General Studies - 1 (2013 -2025)			
History			
Theme - 1 (Modern History - significant events, personalities, issues.)			
S. No.	**Question**	**Sub Theme**	**Year**
1	Mahatma Jyotirao Phule's writings and efforts of social reforms touched issues of almost all subaltern classes. Discuss	Personalities	2025
2	How far was the industrial revolution in England responsible for decline of handicrafts and cottage industries in India?	British Policies	2024
3	What was the difference between Mahatma Gandhi and Rabindranath Tagore in their approach towards education and nationalism?	Personalities	2023
4	How did the colonial rule affect the tribals in India and what was the tribal response to the colonial oppression?	Peasant and Tribal Rebellions	2023
5	Why was there a sudden spurt in famines in colonial India since the mid-eighteenth century? Give reasons.	British Policies	2022
6	Why did the armies of the British East India Company - mostly comprising of Indian soldiers - win consistently against the more numerous and better equipped armies of the then Indian rulers ? Give reasons.	British Policies	2022
7	Trace the rise and growth of socio-religious reform movements with special reference to Young Bengal and Brahmo Samaj.	Socio Religious Reform	2021
8	The political and administrative reorganization of states and territories has been a continuous ongoing process since the mid-nineteenth century. Discuss with examples. (Answer in 250 words) 15 mark	Eve of British Conquest	2022
9	The 1857 Uprising was the culmination the recurrent big and small local rebellions that had occurred in the preceding hundred years of British rule. Elucidate.	Peasant and tribal Rebellions	2019
10	Examine the linkages between the nineteenth century's "Indian Renaissance" and the emergence of national identity.	Socio Religious Reforms	2019
11	Throw light on the significance of thoughts of Mahatma Gandhi in the present times.	Personalities	2018
12	Why indentured labour was taken by British from India to other colonies? Have they been able to preserve their cultural identity over there?	British Policies	2018
13	The women's questions arose in modern India as a part of the 19th century social reform movement. What are the maior issues and debates concerning women in that period?	Women Movement	2017

14	Clarify how mid-eighteenth century India was beset with the spectre of a fragmented polity?	Eve of British Conquest	2017
15	Examine how the decline of the traditional artisanal industry in colonial India crippled the rural economy.	Peasant and Tribal Rebellion	2017
16	Explain how the upraising of 1857 constitutes an important watershed in the evolution of British policies towards colonial India.	British policies	2016
17	Highlight the difference in the approach of Subhash Chandra Bose and Mahatma Gandhi in the struggle for freedom.	Personalities	2016
18	How different would have been the achievement of Indian independence without Mahatma Gandhi? Discuss.	Personalities	2015
19	Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, despite having divergent approaches and strategies, had a common goal of amelioration of the downtrodden. Elucidate.	Personalities	2015
20	It would have been difficult for the Constituent Assembly to complete its historic task of drafting the Constitution for Independent India in just three years but for the experience gained with the Government of India Act, 1935. Discuss.	British Policies	2015
21	The third battle of Panipat was fought in 1761. Why were so many empire- shaking battles fought at Panipat?	Eve of British Conquest	2014
22	Examine critically the various facets of economic policies of the British in India from mid-eighteenth century till independence.	British Policies	2014
23	Several foreigners made India their homeland and participated in various movements. Analyze their role in the Indian struggle for freedom.	Personalities	2013
24	"In many ways, Lord Dalhousie was the founder of modern India" Elaborate.	Personalities	2013
25	Discuss the contribution of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad to pre-and post- independent India.	Personalities	2013

Theme - 2 (Freedom Struggle)

S. No.	Question	Sub Theme	Year
1	What were the events that led to Quit India movement? Point out its results.	Gandhian Phase	2024
2	To what extinct did the role of moderates prepare a base for the wider freedom movement? comment	Moderate Phase	2021
3	Bring out the constructive programmes of Mahatma Gandhi during Non- Cooperation Movement and Civil Disobedience Movement.	Personalities	2021
4	Evaluate the policies of Lord Curzon and their long-term implications on the national movement.	Personalities	2020

5	Since the decade of the 1920s, the national movement acquired various ideological strands and thereby expanded its social base. Discuss.	Gandhian Phase	2020
6	Many voices had strengthened and enriched the nationalist movement during the Gandhian phase. Elaborate.	Gandhian Phase	2019
7	Assess the role of British imperial power in complicating the process of transfer of power during the 1940s.	British Policies	2019
8	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?	Moderate Phase	2017
9	Highlight the importance of new objective that got added to the vision of Indian independence since the twenties of the last century.	Gandhian phase	2017
10	Discuss the role of women in the freedom struggle especially during the Gandhian phase.	Gandhian Phase	2016
11	In what ways did the naval mutiny prove to be the last nail in the coffin of British colonial aspirations in India?	Final Phase	2014
12	What were the major political, economic and social developments in the world which motivated the anti-colonial struggle in India?	Miscellaneous	2014
13	Defying the barriers of age, gender, and religion, the Indian women became the torch-bearer during the struggle for freedom in India. Discuss.	Role of Social groups	2013

Theme - 3 (Salient aspects of Art Forms, Literature and Architecture)

S. No.	Question	Sub Theme	Year
1	Discuss the salient features of the Harappan Architecture	Architecture and Sculpture	2025
2	The sculptors filled the Chandella Art Form with resilient vigor and breadth of life'. Elucidate.	Dynastic Art	2025
3	"Though the great Cholas are no more yet their name is still remembered with great pride because of their highest achievements in the domain of art and architecture." Comment.	Dynastic Art	2024
4	Estimate the contribution of Pallavas of Kanchi for the development of art and literature of South India.	Dynastic Art	
5	Underline the changes in field of society and economy from the Rig Vedic period to later Vedic Period?	Society	2024
6	What are the main features of Vedic society and religion? Do you think some of the features are still prevailing in Indian society?	Society	2023
7	How will you explain that medieval Indian temple sculptures represent the social life of those days?	Architecture and sculpture	2022

8	Discuss the main contributions of Gupta period and Chola period to Indian heritage and culture.	Dynastic Art	2022
9	Discuss the significance of the lion and bull figures in Indian mythology, art, and architecture.	Architecture and sculpture	2022
10	Evaluate the nature of the Bhakti Movement and its contribution to Indian culture.	Bhakti Sufi	2021
11	The rock-cut architecture represents one of the most important sources of our knowledge of early Indian art and history. Discuss.	Architecture and sculpture	2020
12	The Pala period is the most significant phase in the history of Buddhism in India. Enumerate.	Dynastic Art	2020
13	Indian Philosophy and tradition played a significant role in conceiving and shaping the monuments and their art in India. Discuss.	Architecture and sculpture	2020
14	Persian literary sources of medieval India reflect the spirit of the age. Comment.	Literature	2020
15	Highlight the Central Asian and Greco-Bactrian elements in Gandhara art.	Architecture and Sculpture	2019
16	The Bhakti literature received a remarkable re-orientation with the advent of Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu. Discuss	Bhakti-Sufi	2018
17	Safeguarding the Indian Art Heritage is the need of the moment. Discuss.	Miscellaneous	2018
18	How do you justify the view that the level of excellence of the Gupta numismatic art is not at all noticeable in later times?	Dynastic Art	2017
19	Early Buddhist Stupa-art, while depicting folk motifs and narratives successfully expounds Buddhist ideals. Elucidate.	Architecture and Sculpture	2016
20	Krishnadeva Raya, the King of Vijayanagar, was not only an accomplished scholar himself but was also a great patron of learning and literature. Discuss.	Dynastic Art	2016
21	The ancient civilization in the Indian sub-continent differed from those of Egypt, Mesopotamia, and Greece in that its culture and traditions have been preserved without a breakdown to the present day. Comment.	Miscellaneous	2015
22	Mesolithic rock-cut architecture of India not only reflects the cultural life of the times but also has a fine aesthetic sense comparable to modern painting. Critically evaluate this comment.	Architecture and Sculpture	2015
23	To what extent has the urban planning and culture of the Indus Valley Civilization provided inputs to present-day urbanization? Discuss.	Pre Vedic	2014

24	Gandhara's sculpture owed as much to the Romans as to the Greeks. Explain.	Architecture and Sculpture	2014
25	Sufis and medieval mystic saints failed to modify either the religious ideas and practices or the outward structure of Hindu/Muslim societies to any appreciable extent. Comment.	Bhakti-Sufi	2014
26	Though not very useful from the point of view of a connected political history of South India, the Sangam literature portrays the social and economic conditions of its time with remarkable vividness. Comment.	Literature	2013
27	Discuss the Tandava dance as recorded in the early Indian inscriptions.	Dance	2013
28	Chola architecture represents a high watermark in the evolution of temple architecture. Discuss.	Dynastic Art	2013
	Theme - 4 (Post Independence Consolidation)		
S. No.	**Question**	**Sub Theme**	**Year**
1	Trace India's consolidation process during early phase of independence in terms of polity, economy, education and international relations.	Generic	2025
2	Assess the main administrative issues and socio-cultural problems in the integration process of Indian Princely States.	Formation of states	2021
3	Critically discuss the objectives of Bhoodan and Gramdan Movements initiated by Acharya Vinoba Bhave and their success.	Movements	2013
4	Write a critical note on the evolution and significance of the slogan "Jai Jawana Jai Kisan".	Political History	2013
5	Analyze the circumstances that led to Tashkent Agreement in 1966. Discuss the highlights of the agreement.	Political History	2013
6	Critically examine the compulsions which prompted India to play a decisive roles in the emergence of Bangladesh.	Political History	2013
	Theme - 5 (World history)		
S. No.	**Question**	**Sub Theme**	**Year**
1	The French Revolution has enduring relevance to the contemporary world. Explain.	American and French Revolution	2025
2	How far is it correct to say that the first world war was fought essentially for the preservation of balance of power.	World wars	2024
3	Bring out the socio-economic effects of the introduction of railways in different countries of the world.	Industrial Revolution	2023
4	"There arose a serious challenge to the democratic state system between the two world wars". Evaluate the statement.	World Wars	2021

5	Explain how the foundations of the modern world were laid by the American and French revolution.	American and French Revolution	2019
6	What problems were germane to the decolonization process of Malay Peninsula.	Decolonization	2017
7	The anti-colonial struggles in West Africa were led by the new elite of Western-educated Africans. Examine.	Decolonization	2016
8	To what extent can Germany be held responsible for causing the two World Wars? Discuss critically	World Wars	2015
9	Why did the industrial revolution first occur in England? Discuss the quality of life of the people there during the industrialization. How does it compare with that in India at present?	Industrial Revolution	2015
10	The New Economic Policy – 1921 of Lenin had influenced the policies adopted by India soon after independence. Evaluate.	Socialism and Communism	2014
11	What were the events that led to the Suez Crisis in 1956? How did it deal a final blow to Britain's self-image as a world power?	Decolonisation	2014
12	What policy instruments were deployed to contain the great economic depression?	World Wars and interwar years	2013
13	American Revolution was an economic revolt against mercantilism. Substantiate.	French/American Revolution	2013
14	Africa was chopped into states artificially created by accident of European competition. Analyse.	Rise of Nationalism	2013
15	"Latecomer" Industrial revolution in Japan involved certain factors that were markedly different from what west had experience.	Industrial Revolution	2013

Theme - 6 (Miscellaneous)

S. No.	Question	Sub Theme	Year
1	Explain the role of geographical factors towards the development of Ancient India.	N/A	2023
2	What were the major technological changes introduced during the Sultanate period? How did those technological changes influence the Indian society?	N/A	2023
3	Assess the importance of the accounts of the Chinese and Arab Travellers in the reconstruction of the history of India.	N/A	2018
4	Taxila university was one of the oldest universities in the world which was associated with a number of renowned learned personalities of different disciplines. Its strategic location caused its fame to flourish, but unlike Nalanda, it is not considered a university in the modern sense. Discuss.	N/A	2014

General Studies - 1 (2013 -2025)			
Geography			
Theme - 1 (Physical Geography)			
S. No.	**Question**	**Sub Theme**	**Year**
1	Discuss how the changes in shape and sizes of continents and ocean basins of the planet take place due to tectonic movements of the crustal masses.	Distribution of oceans and continents	2025
2	How are the fjords formed? Why do they constitute some of the most picturesque areas of the world?	Landforms	2023
3	Describe the characteristics and type of primary rocks. (Answer in 150 words) 10 mark	Landforms	2022
4	Briefly mention the alignment of major mountain ranges of the world and explain their impact on local weather conditions, with examples.	Geomorphology	2021
5	Discuss the geophysical characteristics of Circum-Pacific Zone. (Answer in 150 words)	Distribution of oceans and continents	2020
6	The process of desertification does not have climatic boundaries. Justify with examples. (Answer in 150 words)	Landforms	2020
7	Discuss the causes of depletion of mangroves and explain their importance in maintaining coastal ecology.	Natural Vegetation	2019
8	Why are the world's fold mountain systems located along the margins of continents? Bring out the association between the global distribution of fold mountains and earthquakes and volcanoes.	Geomorphology	2014
9	Explain the formation of thousands of islands in the Indonesian and Philippines archipelagos.	Distribution of oceans and continents	2014
10	(a)What do you understand by the theory of 'continental drift? Discuss the prominent evidences in its support. (b) The recent cyclone on the east coast of India was called 'Phailin' How are tropical cyclones named across the world? Elaborate.	Distribution of oceans and continents B) Geophysical Phenomena	2013
Theme - 2 (Indian Geography)			
S. No.	**Question**	**Sub Theme**	**Year**
1	Discuss the distribution and density of population in the Ganga River Basin with special reference to land, soil and water resources.	Economic Geography of India	2025
2	Why is the South-West Monsoon called 'Purvaiya' (easterly) in Bhojpur Region? How has this directional seasonal wind system influenced the cultural ethos of the region?	Climate and weather phenomena	2023

3	Discuss the meaning of colour-coded weather warnings for cyclone prone areas given by India Meteorological Department. (Answer in 150 words) 10 mark	Geophysical Phenomena	2022
4	Discuss the natural resource potential of 'Deccan trap'. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks	Resources	2022
5	How will the melting of Himalayan glaciers have a far-reaching impact on the water resources of India? (Answer in 150 words	Himalayas	2020
6	The interlinking of rivers can provide viable solutions to the multi-dimensional inter-related problems of droughts, floods and interrupted navigation. Critically examine.	Drainage System	2020
7	The states of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand reaching the limits of their ecological carrying capacity due to tourism. Critically evaluate.	Issues and concerns	2015
8	Mumbai, Delhi, and Kolkata are the three megacities of the country but air pollution is a much more serious problem in Delhi as compared to the other two. Why is this so?	Urbanisation	2015
9	How far do you agree that the behaviour of the Indian monsoon has been changing due to humanizing landscapes? Discuss.	Indian Monsoon	2015
10	Bring out the relationship between the shrinking Himalayan glaciers and the symptoms of climate change in the Indian sub-continent.	Himalayas/issues and concerns	2014
11	(a) Bring out the causes for the more frequent occurrence of landslide in the Himalayas than in the Western Ghats. (b) There is no formation of deltas by rivers of the Western Ghats. Why?	Himalayas Physical landmarks of India	2013

Theme - 3 (Resources)

S. No.	Question	Sub Theme	Year
1	Give Geographical explanation of the distribution of off shore oil reserves of the world. How are they different from the on shore occurances of oil reserves ?	Energy Resource	2025
2	Explain briefly the ecological and economic benefits of solar energy generation in India with suitable examples.	Energy Resource	2025
3	The groundwater potential of the Gangetic valley is under serious decline. How it may affect the food security of India?	Water	2024
4	Why is the world today confronted with a crisis of availability of and access to freshwater resources?	Water	2023
5	Comment on the resource potentials of the long coastline of India and highlight the status of natural hazard preparedness in these areas.	Generic Resource based	2023

6	Identify and discuss the factors responsible for diversity of natural vegetation in India. Assess the significance of wildlife sanctuaries in rain forest regions of India.	Vegetations	2023
7	Examine the potential of wind energy in India and explain the reasons for their limited spatial spread.	Energy resource	2022
8	Describing the distribution of rubber-producing countries indicate the major environmental issues faced by them. (Answer in 250 words)	Rubber Industry	2022
9	Despite India being one of the countries of the Gondwanaland, its mining industry contributes much less to its Gross Domestic Product(GDP) in percentage. Discuss	Mining and Minerals	2021
10	What are the environmental implications of the reclamation of the water bodies into urban land use? Explain with examples	Water	2021
11	Discuss the multi-dimensional implications of uneven distribution of mineral oil in the world.	Energy resource	2021
12	Examine the status of forest resources of India and its resultant impact on climate change. (Answer in 250 words)	Vegetation Resources	2020
13	What is water stress? How and why does it differ regionally in India?	Water	2019
14	How is efficient and affordable urban mass transport key to the rapid economic development in India?	Urbanization	2019
15	"The ideal solution of depleting ground water resources in India is water harvesting system". How can it be made effective in urban areas?	Water	2018
16	Defining blue revolution, explain the problems and strategies for pisciculture development in India	Water	2018
17	"Inspite of adverse environmental impact, coal mining is still inevitable for development". Discuss	Mineral	2017
18	In what way can flood be converted into a sustainable source of irrigation and all-weather inland navigation in India?	Water	2017
19	In spite of adverse environmental impact, coal mining is still inevitable for development." Discuss.	Mineral	2017
20	The effective management of land and water resources will drastically reduce the human miseries. Explain	Water	2016
21	Enumerate the problems and prospects of inland water transport in India.	Water	2016
22	In what way micro-watershed development projects help in water conservation in drought-prone and semi-arid regions of India?	Water	2016
23	India is well endowed with freshwater resources. Critically examine why it still suffers from water scarcity.	Water	2015

24	With the growing scarcity of fossil fuels, atomic energy is gaining more and more significance in India. Discuss the availability of raw materials required for the generation of atomic energy in India and in the world.	Energy	2013
25	It is said that India has substantial reserves of shale oil and gas, which can feed the needs of the country for quarter-century. However, tapping of the resource does not appear to be high on the agenda. Discuss critically the availability and issues involved.	Energy	2013

Theme - 4 (Climatology)

S. No.	Question		Year
1	Discuss the consequences of climate change on the food security in tropical countries.	Climate Change	2023
2	Troposphere is a very significant atmosphere layer that determines weather processes. How?	Layers of atmosphere	2022
3	What characteristics can be assigned to monsoon climate that succeeds in feeding more than 50 percent of the world population residing in Monsoon Asia?	Climate type	2017
4	Discuss the concept of air mass and explain its role in macro-climatic changes.	Phenomena	2016
5	Most of the unusual climatic happenings are explained as an outcome of the El-Nino effect. Do you agree?	Phenomena	2014
6	(a) Bring out the causes for the formation of heat islands in the urban habitat of the world. (b) What do you understand by the phenomenon of 'temperature inversion' in meteorology? How does it affect the weather and the inhabitants of the place?	Phenomena	2013
7	Major hot deserts in the northern hemisphere are located between 20-30 deg N latitudes and on the western side of the continents. Why?	Climate types	2013

Theme - 5 (Agriculture)

S. No.	Question	Sub Theme	Year
1	From being net food importer in 1960s, India has emerged as a net food exporter to the world. Provide reasons.	N/A	2023
2	Mention the advantages of the cultivation of pulses because of which the year 2016 was declared as the International Year of Pulses by United Nations.	N/A	2017
3	Why did the Green Revolution in India virtually bypass the eastern region despite fertile soil and good availability of water?	N/A	2014
4	Whereas the British planters had developed tea gardens all along the Shivaliks and Lesser Himalayas from Assam to	N/A	2014

	Himachal Pradesh, in effect they did not succeed beyond the Darjeeling area. Explain.		

Theme - 6 (Oceanography)

S. No.	Question	Sub Theme	Year
1	What is Sea surface temperature rise ? How does it affect formation of tropical cyclones?	Phenomena	2024
2	What are the forces that influence ocean currents? Describe their role in the fishing industry of the world.	Ocean currents	2022
3	How do ocean currents and water masses differ in their impacts on marine life and coastal environment?	Ocean currents	2019
4	What are the consequences of spreading of 'Dead Zones' on marine ecosystems?	Phenomena	2018
5	Account for variations in oceanic salinity and discuss its multidimensional effects	Ocean salinity	2017
6	Explain the factors responsible for the origin of ocean currents? How do they influence regional climates, fishing, and navigation?	Ocean currents	2015
7	Critically evaluate the various resources of the oceans which can be harnessed to meet the resource crisis in the world.	Ocean Resources	2014

Theme - 7 (Industries)

S. No.	Question	Sub Theme	Year
1	What are non-farm primary activities ? How are these activities related to the physiographic features in India ? Discuss with examples.	Economic geography India	2025
2	Account for the present location of iron and steel industries away from the source of raw material, by giving examples.	Iron and steel	2020
3	Discuss the factors for localisation of agro-based food processing industries of North-West India	Agro Based	2019
4	Can the strategy of regional-resource based manufacturing help in promoting employment in India?	Miscellaneous	2019
5	What is the significance of Industrial Corridors in India? Identifying industrial corridors, explain their main characteristics.	Industrial corridors	2018
6	Petroleum refineries are not necessarily located nearer to crude oil producing areas, particularly in many of the developing countries. Explain its implications.	Petroleum	2017
7	Account for the change in the spatial pattern of the Iron and Steel industry in the world.	Iron and Steel	2014
8	(a) Do you agree that there is a growing trend of opening new sugar mills in the southern States of India? Discuss	Sugar industry	2013

	with justification. (b) Analyze the factors for the highly decentralized cotton textile industry in India.		

Theme - 8 (Geophysical phenomena)

S. No.	Question	Sub Theme	Year
1	How are climate change and sea level rise affecting the very existence of many island nations ? Discuss with examples.	Global Warming	2025
2	What are tsunamis ? How and where are they formed ? What are their consequences ? Explain with examples.	Tsunami	2025
3	What is a twister? Why are the majority of twisters observed in the area around Gulf of Mexico?	Cyclones	2024
4	What are Aurora Australis and Aurora Borealis? How are these triggered ?	Miscellaneuos	
5	What is the phenomenon of cloud bursts? Explain	Cloudburst	2024
6	Differentiate the causes of landslides in the Himalayan region and the Western Ghats. (Answer in 150 words) 10	Landslide	2021
7	Mention the global occurrence of volcanic eruptions in 2021 and their impact on regional environment.	Volcanoes	2021
8	How do the melting of the Arctic ice and glaciers of the Antarctic differently affect the weather patterns and human activities on the Earth? Explain	Effect of global warming on poles	2021
9	Account for the huge flooding of million cities in India including the smart ones like Hyderabad and Pune. Suggest lasting remedial measures.	Urban floods	2020
10	Assess the impact of global warming on the coral life system with examples	Effects of global warming on corals	2019
11	Define mantle plume and explain its role in plate tectonics.	Mantle Plume	2018
12	How does the cryosphere affect global climate?	Cryosphere	2017
13	"The Himalayas are highly prone to landslides." Discuss the causes and suggest suitable measures of mitigation.	Himalayas/landslides	2016
14	Major cities of India are becoming vulnerable to flood conditions. Discuss.	Urban Floods	2016
15	Tropical cyclones are largely confined to the south China Sea, Bay of Bengal, and the Gulf of Mexico. Why?	Cyclones	2014

Theme - 9 (Geopolitics)

S. No.	Question	Sub Theme	Year
1	Mention the significance of straits and isthmus in international trade. (Answer in 250 words) 15 mark	Landforms	2022
2	Why is India taking keen interest in resources of Arctic region?	Arctic	2018

3	South China Sea has assumed great geopolitical significance in the present context. Comment.	South China Sea	2016
4	Present an account of the Indus Water Treaty and examine its ecological, economic and political implications in the context of changing bilateral relations.	Indus Water treaty	2016
5	What are the economic significances of the discovery of oil in the Arctic Sea and its possible environmental consequences?	Arctic	2015
6	How does India see its place in the economic space of rising natural resource rich Africa?	Africa	2014
	Theme 10 - (Miscellaneous)		
S. No.	**Question**	**Sub Theme**	**Year**
1	How can Artificial Intelligence and drones be effectively used along with GIS and RS techniques in locational and areal planning ?	N/A	2025
2	Why is India considered as a sub-continent? Elaborate your answer.	N/A	2021
3	How can the mountain ecosystem be restored from the negative impact of development initiatives and tourism?	N/A	2019
4	Why is Indian Regional Navigational Satellite System (IRNSS) needed? How does it help in navigation?	N/A	2018
5	Discuss whether formation of new states in recent times is beneficial or not for the economy of India.	N/A	2018
6	How does the Juno Mission of NASA help to understand the origin and evolution of the Earth?	N/A	2017
	General Studies - 1 (2013 -2025)		
	Social Issues		
	Theme - 1 (Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India)		
S. No.	**Question**	**Sub Theme**	**Year**
1	How do you account for the growing fast food industries given that there are increased health concerns in modern society ? Illustrate your answer with Indian experience.	Miscellaneous	2025
2	Does tribal development in India centre around two axes, those of displacement and of rehabilitation ? Give your opinion.	Tribe	2025
3	Critically analyse the proposition that there is a high correlation between India's cultural diversities and socio-economic marginalities.	Diversity	2024
4	Intercaste marriages between castes which have socio-economic parity have increased, to some extent, but this is less true of interreligious marriages. Discuss.	Family and marriage	2024

5	Do you think marriage as a sacrament is losing its value in Modern India?	Family and marriage	2023
6	Child cuddling is now being replaced by mobile phones. Discuss its impact on the socialization of children.	Family and marriage	2023
7	Why is caste identity in India both fluid and static?	Caste	2023
8	Given the diversities among tribal communities in India in which specific context should they be considered as a single category? (Answer in 150 words) 10 mark	Tribe	2022
9	Examine the uniqueness of tribal knowledge system when compared with mainstream knowledge and cultural systems.	Tribe	2021
10	How does Indian society maintain continuity in traditional social values? Enumerate the changes taking place in it.	Salient features	2021
11	Has caste lost its relevance in understanding the multi-cultural Indian Society? Elaborate your answer with illustrations.	Caste	2020
12	Do we have cultural pockets of small India all over the nation? Elaborate with examples.	Diversity	2019
13	"Caste system is assuming new identities and associational forms. Hence, caste system cannot be eradicated in India." Comment.	Caste	2018
14	In the context of the diversity of India, can it be said that the regions form cultural units rather than the States? Give reasons with examples for your view point.	Diversity	2017
15	What are the two major legal initiatives by the State since Independence addressing discrimination against Scheduled Tribes(STs)?	Tribes	2017
16	The spirit of 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.	Salient features	2017
17	Why are the tribals in India referred to as 'the Scheduled Tribes'? Indicate the major provisions enshrined in the Constitution of India for their upliftment.	Tribe	2016
18	Describe any four cultural elements of diversity in India and rate their relative significance in building a national identity.	Diversity	2015
19	Debate the issue whether and how contemporary movements for assertion of Dalit identity work towards annihilation of caste.	Caste	2015
20	The life cycle of a joint family depends on economic factors rather than social values. Discuss.	Family and marriage	2014

Theme - 2 (Role of women and women's organization, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues, urbanization, their problems and their remedies)

S. No.	Question	Sub Theme	Year
1	How does smart city in India, address the issues of urban poverty and distributive justice ?	Urbanisation	2025
2	Distinguish between gender equality, gender equity and women's empowerment. Why is it important to take gender concerns into account in programme design and implementation?	Women	2024
3	What is the concept of a 'demographic Winter'? Is the world moving towards such a situation? Elaborate	Population and associated issues	2024
4	Why do large cities tend to attract more migrants than smaller towns? Discuss in the light of conditions in developing countries.	Urbanisation	2024
5	Explain why suicide among young women is increasing in Indian society.	Women	2023
6	Why did human development fail to keep pace with economic development in India?	Social Empowerment	2023
7	Does urbanization lead to more segregation and/or marginalization of the poor in Indian metropolises?	Urbanisation	2023
8	Explore and evaluate the impact of 'Work From Home' on family relationships. (Answer in 150 words) 10 mark	Urbanisation	2022
9	How is the growth of Tier 2 cities related to the rise of a new middle class with an emphasis on the culture of consumption? (Answer in 150 words) 10 mark	Urbanisation	2022
10	What are the main socio-economic implications arising out of the development of IT industries in major cities of India?	Urbanisation	2021
11	Examine the role of 'Gig Economy' in the process of empowerment of women in India.	Women	2021
12	Discuss the main objectives of Population Education and point out the measures to achieve them in India in detail.	Population related issues	2021
13	COVID-19 pandemic accelerated class inequalities and poverty in India. Comment.	Social empowerment	2020
14	"Empowering women is the key to control population growth." Discuss.	Women	2019
15	How is efficient and affordable urban mass transport key to the rapid economic development in India?	Urbanisation	2019
16	What are the continued challenges for women in India against time and space?	Women	2019
17	'Despite implementation of various programmes for eradication of poverty by the government in India, poverty is still existing'. Explain by giving reasons.	Social empowerment	2018

18	'Women's movement in India has not addressed the issues of women of lower social strata.' Substantiate your view.	Women	2018
19	"The growth of cities as I.T. hubs has opened up new avenues of employment, but has also created new problems". Substantiate this statement with examples	Urbanisation	2017
20	"An essential condition to eradicate poverty is to liberate the poor from the process of deprivation." Substantiate this statement with suitable examples.	Social empowerment	2016
21	With a brief background of quality of urban life in India, introduce the objectives and strategy of the 'Smart City Programme."	Urbanisation	2016
22	Critically examine whether growing population is the cause of poverty OR poverty is the mains cause of population increase in India.	Population	2015
23	Mumbai, Delhi and Kolkata are the three Mega cities of the country but the air pollution is much more serious problem in Delhi as compared to the other two. Why is this so?	Urbanisation	2015
24	Smart cities in India cannot sustain without smart villages. Discuss this statement in the backdrop of rural urban integration.	Urbanisation	2015
25	Discuss the changes in the trends of labour migration within and outside India in the last four decades.	Migration	2015
26	How does patriarchy impact the position of a middle class working woman in India?	Women	2014
27	Why do some of the most prosperous regions of India have an adverse sex ratio for women? Give your arguments.	Women	2014
28	Discuss the various economic and socio-cultural forces that are driving increasing feminization of agriculture in India.	Women	2014
29	Discuss the various social problems which originated out of the speedy process of urbanization in India.	Urbanisation	2013
30	Male membership needs to be encouraged in order to make women's organization free from gender bias. Comment.	Women	2013

Theme - 3 (Effects of globalization on Indian society.)

S. No.	Question	Sub Theme	Year
1	Do you think that Globalisation results in only an aggressive consumer culture? Justify your answer.	Globalisation and culture	2025
2	Globalization has increased urban migration by skilled, young, unmarried women from various classes. How has this trend impacted upon their personal freedom and relationship with family?	Globalisation and women	2024
3	Discuss the impact of post-liberal economy on ethnic identity and communalism.	Globalisation and ethnicity	2023

4	Elucidate the relationship between globalization and new technology in a world of scarce resources with special reference to India. (Answer in 250 words) 15 mark	Globalisation and technology	2022
5	What is Cryptocurrency? How does it affect global society? Has it been affecting Indian society also?	Globalisation and technology	2021
6	Is diversity and pluralism in India under threat due to globalisation? Justify your answer.	Globalistion and diversity	2020
7	Are we losing our local identity for the global identity? Discuss.	Globalisation and Indian culture	2019
8	'Globalisation is generally said to promote cultural homogenisation but due to these cultural specificities appear to be strengthened in the Indian society.' Elucidate.	Globalisation and Indian culture	2018
9	To what extent globalisation has influenced the core of cultural diversity in India? Explain.	Globalisation and Indian culture	2016
10	Discuss the positive and negative effects of globalization on women in India?	Globalisation and women	2015
11	Critically examine the effects of globalization on the aged population in India.	Globalisation and Aged	2013

Theme - 4 (Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism)

S. No.	Question	Sub theme	Year
1	The ethos of civil service in India stands for the combination of professionalism with nationalistic consciousness – Elucidate.	Social Empowerment + Regionalism	2025
2	Achieving sustainable growth with emphasis on environmental protection could come into conflict with poor people's needs in a country like India – Comment.	Social Empowerment	2025
3	In dealing with socio-economic issues of development, what kind of collaboration between government, NGOs and private sector would be most productive?	Social empowerment	2024
4	Despite comprehensive policies for equity and social justice, underprivileged sections are not yet getting the full benefits of affirmative action envisaged by the Constitution. Comment	Social empowerment	2024
5	What is regional disparity? How does it differ from diversity? How serious is the issue of regional disparity in India?	Regionalism	2024
6	Analyse the salience of 'sect' in Indian society vis-a-vis caste, region and religion.	Social Empowerment	2022
7	Are tolerance, assimilation and pluralism the key elements in the making of an Indian form of secularism? Justify your answer.	Secularism	2022
8	Do you agree that regionalism in India appears to be a consequence of rising cultural assertiveness? Argue.	Regionalism	2020

9	Customs and traditions suppress reason leading to obscurantism. Do you agree?	Secularism	2020
10	How have digital initiatives in India contributed to the functioning of the education system in the country? Elaborate your answer.	Social Empowerment	2020
11	What are the challenges to our cultural practices in the name of secularism?	Secularism	2019
12	How the Indian concept of secularism different from the western model of secularism? Discuss.	Secularism	2018
13	Mention core strategies for the transformation of aspirational districts in India and explain the nature of convergence, collaboration and competition for its success.	Social Empowerment	2018
14	'Communalism arises either due to power struggle or relative deprivation.' Argue by giving suitable illustrations.	Communalism	2018
15	Distinguish between religiousness/religiosity and communalism giving one example of how the former has got transformed into the latter in independent India.	Religion	2017
16	What is the basis of regionalism? Is it that unequal distribution of benefits of development on regional basis eventually promotes regionalism? Substantiate your answer.	Regionalism	2016
17	Has the formation of linguistic states strengthened the cause of Indian unity	Regionalism	2016
18	How do you explain the statistics that show that the sex ratio in Tribes in India is more favourable to women than the sex ratio among Scheduled Castes?	Social Empowerment	2015
19	Growing feeling of regionalism is an important factor in the generation of demand for a separate state. Discuss.	Regionalism	2013