

IAS Exam Questions With Answers & IAS Prelims PYQ

Description

The following set of questions and answers is sourced from the Prelims Question paper of UPSC Civil Services Examination 2023. These questions cover a wide range of topics relevant to the general studies paper, including geography, environment, current affairs, and general science. UPSC exams are known for their challenging nature, requiring aspirants to have a deep understanding of various subjects. Each question is designed to test not only factual knowledge but also the ability to apply that knowledge in practical contexts. This set provides an excellent opportunity for aspirants to gauge their preparation level and understand the kind of questions they might encounter in the IAS exam paper. For those seeking expert guidance, enrolling in [best IAS coaching in Delhi](#) or [UPSC coaching](#) can be a great way to refine their skills and boost their chances of success in this highly competitive exam.

Why Understanding the Pattern is Important in UPSC Exam Preparation

One of the key aspects of preparing for the UPSC Civil Services Examination is understanding the pattern of the exam. The UPSC exam is not just about rote memorization; it requires critical thinking, application of knowledge, and strategic preparation. By understanding the exam pattern, aspirants can streamline their preparation, allocate time effectively, and improve their chances of success. Here's why understanding the pattern is so crucial:

Helps in Identifying Key Areas

The UPSC exam has a well-defined pattern with a structured syllabus that includes subjects like General Studies, Optional Subjects and optional papers, and Current Affairs. By studying the pattern, aspirants can identify which topics are regularly covered and which carry more weight in the exam. This allows candidates to prioritize their study plan accordingly and ensure they focus on the most relevant subjects.

Time Management for IAS Exam

UPSC exam requires effective time management, both during preparation and while attempting the exam. Understanding the pattern helps aspirants familiarize themselves with the format of the questions—whether they are factual, analytical, or opinion-based. This knowledge allows candidates to practice efficiently, develop a timed strategy, and reduce stress during the actual exam. Practicing IAS exam questions with answers helps aspirants get a better grasp of the question types, improving their ability to manage time and respond confidently to questions on exam day.

Boosts Confidence

Familiarity with the exam pattern boosts the confidence of aspirants. When they are well-prepared for the types of questions they will encounter and the structure of the exam, they are less likely to be intimidated. This confidence can play a crucial role in improving performance on the exam day, as it helps candidates approach each section with a calm and focused mindset.

Helps in Handling Uncertainty

The UPSC exam can sometimes include unexpected or challenging questions. However, by understanding the pattern, aspirants can learn how to approach different types of questions, even if they are unfamiliar. By practicing a wide range of questions, they can develop the flexibility to adapt and handle uncertainties with ease.

The IAS exam, one of the toughest competitive exams in India, tests not just your knowledge but also your ability to think critically and logically. In this blog, we'll take a deep dive into a set of IAS exam questions and their answers to help you understand the reasoning behind them and UPSC paper pattern. This approach will assist you in preparing for the exam and improving your answering techniques.

1. Jhelum River, Krishna River, and Kanwar Lake: How Many Statements Are Correct?

Question: Consider the following statements:

1. Jhelum River passes through Wular Lake.
 2. Krishna River directly feeds Kolleru Lake.
 3. Meandering formed Kanwar Lake. How many of the above statements are correct?
- (a) Only one
 - (b) Only two
 - (c) All three
 - (d) None

Answer: (b) Only two

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** The Jhelum River passes through Wular Lake, which is correct. Wular Lake is located in Jammu and Kashmir and is fed by the Jhelum River.
- **Statement 2:** Krishna River does indeed feed Kolleru Lake, so this statement is correct.
- **Statement 3:** Meandering rivers do contribute to the formation of lakes, but Kanwar Lake is a freshwater lake formed by a different process, not directly by meandering.

2. Major Ports in India: Correctly Matched?

Question: Consider the following pairs:

1. Kamarajar Port – First major port in India registered as a company.
2. Mundra Port – Largest container port in India.
3. Visakhapatnam – Largest privately owned port in India.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair
- (b) Only two pairs
- (c) All three pairs
- (d) None of the pairs

Answer: (b) Only two pairs

Explanation:

- **Pair 1:** Kamarajar Port is not the first major port registered as a company, so this statement is incorrect.
- **Pair 2:** Mundra Port is the largest container port in India. This is true.
- **Pair 3:** Visakhapatnam is not the largest privately owned port in India. The largest privately owned port is actually Mundra Port.

Thus, only two pairs are correctly matched.

3. Deciduous Trees: How Many Are Correct?

Question: Consider the following trees:

1. Jackfruit (*Artocarpus heterophyllus*)
2. Mahua (*Madhuca indica*)
3. Teak (*Tectona grandis*)

How many of the above are deciduous trees?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Answer: (b) Only two

Explanation:

- **Jackfruit:** This is an evergreen tree, not deciduous.
- **Mahua:** A deciduous tree, shedding its leaves in the dry season.
- **Teak:** A deciduous tree, shedding its leaves during the dry season.

Thus, two out of the three trees are deciduous.

4. India vs China: Arable Land, Irrigated Area, and Productivity

Question: Consider the following statements:

1. India has more arable area than China.
2. The proportion of irrigated area is more in India as compared to China.
3. The average productivity per hectare in Indian agriculture is higher than that in China.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Answer: (a) Only one

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** India has less arable land than China, so this statement is incorrect.
- **Statement 2:** The proportion of irrigated area is indeed higher in India compared to China, making this statement correct.
- **Statement 3:** China's agricultural productivity is higher than India's, so this statement is incorrect.

5. Best Example of Repeated Falls in Sea Level

Question: Which one of the following is the best example of repeated falls in sea level, giving rise to present-day extensive marshland?

- (a) Bhitarkanika Mangroves
- (b) Marakkanam Salt Pans
- (c) Naupada Swamp
- (d) Rann of Kutch

Answer: (d) Rann of Kutch

Explanation: The Rann of Kutch is an extensive salt marsh that has been formed due to repeated falls in sea level. It is known for its unique landscape and salt crust.

6. Titanium Sources in India: Ilmenite and Rutile

Question: Ilmenite and rutile, abundantly available in certain coastal tracts of India, are rich sources of which one of the following?

- (a) Aluminium
- (b) Copper
- (c) Iron
- (d) Titanium

Answer: (d) Titanium

Explanation: Ilmenite and rutile are mineral ores from which titanium is extracted. These minerals are commonly found in coastal areas of India, especially in Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

7. Cobalt Production in the World

Question: About three-fourths of the world's cobalt, a metal required for the manufacture of batteries for electric motor vehicles, is produced by which country?

- (a) Argentina
- (b) Botswana
- (c) Democratic Republic of the Congo
- (d) Kazakhstan

Answer: (c) Democratic Republic of the Congo

Explanation: The Democratic Republic of the Congo produces around 70-75% of the world's cobalt, a key component in the production of electric vehicle batteries.

8. Part of the Congo Basin

Question: Which one of the following is a part of the Congo Basin?

- (a) Cameroon
- (b) Nigeria
- (c) South Sudan
- (d) Uganda

Answer: (a) Cameroon

Explanation: The Congo Basin includes parts of several central African countries, including Cameroon. The basin is known for its vast tropical rainforest.

9. Hills and Their Locations

Question: Consider the following statements:

1. Biligirirangan Hills constitute the easternmost part of Satpura Range.
2. Seshachalam Hills constitute the southernmost part of Western Ghats.
3. Amarkantak Hills are at the confluence of Vindhya and Satpura Ranges.

How many of the statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Answer: (a) Only one

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Biligirirangan Hills are part of the Eastern Ghats, not the Satpura Range.
- **Statement 2:** Seshachalam Hills are part of the Eastern Ghats, not the Western Ghats.
- **Statement 3:** Amarkantak Hills are located at the confluence of the Vindhya and Maikal Hills, not the Satpura Range.

Conclusion

The questions presented here offer a glimpse into the diverse range of topics covered in the IAS exam. They test not just your knowledge but your understanding of key concepts related to [geography](#), ecology, history, and more. For IAS aspirants, it is essential to grasp the underlying concepts and their applications to various contexts. By practicing questions like these, you can improve your critical thinking skills and better prepare for the exam.