



UPSC

2014 - MAINS - GEOGRAPHY PAPER - I

Question paper specific Instructions

Please read each of the following instruction carefully before attempting questions :

There are EIGHT questions divided in two SECTIONS

Candidate has to attempt FIVE questions in all

Questions no. 1 and 5 are compulsory and out of the remaining, any three are to be attempted choosing at least ONE from each section.

Word limit in questions, whence specified, should be adhered to.

Illustrate your answers with suitable sketches, maps and diagrams. These shall be drawn in the space provided for answering the question itself.

Attempts of questions shall be counted in chronological order. Unless struck off, attempt of a question shall be counted even if attempted partly. Any page or portion of the page left blank must be clearly struck off.

Section A

1. Answer the following: 150 each:

10 x 5 = 50 marks

- Define the term 'meander' and describe the basic characteristics of entrenched meander and ingrown meander.
- Discuss the salient features of 'sirocco' and 'mistral'.
- Discuss an account of the nature of biosphere as an ecosystem.
- State the uniqueness of the Eurasian Steppe Biome.
- Illustrate the origin and nature of Sargasso Sea and Lagoon

2. Answer the following questions

(20 + 15 + 15 marks)

- State the concept of plate tectonics. How does it help in explaining the formation of Himalayas and Appalachian Mountains.
- Describe the origin and development of thunderstorms with examples.
- Enumerate the major causes of increasing degradation of environment in hills and hillslopes, and state its down-valley impact.



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3. Answer the following (20 + 15 + 15 marks)
- Discuss the nature and origin of Indian monsoon and recent techniques of its prediction.
 - State the concept of erosion surfaces and highlight the factors responsible for their development.
 - Give a critical account of reasons and consequences of marine pollution.

4. Answer the following questions (20 + 15 + 15 marks)
- Explain weathering and mass wasting, and describe their geomorphic significance.
 - Define zoogeographic region. Also describe the basic faunal makeup of the Neo-Arctic zoogeographic region.
 - Give an account of recent observation on coral bleaching with reference to Clive Wilkinson's Report.

SECTION B

5. Answer the following: 150 words each. (10 x 5 = 50 marks)
- Elaborate the concept of mental map.
 - Give an account of food security issues in developing countries.
 - Discuss the factors responsible for counter-urbanisation.
 - Explain the relevance of bottom-up and top-down approaches in the development of agrarian economy.
 - Critically analyse application of models in geography.

6. Answer the following questions (20 + 15 + 15 marks)
- Explain the necessary conditions of takeoff and subsequent stages of development of a nation as propounded by Rostow.
 - Discuss environmental and economic problems associated with coal production.
 - Discuss the contribution of geographers in the development of radical geography.



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7. Answer the following

(20 + 15 + 15 marks)

- Giving suitable examples, describe the importance of system analysis in geographical studies.
- “Rural sustainability is necessary for urban sustainability.” Discuss the statement in the backdrop of integrated development approach.
- “Indo-Gangetic hearth is considered to be one of the world’s richest cultural realms.” Examine.

8. Answer the following

(20 + 15 + 15 marks)

- Explain the qualitative and quantitative methods of delineation of sphere of urban influence.
- “World is passing through a global resource dilemma.” Comment
- “Food productivity with purity of the ecosystem is the need of the hour.” Elaborate.

