cities of India.

2021 · 10 marks · Q5(b)

How is energy transition seen as an instrument for achieving zero carbon by 2050?

2021 · 10 marks · Q5(c)

Protected cultivation assists in healthier and a larger produce. Justify with examples.

2021 · 15 marks · Q6(b)

Describe the role of accessibility and affordability in food security of developing world.

2021 · 15 marks · Q8(c)

Present a critical account of Alfred Weber Theory of industrial location.

2022 · 10 marks · Q5(a)

Analyse the effects of Globalisation on languages.

2022 · 10 marks · Q5(b)

“Shifting global trade patterns create new opportunities”. Examine this statement.

2022 · 15 marks · Q6(b)

“Automation is rapidly changing the economies of labour and will affect trade patterns in significant ways”. Clarify.

2022 · 15 marks · Q8(b)

Explain the relevance and applicability of Von Thunen theory of Agriculture-location in today's world.

2023 · 15 marks · Q4(b)

Differentiate between the characteristics of organic horizons and mineral horizons in a generalised soil profile.

2023 · 10 marks · Q5(b)

Discuss critically food and nutrition problems associated with the developing world.

2024 · 10 marks · Q5(b)

“While scarcity of water resources are felt locally, but its causes are increasingly global.” Comment.

2024 · 20 marks · Q7(a)

Explain the basis of D. Whittlesey's classification of agricultural regions of the world.

2024 · 15 marks · Q8(b)

Analyse the spatial changes and emerging patterns of semiconductor manufacturing in the world.

2025 · 15 marks · Q6(c)

Analyze the spatial patterns and regional specialization of plantation crops across tropical and subtropical regions.

2025 · 20 marks · Q7(a)

Why is oil important for energy security? What is the role of oil in clean energy transition?

2026 · 10 marks · Q5(b)

Critically examine the significance of five functioning forms with regard to agricultural regions of the world proposed by D. Whittlesey.

2026 · 10 marks · Q5(e)

“Under what situations Von Thunen's model of agricultural location is still rational.” Justify with examples.

2026 · 15 marks · Q7(b)

Discuss agricultural productivity and techniques adopted for computing efficiency in the levels of agricultural productivity.

8. Population and Settlement Geography

41 questions · 610 marks

2016 · 10 marks · Q5(c)

Discuss the major characteristics of 'CBD'.

2016 · 15 marks · Q6(b)

Discuss the role of site in determining the types and patterns of rural settlements.

2016 · 20 marks · Q8(a)

Give a critical account of Losch's theory of central places.

2017 · 15 marks · Q6(c)

Examine the causes and consequences of forced migration of population in the present context.

2017 · 20 marks · Q7(a)

Discuss the applicability of Christaller's Central Place Theory.

2017 · 15 marks · Q7(b)

“There are considerable demographic similarities between West European nations and Japan.” Explain.

2018 · 10 marks · Q5(c)

Explain the concepts of “megapolis” and “exopolis” with regard to the growth of cities indicating whether the two can and do overlap.

2018 · 15 marks · Q6(b)

Citing examples from Asia and Europe, comment upon the contexts within which pronatalist population policies are advanced. What could be the implications of these policies on women's workforce participation?

2019 · 10 marks · Q5(b)

Define stunting and wasting. Why are these more prevalent among children in developing countries?

2019 · 10 marks · Q5(c)

Explain the relationship between net reproductive rate (NRR) and true replacement level of population.

2019 · 15 marks · Q8(b)

Assess the challenges for countries with the largest shares of aged populations.

2020 · 10 marks · Q5(c)

Distinguish between mobility and migration. What are the causes and consequences of rural to urban migration in India?

2020 · 20 marks · Q6(a)

Compare and contrast the Malthusian and Neo-Malthusian perspectives in the context of population growth, resource use and environmental impact.

2020 · 20 marks · Q7(a)

Discuss the concept of urban resilience in the context of planning for sustainable development with reference to towns and cities of India.

2020 · 15 marks · Q8(b)

Provide an account of world population transition in the context of fertility decline and socio-economic development.

2021 · 10 marks · Q5(e)

Examine the relevance of Central Place Theory of Christaller in the present context.

2021 · 15 marks · Q7(c)

Small number of mega cities are playing key role in organisation of global economics and culture. Explain.

2021 · 15 marks · Q8(b)

Aging population has adverse social and economic consequences. Explain with examples.

2022 · 10 marks · Q5(c)

Examine the morphological factors that influence the origin and growth of towns.

2022 · 15 marks · Q6(c)

“Over crowding leads to chronic problem of shortage of housing in Indian cities”. Explain citing relevant examples.

2022 · 20 marks · Q8(a)

How migration is affected by push and pull factors? Explain how these factors play a role in understanding new settlement patterns.

2022 · 15 marks · Q8(c)

Discuss the concept of 'Rank-Size-Rule' given by G. K. Zipf. Is this rule relevant in Indian context?

2023 · 10 marks · Q5(c)

Human migration is a reflection of the balance between push and pull factors. Elaborate with reference to the most recent diaspora.

2023 · 10 marks · Q5(d)

Has Malthusian Theory been discredited in contemporary times? Justify your answer.

2023 · 20 marks · Q6(a)

Explain the problems and prospects of urban expansion in the context of urban fringe in developed and developing nations.

2023 · 20 marks · Q7(a)

Explain with suitable diagrams A. Losch's model of the Theory of Location related to Central Places. Why has this been criticized?

2023 · 15 marks · Q7(c)

“The stages of Demographic Transition are a reflection of uneven economic development across the globe.” Explain with suitable examples.

2023 · 20 marks · Q8(a)

“Rural settlements are expressions of the basic relationships between human beings and their physical and social environment.” Discuss.

2024 · 10 marks · Q5(c)

Central Business Districts (CBDs) are in decline as the economic core of metropolitan cities. Critically examine.

2024 · 20 marks · 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.

2024 · 20 marks · Q8(a)

What is complementary region? With reference to hierarchy of settlements, describe the different types of complementary regions as proposed by Christaller.

2024 · 15 marks · Q8(c)

“In developed countries, migration rather than fertility will be the main driver of population dynamics over the next few decades.” Examine the statement.

2025 · 10 marks · Q5(c)

“Pull factors in internal migration are often based on perceptions rather than reality.” Explain.

2025 · 10 marks · Q5(e)

Why is systems analysis important in urban planning and what are its limitations?

2025 · 15 marks · Q7(b)

Critically evaluate the role of primate cities in dominating the urban spheres of influence in developing countries.

2025 · 15 marks · Q7(c)

“The global demographic landscape is evolving with rapid population growth in some places and rapid ageing in others.” Elucidate with examples.

2025 · 15 marks · Q8(b)

Analyze the role of demographic transition theory in explaining variations in fertility and mortality rates globally.

2026 · 10 marks · Q5(c)

“The majority of migrants go only a short distance.” Explain with examples.

2026 · 20 marks · Q6(a)

Discuss the Geometry of Land Values in Urban Community and delimiting the Central Business District (CBD) in detail.

2026 · 15 marks · Q6(b)

Analyse the measuring patterns of settlement in relation to the nearest Neighbour Index and Rank-Size-Rule in detail.

2026 · 20 marks · Q8(a)

What are the principles of urban planning? Critically analyse town planning in India in the post independence period.

9. Regional Planning

31 questions · 445 marks

2016 · 15 marks · Q6(c)

What is a 'region'? Describe 'Thiessen' polygon method of regional delimitation.

2016 · 20 marks · 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.

2016 · 15 marks · Q8(c)

In what ways can geographers contribute towards optimal land use planning in a region?

2017 · 15 marks · Q7(c)

Define the quality of life and explain its parameters with adequate examples.

2017 · 15 marks · Q8(b)

Examine the role of small towns in the regional development process.

2017 · 15 marks · Q8(c)

Explain the concept of social capital in relation to India.

2018 · 10 marks · Q5(d)

Write a note on “forward and backward linkages” in Perroux's thesis of economic growth and regional development.

2018 · 10 marks · Q5(e)

Outline briefly the “age of mass consumption” as described by Rostow in his 'multi-stage theory of growth'.

2018 · 20 marks · Q6(a)

“Areal differentiation has provided the theoretical justification for studying 'regions' and 'regional geography'.” Comment.

2019 · 10 marks · Q5(d)

What are natural regions? How are they different from planning regions?

2019 · 20 marks · 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.

2019 · 15 marks · Q7(c)

“Growth is not uniform in different places.” Critically examine this statement in the context of the growth pole theory.

2020 · 10 marks · Q5(d)

“Where economic growth is sustained over long time periods, its incidence works towards a progressive integration of the space economy.” Elucidate.

2020 · 15 marks · Q7(c)

Write an essay on gender equity and equality in India in the context of balanced human development.

2021 · 10 marks · Q5(d)

Explain the processes of contagion and hierarchical diffusion in addressing regional imbalances.

2021 · 20 marks · Q6(a)

Development-induced displacement poses serious challenges. Mention its causes, consequences and solutions.

2021 · 15 marks · Q6(c)

The environmental issues are not adequately addressed in the regional planning. Comment.

2021 · 20 marks · Q7(a)

Suggest criteria, indicators and techniques for delimitation of formal regions.

2022 · 10 marks · Q5(d)

Discuss the role of transportation accessibility in regional development.

2022 · 15 marks · Q7(c)

Explain in detail the impact of regional disparities on economic development.

2023 · 10 marks · Q5(e)

Discuss the different types of polarisation induced spatial inequalities and imbalances associated with growth poles.

2023 · 15 marks · Q6(b)

What is the relation between gender equity and human development? Provide a list of commonly used gender related indices.

2023 · 15 marks · Q8(b)

Describe the concept of Planning Region. Explain the environmental and economic factors in the creation of such regions.

2024 · 10 marks · Q5(d)

There is a need for gender-sensitive regional development. Elaborate.

2024 · 10 marks · Q5(e)

Explain the theoretical framework and stages of economic growth proposed by Rostow's model.

2024 · 15 marks · Q7(c)

Assess the criteria required for selecting regions for developmental planning.

2025 · 10 marks · Q5(d)

“Regional imbalances are the product of in situ and ex situ factors.” Elucidate it with examples.

2025 · 20 marks · Q8(a)

Why has F. Perroux's theory of growth pole as a model of regional growth been criticised? Explain with examples.

2025 · 15 marks · Q8(c)

How do regional components make the regional synthesis in spatial arrangement? Explain.

2026 · 15 marks · Q3(b)

Anthropogenic impacts have caused major global and regional changes and imbalances in ecosystem. Elucidate with examples.

2026 · 15 marks · Q8(b)

What are the approaches of human development? Describe in detail the measures for computing human development index.

10. Models, Theories and Laws in Human Geography

19 questions · 280 marks

2016 · 15 marks · Q7(c)

Define and differentiate between boundaries and frontiers. Describe the geometrical boundaries with suitable examples.

2017 · 10 marks · Q5(d)

“The traditional cultural identities are at loss with the growth of global connectivity.” Explain.

2017 · 20 marks · Q8(a)

“The Heartland Theory is gaining importance once again.” Comment.

2019 · 15 marks · Q2(b)

Compare and contrast different types of plate boundaries.

2019 · 10 marks · Q5(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.

2019 · 10 marks · Q5(e)

Discuss the genetic classification of boundaries suggested by Hartshorne.

2019 · 15 marks · Q8(c)

Examine the relevance of the 'rimland theory' in the contemporary world.

2020 · 15 marks · Q6(c)

In the modern world, most of the frontiers have been replaced by boundaries. Explain the reasons.

2020 · 20 marks · Q8(a)

Discuss how and why Mackinder modified his concept of Pivot Area after the World Wars.

2021 · 15 marks · Q7(b)

Boundaries are important in geopolitics. Explain. What issues develop from the inclusionary and exclusionary aspects of borders?

2022 · 10 marks · Q5(e)

Explain the geometrical boundaries with examples.

2022 · 20 marks · Q6(a)

“Culture is a dynamic concept”. Elucidate with examples.

2023 · 15 marks · Q8(c)

“Boundaries and frontiers have different meanings in geographical literature.” Substantiate your answer in the present context.

2024 · 15 marks · Q6(c)

Explain the Heartland theory with reference to contemporary geopolitical scenario of the world.

2024 · 15 marks · Q7(b)

What is Transnationalism? Why has the scale and scope of transnational linkages of diaspora multiplied in recent times?

2025 · 15 marks · Q3(c)

“The Himalaya is still rising.” Expand this statement and describe the processes involved in it with suitable sketches and examples.

2025 · 15 marks · Q6(b)

Analyze the role of language and religion in delineating major cultural regions of the world.

2026 · 15 marks · Q7(c)

Elaborate partition of Indian subcontinent and international migration in detail.

2026 · 15 marks · Q8(c)

Explain the Rimland Theory with reference to ongoing geopolitical scenario in the world.

Paper II · Geography of India — Weightage

Unit	Questions	Marks	Share
1. Physical Setting	73	1085	24.7%
2. Resources	27	395	9.0%
3. Agriculture	33	495	11.2%
4. Industry	28	435	9.9%
5. Transport, Communication and Trade	21	320	7.3%
6. Cultural Setting	35	510	11.6%
7. Settlements	28	420	9.5%
8. Regional Development and Planning	17	255	5.8%
9. Political Aspects	22	295	6.7%
10. Contemporary Issues	13	190	4.3%
Total	297	4400	100%

Paper II · Geography of India — Questions by Unit

1. Physical Setting

73 questions · 1085 marks

2016 · 20 marks · Q1(a)

On the outline map of India provided to you, mark the location of all of the following. Write in your QCA Booklet the significance of these locations, whether physical / commercial / economic / ecological / environmental / cultural, in not more than 30 words for each entry: (i) Pir Panjal Range (ii) River Indravati (iii) Nathu La Pass (iv) Jog Falls (v) Pulicat Lake (vi) Kudankulam (vii) Nalanda (viii) Kudremukh (ix) Headquarters of N-E Railways (x) Farakka Barrage

2016 · 10 marks · Q1(b)

Explain the shifting of river courses and river capturing in the Himalayas.

2016 · 20 marks · Q2(a)

Discuss the role of spatial pattern of rainfall and temperature in the delimitation of climatic regions of India especially with reference to Stamp's climatic regionalization.

2016 · 15 marks · Q2(b)

Describe the flood-prone areas and their management problems in the Ganga Plains.

2016 · 20 marks · Q4(a)

Bring out the development of river water transport in India and its role in regional development.

2016 · 15 marks · Q4(c)

Describe the distribution of black soils in India and their specific use for agriculture.

2017 · 20 marks · Q1(a)

On the outline map of India provided to you, mark the location of all of the following. Write in your QCA Booklet the significance of these locations, whether physical / commercial / economic / ecological / environmental / cultural, in not more than 30 words for each entry: (i) Thumba (ii) Nayachar Island (iii) Doddabetta (iv) Devasthal (v) Pangong Lake (vi) Hampi (vii) Havelock Island (viii) Luni River (ix) Daringbadi (x) Dudhsagar Waterfalls

2017 · 10 marks · Q1(b)

Give a reasoned account of unusual pattern of distribution of monsoonal rainfall in India in 2017.

2017 · 20 marks · Q6(a)

Interlinking of rivers may serve as a major source of assured irrigation and all-weather inland navigation in India. Comment on its feasibility taking into account physical, economic and ecological implication.

2017 · 15 marks · Q6(c)

What do you understand by soil pollution? Delineate the areas vulnerable to it in India and suggest remedial measures.

2017 · 15 marks · Q7(c)

Justify the inclusion of Meghalaya in Peninsular India and discuss its vegetation and soil types.

2017 · 15 marks · Q8(b)

Drainage pattern in Peninsular India is a result of its geological structure and topography. Elaborate.

2018 · 20 marks · Q1(a)

On the outline map of India provided to you, mark the location of all of the following. Write in your QCA Booklet the significance of these locations, whether physical / commercial / economic / ecological / environmental / cultural, in not more than 30 words for each entry: (i) Shyok River (ii) Mawlynnong (iii) Shravasti (iv) Kori Creek (v) Amarkantak (vi) Ghatshila (vii) Tawang (viii) Neyyar (ix) Dandeli (x) Mulshi Lake

2018 · 10 marks · Q1(b)

Explain the unusual intensity of dust storms and thunder storms across India in the pre-monsoon period of year 2018.

2018 · 20 marks · Q2(a)

Distinguish the geographical aspects of North-Western lava plateau and Chotanagpur plateau of peninsular India.

2018 · 10 marks · Q5(b)

Explain the changing river courses and their impacts on the riparian population in India with suitable examples.

2018 · 10 marks · Q5(c)

Make a critical appraisal of the factors affecting river water quality in India.

2018 · 20 marks · Q6(a)

Illustrate with suitable examples the endeavours undertaken in augmenting conservation of water and vegetation in India.

2018 · 15 marks · Q6(b)

Discuss the strategies of integrated development of island territories in India.

2019 · 20 marks · Q1(a)

On the outline map of India provided to you, mark the location of all of the following. Write in your QCA Booklet the significance of these locations, whether physical / commercial / economic / ecological / environmental / cultural, in not more than 30 words for each entry: (i) Lothal (ii) River Beas (iii) Chikhaldara (iv) Narora (v) Lengpui (vi) Kuldiha Wildlife Sanctuary (vii) Thenmala (viii) Anamudi (ix) Barren Island (x) Durgaduani creek

2019 · 10 marks · Q1(b)

Examine the major causes of ground water depletion in India.

2019 · 10 marks · Q1(c)

Why is the Indian Monsoon erratic in nature? Explain.

2019 · 15 marks · Q3(c)

Discuss the rainfall pattern and correlate it with spatial distribution of natural vegetation in India.

2019 · 20 marks · Q4(a)

Discuss the political aspects of Himalaya. Explain how it has affected the geo-strategy, geo-politics and regional consciousness of Indian federalism.

2019 · 10 marks · Q5(a)

Present the salient features of West flowing rivers of India.

2019 · 10 marks · Q5(b)

Discuss the problems of wildlife conservation and management in India.

2019 · 10 marks · Q5(e)

Examine the problems of Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) in India.

2019 · 20 marks · Q6(a)

“Intrabasins linkages of rivers are more feasible economically, socially and ecologically”. Discuss with suitable examples from India.

2019 · 15 marks · Q8(b)

Describe the altitudinal and spatial geo-environmental hazards in the Himalayas.

2020 · 10 marks · Q1(b)

Climate change has unsettled the rhythm of seasons. Comment with examples and empirical evidences.

2020 · 15 marks · Q2(b)

Soil types in India, classified on the basis of colour, possess specific chemical and mineral characteristics. Discuss.

2020 · 15 marks · Q6(b)

Avalanche is a major hazard in the Himalayas. What are its causes and mitigation measures?

2020 · 20 marks · Q7(a)

Demarcating the seismic zones of India, suggest suitable interventions required in most sensitive seismic zones for sustainable human settlements.

2021 · 20 marks · Q1(a)

On the outline map of India provided to you, mark the location of all the following. Write in your QCA Booklet the significance of these locations whether physical / commercial / economic / ecological / environmental / cultural, in not more than 30 words for each entry: (i) Ziro Valley (ii) Khecheopalri Lake (iii) Toranmal (iv) Subarnarekha River (v) Koderma (vi) Sir Creek (vii) Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary (viii) Peechi Dam (ix) Digba Beach (x) Pamban Island

2021 · 10 marks · Q1(c)

Discuss the economic significance of volcanic soils of India.

2021 · 20 marks · Q2(a)

Landslide is a major problem in Himalayan region. Discuss its causes and mitigation measures.

2021 · 15 marks · Q2(b)

Appraise why drought is one of the most common climatic extremes in India.

2021 · 15 marks · Q2(c)

Discuss the ecological and economic challenges of river linking in India.

2021 · 20 marks · Q4(a)

Discuss the reserves, distribution and production of all varieties of coal in India.

2021 · 15 marks · Q4(b)

Describe the salient features of east-flowing rivers of India.

2021 · 10 marks · Q5(b)

Describe the problems of cloud burst in India giving suitable examples.

2021 · 20 marks · Q6(a)

Explain the impact of tropical cyclones and western disturbances on the climate of India.

2021 · 15 marks · Q6(c)

Describe the structure and relief features of Deccan Plateau.

2022 · 10 marks · Q1(c)

How do physiography and climate of India explain the biological diversity of the country?

2022 · 10 marks · Q1(d)

The process of desertification leads to soil desiccation and soil loss. Explain.

2022 · 20 marks · Q2(a)

Critically examine the factors affecting the unpredictability of South-West Monsoon system in India.

2022 · 15 marks · Q2(c)

Groundwater contamination in the fast expanding urban landscape of India appears to have become a major public health issue. Discuss.

2022 · 15 marks · Q3(c)

Soils of India, are clear reflections of the structure and process. Comment.

2022 · 15 marks · Q4(c)

Incidence of extreme rainfall events and flash floods in recent times have led to devastating consequences for people living in low-lying areas and flood plains of the country. Discuss.

2023 · 20 marks · Q1(a)

On the outline map of India provided to you, mark the location of all of the following. Write in your QCA Booklet the significance of these locations, whether physical / commercial / economic / ecological / environmental / cultural, in not more than 30 words for each entry: (i) Nathula (ii) Huttli (iii) Ross Island (iv) Moreh (v) Ramappa (vi) Namdapha National Park (vii) Sela Tunnel (viii) Ennore Port (ix) Ramagundam (x) Betwa River

2023 · 10 marks · Q1(b)

Describe the origin, distribution and economic significance of Gondwana system of rocks in India.

2023 · 15 marks · Q2(c)

Examine the geostrategic significance of Indian islands.

2023 · 15 marks · Q3(b)

Discuss the problems of floods and their management with special reference to Indo-Gangetic Plain.

2023 · 10 marks · Q5(c)

Explain the geological characteristics and ecological significance of the Eastern Ghats.

2023 · 15 marks · Q8(b)

Assess the ecotourism potential of Andaman and Nicobar, Lakshadweep islands and highlight the challenges associated with the sustainable development of island territories.

2024 · 20 marks · Q1(a)

On the outline map of India provided to you, mark the location of all of the following. Write in your QCA Booklet the significance of these locations, whether physical / commercial / economic / ecological / environmental / cultural, in not more than 30 words for each entry: (i) Lunkaransar (ii) Gua (iii) Raidak River (iv) Ekta Nagar (v) Chandanwari (vi) Babina (vii) Tatipaka (viii) Along Airport (ix) Karaikal (x) Panna

2024 · 10 marks · Q1(b)

Discuss the basis of various explanations for the formation of Shiwalik.

2024 · 15 marks · Q3(b)

Discuss the variations in nature of glaciers in India and the emerging issues due to climate change.

2024 · 10 marks · Q5(a)

How are geographic factors influencing the distribution of high annual rainfall in certain parts of India?

2025 · 20 marks · Q1(a)

On the outline map of India provided to you, mark the location of all of the following. Write in your QCA Booklet the significance of these locations, whether physical / commercial / economic / ecological / environmental / cultural, in not more than 30 words for each entry: (i) Rushikulya River (ii) Datar Hill (iii) Kikruma (iv) Choritand Tillaya (v) Byalalu (vi) Neyyar (vii) Uttarlai (viii) Sri Vijayapuram (ix) Dharwas (x) Gitabitan

2025 · 10 marks · Q1(b)

Referring to the location and physical formation of karewas, highlight their economic significance.

2025 · 10 marks · Q1(c)

How does Himalayan ecosystem regulate the cropping pattern and agricultural activities in Himalayan region of India? Discuss.

2025 · 15 marks · Q3(b)

Highlight the characteristics of land utilisation in Eastern Ghats region of India. What are the recent threats to land utilisation method in the region?

2025 · 20 marks · Q6(a)

Describe the causes of the phenomenon of 'urban heat island'. What are the effective measures to deal with this phenomenon in India?

2025 · 15 marks · Q7(b)

What are the causes and consequences of land degradation due to desertification in India? Examine with reference to various regional issues.

2026 · 20 marks · Q1(a)

On the outline map of India provided to you, mark the location of all of the following. Write in your QCA Booklet the significance of these locations, whether physical / commercial / economic / ecological / environmental / cultural, in no more than 30 words for each entry: (i) Bitra Island (ii) Lohit River (iii) Dras (iv) Kuno National Park (v) Yadadri (vi) Mahi Basin (vii) Tamralipta (viii) Toranmal (ix) Raya Heritage City (x) Varkala

2026 · 10 marks · Q1(b)

Briefly describe the origin, distribution and economic significance of Cuddapah and Dharwar rock systems of India.

2026 · 10 marks · Q1(c)

Explain the vertical zonation of vegetation of the Himalayas.

2026 · 10 marks · Q1(d)

Describe the geographical conditions necessary for the growth of mangrove forests in India. Explain their ecological and economic significance.

2026 · 20 marks · Q2(a)

The relationship between El Niño and the Indian monsoon is becoming complex under the conditions of global warming. Critically examine.

2026 · 10 marks · Q5(e)

Disaster risk reduction and community resilience are the two pillars that need to be prioritized in the flood prone areas of India. Critically analyse.

2026 · 15 marks · Q6(b)

Soil and water conservation are the major challenges in the development of hill areas of India. Explain.

2026 · 15 marks · Q7(b)

Deforestation in the upper reaches of a river augments the magnitude of soil erosion. Elaborate your answer citing the example of any North Indian river.

2. Resources

27 questions · 395 marks

2016 · 20 marks · Q3(a)

Identify the important biotic resource regions of India and highlight their problems.

2016 · 15 marks · Q3(c)

Give an account of the development of renewable resources of India.

2016 · 15 marks · Q6(c)

Evaluate the impact of technology on resource utilization in India.

2017 · 20 marks · Q2(a)

Discuss the freshwater crisis in India and prepare a blueprint for its sustainable management.

2017 · 15 marks · Q8(c)

Why has solar energy in India not been developed to desired level in spite of its high potential?

2018 · 10 marks · Q1(c)

Why setting up of Water Management Boards is a controversial issue in India?

2018 · 10 marks · Q1(d)

Keeping the recent developments in view, how can the energy crisis of India be circumvented by harnessing non-conventional energy resources?

2019 · 15 marks · Q2(c)

Discuss how watershed management has become a tool in eradication of rural poverty in India.

2019 · 15 marks · Q8(c)

“India is emerging as global power in relation to Indian ocean realm.” Elaborate.

2020 · 10 marks · Q5(d)

The pattern of growing ecological foot-prints is uneven in nature. Analyse with reference to land resources in India.

2021 · 20 marks · Q3(a)

Discuss the importance of solar energy in future economic development of India.

2021 · 10 marks · Q5(c)

Discuss the role of watershed management for soil and water conservation in hilly regions of India.

2021 · 15 marks · Q6(b)

Examine the critical issues of groundwater resources in India.

2022 · 15 marks · Q2(b)

The peninsular location of India provides scope for harnessing non-conventional energy resources. Discuss with examples.

2022 · 15 marks · Q3(b)

Discuss the continuing disputes on water sharing between the riparian states of North-West India.

2022 · 20 marks · Q4(a)

India is bestowed with rich mineral resources due to its geological structure. Correlate the above statement with large mineral belts of India.

2022 · 10 marks · Q5(a)

Discuss the impact of Forest Rights Act, 2006 on the local forest communities in India.

2023 · 10 marks · Q1(d)

Discuss the impact of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 on forest conservation in India.

2023 · 15 marks · Q3(c)

Critically examine the role of petroleum energy resources on International Geopolitics with special reference to India.

2023 · 10 marks · Q5(e)

Why are critical minerals essential for the economic development and national security in India?

2023 · 20 marks · Q7(a)

Discuss the green energy initiatives of India as a signatory nation to the Paris Agreement.

2024 · 15 marks · Q3(c)

Domestic tourism in India has immense local resource potential. Discuss the reasons and its various dimensions.

2024 · 15 marks · Q4(c)

Water scarcity is an important cause of disputes and conflicts in India. Suggest innovative methods for location-based solutions.

2025 · 15 marks · Q7(c)

Examine the validity of Blue Economy initiatives of India. Elaborate the impacts of this economy on country's development.

2026 · 15 marks · Q2(c)

Explain the global supply chain for the fertilizer industry in India. How do international prices of key inputs affect domestic production?

2026 · 15 marks · Q3(c)

Efficient use of energy resources can resolve the energy crisis in India. Comment.

2026 · 15 marks · Q4(b)

Describe the role of energy pipelines in the industrial development and in reducing the regional imbalances in India.

3. Agriculture

33 questions · 495 marks

2016 · 10 marks · Q1(d)

Define agricultural intensity and bring out its regional distribution in India.

2016 · 15 marks · Q8(b)

“India has paid heavily for achievement of Green Revolution in the form of economic, social and ecological cost.” Discuss.

2017 · 15 marks · Q4(b)

Farmers' suicide is one of the major agrarian problems in India. Bring out its causes and suggest the remedial measures with special reference to Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Punjab.

2017 · 15 marks · Q4(c)

Land reform is a key to modern agriculture in India. Describe various measures taken in this direction after Independence.

2018 · 15 marks · Q2(b)

Explain the contemporary agricultural scenario in the context of rapid urbanization in India.

2018 · 20 marks · Q3(a)

Examine the ongoing process of agricultural diversification and its implications for food security in India.

2019 · 10 marks · Q1(d)

Explain the significance of dry farming in drought prone areas of India.

2019 · 20 marks · Q2(a)

Correlate the agro-climatic zones with agro-ecological regions of India.

2020 · 10 marks · Q1(c)

Discuss the methods of crop residue management in rural India to reduce pollution.

2020 · 15 marks · Q3(b)

Identify oilseeds producing areas in India and discuss the measures to promote edible oil industry.

2020 · 15 marks · Q4(b)

Stunting and wasting among children are major consequences of food insecurity. Discuss various schemes of Government of India to address these problems and their achievements.

2020 · 15 marks · Q4(c)

The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill 2020 aims to deregulate the production, supply and distribution of farm produce. Critically examine its spatial consequences.

2020 · 10 marks · Q5(b)

Elucidate the benefits of neem coated urea scheme for Indian agriculture.

2020 · 10 marks · Q5(c)

Canal irrigation has led to monocropping in India. Explain with suitable examples.

2022 · 20 marks · Q3(a)

Discuss the recent changes brought about in institutional frameworks of agriculture in India. Evaluate its impact on the agrarian economy of the country.

2022 · 15 marks · Q4(b)

Discuss the importance of 'Dry-land' farming in the drought-prone regions of India.

2022 · 20 marks · Q8(a)

How do agro-climatic and land capability indicators assist in macro-agricultural regionalisation of India? Illustrate with an appropriate map.

2022 · 15 marks · Q8(c)

Evaluate the role of the National Food Security Act, 2013 in providing access of food to the poor in India.

2023 · 15 marks · Q2(b)

Why are millets considered as 'nutri-cereals' and climate-resilient? Discuss the constraints and opportunities of millet cultivation in India.

2023 · 10 marks · Q5(a)

Identify the jute-producing areas and discuss the major causes of decline of jute mill industry in India.

2023 · 15 marks · Q6(b)

Discuss the significance of organic farming for sustainable agricultural development in India.

2023 · 15 marks · Q7(b)

India's poultry sector has become one of the fastest growing areas of the country's agricultural sector. Examine its opportunities and challenges.

2023 · 20 marks · Q8(a)

Why India lags behind many other countries in agricultural productivity? Suggest suitable measures to raise productivity across the regions in a sustainable manner.

2024 · 20 marks · Q2(a)

Institutional factors are playing a dominant role in controlling the agricultural prosperity in India. Justify with evidences.

2024 · 10 marks · Q5(c)

Examine the transitional role of technology on Indian agriculture sector.

2024 · 15 marks · Q7(c)

How do small and fragmented landholdings affect the agro-ecological system in rural India? What are the resilient steps needed to overcome this issue?

2025 · 15 marks · Q2(c)

How does the agricultural sector of India confront with the contemporary physical and politico-economic changes in the different regions of the country? Elucidate.

2025 · 15 marks · Q3(c)

What are the challenges of dairy sector in India? Describe the contribution of bovine population.

2025 · 15 marks · Q4(b)

Why cottage industries in India are an integral part of Indian socio-economic structure? Assess this with reference to different types of cottage industries in rural India.

2025 · 10 marks · Q5(e)

Discuss the necessary conditions for the cultivation of fox nuts and describe the areas of its production in India.

2025 · 20 marks · Q7(a)

Explain the factors that contribute to droughts in India with specific reference to food production, distribution and availability. Can Indian agricultural policies resolve the issue?

2026 · 20 marks · Q3(a)

Examine the causes and consequences of crop diversification in India. How can crop diversification contribute to sustainable agriculture?

2026 · 15 marks · Q4(c)

Divide India into agro-ecological regions and highlight the salient features of any one of them.

4. Industry

28 questions · 435 marks

2016 · 15 marks · Q2(c)

Explain the New Industrial Policies in India.

2016 · 10 marks · Q5(b)

“The Bokaro Iron and Steel Plant is an example of Industrial Complex.” Explain.

2016 · 20 marks · Q7(a)

Analyze the location, distributional pattern and problems of cotton textile industries in India.

2017 · 10 marks · Q5(c)

Bring out the significance of Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS).

2017 · 10 marks · Q5(d)

Mini steel plants can act as an instrument of decentralization of iron and steel industry in India. Explain.

2017 · 20 marks · Q8(a)

Name the major industrial regions of India indicating the bases of their identification. Highlight their basic problems.

2018 · 15 marks · Q2(c)

Assess the suitability of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) for the sustainable economic development in India.

2018 · 15 marks · Q8(b)

Startups may play important role in giving fillip to economic growth in India. Illustrate with examples.

2019 · 15 marks · Q2(b)

Critically analyse the role of multinational corporations in India's economic development with suitable examples.

2019 · 15 marks · Q3(b)

Examine ongoing space programmes of India and their implications for national security in future.

2019 · 15 marks · Q4(b)

Examine the development of information technology in India and its influence on work culture and society.

2019 · 10 marks · Q5(d)

Assess the importance of foot-loose industries in the development of backward regions in India.

2020 · 15 marks · Q2(c)

The pharmaceutical industry in India depends on the import of raw materials. Evaluate this statement in view of the Indo-Chinese relationship.

2020 · 20 marks · Q3(a)

India has opened-up its space to private sector for satellite based activities. Critically examine its implications indicating the major security concerns.

2021 · 10 marks · Q1(d)

Give a reasoned account of difference between sugar industry of North and Peninsular India.

2021 · 15 marks · Q7(b)

Identify the major industrial corridors of India and discuss the characteristics of Bengaluru-Mumbai Corridor.

2021 · 15 marks · Q7(c)

Assess the growth of multinational corporations in liberalized economic environment of India.

2021 · 20 marks · Q8(a)

Examine how information and communication technology has boosted the development of certain regions of India.

2022 · 15 marks · Q6(b)

Critically examine the role of IRNSS-NavIC programme on the satellite navigation system of India.

2022 · 20 marks · Q7(a)

Discuss the salient characteristics of industrial complexes of Western India. Examine the impact of SEZ policy on the region.

2023 · 10 marks · Q1(c)

Examine the role of Indian Earth Observation Satellite Technology in enhancing weather forecasting and disaster management.

2023 · 20 marks · Q3(a)

Indian Pharma Industry has to move from 'volume' to 'value' leadership to capture global market. Discuss.

2024 · 15 marks · Q2(b)

The Indian Space Policy, 2023 supports the commercial presence in space. In what ways will it benefit the socio-economic development and security of India?

2024 · 20 marks · Q6(a)

Industrial waste is diversified. Discuss the potentials and challenges associated with it.

2025 · 20 marks · Q2(a)

Explain the factors which contribute to the growth of India's pharmaceutical industry with specific reference to its concentration in western region of India.

2026 · 15 marks · Q2(b)

Discuss the role of the private sector in the technological advancements of the defence industry in India.

2026 · 20 marks · Q4(a)

Analyse the spatial distribution of India's automobile industry. How have the clusters like Chennai, Pune and Gurugram emerged as key auto-hubs?

2026 · 15 marks · Q8(c)

Critically examine the environmental and economic consequences of India's rise as a global data centre hub.

5. Transport, Communication and Trade

21 questions · 320 marks

2016 · 10 marks · Q5(e)

Analyze the pattern of India's trade with the S-E Asian countries.

2016 · 15 marks · Q6(b)

Explain with suitable examples the role of road transport in agricultural development in India.

2017 · 15 marks · Q2(c)

Critically examine the feasibility of development of a comprehensive network of airways in India.

2017 · 15 marks · Q3(c)

How may tourism in hilly areas of India be developed as an important source of economy?

2017 · 20 marks · Q7(a)

Integrated development of road and rail networks in a complementary framework is a prerequisite for regional development. Explain with reference to North-Eastern Region of India.

2017 · 15 marks · Q7(b)

Describe the salient features of Sagar Mala Project and highlight its role in port-led development of coastal regions in India.

2018 · 15 marks · Q3(b)

Account for the persisting negative trade balance of India.

2018 · 20 marks · Q7(a)

Explain the pipeline network across India and its impact on regional development.

2018 · 15 marks · Q7(b)

Discuss the changing composition of international trade through major seaports of India.

2019 · 20 marks · Q8(a)

With special reference to India examine the changes in the nature and patterns of international trade. Mention the major influencing factors.

2020 · 20 marks · Q6(a)

Digital Divide in India needs quick redressal to reduce regional disparity in development. Elaborate with suitable examples.

2021 · 15 marks · Q8(c)

Critically assess the status of balance of trade in India and suggest some measures to combat the issues.

2022 · 10 marks · Q5(c)

Discuss the significance of new ports on the Western Coast of India on the external trade of the country.

2023 · 15 marks · Q4(c)

Highlight the salient features of India's trade policy. Discuss the status of India's balance of trade with China.

2024 · 10 marks · Q1(c)

Conservation and breeding centres are important components of the Action Plan for Vulture Conservation, 2020–2025. Why?

2024 · 10 marks · Q5(e)

Examine the relationship between seaports and regional development in India.

2024 · 20 marks · Q7(a)

India is playing a very significant role in world affairs. Examine the stands taken by India in important global and regional summits.

2024 · 15 marks · Q8(c)

What are the major regional rapid transit systems developed in India? How are urban problems being addressed by them?

2025 · 15 marks · Q2(b)

Why are coral reefs in India most important with respect to its dynamic ecosystem? Explore.

2025 · 15 marks · Q6(b)

With reference to the transport and communication network of India, critically discuss the Sagarmala project.

2026 · 15 marks · Q8(b)

Poor road infrastructure and inadequate public transport system remain the key issues in Indian metropolitan areas. Discuss with suitable examples.

6. Cultural Setting

35 questions · 510 marks

2016 · 15 marks · Q3(b)

Point out the ethnic disparities in the N-E India.

2016 · 10 marks · Q5(a)

Discuss the factors influencing the distribution of sex ratio in India.

2016 · 15 marks · Q7(b)

Describe the major tribal regions of India and their problems.

2017 · 20 marks · Q3(a)

“An effective three-tier Panchayat Raj System will strengthen the bottom-up approach to multilevel planning in India.” Explain.

2017 · 15 marks · Q3(b)

“Linguistic diversity is an asset as well as a challenge in India.” Explain the statement focussing on the distribution of languages and the major steps taken to address the related issues.

2017 · 15 marks · Q6(b)

Religious minorities are largely concentrated in border States of India. Discuss its causes and consequences.

2018 · 15 marks · Q3(c)

Critically assess the vanishing ethnic linguistic plurality of India.

2018 · 10 marks · Q5(a)

Discuss the socio-economic problems associated with the left behind families of international migrants from India.

2018 · 15 marks · Q8(c)

Is the land boundary of India with its neighbouring countries a cultural divide or divided culture? Explain with suitable examples.

2019 · 20 marks · Q3(a)

Discuss the use of chemical fertilizers, pesticides and insecticides in agriculture and its impact on human health.

2019 · 15 marks · Q4(c)

Explain the present status of age-structure and availability of workforce in India.

2020 · 20 marks · Q1(a)

On the outline map of India provided to you, mark the location of all of the following. Write in your QCA Booklet the significance of these locations whether physical / commercial / economic / ecological / environmental / cultural, in not more than 30 words for each entry: (i) Vadhawan (ii) Salkhan (iii) Coorg (iv) Mhow (v) Umroi (vi) Thoothukudi (vii) Bargarh (viii) Atal Tunnel (ix) Gurushikhar (x) Bum La

2020 · 20 marks · Q2(a)

Identifying areas covered under tribal sub-plan, discuss the programmes initiated to address their problems.

2020 · 15 marks · Q3(c)

Give a reasoned geographical account of changing rural folk houses in India.

2020 · 10 marks · Q5(a)

The success of Panchayati Raj depends upon meaningful participation of people at grassroot level. Examine.

2020 · 15 marks · Q6(c)

The process of demographic transition is not uniform in India. Examine this statement in the context of demographic transition theory.

2021 · 10 marks · Q5(d)

Critically examine the relevance of Ravenstein's law of population migration with reference to India.

2022 · 20 marks · Q1(a)

On the outline map of India provided to you, mark the location of all of the following. Write in your QCA Booklet the significance of these locations, whether physical / commercial / economic / ecological / environmental / cultural, in no more than 30 words for each entry: (i) Tarangambadi (ii) Mahe (iii) Bomdila (iv) Dhola Sadiya Bridge (v) Talakaveri (vi) Satkosia (vii) Dholavira (viii) Sonamarg (ix) Maliku Atoll (x) Gangasagar

2022 · 10 marks · Q5(b)

Can the Panchayat Raj institutions play a role in grassroot level planning in India? If yes, discuss how.

2022 · 10 marks · Q5(d)

How would decline in Total Fertility Rate (TFR) below the replacement level, in many states of India affect the future population structure of the country?

2022 · 15 marks · Q7(b)

Discuss the emergence of linguistic regions and states in India.

2023 · 20 marks · Q4(a)

With falling fertility rate and rising median age, how can India translate demographic dividend to economic dividend?

2023 · 10 marks · Q5(d)

Explain the cultural regions of India based on their cultural attributes.

2023 · 15 marks · Q8(c)

Describe the regional variations of health indicators among the Indian States.

2024 · 15 marks · Q4(b)

In spite of various tribal area development programmes in India, tribal areas still lag behind. Discuss critically with examples.

2024 · 10 marks · Q5(b)

Indian population belongs to large number of races. Discuss the spatial distribution of major races.

2024 · 15 marks · Q6(b)

How is cultural background of States of India reflected in the attributes of sex and age structure?

2024 · 15 marks · Q8(b)

Health is the outcome of interaction between physical setting, cultural traits and ecological connection. Explain.

2025 · 20 marks · Q3(a)

Why is the pattern of population distribution of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes different in India? Compare their socio-economic problems with examples.

2025 · 10 marks · Q5(b)

“Spatial distribution of religious groups in India does not show any specific pattern.” Illustrate with arguments.

2025 · 10 marks · Q5(d)

Is North East India a geo-political or geo-cultural region? Justify your answer.

2025 · 15 marks · Q6(c)

What are the key features of sex-ratio of population in India? Evaluate the impacts of child sex-ratio on general sex-ratio in the country.

2026 · 10 marks · Q5(c)

Discuss how Panchayati Raj institutions play a crucial role in the empowerment of women in India.

2026 · 20 marks · Q6(a)

Examine the trends in fertility rates across Indian states over time. How are they projected to evolve by 2050?

2026 · 15 marks · Q7(c)

Assess the role of geographical isolation in preserving tribal culture, as well as hindering their socio-economic development in India.

7. Settlements

28 questions · 420 marks

2016 · 10 marks · Q5(c)

How do slums develop? Give concrete suggestions for their improvement.

2016 · 20 marks · Q6(a)

Present a comparative analysis of geographical factors responsible for distribution of human settlements in Rajasthan desert and North-Eastern regions of India.

2016 · 20 marks · Q8(a)

Describe the causes and effects of urbanization in India and explain its impact on rural landscape and urban ecology.

2017 · 10 marks · Q1(d)

Small towns in India have problems and prospects of their own. Elaborate.

2017 · 20 marks · Q4(a)

Mention various methods of functional classification of towns in India and explain the method applied by Asok Mitra.

2018 · 20 marks · Q4(a)

Examine the driving forces of changing urban morphology of million-plus cities of India with suitable examples.

2018 · 15 marks · Q7(c)

Peri-urbanization has created enormous environmental problems. Discuss their causes and consequences with reference to the National Capital Region (N.C.R.) of India.

2018 · 20 marks · Q8(a)

Describe the changing regional morphology of rural settlements in India.

2019 · 10 marks · Q5(c)

Correlate the price of land, vertical growth of cities and the growth of slums in large cities of India.

2019 · 15 marks · Q6(b)

Provide a reasoned account on emerging conurbations in India and explain with suitable examples the problems associated with it.

2019 · 15 marks · Q7(b)

Give a reasoned account of high level of pollution in North Indian cities as compared to South Indian cities.

2020 · 10 marks · Q5(e)

Identify challenges faced by generative and parasitic towns in India and their possible remedies.

2020 · 15 marks · Q7(c)

Urban sprawl around planned cities evolve leading to emergence of squatter settlements. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of such outgrowth.

2020 · 20 marks · Q8(a)

Analyse the changing nature of workforce composition vis-à-vis rural-urban divide in India.

2021 · 15 marks · Q3(b)

Critically examine the importance of Smart Cities Programme for solving urban problems in India.

2021 · 10 marks · Q5(e)

Discuss Ashok Mitra's classification method of Indian cities.

2022 · 15 marks · Q7(c)

What are the drivers of urban sprawl around the major cities of the country? How have new investments in transport projects supported sprawl development?

2023 · 20 marks · Q2(a)

Examine the environmental challenges caused by the solid waste in metropolitan regions of India and discuss the efforts to overcome it.

2023 · 15 marks · Q4(b)

Poor quality of urban planning in India is a huge constraint in realizing the true economic potentials of urbanization. Critically examine.

2023 · 10 marks · Q5(b)

Urban built environment in big cities of India creates key changes in biophysical character of the landscape. Discuss.

2023 · 20 marks · Q6(a)

A large number of Indian cities have a complex morphological characteristics due to their historical evolution. Elucidate.

2024 · 15 marks · Q2(c)

Discuss the process of formation of conurbations in India and describe their problems.

2024 · 15 marks · Q6(c)

Discuss the targets of focused interventions of the Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain, 2024 in rural and urban areas.

2024 · 20 marks · Q8(a)

How can morphology of Indian towns be described historically? Discuss the major features of the first planned city in India after independence.

2025 · 15 marks · Q4(c)

“The rural settlements in India are highly diversified due to both physical and cultural factors.” Justify the statement with examples.

2025 · 10 marks · Q5(a)

How can rural-urban fringe be delineated? Explain with suitable examples from India.

2026 · 10 marks · Q5(a)

Analyse the consequences of circular migration in India. How does it influence both rural development and the urban economy?

2026 · 10 marks · Q5(b)

Explain the government initiatives for the redevelopment of slum areas in the mega cities of India.

8. Regional Development and Planning

17 questions · 255 marks

2016 · 15 marks · Q7(c)

Examine the causes of regional disparities in economic development in India.

2017 · 10 marks · Q5(a)

Explain the role of 'Hill Transport Subsidy Scheme' in reducing regional imbalances in areas identified by the Government of India.

2017 · 10 marks · Q5(e)

Goods and Services Tax (GST) has differential impact on developed and backward States of the country. How and why?

2018 · 10 marks · Q5(d)

Examine the role of people's participation in successful decentralised planning in India.

2019 · 20 marks · Q7(a)

Analyse the role of interstate migration in regional disparity in India.

2019 · 15 marks · Q7(c)

Analyse the incentive oriented programmes for removing regional imbalances in socio-economic development of India.

2020 · 15 marks · Q8(c)

What kind of skill promotion programmes have been initiated for job deficient regions in India? Explain.

2021 · 20 marks · Q7(a)

Critically examine how Panchayati Raj system is catalyst in decentralized planning in India.

2021 · 15 marks · Q8(b)

Discuss the Command Area Development Programme and its impact on eliminating regional inequalities in India.

2022 · 20 marks · Q6(a)

Why do disparities in development and incomes between regions persist in large countries like India? How does the recent ADP plan address the issue?

2023 · 15 marks · Q7(c)

Critically examine the ecological and economic impact of Indira Gandhi Canal Command Area development.

2024 · 20 marks · Q3(a)

India has wide-ranging regional disparities in economic development. Explain the patterns, implications and challenges.

2024 · 20 marks · Q4(a)

Migration is the reflection of regional disparities. What socio-economic and demographic consequences are experienced at the place of origin and destination?

2024 · 10 marks · Q5(d)

Describe the area-specific strategies for the development of drought-prone areas in India.

2024 · 15 marks · Q7(b)

The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act devolved functions, finances and functionaries for planning of rural areas in India. Discuss the major achievements with examples.

2025 · 10 marks · Q5(c)

“Watershed is the most appropriate spatial unit for planning.” Comment.

2025 · 15 marks · Q8(b)

With reference to typical examples, assess why regional planning in India is important for island territories for their sustainable development.

9. Political Aspects

22 questions · 295 marks

2016 · 10 marks · Q1(c)

Mention the space relationship of India with neighbouring countries.

2016 · 10 marks · Q5(d)

Explain the role of India in the geo-politics of South Asia.

2016 · 15 marks · Q8(c)

Explain the origin, dimension and implications of Sino-Indian border dispute.

2017 · 10 marks · Q1(c)

Explain the inter-State issues involved in implementation of the Satluj-Yamuna Link Canal Project.

2017 · 15 marks · Q2(b)

Identify the Naxal-affected areas in India and discuss their socio-economic problems.

2017 · 10 marks · Q5(b)

Bring out the geopolitical implications of Doklam dispute in the context of Indo-China relations.

2018 · 15 marks · Q4(b)

Discuss the emerging geo-political scenario of Indian Ocean realm.

2018 · 15 marks · Q6(c)

Cross border terrorism has implications on border area development in India. Examine it with suitable examples.

2020 · 10 marks · Q1(d)

Has the regional aspiration of the people of Jammu and Kashmir been addressed through re-organisation of the state? Make an assessment.

2020 · 20 marks · Q4(a)

Border area development is an important national priority. What are the resilient steps needed for peaceful borders?

2020 · 15 marks · Q8(b)

Describe the economic, maritime and strategic interests of India in South China Sea.

2021 · 10 marks · Q1(b)

Discuss the geo-political impact of bilateral relationship between India and Bhutan.

2021 · 15 marks · Q4(c)

Critically examine the problems of inter-State border disputes in India.

2022 · 10 marks · Q5(e)

Kalapani dispute has opened a new front on the India-Nepal international border. Explain.

2022 · 15 marks · Q8(b)

Discuss the geopolitical significance of Quad in the Indo-Pacific realm with reference to marine trade in the region.

2023 · 15 marks · Q6(c)

Examine the geopolitical impact of bilateral relationship between India and Sri Lanka.

2024 · 10 marks · Q1(d)

North-Eastern States of India are geopolitically sensitive and strategically significant. Explain.

2025 · 20 marks · Q4(a)

“Socio-political landscape in India is a result of regional consciousness creating inter-state disputes.” Discuss with region specific examples.

2025 · 15 marks · Q8(c)

With reference to international boundaries of India, discuss the related issues, giving suitable examples.

2026 · 15 marks · Q3(b)

India's vulnerability to maritime choke-points has increased sharply over time due to geopolitical tensions. Discuss.

2026 · 10 marks · Q5(d)

“India's approach to the Indian Ocean is cooperative rather than coercive.” Critically examine the statement.

2026 · 15 marks · Q6(c)

With reference to the international boundary between India and Bangladesh, discuss the related issues and challenges.

10. Contemporary Issues

13 questions · 190 marks

2016 · 15 marks · Q4(b)

Explain the impact of economic development on environmental degradation in India.

2018 · 15 marks · Q4(c)

Give a critical account of region specific constraints of sustainable tourism in India.

2018 · 10 marks · Q5(e)

Describe the socio-spatial consequences of the recent Nipah viral encephalitis in India.

2019 · 15 marks · Q6(c)

Explain the relevance of green tourism for sustainable development of mountain environment in India.

2020 · 15 marks · Q7(b)

What are the characteristics of Blue Flag certified beaches? Discuss their significance for beach tourism in India.

2021 · 15 marks · Q3(c)

Examine the significance of ecotourism in relation to socio-economic development and biodiversity conservation in India.

2021 · 10 marks · Q5(a)

Discuss the salient features of Project Tiger in India.

2022 · 10 marks · Q1(b)

Why has extreme particulate pollution remained a festering issue in Delhi NCR region?

2022 · 15 marks · Q6(c)

Examine the role of high population concentration in Indian slums in making them more vulnerable during pandemic conditions like the COVID-19.

2025 · 10 marks · Q1(d)

Write a critically argued essay on nautical tourism and its infrastructure in India.

2025 · 20 marks · Q8(a)

While defining the green architecture, discuss its principles and challenges in response to climate change in India.

2026 · 20 marks · Q7(a)

Why is it difficult to improve the quality of air during the winter season in the Gangetic plain? Critically evaluate with suitable examples.

2026 · 20 marks · Q8(a)

Critically examine the strategic, economic and ecological impacts of the proposed 'Great Nicobar Project'.

Paper Index and Official Sources

Year	Paper I	Paper II
2026	QP-CSM-26-010926-Optional-GEOGRAPHY_PAPER_I.pdf	QP-CSM-26-010926-Optional-GEOGRAPHY_PAPER_II.pdf
2025	GEOGRAPHY-PAPER-I-QP-CSM-25-010925.pdf	GEOGRAPHY-PAPER%20II-QP-CSM-25-010925.pdf
2024	QP-CSM-24-GEOGRAPHY-PAPER-I-031024.pdf	QP-CSM-24-GEOGRAPHY-PAPER-II-031024.pdf
2023	QP-CSM-23-GEOGRAPHY-PAPER-I-29092023.pdf	QP-CSM-23-GEOGRAPHY-PAPER-II-29092023.pdf
2022	QP-CSM-22-GEOGRAPHY-PAPER-I-280922.pdf	QP-CSM-22-GEOGRAPHY-PAPER-II-280922.pdf
2021	Geography%20Paper-I.pdf	Geography%20Paper-II.pdf
2020	GEOGRAPHY_I.pdf	GEOGRAPHY_II.pdf
2019	QP-CSM19-Geography-I.pdf	QP-CSM19-Geography-II.pdf
2018	GEOGRAPHY-PAPER-I.pdf	GEOGRAPHY-PAPER-II.pdf
2017	GEOGRAPHY1_1.pdf	GEOGRAPHY2_0.pdf
2016	GEOGRAPHY1_0.pdf	GEOGRAPHY2.pdf

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