

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

Time Allowed : Three Hours

Maximum Marks : 300

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

**Please read each of the following instructions carefully
before attempting questions**

All the questions are to be attempted.

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

Attempt of a part/question shall be counted in chronological order. Unless struck off, attempt of a part/question shall be counted even if attempted partly. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

Answers must be written in ENGLISH only.

1. Answer **all** FIVE questions : 8×5=40
- (a) Briefly highlight the contribution of Mauryas in the spread of Buddhism. 8
- (b) Write a short note on the administration of Sher Shah Suri. 8
- (c) Discuss ancient India's trade with China. 8
- (d) Write about the efforts of the Congress Party to solve the problems of peasants in the pre-independence period. 8
- (e) Describe the achievements of Indian National Army during the British period. 8
2. Answer **all** FIVE questions : 8×5=40
- (a) What is a 'cloudburst'? Explain the impact of cloudburst. 8
- (b) Where are the major coal mines located in India? Discuss the current issues concerning the mining of coal. 8
- (c) What is 'spot-fixing' in cricket? Briefly discuss the impact the spot-fixing had on the IPL Tournament. 8
- (d) Why do the petrol and diesel prices increase in India frequently? What impact these price rises have on the 'economy'? 8
- (e) Discuss the reasons as to why 'outsourcing' has become an economic beneficial mechanism for both 'rich' and 'poor' countries. 8
3. Answer **all** FIVE questions : 8×5=40
- (a) Define the role of the Governor of an Indian State during emergency. 8
- (b) What are the main functions and responsibilities of the Gram Sabha under Article 243(A) of the Constitution? 8
- (c) What is the impact of coalition politics in India's decision-making process? 8
- (d) Explain the implication of the Supreme Court ruling in 2013 in the context of electoral reforms in India. 8
- (e) Give an account of the State reorganization process in modern India. 8
4. Answer **all** FIVE questions : 8×5=40
- (a) What is Television Rating Point (TRP)? Briefly point out the utilization of TRP in management of media channels. 8
- (b) What is a 'Breaking News'? What purposes does 'Breaking News' serve? Point out the misuses of the same. 8
- (c) What are the advantages of remote sensing for forest management? 8
- (d) Explain the terms 'carbon footprint', 'carbon credit' and 'carbon sink'. 8
- (e) What is the difference between a computer 'hacker' and 'cracker'? Discuss the importance of 'firewall' in a computer. 8

5. Answer **all** FIVE questions : 8×5=40
- (a) What are the objectives of Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission? 8
- (b) Discuss the main provisions of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee (MGNREG) Act, 2005. 8
- (c) Explain the Food Security Bill. What are its implications? 8
- (d) What is acid attack? What direction the Supreme Court has given to the Government of India to curb these attacks? 8
- (e) What is Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)? Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of FDI in multibrand retail sales. 8
6. Answer **all** FIVE questions : 8×5=40
- (a) Discuss the impact of opencast mining on environmental degradation. 8
- (b) What is 'Jhum'? How does it affect the environment? 8
- (c) Explain the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) Programme 2013–2016 on biodiversity. 8
- (d) Explain the causes of forest fires and describe the methods of controlling it. 8
- (e) What is an ecosystem? Classify them on the basis of risk or threat they are facing at present. 8
7. Answer **all** FIVE questions : 6×5=30
- (a) What is dark matter? Discuss how it has opened a new area of research in Physics. 6
- (b) What is wilting in plants? What effect does it have on food production? What measures can be taken against wilting in plants? 6
- (c) What is fibre-optic cable? How does it work? 6
- (d) Differentiate between 'broadsheet' and 'tabloid' newspaper. Discuss the content of 'page-3' and 'op-ed' page of a newspaper. 6
- (e) What is HTML? What for it is usually used and how? 6
8. Explain the following in about 20 words each : 4×5=20
- (a) Oriental Despotism 4
- (b) Diaspora 4
- (c) Digital Slavery 4
- (d) Politicides 4
- (e) Nirankari Movement 4

9. Who/What are the following and why were they/these in the news recently?

1×10=10

- (a) Razia Sultana
- (b) Chris Gayle
- (c) Ravuri Bharadwaj
- (d) Adli Mansour
- (e) Keonjhar
- (f) Rituparna Ghosh
- (g) Bodh Gaya
- (h) Edward Snowden
- (i) Miguel Trevino Morales
- (j) Amar G. Bose
