



VAJIRAM & RAVI

Institute for IAS Examination

Providing Quality Education Since 1976

Sure Shot Mains

Test Series 2026

Batch - 8



Commencing on
1st August 2025

SCAN HARE



Fee: ₹28,000/- (Inc. GST)

Available Offline/Online

Admissions Open

Shakti Dubey
AIR 1 - CSE 2024

**Sure Shot Mains Test
Series Student**

Kanika Anabh
AIR 1 - IFoS 2024

**Sure Shot Mains Test
Series Student**

About

The UPSC Mains exam is the decisive stage that shapes your success and rank in the Civil Services Examination. Traditional methods of focusing solely on Prelims preparation and delaying Mains practice are no longer effective. Early and integrated Mains preparation is crucial to developing the analytical skills required for writing comprehensive, well-structured answers. Our Sure Shot Mains Test Series 2025 is designed with proven methodologies, used by over 500+ rankers, ensuring that you build a deeper understanding, refine your answer-writing techniques, and address gaps in knowledge early on. By starting from day one, you'll not only enhance your readiness but also boost your confidence. Join us for a focused, comprehensive approach to your Mains preparation.

Features

1. Evidence-Based Test Series:

- Mains Test Series: 40 Tests (20 Subjective Sectional Assessment, 20 Complete FLT).
 - Subjective assessments are 10 questions tests focussing on particular portions of the syllabus of each GS paper
 - Complete tests are 20 questions full length tests comprehensively covering the entire syllabus of each GS paper
- Our Unique Methodology utilizes previous years' question analysis and syllabus keywords to mirror exam patterns and difficulty, blending basic and applied questions to hone your conceptual clarity and application skills. Model answers indicate the expectations UPSC examiner has from your answers. Also, the model answers specify the relevance of each question asked in our test series, indicating its correspondence to the PYQ based on which it is asked.
- Based on best answer writing practices they include maps, figures and schematics wherever they are needed.

2. Comprehensive Syllabus Coverage (GS and Current Affairs):

- Through a strategically designed test timetable our program ensures comprehensive coverage of the UPSC GS Mains syllabus, including current affairs. This test timetable systematically divides the syllabus to ensure timely completion and allows for multiple revisions. Additionally, our personalized post-test mentorship and strategy sessions offer tailored strategies for the right approach to mastering the syllabus.

3. UPSC Level Evaluation:

Become Mains Ready from Day 1

Contextual Understanding and Interpretation

- Identify core demand of Question

Introduction and Conclusions

- Objective, Brief and Impactful

Value Addition and Innovation

- Use of Data, Reports, Schematics etc.

Language, Articulation, legibility aspects of handwriting

Content, conceptual clarity and depth

Structure and Presentation

- Intro- Body- Conclusion
- Diagrams- Maps Flowcharts

Number of questions attempted and Time Limit

Major Evaluation Parameters

- Timely feedback within 7 working days from senior evaluators with multiple UPSC Interview experience. This rigorous evaluation process aims for high scores by focusing on quality and improvement.
- Our evaluation focuses on multiple dimensions and parameters like structure, flow, presentation, contextuality, relevance to question, analytical excellence, and cross-domain inter-linkages
- Our team of Evaluators consists of Rankers and subject matter experts

4. Personalized attention: One-to-One Mentorship and Vajiram's hand holding

- One-to-one mentoring sessions and group discussions after every test offer personalized guidance, focusing on question-by-question analysis, improvement suggestions, and best practices, ensuring continuous progress.
- Vajiram and Ravi's mentors have multiple UPSC interview experience.

5. IAS/IPS strategy sessions for content enrichment and answer writing improvement:

- Exclusive Zoom sessions by IAS and IPS rankers, to refine writing skills and expand content knowledge.

6. Mains Toolkits and Vajiram and Ravi's Resources:

- Access to extensive resources including the student portal, monthly current affairs magazine "The Recitals," Prelims Pointers, specialized Mains workbooks soft copy.

7. 10 recorded lectures on answer writing enhancement by Rankers & Subject Matter Expert (SME).

8. Pre Test Discussion and Post Test Discussion by Subject Experts will be provided in Recorded format in Vajiram and Ravi Students' Portal.

Terms & Conditions

- Your test copies will be evaluated within **7 working days** from the date of submission.
- There is **no difference** between the online and offline modes. You can choose to write the test at our **Test Centre** or attempt it from home and **upload the scanned answer sheets on the Vajiram & Ravi student portal** for evaluation.
- Each course is linked to a **specific Vajiram & Ravi student account**, created using your registered mobile number and email ID. **Sharing of course access is strictly prohibited**. If found, we reserve the right to **terminate access without any refund**.
- This program is **non-refundable** and **non-transferable**. Once enrolled, the course cannot be transferred to another person, and no refund will be issued under any circumstances.
- Admissions will close once the batch is full. Vajiram and Ravi reserves all rights to make any changes in the schedule of the Sure Shot Mains Test Series if any unforeseen situation arises.
- **Course access is valid until August 2026**. No extensions will be granted beyond this date.
- By enrolling, you confirm that you have **read and agreed** to all the terms and conditions mentioned above.

Sample questions from the Sure Shot Mains Test Series 2024 are provided below, along with a comparison to the UPSC CS Mains Exam 2024.

#	Actual Questions Appeared in UPSC Civil Service Mains Examination - 2024	Sure Shot Mains Test Series 2024 Questions
1.	"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.	Discuss the maritime prowess of the Chola Dynasty and its impact on trade and cultural exchanges with Southeast Asia.
2.	How far is it correct to say that the First World War was fought essentially for the preservation of balance of power?	The war to end all wars failed to enshrine peace and stability in the world.' Discuss the statement in the context of the First World War.
3.	Examine the need for electoral reforms as suggested by various committees, with particular reference to "one nation – one election" principle.	'People's trust in democracy rests on conducting free and fair elections.' In the light of the statement, discuss the major recommendations for reforming the electoral process in India
4.	"The duty of the Comptroller and Auditor General is not merely to ensure the legality of expenditure but also its propriety." Comment.	Critically analyse the role of Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) in ensuring the executive's accountability. 10
5.	'The West is fostering India as an alternative to reduce dependence on China's supply chain and as a strategic ally to counter China's political and economic dominance.' Explain this statement with examples.	What are the strategic challenges to the global economy in active decoupling from China? How will it benefit India's economic growth prospects?
6.	Critically analyse India's evolving diplomatic, economic and strategic relations with the Central Asian Republics (CARs) highlighting their increasing significance in regional and global geopolitics.	The importance of Central Asia for India is not merely cultural and historical. In the light of this statement, describe the strategic importance of Central Asia for India.
7.	Examine the pattern and trend of public expenditure on Social Services in the post-reforms period in India. To what extent this has been in consonance with achieving the objective of inclusive growth?	Liberalized Indian economy expanded rapidly at the cost of social equity. Elaborate. Also, suggest measures for promoting inclusive economic growth.
8.	Flooding in urban areas is an emerging climate-induced disaster. Discuss the causes of this disaster. Mention the features of two such major floods in the last two decades in India. Describe the policies and frameworks in India that aim at tackling such floods.	Chennai has recently experienced devastating floods in the wake of Cyclone Michaung. In this context, discuss how cities can incorporate green infrastructure and nature-based solutions into their urban planning strategies.
9.	The application of Artificial Intelligence as a dependable source of input for administrative rational decision-making is a debatable issue. Critically examine the statement from the ethical point of view.	Analyse the ethical implications of using generative artificial intelligence in creative industries.
10.	Global warming and climate change are the outcomes of human greed in the name of development, indicating the direction in which extinction of organisms including human beings is heading towards loss of life on Earth. How do you put an end to this to protect life and bring equilibrium between the society and the environment?	What are the ethical concerns surrounding developed nations setting climate targets for developing countries without providing adequate financial support? Discuss the relevance of environmental ethics in preventing harmful human interactions with nature.

Sure Shot 2026 Batch - 8

#	Date	Test Code	Test Name	Test Syllabus	Primary Sources	Secondary Sources
1	01-08-2025	VR2082201	GS2 (Polity-1)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Indian Constitution—historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure. 2. Parliament and State legislatures—structure, functioning, conduct of business, powers & privileges and issues arising out of these. 3. Structure, organization and functioning of the Executive and the Judiciary—Ministries and Departments of the Government 	NCERTs: Class 9 and 10 - Democratic Politics 1 & 2 NCERT: Class 11 - Indian Constitution at Work Indian Polity by M Laxmikant Polity Yellow Book- 1&2	Mains Polity Workbook by Vajiram, Newspapers: The Indian Express and The Hindu
2	10-08-2025	VR2082202	GS2 (Polity-2)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Separation of powers between various organs dispute redressal mechanisms and institutions. 2. Functions and responsibilities of the Union and the States, issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, 3. Devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein. 	NCERTs: Class 9 and 10 - Democratic Politics 1 & 2 NCERT: Class 11 - Indian Constitution at Work Indian Polity by M Laxmikant Polity Yellow Book- 1&2	Mains Polity Workbook by Vajiram
3	17-08-2025	VR2082203	GS2 (Polity-3)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Salient features of the Representation of People's Act. 2. Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional Bodies. 3. Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies. Comparison of the Indian constitutional scheme with that of other countries. 	NCERTs: Class 9 and 10 - Democratic Politics 1 & 2 NCERT: Class 11 - Indian Constitution at Work Indian Polity by M Laxmikant Polity Yellow Book- 1&2	Mains Polity Workbook by Vajiram
4	24-08-2025	VR2082204	GS2 (Governance)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential; citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures. 2. Role of civil services in a democracy. 3. Development processes and the development industry —the role of NGOs, SHGs, various groups and associations, donors, charities, institutional and other stakeholders. 4. Pressure groups and formal/informal associations and their role in the Polity. 	Governance and Social Justice Yellow Book Government Scheme Yellow Book	2nd ARC (RTI: Master key to Good Governance, Promoting E-governance, Citizen-Centric Administration) Kurukshetra and Yojana Summary (Vajiram & Ravi), Newspapers: The Indian Express and The Hindu

5	31-08-2025	VR2082205	GS2 (Social Justice)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States and the performance of these schemes; mechanisms, laws, institutions and Bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections. 2. Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/ Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources. 3. Issues relating to poverty and hunger. 4. Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation. 	Governance and Social Justice Yellow Book Government Scheme Yellow Book	2nd ARC (RTI: Master key to Good Governance, Promoting E-governance, Citizen-Centric Administration) Kurukshetra and Yojana Summary (Vajiram & Ravi), Newspapers: The Indian Express and The Hindu
6	07-09-2025	VR2082206	GS2 (International Relations)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. India and its neighbourhood relations. 2. Bilateral, regional, and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests. 3. Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests, Indian diaspora. 4. Important international institutions, agencies, and fora - their structure and mandate. 	IR Yellow Book	Newspapers: The Indian Express and The Hindu
7	14-09-2025	VR2082507	Complete Test 2	GS2 Full Syllabus		
8	21-09-2025	VR2081208	GS1 (Art and Culture)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Indian culture will cover the salient aspects of Art Forms, literature and Architecture from ancient to modern times. 	NCERT - Introduction to Fine Arts Art and Culture Yellow Book	CCRT Website
9	28-09-2025	VR2081209	GS1 (Modern History)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Modern Indian history from about the middle of the eighteenth century until the present significant events, personalities, issues. 2. The Freedom Struggle — its various stages and important contributors/contributions from different parts of the country. 	NCERT- Themes in Indian History (Part 3) Modern India Yellow Book, A brief history of Modern India by Rajiv Ahir (Spectrum)	NCERT - Modern India (Bipin Chandra)

10	05-10-2025	VR2081210	GS1 (World History and Post Independence)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country. 2. History of the world will include events from 18th century such as industrial revolution, world wars, redrawing of national boundaries, colonization, decolonization, political philosophies like communism, capitalism, socialism etc.- their forms and effect on the society. 	<p>NCERT - World History (Arjun Dev), NCERT- Politics in India Since Independence</p> <p>World History Yellow Book, Post-Independence Yellow Book</p>	NCERT - Themes in World History
11	12-10-2025	VR2081211	GS1 (Physical Geography)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Salient features of world's physical geography. 2. Important Geophysical phenomena such as earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity, cyclone etc., geographical features and their location-changes in critical geographical features (including water-bodies and ice-caps) and in flora and fauna and the effects of such changes. 	<p>NCERTs - Class 11 and 12 (Physical Geography)</p> <p>Concepts of Geography Yellow Book, Indian Geography Yellow Book</p>	Certificate Physical and Human Geography by GohCheng Leong
12	19-10-2025	VR2081212	GS1 (Human and Economic Geography)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including South Asia and the Indian sub-continent); factors responsible for the location of primary, secondary, and tertiary sector industries in various parts of the world (including India). 	<p>12th NCERT: Human Geography Concepts of Geography Yellow Book,</p> <p>Indian Geography Yellow Book Government Scheme Yellow Book</p>	Certificate Physical and Human Geography by GohCheng Leong
13	26-10-2025	VR2081213	GS1 (Society)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India. 2. Role of women and women's organization, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues, urbanization, their problems and their remedies. 3. Effects of globalization on Indian society. 4. Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism. 	<p>NCERT- Class 12 Society Indian Society , Social change and Development</p> <p>Indian Society Yellow Book</p>	Newspapers: The Indian Express and The Hindu

14	02-11-2025	VR2081514	Complete Test 1	GS1 Full Syllabus		
15	09-11-2025	VR2083215	GS3 (Economy-1)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization, of resources, growth, development and employment. 2. Inclusive growth and issues arising from it. 3. Government Budgeting. 4. Effects of liberalization on the economy, changes in industrial policy and their effects on industrial growth. 5. Infrastructure: Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc. 6. Investment models. 	<p>NCERT Indian Economic Development - 11th Standard NCERT Macroeconomics - 12th standard</p> <p>Indian Economy Yellow Book</p>	<p>Economic Survey and Budget (Summary by Vajiram & Ravi), Newspapers: The Indian Express and The Hindu</p>
16	16-11-2025	VR2083216	GS3 (Agriculture)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Major crops-cropping patterns in various parts of the country, - different types of irrigation and irrigation systems storage, transport and marketing of agricultural produce and issues and related constraints; e-technology in the aid of farmers. 2. Issues related to direct and indirect farm subsidies and minimum support prices; Public Distribution System- objectives, functioning, limitations, revamping; issues of buffer stocks and food security; Technology missions; economics of animal-rearing. 3. Food processing and related industries in India- scope' and significance, location, upstream and downstream requirements, supply chain management. 4. Land reforms in India. 	<p>NCERT Indian Economic Development - 11th Standard NCERT India- People and Economy - 12th Standard</p> <p>Agriculture Yellow Book</p>	<p>Economic Survey and Budget (Summary by Vajiram & Ravi), Newspapers: The Indian Express and The Hindu</p>
17	23-11-2025	VR2083217	GS3 (Internal Security)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Linkages between development and spread of extremism. 2. Role of external state and non-state actors in creating challenges to internal security. 3. Challenges to internal security through communication networks, role of media and social networking sites in internal security challenges, basics of cyber security; money-laundering and its prevention. 4. Security challenges and their management in border areas – linkages of organized crime with terrorism. 5. Various Security forces and agencies and their mandate 	<p>Internal Security Yellow Book</p>	<p>Newspapers: The Indian Express and The Hindu</p>

18	30-11-2025	VR2083218	GS3 (Disaster Management and Environment)	1. Disaster and disaster management. 2. Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment.	NCERT Class 11 Natural Hazards and disaster management Environment Yellow Book Government websites	Newspapers: The Indian Express and The Hindu, Kurukshetra Magazine
19	7-12-2025	VR2083219	GS3 (Science-Tech)	1. Science and Technology- developments and their applications and effects in everyday life. 2. Achievements of Indians in science & technology; indigenization of technology and developing new technology. 3. Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nano-technology, bio-technology and issues relating to intellectual property rights.	Science NCERT-11th Standard and 12th Standard Science and Technology Yellow book	Newspapers: The Indian Express and The Hindu Down to Earth Magazine Science Reporter Magazine
20	14-12-2025	VR2083520	Complete Test 3	GS3 Full Syllabus		
21	21-12-2025	VR2084221	GS4 (Ethics-Philosophy)	1. Ethics and Human Interface: Essence, determinants and consequences of Ethics in-human actions; dimensions of ethics; ethics - in private and public relationships. Human Values - lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators; role of family society and educational institutions in inculcating values. 2. Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and the world. 3. Case Studies on above issues	Ethics Yellow book Case Studies Yellow Book A Practical Approach to Ethics Integrity and Aptitude -DK BALAJI IAS	Newspaper (The Hindu, Indian Express) for examples and case study
22	28-12-2025	VR2084222	GS4 (Ethics - Social Psychology)	1. Attitude: content, structure, function; its influence and relation with thought and behaviour; moral and political attitudes; social influence and persuasion. 2. Aptitude and foundational values for Civil Service, integrity, impartiality and non-partisanship, objectivity, dedication to public service, empathy, tolerance and compassion towards the weaker-sections. 3. Emotional intelligence-concepts, and their utilities and application in administration and governance. 4. Case Studies on above issues	Ethics Yellow book Case Studies Yellow Book A Practical Approach to Ethics Integrity and Aptitude -DK BALAJI IAS	Newspaper (The Hindu, Indian Express) for examples and case study

23	04-01-2026	VR2084223	GS4 (Ethics - Governance)	<p>1. Public/Civil service values and Ethics in Public administration: Status and problems; ethical concerns and dilemmas in government and private institutions; laws, rules, regulations and conscience as sources of ethical guidance; accountability and ethical governance; strengthening of ethical and moral values in governance; ethical issues in international relations and funding; corporate governance.</p> <p>2. Probity in Governance: Concept of public service; Philosophical basis of governance and probity; Information sharing and transparency in government, Right to Information, Codes of Ethics, Codes of Conduct, Citizen's Charters, Work culture, Quality of service delivery, Utilization of public funds, challenges of corruption.</p> <p>3. Case Studies on above issues</p>	Ethics Yellow book Case Studies Yellow Book A Practical Approach to Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude by DK Balaji	2nd ARC Report - Ethics in Governance Newspaper (The Hindu, Indian Express) for examples and case study
24	18-01-2026	VR2084524	Complete Test 4	GS4 Full Syllabus		
25	01-02-2026	VR2081525	Complete Test 5	GS1 Full Syllabus		
26	15-02-2026	VR2082526	Complete Test 6	GS2 Full Syllabus		
27	01-03-2026	VR2083527	Complete Test 7	GS3 Full Syllabus		
28	15-03-2026	VR2084528	Complete Test 8	GS4 Full Syllabus		
After Prelims						
29		VR2081501	Complete Test-9	GS1 full syllabus		
30		VR2082502	Complete Test-10	GS2 full syllabus		
31		VR2083503	Complete Test-11	GS3 full syllabus		
32		VR2084504	Complete Test-12	GS4 full syllabus		
33		VR2081505	Complete Test-13	GS1 full syllabus		
34		VR2082506	Complete Test-14	GS2 full syllabus		
35		VR2083507	Complete Test-15	GS3 full syllabus		
36		VR2084508	Complete Test-16	GS4 full syllabus		
37		VR2081509	Complete Test-17	GS1 full syllabus		
38		VR2082510	Complete Test-18	GS2 full syllabus		
39		VR2083511	Complete Test-19	GS3 full syllabus		
40		VR2084512	Complete Test-20	GS4 full syllabus		



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