

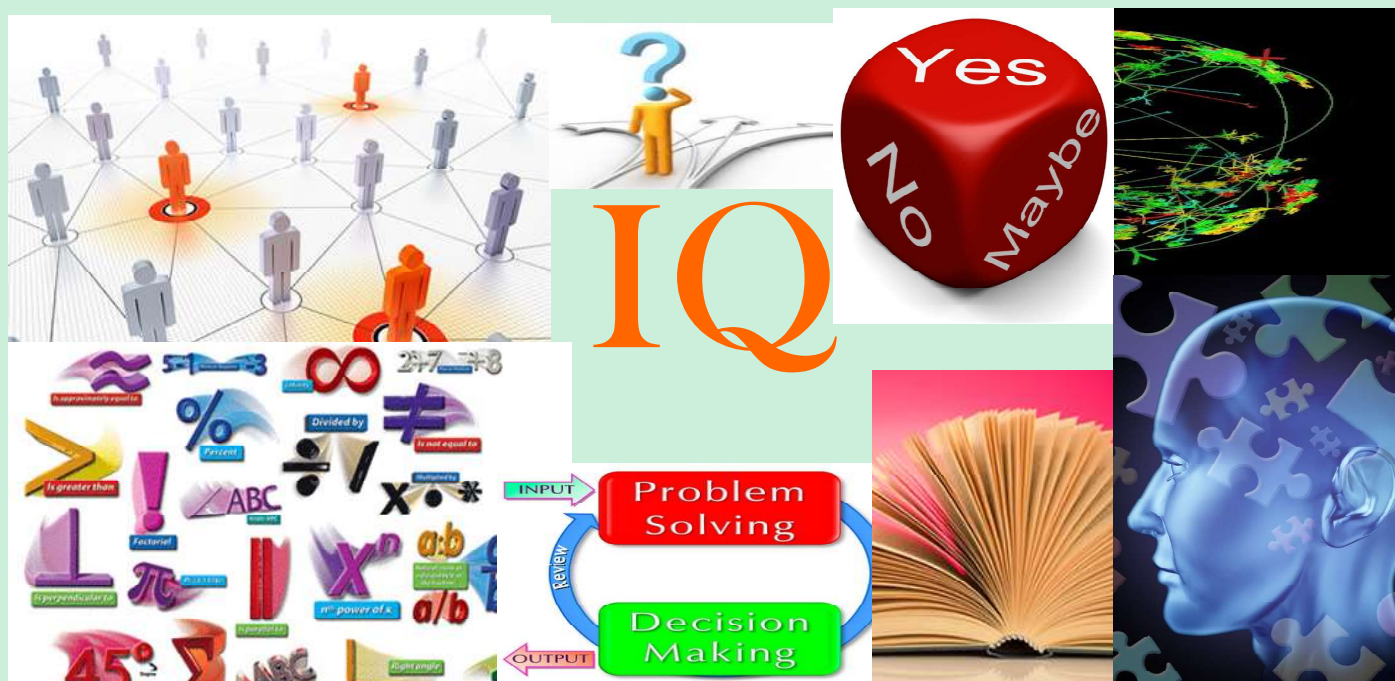
UPSC

UNION PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION Civil Services Prelims Exam 2023-24

GENERAL STUDIES

PAPER - 2 (CSAT)

(Completely revised study materials)



Syllabus

General Studies (Paper - II) OR Civil Services Aptitude Test

TOPICS INCLUDED IN THIS BOOK

SYLLABUS OF PAPER II - (200 MARKS) DURATION : TWO HOURS (TOTAL 80 QUESTIONS)

1. *Comprehension*
2. *Interpersonal Skill including Communication Skill*
3. *Logical Reasoning and Analytical Ability*
4. *Decision Making and Problem Solving*
5. *General mental ability*
6. *Basic Numeracy, Data Interpretation & Data Sufficiency*
7. *Hindi Language Comprehension Skill*

COMPREHENSION

PASSAGE - 1

In Asia and much of the Third World, trees are still destroyed in the old—fashioned way: they are cut down for fuel and cropland. In Europe, there is new and potentially more deadly culprit, The Germans call it 'Waldsterben', the dying forest syndrome. But the disease is far more than a German phenomenon. Since it was first observed by German scientists in the autumn of 1980, the mysterious malady has raced across Europe, blighting woods in countries as far apart as Sweden and Italy.

Explanations for the epidemic range from a cyclic change in the environment to a baffling form of tree cancer. But the most convincing evidence points to air pollution.

Indeed, saving the rapidly deteriorating Forests of Europe will probably require a two-pronged strategy : an offensive campaign that includes the breeding of pollution- immune trees and a defensive scheme that calls for reductions in toxic emissions. But both will require more money than is currently being spent on such measures, as well as total commitment to protecting the environment

1. According to this passage, which one of the following statements is correct?

- (a) There is less damage in Asia than in Europe
- (b) More forests are dying in Germany than anywhere else in Europe
- (c) A cyclic change in the environment is responsible for deforestation
- (d) Air pollution is the main culprit of destroying European forests

Ans (c)

2. Saving the trees of European forests

- (a) should not be difficult because of the advances in experimental research
- (b) appears to be a hopeless task and therefore pointless to undertake
- (c) requires a much bigger budget
- (d) demands vigilance and punitive measures against those who cut down the trees

Ans (c)

3. The dying forest syndrome is a disease

That

- (a) is peculiar to the forests of Asia
- (b) has spread rapidly over the forests of Europe
- (c) is confined to the forests of Germany
- (d) has affected forests all over the world

Ans (b)

4. The writer suggests that

- (a) it is no longer possible to grow trees in industrialized areas
- (b) pollution immune trees will absorb toxic emissions
- (c) all pollution-prone trees should be destroyed
- (d) it is not possible to grow trees that remain unaffected by pollution

Ans (d)

5. The writer's approach toward the problem of forest devastation is one of

- (a) tolerance
- (b) indifference
- (c) well thought—out strategy
- (d) despondency

Ans (c)

PASSAGE - 2

Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, the illustrious philosopher statesman of India, was one of the greatest sons of our motherland. He cautioned the world against the domination of science in society. It is erroneous to claim that scientific knowledge would bring with it perpetual progress and a steady improvement in human relations. The recent period of great scientific achievements has also increased human misery. Two world wars, concentration camps, atomic destruction, cold war, deadly wars in the middle east, Persian Gulf and at many other places in the world. Growth in human wisdom has not been commensurate with the increase in scientific knowledge and power. The fear of universal destruction hangs over the world. There is a feeling of disenchantment, anxiety and even despair. Science has failed to liberate man from the tyranny of his own nature. Mankind is passing through a critical period and an