UPSC Mains Compulsory Hindi (2013–2026) — Paper Codes, Précis & Structure Guide

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UPSC Mains 2026 — Hindi (Compulsory) (Code: KVMS-C-HND | 300 Marks)

Q1: (600 words, choose 1 of 4) (100M)

Q2: (Reading Comprehension) (60M) Psychology of enthusiasm (): courage and fortitude ( ) combined with joyful eagerness, types of heroism (, ,), and daring exploration (source PDF pp. 23).

Q3: (Precis Writing, 1/3rd length, no title) (60M) Art of being a good listener: helping others clarify confused emotions through empathetic curiosity and attentive engagement instead of rushing to give advice (source PDF pp. 35).

Q4: Hindi to English Translation (20M) India's 5,000-year maritime heritage, ancient navigators sailing to Persian Gulf, East Africa and Southeast Asia, modern maritime training from the 1920s, and revival of Indian shipping (source PDF p. 5).

Q5: English to Hindi Translation (20M) Cultivating entrepreneurship from schools and colleges ('Idea is wealth'), collateral-free venture capital, university-bank collaboration, angel investors, and industry partnerships (source PDF p. 6).

Q6: Hindi Grammar & Vocabulary (, , , -) (40M)

UPSC Mains 2025 — Hindi (Compulsory) (Code: SLPM-C-HND | 300 Marks)

Q1: (600 words, choose 1 of 4) (100M)

Q2: (Reading Comprehension) (60M) Biodiversity, extinction threats in tropical forests/freshwater/islands, ecosystem degradation costs, and three approaches to valuing biological resources (consumptive, productive, non-consumptive) (source PDF pp. 23).

Q3: (Precis Writing, 1/3rd length, no title) (60M) Nature of true happiness through creative altruism, transcending self-centeredness, inner peace via self-examination, and simplicity over luxury (source PDF pp. 34).

Q4: Hindi to English Translation (20M) Terrorism as the greatest global threat to humanity, impact across Kashmir/Assam/Bengal/Nagaland, and need for public unity and peace alongside security forces (source PDF p. 5).

Q5: English to Hindi Translation (20M) Healthy children as essential component of effective education, school health programmes improving scholastic performance and community health, meals, check-ups and immunisation (source PDF p. 6).

Q6: Hindi Grammar & Vocabulary (, , , -) (40M)

UPSC Mains 2024 — Hindi (Compulsory) (Code: PHKM-C-HND | 300 Marks)

Q1: (600 words, choose 1 of 4) (100M)

Q2: (Reading Comprehension) (60M) Role of literary criticism, true vs false emotions (love vs ego), empathy as the hallmark of a true writer, and the difference between literature () and propaganda () (source PDF pp. 23).

Q3: (Precis Writing, 1/3rd length, no title) (60M) Psychology of envy () among peers/relatives, social perception sustaining envy, and how occupational hierarchy creates social resentment and imbalance (source PDF pp. 45).

Q4: Hindi to English Translation (20M) Revival of cottage and small-scale industries in India, Gandhi's vision vs post-independence focus on big industry, and rising unemployment prompting return to Gandhian principles (source PDF p. 5).

Q5: English to Hindi Translation (20M) Role of press/media in democracy: sensationalism vs constructive reporting, exposing abuses of authority, independent personnel institutions, and a robust code of ethics (source PDF p. 6).

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Q6: Hindi Grammar & Vocabulary (, , , -) (40M)

UPSC Mains 2023 — Hindi (Compulsory) (Code: SKYC-C-HND | 300 Marks)

Q1: (600 words, choose 1 of 4) (100M)

Q2: (Reading Comprehension) (60M) GDP, economic activities, definition of worker (including self-employed), India's 201112 workforce (473 million, rural vs urban), and unrecognized unpaid domestic/farm work of women (source PDF pp. 23).

Q3: (Precis Writing, 1/3rd length, no title) (60M) Distinction between culture (creative curiosity/invention like fire, needle-thread, Newton, stargazing) and civilization (inherited products of those inventions) (source PDF pp. 45).

Q4: Hindi to English Translation (20M) Value and finiteness of time, 'time is potential money', conscious and subconscious time management (source PDF p. 5).

Q5: English to Hindi Translation (20M) Importance of games and physical exercise for health and sportsmanship, yoga in India, and balancing body and mind (source PDF p. 6).

Q6: Hindi Grammar & Vocabulary (, , , -) (40M)

UPSC Mains 2022 — Hindi (Compulsory) (Code: CRNA-C-HND | 300 Marks)

Q1: (600 words, choose 1 of 4) (100M)

Q2: (Reading Comprehension) (60M) Colonial governance's reliance on data, urban mapping, municipal taxation/records, census (1872/1881), studying urbanization, and historians' caution about colonial statistics (source PDF p. 2).

Q3: (Precis Writing, 1/3rd length, no title) (60M) Evolution of the concept of development from post-WWII economic growth to equity/redistribution, human welfare, and sustainable development via the 1987 Brundtland Report (Our Common Future, WCED) (source PDF p. 3).

Q4: Hindi to English Translation (20M) Premchand on stories hidden in everyday life, writing autobiography/memoir/diary with honesty and moral courage (source PDF p. 3).

Q5: English to Hindi Translation (20M) Socrates' influence on Western philosophy, arrest and death penalty for outspoken principles, and accepting death with a smiling face (source PDF p. 4).

Q6: Hindi Grammar & Vocabulary (, , , -) (40M)

UPSC Mains 2021 — Hindi (Compulsory) (Code: HXS-C-HND | 300 Marks)

Q1: (600 words, choose 1 of 4) (100M)

Q2: (Reading Comprehension) (60M) Ancient Indian monarchy, Kautilya's Arthashastra on Matsya Nyaya, social contract of kingship/taxation, empire of humanity, and shifts in the Later Vedic period (Shukraniti) (source PDF pp. 23).

Q3: (Precis Writing, 1/3rd length, no title) (60M) Early 19th-century socio-political associations: Dharma Sabha (1830), Derozio's Academic Association/Young Bengal, British Indian Association (1851), Bombay intellectuals (Jambhekar, Lokhitwadi), and 1852 petitions to Parliament (source PDF pp. 34).

Q4: Hindi to English Translation (20M) Impact of India's geography (Himalayas, eastern hills, Khyber/Bolan passes, southern seas) on independent civilizational growth and arrival of European sea powers from 1498 (source PDF p. 5).

Q5: English to Hindi Translation (20M) Jawaharlal Nehru's midnight independence speech ('Tryst with Destiny') on service of India, ending poverty/ignorance/disease/inequality, and building the mansion of free India (source PDF pp. 56).

Q6: Hindi Grammar & Vocabulary (, , , -) (40M)

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UPSC Mains 2020 — Hindi (Compulsory) (Code: URC-C-HND | 300 Marks)

Q1: (600 words, choose 1 of 4) (100M)

Q2: (Reading Comprehension) (60M) Interdependence of life and environment, nature's ecological balance, human exploitation, pollution-induced diseases, and population explosion (source PDF pp. 23).

Q3: (Precis Writing, 1/3rd length, no title) (60M) National unity and freedom as two sides of one coin, true meaning of Swadhinata, and India's enduring synthesis of ancient cultural heritage with modern science (source PDF pp. 34).

Q4: Hindi to English Translation (20M) Science as boon vs curse depending on human welfare vs destructive use, materialism eroding inner peace and moral values (source PDF p. 5).

Q5: English to Hindi Translation (20M) M.S. Subbulakshmi's 1966 UN General Assembly concert, Bharat Ratna, and 1974 Ramon Magsaysay Award for Carnatic music (source PDF pp. 56).

Q6: Hindi Grammar & Vocabulary (, , , -) (40M)

UPSC Mains 2019 — Hindi (Compulsory) (Code: SDF-C-HND | 300 Marks)

Q1: (600 words, choose 1 of 4) (100M)

Q2: (Reading Comprehension) (60M) Transition from hunting to agriculture vs marine hunting, fish farming/aquaculture, role of plankton and fertilizers, weeding (), and future of marine farming (source PDF pp. 23).

Q3: (Precis Writing, 1/3rd length, no title) (60M) Rural drinking water infrastructure, Article 47, World Water Day (22 March), rainwater harvesting, groundwater regulation, and Panchayati Raj/community participation toward Har Ghar Jal by 2030 (source PDF pp. 35).

Q4: Hindi to English Translation (20M) Self-evaluation of intentions vs actions, learning from adversity instead of over-analyzing failures, and leadership navigating acceptance and resistance (source PDF pp. 56).

Q5: English to Hindi Translation (20M) Responsibilities of freedom: discarding laziness and selfishness, productive work as wealth and service as happiness, and honest work as the fundamental law of progress (source PDF p. 6).

Q6: Hindi Grammar & Vocabulary (, , , -) (40M)

UPSC Mains 2018 — Hindi (Compulsory) (Code: EGT-C-HND | 300 Marks)

Q1: (600 words, choose 1 of 4) (100M)

Q2: (Reading Comprehension) (60M) Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy of non-violence () and soul-force (-) vs brute force, Thoreau/Tolstoy/Sri Aurobindo, and origins of civil disobedience in India (source PDF pp. 23).

Q3: / (Precis Writing, 1/3rd length, no title) (60M) Modern man's historical consciousness (-), modernity vs cyclical tradition, alienation from the present, and fear of mortality (source PDF pp. 34).

Q4: Hindi to English Translation (20M) Age of Information Technology, evolution from messengers/post to computers/internet/mobile, globalization and Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam (source PDF p. 5).

Q5: English to Hindi Translation (20M) Democracy's superiority in promoting individual dignity and freedom, focusing on women's dignity and struggles for equal treatment (source PDF p. 6).

Q6: Hindi Grammar & Vocabulary (, , , -) (40M)

UPSC Mains 2017 — Hindi (Compulsory) (Code: STH-C-HND | 300 Marks)

Q1: (600 words, choose 1 of 4) (100M)

Q2: (Reading Comprehension) (60M) Books as food for the mind, true guides, weapons of ideas, and immortal heritage (source PDF pp. 23).

Q3: (Precis Writing, 1/3rd length) (60M) Importance of hard work/labour () over fatalism, productive vs non-productive labour, and national reconstruction (source PDF pp. 35).

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Q4: Hindi to English Translation (20M) Rajarshi Purushottam Das Tandon's 1919 stand as Allahabad Municipality Chairman collecting water tax from British cantonment (source PDF p. 5).

Q5: English to Hindi Translation (20M) Ancient irrigation works and modern multipurpose river dams (flood control, irrigation, water supply, hydropower) (source PDF p. 6).

Q6: Hindi Grammar & Vocabulary (, , ,) (40M)

UPSC Mains 2016 — Hindi (Compulsory) (Code: M-ESC-CU-HND | 300 Marks)

Q1: (600 words, choose 1 of 4) (100M)

Q2: (Reading Comprehension) (60M) Patriarchy, status of single women, nutritional inequality, and declining female sex ratio in Indian censuses (source PDF pp. 23).

Q3: (Precis Writing, 1/3rd length) (60M) Meaning and dilemmas of loyalty () toward family, nation, and government (source PDF pp. 45).

Q4: Hindi to English Translation (20M) Parable of a nobleman, a philosopher, and a frightened slave on a stormy sea voyage (source PDF p. 5).

Q5: English to Hindi Translation (20M) Science of dreams, REM sleep, and comparison between brain dreaming and reprogramming a computer (source PDF p. 6).

Q6: Hindi Grammar & Vocabulary (, , ,) (40M)

UPSC Mains 2015 — Hindi (Compulsory) (Code: C-AVZ-O-IOEC | 300 Marks)

Q1: (600 words, choose 1 of 4) (100M)

Q2: (Reading Comprehension) (60M) Youth unemployability, lack of idealism, and focus on money (source PDF pp. 23).

Q3: (Precis Writing, 1/3rd length) (60M) Self-reliance in defence manufacturing, Make in India, Buy Indian/Buy & Make Indian, FDI & licensing reforms (source PDF pp. 34).

Q4: Hindi to English Translation (20M) Arab deserts, oases, nomadic life, Arabian horses and camels as 'ship of the desert' (source PDF pp. 45).

Q5: English to Hindi Translation (20M) How children learn language naturally, teacher autonomy vs bureaucratic school spending (source PDF pp. 56).

Q6: Hindi Grammar & Vocabulary (, , ,) (40M)

UPSC Mains 2014 — Hindi (Compulsory) (Code: C-DRN-N-JJOC | 300 Marks)

Q1: (Essay, choose 1 of 4) (100M)

Q2: (Reading Comprehension) (60M) Human migration, cultural assimilation, and impossibility of cultural isolation (source PDF pp. 23).

Q3: (Precis Writing, 1/3rd length) (60M) Football lineman running with faster running backs metaphor for self-improvement and spiritual progress (source PDF pp. 34).

Q4: English to Hindi Translation (20M) Evolution of Indian cinema from Golden Age studios to modern freelance star system and outdoor shoots (source PDF p. 5).

Q5: Hindi to English Translation (20M) Humour, constructive criticism, and satire () as literary and artistic forms (source PDF pp. 56).

Q6: Hindi Grammar & Vocabulary (, , ,) (40M)

UPSC Mains 2013 — Hindi (Compulsory) (Code: A-BRL-M-IJOC | 300 Marks)

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Q1: Short Essays ( ) (100M)

Q2: Reading Comprehension () (60M) Press power vs cinema box-office appeal, public sensitivity, and artistic standards (see source PDF pp. 12).

Q3: Precis Writing (, 1/3rd length) (60M) Nation vs nation-state, sovereignty, UN, and national identity (see source PDF pp. 23).

Q4: English to Hindi Translation (20M) C. V. Raman's college years at Madras and ICS medical disqualification leading to Physics (see source PDF p. 4).

Q5: Hindi to English Translation (20M) Definition of money, barter system, specialization, standard vs token money (see source PDF pp. 45).

Q6: Hindi Grammar & Vocabulary (40M)

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