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UPSC IES-ISS

**Previous Year Paper
(General Studies) 2021**



GENERAL STUDIES

Time Allowed : **Three Hours**

Maximum Marks : **100**

Question Paper Specific Instructions

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions :

There are **FOUR** questions and **all** are to be attempted.

Candidates should attempt questions / parts as per the instructions given in the questions.

The number of marks carried by a question / part is indicated against it.

Candidates are required to write clear, legible and concise answers and to adhere to word limits, wherever indicated. Failure to adhere to word limits may be penalized. The answers must be written within the space provided in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet.

Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

Answers must be written in **ENGLISH** only.

Q1. Answer all of the following (in not more than 200 words each) : 5×5=25

- (a) Describe the economic conditions of Later Vedic Period. How was it different from Rig Vedic life ?
- (b) Discuss the similarities and differences between the basic tenets of Buddhism and Jainism.
- (c) Trace the evolution of Temple architecture in South India.
- (d) How did the Bhakti Movement contribute to the growth of regional languages ?
- (e) Highlight the role of Peoples' movement towards the integration of Princely States into the Indian Union.

Q2. Answer all of the following (in not more than 200 words each) : 5×5=25

- (a) "Climate change is likely to adversely affect certain countries dependent on agriculture." Examine this statement citing relevant examples.
- (b) Many countries prefer coal rather than solar or wind energy as a source of fuel. Why ?
- (c) "Air pollution and water shortages are among the problems faced by urban centres across the globe." Examine this statement.
- (d) What factors influence the location of industries in India today ?
- (e) "Degradation of forest resources and wildlife is a fallout of agriculture and urbanization." Assess this statement giving examples from India.

Q3. Answer all of the following (in not more than 200 words each) : 5×5=25

- (a) Critically examine Indian Agriculture Acts of 2020.
- (b) "Privatization of Public Sector Banks is fraught with huge risk." Elucidate.
- (c) Do you believe that Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan, 2020 will be able to combat the COVID-19 crisis of the Indian economy? Justify your answer.
- (d) Analyse the recommendations of the Narasimham Committee Report I and II in controlling Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) of the banking sector in India.
- (e) Discuss the roles and responsibilities of the Anganwadi workers and helpers under Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS).

Q4. Answer all of the following (in not more than 200 words each) : 5×5=25

- (a) "The Indian Constitution is a living document." Discuss.
- (b) Critically examine the financial emergency powers of the President and their effects.
- (c) "The Rajya Sabha has certain special powers vis-à-vis the Lok Sabha that adds to its prestige." Comment.
- (d) Compare the writ jurisdictions of the Supreme Court and the High Court.
- (e) "The Indian Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic has shifted the federal balance in its favour." Illustrate with suitable examples.