UPSC CIVIL SERVICES MAINS EXAM
IAS MAINS 2017 - ANALYSIS

UPSC Mains - 2017: GSM1
Questions

Answer following Question no. 1 to 10 in 150 words and 10 marks each:

1. How do you justify the view that the level of excellence of Gupta numismatic art is not at all noticeable in later times?
2. Clarify how mid-eighteenth century India was beset with the spectre of a fragmented polity.
3. Why did the ‘Moderates’ fail to carry conviction with the nation about their proclaimed ideology and political goals by the end of the nineteenth century?
4. What problems were germane to the decolonization process of Malay Peninsula.
5. How does the Juno Mission of NASA help to understand the origin and evolution of the Earth?
6. In spite of adverse environmental impact, coal mining is still inevitable for development.” Discuss.
7. Mention the advantages of the cultivation of pulse because of which the year 2016 was declared as the International Year of Pulses by the United Nations.
8. How does the cryosphere affect global climate?
9. In the context of diversity of India, can it be said that the regions form cultural units rather than the States? Give reasons with examples for your viewpoint.
10. What are the two major legal initiatives by the State since Independence, addressing discrimination against Scheduled Tribes (STs)?

Answer following Question no. 1 to 10 in 250 words and 15 marks each:

11. The spirit tolerance and love is not only an interesting feature of Indian society from very early times, but it is also playing an important part at the present. Elaborate.
12. Examine how the decline of traditional artisanal industry in colonial India crippled the rural economy.
13. Highlight the importance of the new objectives that got added to the vision of Indian independence since twenties of the last century.
14. Account for variations in oceanic salinity and discuss its multi-dimensional effects.
15. Petroleum refineries are not necessarily located nearer to crude oil producing areas, particularly in many of the developing countries. Explain its implications.
16. In what way can flood be converted into a sustainable source of irrigation and all-weather inland navigation in India?
17. What characteristics can be assigned to monsoon climate that succeeds in feeding more than 50 percent of the won population residing in Monsoon Asia?
18. The women’s questions arose in modern India as a part of the 19th century social reform movement.
What were the major issues and debates concerning women in that period?

19. Distinguish between religiousness/religiosity and communalism giving one example of how the former has got transformed into the latter in independent India.

20. “The growth of cities as I.T. hubs has opened up new avenues employment but has also created new problems. Substantiate this statement with examples.

UPSC Mains 2017 GS Paper 1

The UPSC civil services mains exam 2017 commenced as expected on 28 October and it is currently going on in full swing. In this article, we present a general analysis of the UPSC mains 2017 General Studies Paper I.

First of all, there was ONE major change as far as the pattern is concerned. There were 20 questions like previous years; however, unlike last year all the questions did not carry the same marks. The first ten questions in 2017 GS 1 mains carried 10 marks each and the word count for each was 150 words. The last ten questions carried 15 marks each and had a word count of 250 words each.

The number of questions from each topic is mentioned below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Number of questions</th>
<th>Marks</th>
<th>Percentage of marks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>History + Culture</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Issues</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Like last year, geography ruled in this year’s GS paper I too. There were 8 questions from this subject. History (including art and culture) came in second with 7 questions. Lastly, social issues saw 5 questions.