

Forum IAS: GS Mains 2016 Guidance Program

ForumIAS will be conducting a Mains Guidance Program for 2016. The Primary Focus of the Program will be

- Improving Answer writing quality and speed by Practise by a Simulated Test Series
- Providing vital inputs and feedback to improve answer quality and possible scores.
- Aiding Preparation by providing notes on important topics related to Current Affairs
- Providing Detailed Solutions to cover all dimensions of questions asked.

Mains Guidance Program will be consist of

- **16 Tests** - 8 Half Syllabus and 8 Comprehensive Tests with assessment
- Supplementary Notes on Topics of Relevance to the Mains Examination
- Quality Improvement Sessions & Feedback sessions with ForumIAS Mentors
- Re-orientation session with Top ForumIAS Scorers in Civil Services including rank holders from time to time.

Test Plan

The Test Plan is designed to achieve 3 times revision of the full syllabus for candidates appearing for Mains 2016.

Iterations	Levels and no. of tests	What you can achieve
1st Iteration	8 tests - Half Syllabus	Kick start your preparation from sleep mode to active mode by covering one half of GS paper before every test. Do the best you can, and attempt the paper, even if you have not covered 100% of the syllabus. Learn how to write answers to questions that you <i>do not know</i>
2nd Iteration	4 tests - Full Syllabus	Take your preparation to next round of skills, knowledge and complete first revision by revising the full paper per week.
3rd Iteration	4 tests - 2 Days Continuous about one month before	In the final round you will be testing your preparation on UPSC level of stress and pressure by taking 4 GS papers in 2 days. In a classroom as well as online.

	as per UPSC Timings.	This last test should set you in the mood to write the examination
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Performance review and feedback

Each answer booklet will be reviewed and evaluated by ForumIAS Mentors, who have relevant experience with the Civil Services Mains Examination. Relevant feedback on making improvements will be provided.

ForumIAS will be assisted in this initiative by several members who have scored well in the successive examination. Several members who have secured good ranks and marks after making changes to their strategy will also provide inputs for the same.

Post Test Discussion - Classroom

Tests will be released on the Test Portal and in the Classroom on Saturdays, as per calendar. It is expected that students write the Tests between 10AM - 12 PM on Saturday. Post Test discussions can be held in the second half of the day.

Flexible: Students can write the Tests anytime after the release date of the Test. The Tests must be submitted within 45 days from the date of release of the Test.

How it Works - Online

Candidates can enroll for the Mains Guidance Program (MGP) online. After enrollment, they will get an email with UserID and Password details latest by **August 21st**.

Tests will be released on the Test Portal on **Saturdays**, as per calendar. It is expected that students write the Tests between 10AM - 12 PM on Saturday.

Discussion videos of the Test will be uploaded on the Test Portal within the week of conducting the Test.

Flexible: Students can write the Tests and get it evaluated **upto 30 days** from the date of release of the Test. Tests attempted after 30 Days may not be evaluated or may get delayed evaluation.

Mains Guidance Program - Working Candidates

We have scheduled the Tests on Saturdays so that working candidates can attempt the Tests on Saturday or Sunday. Discussion Video will be made available in the coming week before the next Test.

GS Mains Test Series Schedule and Reference Sources

Flexible: Tests can be written anytime after the Test release Date. They must be submitted within 45 days of the Test release date for proper evaluation.

Test no.	Paper	Date	Syllabus	Sources
0	19th August : Mains Orientation Program and Answer Writing Guidelines Workshop at 11AM in ORN. Online Video will be uploaded on the Test Portal			
1	GS Paper 1 Half syllabus	20th August (ONLINE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country · 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. · Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India. · Role of women and women's organization, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues, urbanization, their problems and their remedies. · Effects of globalization on Indian society. · Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism. 	<p>Politics in India After Independence- NCERT India and Contemporary World – 9th and 10th NCERTs India after independence- Bipin Chandra World history by Norman Lowe World history –Arjun dev Indian society, social change and development- 12th NCERTs Social problems in India- Ram Ahuja Indian social system – Ram Ahuja Indian Society and culture – Nadeem Hussain Ministry of child and women development report Selected articles from EPW</p>
2	GS Paper 1	27th August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Indian culture will cover the salient aspects of Art Forms, Literature 	Introduction to fine arts – NCERT class 11th

	Half syllabus	(Saturday)	<p>and Architecture from ancient to modern times.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Modern Indian history from about the middle of the eighteenth century until the present- significant events, personalities, issues The Freedom Struggle - its various stages and important contributors /contributions from different parts of the country. · Salient features of world's physical geography. · Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including South Asia and the Indian subcontinent); factors responsible for the location of primary, secondary, and tertiary sector industries in various parts of the world (including India) · 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>CCRT website Modern India by Bipin Chandra – Old NCERT Brief history of modern India – Spectrum publications Fundamentals of physical geography, India: physical environment – 11th NCERTS Fundamentals of human geography, India, people and environment – 12th NCERTs Certificate physical and human geography by Oxford India publications World geography by Majid Hussain Comprehensive geography of india – Khullar Orient longman atlas</p>
3	GS Paper 2 Half syllabus	3rd Sept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Indian Constitution- historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure. Functions and responsibilities of the Union and the States, issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein. · Separation of powers between various organs dispute redressal mechanisms and institutions. 	<p>Indian Constitution at work- 11th NCERTs</p> <p>Indian polity by Laxmikant</p> <p>2nd ARC report (relevant chapters only)</p> <p>Punchhi Commission report (relevant chapters only)</p> <p>PIB website ,Yojana magazine</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Comparison of the Indian constitutional scheme with that of other countries · Parliament and State Legislatures - structure, functioning, conduct of business, powers & privileges and issues arising out of these. · Structure, organization and functioning of the Executive and the Judiciary Ministries and Departments of the Government; pressure groups and formal/informal associations and their role in the Polity. Salient features of the Representation of People's Act. · Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional Bodies. Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies. · Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential; citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures. · Role of civil services in a democracy. 	Public administration by Laxmikant (relevant chapters)
4	GS Paper 2 Half syllabus	10th Sept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation. · Development processes and the development industry- the role of NGOs, SHGs, various groups and associations, donors, charities, institutional and other stakeholders · Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States and the performance of these schemes; 	<p>Reports of concerned ministries for relevant social issue</p> <p>Selected articles from EPW</p> <p>Polity and governance by Laxmikant</p> <p>Economic survey</p> <p>Rajiv Sikri: Challenges and Strategy</p>

			<p>mechanisms, laws, institutions and Bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources. Issues relating to poverty and hunger. · India and its neighborhood-relations. · Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests · Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests, Indian diaspora. · Important International institutions, agencies and fora- their structure, mandate. 	<p>Challenges strategy- rethinking India's foreign policy – Rajiv Sikri</p> <p>Ministry of External Affairs website</p> <p>Relevant current affairs from The Hindu, Indian Express newspapers or any other good news paper</p>
5	GS Paper 3 Half syllabus	17th Sept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization of resources, growth, development and employment. · Inclusive growth and issues arising from it. · Government Budgeting. · 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 · Issues related to direct and indirect farm subsidies and minimum support prices. · Public Distribution System- objectives, functioning, limitations, 	<p>Indian economic development – 11th NCERTs</p> <p>Economic survey</p> <p>Geography NCERTs of class 12th</p> <p>12th5 year plan (relevant chapters only)</p> <p>Indian Economy by Ramesh Singh</p> <p>Uma and Kapila</p> <p>Yojana relevant articles</p> <p>India year book</p> <p>Relevant current affairs from The Hindu, Indian Express newspapers or any other good news paper</p>

			<p>revamping; issues of buffer stocks and food security;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Technology missions; economics of animal-rearing. Food processing and related industries in India- scope and significance, location, upstream and downstream requirements, supply chain management. · Land reforms in India. Effects of liberalization on the economy, changes in industrial policy and their effects on industrial growth. · Infrastructure: Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc. · Investment models. 	
6	GS Paper 3 Half syllabus	24th Sept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Science and Technology- developments and their applications and effects in everyday life · Achievements of Indians in science & technology; indigenization of technology and developing new technology. · Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nano-technology, biotechnology and issues relating to intellectual property rights. · Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment · Disaster and disaster management. · Linkages between development and spread of extremism. Role of external state and non-state actors in creating challenges to internal security. · Challenges to internal security through communication networks, role of media and social networking sites in 	<p>Science and technology by Tata Mcgraw Hill India Year book Political Science- Contemporary world – 12th NCERT ICSE environment education, Environment by Shankar IAS, The Hindu survey of environment 2nd ARC (Crisis management) Disaster Management by IGNOU www.ndmindia.nic.in 2nd ARC report (Public order, Capacity building for conflict resolution, Combating terrorism) Ministry of Home affairs website and annual report Challenges to internal security of India by Ashok kumar (Tata Mcgraw hills publications) Relevant current affairs from The Hindu, Indian</p>

			internal security challenges, basics of cyber security; money laundering and its prevention	Express newspapers or any other good news paper
7	GS Paper 4 Half syllabus	1st Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 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. · Attitude: content, structure, function; its influence and relation with thought and behaviour; moral and political attitudes; social influence and persuasion. · Aptitude and foundational values for Civil Service , integrity, impartiality and nonpartisanship, objectivity, dedication to public service, empathy, tolerance and compassion towards the weaker sections. · Emotional intelligence-concepts, and their utilities and application in administration and governance. <p style="text-align: center;">+</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Case studies 	<p>2nd ARC report- (Ethics in governance, personnel administration, RTI, Citizen Centric administration)</p> <p>Lexicon for ethics, integrity and aptitude</p>
8	GS Paper 4 Half syllabus	8th Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and world. · 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>2nd ARC report- (Ethics in governance, personnel administration, RTI, Citizen Centric administration)</p> <p>Lexicon for ethics, integrity and aptitude Ethics, Integrity & Aptitude by G Subbarao.</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 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. <li style="text-align: center;">+ · Case studies 	
9	GS Paper 1 Full	15th Oct	Full syllabus	As above
10	GS Paper 2 Full	22rd Oct	Full syllabus	As above
11	GS Paper 3 Full	29th Oct	Full syllabus	As above
12	GS Paper 4 Full	5th Nov	Full syllabus	As above
13 and 14	GS Paper 1 + paper 2	12th Nov 9 AM - 12PM & 2 PM - 5 PM	Full syllabus	As above
15 and 16	GS Paper 3 and paper 4	13th Nov 9 AM - 12 PM & 2 PM - 5 PM	Full syllabus	As above

* Sources to be supplemented by Free Resources as listed by ForumIAS.com from time to time.

* Supplementary Study Material will be provided to Students

Enrollment & Fees

1. The enrollment fee for the Test Series is Rs. 12,000 + Service Tax for both online and offline Tests.

2. Enrollment can be done by paying the fees [at this link](#) or by logging onto <http://forumias.academy> and selecting the Course - **ForumIAS Mains 2016 Test Series**.

3. The Offline Tests will be available at our Test Center at the address - ForumIAS Test Center, Guidance IAS, Opposite Popular Juice Shop, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar. You can call Shantanu at +91-8800631116 for details.

Intake of Students

1. The Mains Guidance Program is based on the idea that availability of a good mentor can help reduce the preparation time and success chances of a candidate.

2. If you have availability of a good mentor near you, you can choose to skip this program.

3. Since, we would have a limited capacity to take up people, we will be taking up **only 50 students** each in the online mode **and 50 Students in the Offline mode as of now**.

4. We will also be doing a Mains Marathon 2016 Program - free initiative by ForumIAS for our members who are appearing for Mains 2016. Details will be made available on the <http://forumias.com/portal> at a later date.