UPSC CSE Mains 2013 — Complete GS (1–4) + Essay Pack

All 5 Merit Papers from UPSC Mains 2013 (83 questions & essay prompts) with syllabus micro-topics and word limits. Free from preplord.com.

GS Paper 1 (History, Society & Geography) (30 Qs | Code: A-BRL-M-HTUA)

1 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • History & Culture → Literature & Culture [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Sangam literature & South Indian socio-economic history

2(a) • 5 Marks • 100 Words • History & Culture → Art & Architecture [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Tandava dance in early Indian inscriptions

2(b) • 5 Marks • 100 Words • History & Culture → Art & Architecture [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Chola temple architecture

3 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • History & Culture → Freedom Struggle [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Role of Indian women in freedom struggle

4 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • History & Culture → Freedom Struggle [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Role of foreigners in Indian freedom struggle

5 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Indian Society → Diversity, Secularism & Communalism [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Lord Dalhousie as founder of modern India

6 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • History & Culture → Post-Independence India [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Bhoodan and Gramdan Movements (Vinoba Bhave)

7 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Indian Society → Diversity, Secularism & Communalism [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Slogan 'Jai Jawan Jai Kisan'

8 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Indian Society → Diversity, Secularism & Communalism [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Maulana Abul Kalam Azad's contributions

9 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • History & Culture → Post-Independence India [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Tashkent Agreement (1966)

10 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Indian Society → Diversity, Secularism & Communalism [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
India's role in emergence of Bangladesh

11 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • History & Culture → World History [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Latecomer Industrial Revolution in Japan

12 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • History & Culture → Art & Architecture [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Scramble for Africa / artificial states

13 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • History & Culture → World History [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
American Revolution as economic revolt against mercantilism

14 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Indian Society → Diversity, Secularism & Communalism [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Policy instruments against Great Economic Depression

15 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Indian Society → Urbanization & Family [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Social problems of rapid urbanization in India

16 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Indian Society → Women & Social Empowerment [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Male membership in women's organizations

17 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Indian Society → Population, Poverty & Development [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Effect of globalization on aged population in India

18 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Indian Society → Diversity, Secularism & Communalism [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Regionalism and demand for separate States

PREPLORD.COM
UPSC CSE MAINS PYQ VAULT

19(a) • 5 Marks • 100 Words • Indian Society → Diversity, Secularism & Communalism [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Continental drift theory & evidences

19(b) • 5 Marks • 100 Words • Geography → Geophysical Phenomena & Climate [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Cyclone Phailin & naming of tropical cyclones

20(a) • 5 Marks • 100 Words • Indian Society → Urbanization & Family [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Urban heat islands

20(b) • 5 Marks • 100 Words • Indian Society → Diversity, Secularism & Communalism [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Temperature inversion in meteorology

21 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Indian Society → Diversity, Secularism & Communalism [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Location of major hot deserts (20-30° N, western continents)

22(a) • 5 Marks • 100 Words • Geography → Salient Physical Features [Compare | Static / Evergreen]
Landslides in Himalayas vs Western Ghats

22(b) • 5 Marks • 100 Words • Geography → Natural Resources & Industrial Location [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
No delta formation by Western Ghats rivers

23(a) • 5 Marks • 100 Words • Indian Society → Diversity, Secularism & Communalism [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Shift of sugar mills to southern India

23(b) • 5 Marks • 100 Words • Indian Society → Diversity, Secularism & Communalism [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Decentralized cotton textile industry in India

24 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Indian Society → Diversity, Secularism & Communalism [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Raw material availability for atomic energy

25 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Geography → Natural Resources & Industrial Location [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Shale oil and gas reserves and issues in India

GS Paper 2 (Polity, Governance, Social Justice & IR) (25 Qs | Code: A-BRL-M-HTUB)

1 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Parliament & State Legislatures [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Anti-defection law & diminishing role of individual MPs

2 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Constitutional & Statutory Bodies [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Section 66A of IT Act & Article 19

3 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Constitutional & Statutory Bodies [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Article 371A & Nagaland petroleum directives

4 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Parliament & State Legislatures [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Supreme Court check on Parliament's amending power

5 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Federalism & Centre-State Relations [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Smaller States & effective governance

6 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Federalism & Centre-State Relations [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Inter-state water disputes constitutional mechanisms

7 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Federalism & Centre-State Relations [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
13th Finance Commission & local government finances

8 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Federalism & Centre-State Relations [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Merger of SEBI and IRDA

9 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Federalism & Centre-State Relations [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Mid Day Meal (MDM) scheme objectives & success

10 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Governance → Pressure Groups, NGOs & Civil Society [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Pressure groups structure & functioning in India

PREPLORD.COM
UPSC CSE MAINS PYQ VAULT

11 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Social Justice → Poverty & Welfare Governance [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
SHGs legitimacy & micro-finance scrutiny

12 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Federalism & Centre-State Relations [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Restructuring of Centrally Sponsored Schemes

13 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Social Justice → Poverty & Welfare Governance [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Electronic cash transfer system for welfare schemes

14 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Federalism & Centre-State Relations [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
PURA (Providing Urban Amenities in Rural Areas) & connectivity

15 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Social Justice → Health & Nutrition [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Health-related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

16 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Governance → E-Governance & Citizen Charters [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Citizens' Charters & service delivery quality

17 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Federalism & Centre-State Relations [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
National Lokpal & immorality in public affairs

18 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • International Relations → India & Neighbourhood [Discuss | Current-Affairs Linked]
ISAF withdrawal from Afghanistan (2014) & India's security

19 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Federalism & Centre-State Relations [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
String of Pearls & India's countermeasures

20 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • International Relations → Bilateral & Global Groupings [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
India-Japan economic ties & policy constraints

21 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Federalism & Centre-State Relations [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Shahbag Square protests in Dhaka & significance for India

22 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • International Relations → India & Neighbourhood [Discuss | Current-Affairs Linked]
Political developments in Maldives & concerns for India

23 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • International Relations → India & Neighbourhood [Discuss | Current-Affairs Linked]
India-Sri Lanka relations & domestic factors

24 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Federalism & Centre-State Relations [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Gujral Doctrine & contemporary relevance

25 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Federalism & Centre-State Relations [Compare | Static / Evergreen]
World Bank vs IMF roles, functions & mandate

GS Paper 3 (Economy, Agri, S&T, Environment & Security) (28 Qs | Code: A-BRL-M-HTUC)

1 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Economy → Inclusive Growth, Poverty & Employment [Discuss | Current-Affairs Linked]
Companies Bill 2013 & mandatory CSR

2 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Economy → Inclusive Growth, Poverty & Employment [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
FRBM Act 2003 salient features & effectiveness

3 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Economy → Budgeting, Fiscal Policy & Taxation [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Tax expenditure (housing sector example)

4 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Agriculture → Food Processing & PDS [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Food Security Bill implementation & WTO concerns

5 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Agriculture → MSP, Subsidies & Marketing [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Agricultural subsidies & distortions

6 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Economy → Inclusive Growth, Poverty & Employment [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Pink revolution in food industry

PREPLORD.COM UPSC CSE MAINS PYQ VAULT

7 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Economy → Inclusive Growth, Poverty & Employment [Compare | Static / Evergreen]
Impact of liberalization on Indian-owned companies vs MNCs

8 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Agriculture → Land Reforms [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Land reforms, agri productivity & poverty elimination

9(a) • 5 Marks • 100 Words • Agriculture → MSP, Subsidies & Marketing [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
FDI in multi-trade retail & supply chain management

9(b) • 5 Marks • 100 Words • Economy → Inclusive Growth, Poverty & Employment [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Slow uptake of FDI in multi-brand retail (2012)

10 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Economy → Budgeting, Fiscal Policy & Taxation [Discuss | Current-Affairs Linked]
GST rationale & delay in rollout

11 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Economy → Infrastructure, Energy & Investment [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
India's Green Energy Corridor

12 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Economy → Infrastructure, Energy & Investment [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
PPP model in infrastructure pros & cons

13 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Science & Tech → AI, IT & Emerging Tech [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Section 3(d) Patent Law 1970 & Novartis Glivec judgment

14 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Internal Security → Extremism, Insurgency & Terrorism [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Fixed Dose Drug Combinations (FDCs)

15 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Economy → Inclusive Growth, Poverty & Employment [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Umpire Decision Review System (DRS) & silicone tape

16(a) • 5 Marks • 100 Words • Economy → Inclusive Growth, Poverty & Employment [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Digital signature & authentication

16(b) • 5 Marks • 100 Words • Economy → Inclusive Growth, Poverty & Employment [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
3D printing technology

17(a) • 5 Marks • 100 Words • Economy → Inclusive Growth, Poverty & Employment [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
FRP composite material in aviation & automobile

17(b) • 5 Marks • 100 Words • Economy → Inclusive Growth, Poverty & Employment [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Run-of-river hydroelectricity project

18 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Environment & Disaster Management → Disaster Management [Critically Examine | Static / Evergreen]
Vulnerability & risk assessment in pre-disaster management

19 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Environment & Disaster Management → Conservation, Biodiversity & Pollution [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Illegal mining & MoEF GO/NO-GO zones for coal

20 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Environment & Disaster Management → Conservation, Biodiversity & Pollution [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
National Water Policy, river pollution & hazardous waste laws

21 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Internal Security → Cyber Security & Money Laundering [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Money laundering & economic sovereignty

22 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Economy → Infrastructure, Energy & Investment [Analyze | Current-Affairs Linked]
Social networking sites & security implications

23 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Internal Security → Cyber Security & Money Laundering [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Cyber warfare & India's preparedness

24 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Internal Security → Extremism, Insurgency & Terrorism [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Article 244, Fifth Schedule & Left Wing Extremism

25 • 10 Marks • 200 Words • Internal Security → Border & Maritime Security [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Border management & internal security (South Asia & Myanmar)

PREPLORD.COM UPSC CSE MAINS PYQ VAULT

PREPLORD.COM
UPSC CSE MAINS PYQ VAULT