

## Part B—Main Examination

The main Examination is intended to assess the overall intellectual traits and depth of understanding of candidates rather than merely the range of their information and memory.

The nature and standard of questions in the General Studies papers (Paper II to Paper V) will be such that a well-educated person will be able to answer them without any specialized study. The questions will be such as to test a candidate's general awareness of a variety of subjects, which will have relevance for a career in Civil Services. The questions are likely to test the candidate's basic understanding of all relevant issues, and ability to analyze, and take a view on conflicting socio-economic goals, objectives and demands. The candidates must give relevant, meaningful and succinct answers.

The scope of the syllabus for optional subject papers (Paper VI and Paper VII) for the examination is broadly of the honours degree level i.e. a level higher than the bachelors' degree and lower than the masters' degree. In the case of Engineering, Medical Science and law, the level corresponds to the bachelors' degree.

Syllabi of the papers included in the scheme of Civil Services (Main) Examination are given as follows :—

### QUALIFYING PAPERS ON INDIAN LANGUAGES AND ENGLISH

The aim of the paper is to test the candidates' ability to read and understand serious discursive prose, and to express his ideas clearly and correctly, in English and Indian language concerned.

The pattern of questions would be broadly as follows :

- (i) Comprehension of given passages.
- (ii) Précis Writing.
- (iii) Usage and Vocabulary.
- (iv) Short Essays

Indian Languages:—

- (i) comprehension of given passages.
- (ii) Précis Writing.
- (iii) Usage and Vocabulary.
- (iv) Short Essays.
- (v) Translation from English to the Indian Language and vice-versa.

**Note 1:** The papers on Indian Languages and English will be of Matriculation or equivalent standard and will be of qualifying nature only. The marks obtained in these papers will not be counted for ranking.

**Note 2:** The candidates will have to answer the English and Indian Languages papers in English and the respective Indian language (except where translation is involved).

### **PAPER-I (Essay)**

Government strives to have a workforce which reflects gender balance and women candidates are encouraged to apply.

**Essay:** Candidates may be required to write essays on multiple topics. They will be expected to keep closely to the subject of the essay to arrange their ideas in orderly fashion, and to write concisely. Credit will be given for effective and exact expression.

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