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UPSC, IAS
Civil Services
(Mains)
Exam Syllabus

Optional Literature Subject

“Sanskrit”

:: PAPER - I ::

There will be three questions as indicated in the Question Paper which must be answered in Sanskrit. The Remaining questions must be answered either in Sanskrit or in the medium of examination opted by the candidate.

Section A

1. Significant features of the grammar, with particular stress on Sanjna, Sandhi, Karaka, Samasa, Kartari and Karmani vacyas (voice usages) (to be answered in Sanskrit).

2.

- (a) Main characteristics of Vedic Sanskrit language
- (b) Prominent feature of classical Sanskrit language
- (c) Contribution of Sanskrit to linguistic studies

3. General Knowledge of :—

- (a) Literary history of Sanskrit
- (b) Principal trends of literary criticism
- (c) Ramayana
- (d) Mahabharata
- (e) The origin and development of literary genres of :

- Mahakavya
- Rupaka (drama)
- Katha
- Akhyayika
- Campu
- Khandakavya
- Mukataka Kavya.

Section B

4. Essential of Indian Culture with stress on :

- (a) Purusārthas
- (b) Samskāras
- (c) Varnāśramavyavasthā
- (d) Arts and fine arts
- (e) Technical Sciences.

5. Trends of Indian Philosophy

- (a) Mīmāṃsā
- (b) Vedānta
- (c) Nyaya
- (d) Vaiśeṣika
- (e) Sāṅkhya
- (f) Yoga
- (g) Bauddha
- (h) Jaina
- (i) Carvāka

6. Short Essay (in Sanskrit)

7. Unseen passage with the questions (to be answered in Sanskrit).

:: PAPER - II ::

Question from Group 4 is to be answered in Sanskrit only. Questions from Groups 1, 2 and 3 are to be answered either in Sanskrit or in the medium opted by the candidate.

Section A

General study of the following groups :—

Group 1

- (a) Raghuvamsam—Kalidasa
- (b) Kumarasambhavam—Kalidasa
- (c) Kiratarjuniyam—Bharavi
- (d) Sisupalavadham—Magha
- (e) Naisadhiyacaritam—Sriharsa
- (f) Kadambari—Banabhatta
- (g) Dasakumaracaritam—Dandin
- (h) Sivarajyodayam—S.B. Varnekar

Group 2

- (a) Isāvāsyopanisad
- (b) Bhagavadgitā
- (c) Sundarakanda of Valmiki's Ramayana
- (d) Arthasastra of Kautilya

Group 3

- (a) Svapanavasavadattam—Bhasa
- (b) Abhijnanasakuntalam—Kalidasa
- (c) Mricchakatikam—Sudraka
- (d) Mudraraksasam—Visakhadatta
- (e) Uttararamacaritam—Bhavbhuti
- (f) Ratnavali—Sriharshavardhana
- (g) Venisamharam—Bhattanarayana

Group 4 Short notes in Sanskrit on the following :—

- (a) Meghadutam—Kalidasa
- (b) Nitisatakam—Bhartrhari
- (c) Pancatantra—
- (d) Rajatarangini—Kalhana
- (e) Harsacaritam—Banabhatta
- (f) Amarukasatakam—Amaruka
- (g) Gitagovindam—Jayadeva.

Section B

This section will require first hand reading of the following selected texts :— (Questions from Groups 1 & 2 are to be answered in Sanskrit only) Questions from Groups 3 and 4 are to be answered either in Sanskrit or in the Medium opted by the candidate.

Group 1

- (a) Raghuvamsam—CantoI, Verses 1 to 10
- (b) Kumarasambhavam—Canto I, Verses 1 to 10
- (c) Kiratarjuniyaue—Canto I, Verses 1 to 10

Group 2

- (a) Isavasyopanisad—Verses—1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 15 and 18
- (b) Bhagavatgita II Chapter Verses 13 to 25
- (c) Sundarakandam of Valmiki Canto 15, Verses 15 to 30 (Geeta Press Edition)

Group 3

- (a) Meghadutam—Verses 1 to 10
- (b) Nitisatakam—Verses 1 to 10 (Edited by D.D. Kosambi Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Publication)
- (c) Kadambari—Sukanasopadesa (only)

Group 4

- (a) Svapnavasavadattam Act VI
- (b) Abhijnansakuntalam Act IV Verses 15 to 30 (M.R. Kale Edition)
- (c) Uttararamacaritam Act I Verses 31 to 47 (M.R. Kale Edition).

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Address: 635, Ground Floor, Main Road, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi 110009
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