

TEST CODE 8 1 2 5 5 1

Time Allowed : Three Hours
समय : तीन घंटे

ForumIAS

Maximum Marks : 250
अधिकतम अंक : 250

GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	Neeksha Patkar	Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक		Date/दिनांक	12/7/2025
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र			

*Center Code : For Online - 1900 / Delhi : Karol bagh - 1901, ORN - 1902, Mukharji Nagar - 1903 / Patna : Boring Rd. - 2001 / Hyderabad : Jawahar Nagar - 2101

INDEX TABLE / अनुक्रमणिका			INSTRUCTION / अनुदेश		
Q. No. प्र.सं.	Max. Marks अधिकतम अंक	Marks Obtained प्राप्तांक			
1			1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet. कृपया उत्तर-पुस्तिका में नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर और मोबाइल नंबर भरें।		
2			2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI, all questions are compulsory. उत्तर पुस्तिका में अंग्रेजी/हिंदी में बीस प्रश्न दिए गए हैं, सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।		
3			3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए निर्धारित अंक उसके सामने अंकित किए गए हैं।		
4			4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. उत्तर प्रवेश पत्र में अधिकृत माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जो कि दिए गए स्थान में इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के कवर पर स्पष्ट रूप से लिखा जाना चाहिए।		
5			5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, यदि निर्दिष्ट हो, का पालन किया जाए। प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गये किसी भी पृष्ठ या पृष्ठ के भाग को स्पष्ट रूप से काट दें।		
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Examiner's Discretion/मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक :			Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय :	End Time/समाप्त करने का समय :	
			01:30 pm	04:45 pm.	
Total Marks/कुल अंक :			Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि :	Online/ऑनलाइन	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
				Offline/ऑफलाइन	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
*Examiner's Discretion is the marks awarded at the discretion of the examiner based on your overall impression, on the basis of (but not limited to) your handwriting, presentation, use of diagrams, flowcharts, facts and figures or absolutely anything that he/she liked in your copy. मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक अंक, आपकी लिखावट, प्रस्तुति, आरेखों के उपयोग, फ्लोचार्ट, तथ्यों और आंकड़ों या समग्र रूप किसी अन्य विषय वस्तु जो मूल्यांकन कर्ता को आपकी कॉपी में पसंद आयी के आधार पर (लेकिन इन्हीं तक सीमित नहीं) पर दिए गए अंक हैं।			For Office Use Only / केवल कार्यालय प्रयोग हेतु		
			ECN CODE/ ईसीएन कोड :	EG/ईजी :	Evaluation Date/ मूल्यांकन तिथि :
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Q.1) Explain how the terms 'socialist' and 'secular' in the Preamble embody specific meanings in the Indian context. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

स्पष्ट कीजिए कि प्रस्तावना में 'समाजवादी' और 'धर्मनिरपेक्ष' शब्द भारतीय संदर्भ में किस प्रकार विशिष्ट अर्थ रखते हैं। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Preamble is the soul of constitution of India, it is inspired from objective resolution, & continues to guide laws even today. Added through 42nd constitutional amendment

Meanings in Preamble

1. Socialist → indicates state policy as a welfare state
meaning in Indian context

a) welfare schemes - eg. → MFSB
POSHAN

b) Inclusive governance
eg: gender budgeting

c) Right to equality & equal

Protection of law eg: Poor = Rich

(d) State superior to capitalists

Eq: state monopoly in certain industries → nuclear power

Secular → i.e. all religions are equal for state it will not discriminate with respect to religion
→ positive secularism

Meaning in Indian context

- a) Right to worship, propagate & practice religion (Article 25)
- b) No state funding of religious institutions except for repairs
- c) No religious instruction in state funded educational institutions
- d) freedom to protect & preserve one's religion (minority)
Art (29/30)

Hence form secular & socialist

embody spirit of equality, fraternity, justice & liberty in Indian context.

Feedback
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Please put tick marks in the above table. Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			

Article 21 of the Indian Constitution broadly interprets the right to life and liberty. Elucidate with help of relevant case laws. (10 marks, 150 words)

संविधान का अनुच्छेद 21 व्यापक रूप से जीवन और स्वतंत्रता के अधिकार की व्याख्या करता है। प्रासंगिक केस की सहायता से स्पष्ट कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Article 21 embodies broad meaning, delivering expansive justice by diverse interpretation of right to life & personal liberty.

Indian judiciary has significant contribution to its

Broad interpretation of article 21

1. Right to free human dignity
 e.g. Munika Gandhi vs UOI case
2. Right to die with dignity
 e.g. Aruna Shoba Singh case
3. Right to privacy
 e.g. K.S. Puttaswamy vs Union of India
4. Right to sleep

5. Right to speedy trial & upholding prisoner rights
 Eg: Hussanara Chabur case

6. Environmental justice

a) Mc Menta case (1987)

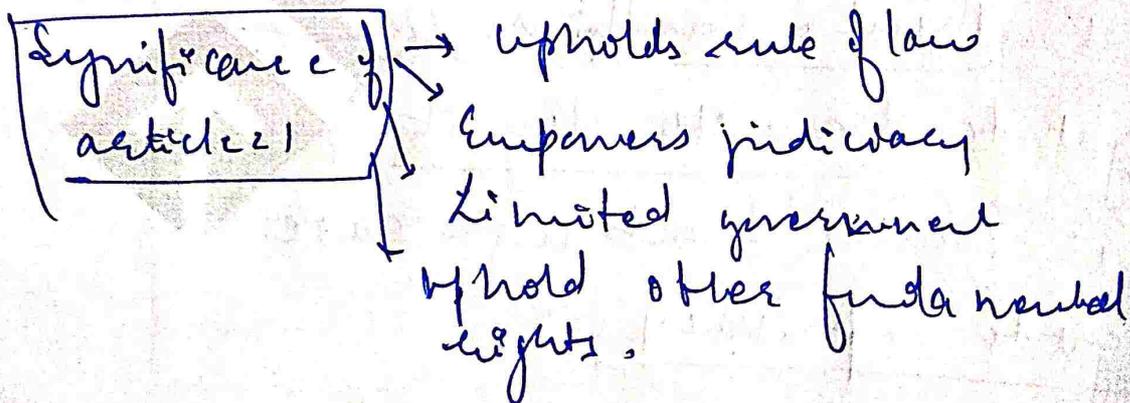
- right to clean environment
- polluter pays principle

b) Verdese Great Indian Bustard Case 2014

- right to breathe clean air

7. Right to move abroad

Eg: Menta judgment case



Broad interpretation of article 21 has made it driving organ of constitutionalism

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS		

Q.3) To what extent have farmer associations been successful in influencing public policies and Governance in the country? (10 marks, 150 words)

किसान संगठन देश में सार्वजनिक नीतियों और शासन को प्रभावित करने में किस हद तक सफल रहे हैं? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Recently due to farmer protests government was forced to take back farm laws. (2022)

Success of farm association in influencing policy

1. Pressure on legislature & executive
eg: Farm bills
2. Put forward farmer's rights & needs
eg: Rise in MSPs
3. To operate with state for farm improvement
eg: Green revolution
4. Social awareness about farmer's rights → influence policies

eg: Social media movement during farm ~~laws~~ bill protests

5. Seed protection

Eq: Prevention of genetically modified crops

However there are certain challenges with farm organisations

1. Impractical demands → difficult to fulfil

Eq: Pension for all farmers

2. Frequent protest → Impact economy

Eq: Blockade of highways

3. Alleged foreign funding

Eq: Hollywood adverstweeded for farm protests.

4. Lack of efforts to Co-operate with governments.

Though farmer's associations have been successful multiple times there is a need of

better co-operation with government for holistic impact policy.

Feedback

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Please put tick marks in the above table.		
Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.		
TOTAL MARKS		

Q.4) The role of State Finance Commissions in building regional equity and strengthening the federal link has largely been underutilized. Discuss. (10 marks, 150 words)

क्षेत्रीय समानता के निर्माण और संघीय संबंध को मजबूत करने में राज्य वित्त आयोगों की भूमिका का व्यापक स्तर पर अल्प उपयोग किया गया है। चर्चा करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

State Finance Commission in Constitutional
body under article 243Y, formed to strengthen financial position of local bodies.

However its functions have been under utilized because.

1. Infrequent formation → delay in formation by states
 Eg: Madhya Pradesh
2. Some states do not form SFC
 Eg: West Bengal
3. Only recommendatory power.
 → ignored by states.
4. Lack of staff + permanent secretaries
5. Dependent on government for funding.

6. Multilayered financial planning of states → confusion
 eg. Village Panchayat + Zila Panchayat + Municipality
 Combined budget.

7. Lack of coordination with Finance Commission (Art 280)

8. Overlapping powers with Finance Commission → strengthening state consolidated fund funding of PRF

However it has been contributing

1. Equitable devolution of funds to PRF
2. ~~due~~ to some extent.

There is serious deficiency in functioning of state finance Commission. It must be made an independent body affiliated to centre

to uphold strengthen federal link.

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Q.5) The contributions of the "founding mothers" of the Indian Republic are often under-acknowledged, yet they are crucial to understanding the evolution of gender-sensitive constitutional jurisprudence. Elaborate. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

भारतीय गणराज्य की "संस्थापक माताओं" के योगदान को अक्सर कम आंका जाता है, फिर भी वे लैंगिक रूप से संवेदनशील संवैधानिक विधिशास्त्र के विकास को समझने के लिए महत्वपूर्ण हैं। सविस्तर वर्णन कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

From independence movements to formulation of constitution, women have contributed significantly to building of Indian republic.

Contributions, under acknowledged

1. In freedom movement - they function from behind curtains
Eg: Kauri Gardener

2. Upholding women's rights
Eg: ~~Men~~ women's organisations

3. In formulation of constitution
Eg: Rajbansari Amritkar

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Its crucial to

Contribution in gender sensitive jurisprudence of Constitution

1. Right to gender equality

Ex: (Article 14, 15 (3), (4))

Ex: Rakshabai → fight for freedom against child marriage

2. Provision of gender justice

Ex: Article 23 - (Trafficking of women)

3. Constitutional amendments

Ex: 106th Amendment

4.

Women have significantly contributed to gender sensitivity in Indian Constitution.

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Please put tick marks in the table. Here G is Good Average and P Poor.	
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Q.6) What do you understand by delimitation? Underlining the significance of delimitation exercise, throw light on the associated challenges. (10 marks, 150 words)

परिसीमन से आप क्या समझते हैं? परिसीमन अभ्यास के महत्व को रेखांकित करते हुए उससे जुड़ी चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Article 82 of Constitution of India provides for delimitation commission.

According to article 81, delimitation is electoral exercise to define limits of constituencies & their population strength to ensure principle of one man one vote.

Significance of delimitation exercise

1. Uphold democratic functioning through just electoral rights.

2. Organise electoral exercise (ease) by subclassification of constituencies

3. Principle of one man-one vote

→ through proportional distribution of votes.

4. Regional justice → opportunity for regional voices based on population
5. Uphold constitutional morality
 Eg: Delimitation must be done after every census exercise

Challenges

1. Disinclination to southern states
 → due to population control
 Eg: TFR - Tamil Nadu - 1.8
 UP - 2.4
2. If not done → against universal adult franchise
 Eg: UP → LMP (2.85 Cr people)
 TN → LMP (1.5 Cr people)
3. Pending census 2021
4. Risk of dissent from southern states
5. Way forward → form a interstate committee to take

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TOTAL MARKS

Q.7) The Presidents of India and USA differ not just the manner in which they are elected but also with respect to their powers. Elucidate. (10 marks, 150 words)

भारत और संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका के राष्ट्रपति न केवल उनके चुने जाने के तरीके में बल्कि उनकी शक्तियों के संबंध में भी भिन्न हैं। स्पष्ट कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

~~India~~ ^{USA} the oldest democracy & ~~USA~~ India the largest democracy function ~~of~~ on different principles of democracy, while USA is presidential India is parliamentary democracy.

Difference in presidents of both

Election

	India	USA
1. Election	Indirect	Direct
2. Election time	Decided by ECI	fixed on 2nd week of November
3. Election machinery	Integrated	state wise

Powers

4.	Ceremonial head (De jure)	De facto head
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	<u>India</u>	<u>USA</u>
5.	Head of state only	Head of government & state
6.	works on aid & advice of executive	Controls executive
7.	ministers are elected by people (LMB)	selects ministers
8.	No strict separation of power with Parliament	strict separation of power
9.	no policy decision taken	Policy decisions taken
10.	Commander of armed forces	Not

Due to different types of democracy i.e. parliamentary & presidential there is difference in both election & powers of Indian & USA presidents.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.8) The office of the Speaker is not only a referee, but also an active player in the politics of government formation and survival, leading to controversies and criticisms. In this context, examine the need to bring reforms in the office of the speaker. (10 marks, 150 words)

स्पीकर का पद न केवल एक रेफरी जैसा है, बल्कि सरकार बनाने और अस्तित्व की राजनीति में एक सक्रिय खिलाड़ी जैसा भी है, जो विवादों और आलोचनाओं को जन्म देता है। इस संदर्भ में, अध्यक्ष के पद में सुधार लाने की आवश्यकता का परीक्षण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

A Office of speaker is the leader of parliament (Art 93), with having duties to ensure democratic functioning of our parliament.

Speaker as referee

1. Final Interpreter of Constitution in parliament
2. Decides on money bill
eg: Adhaar bill
3. Heads joint parliamentary sitting
4. Appoints heads of parliamentary standing committees.
eg: PAC, EC
5. allocs time to MPs

Speaker as active player in politics

→ Do not resign from party

Criticisms & controversies

1. Bipartisan attitude towards opposition

eg: 2024 > 56 MPs expelled

2. Misuse of money bill provisions

eg: Adhaar bill

3. Disproportionate use of powers under schedule X

4. Favoritism in parliamentary committees

eg: Cash for query case

5. Need to bring reforms

1. To ensure democratic functioning of parliament

eg: Equal speech time

2. Resign from party eg: UK model

Way forward

→ once a speaker always a speaker principle

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS

2.9) 'Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) is an independent body responsible only to the Parliament.' What are the provisions that ensure independence of CVC? Also, discuss the issues that limit its effectiveness in tackling corruption in the country's public administration. (10 marks, 150 words)

केंद्रीय सतर्कता आयोग (CVC) एक स्वतंत्र निकाय है, जो केवल संसद के प्रति उत्तरदायी है। CVC की स्वतंत्रता सुनिश्चित करने वाले प्रावधान क्या हैं? साथ ही, उन मुद्दों पर भी चर्चा कीजिए जो देश के सार्वजनिक प्रशासन में भ्रष्टाचार से निपटने के खिलाफ इसकी प्रभावशीलता को सीमित करते हैं। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) is a statutory body under CVC act. Empowered to inquire & act against corrupt practices of central employees.

Provisions ensuring independence

1. Appointment → through committee including leader of opposition

2. Candidates recommended after serious scrutiny (Search Committee).

2. Functioning

a) Independent secretariate

b) Reports to Parliament - no

executive interference

c) ~~Case~~ Suo Motu action power

eg: recent action against CBI officials

d) Advises govt on disciplinary actions to government

eg: Civil servants.

3. Removal → ~~is~~ equivalent to ~~being~~ member behaviour Supreme Court judge

Issues limiting its powers

1. Dependence on external agencies

for investigation

eg: ~~ICAI~~, CBI, CO.

2. Lack of independent funding

eg: Dependent on government

3. ~~Blatant~~ Lack of strict implementation mechanism

4. ~~Excess~~ Need of prior departmental permission for higher officers

eg: Secretary etc.

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CVC despite being responsible to Parliament only is unable to ensure curbing corruption due to it being a toothless tiger.

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TOTAL MARKS		

Q.10) "The creation of All India Judicial Services (AIJS) shall enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the Indian judiciary". Comment. (10 marks, 150 words)

अखिल भारतीय न्यायिक सेवाओं (AIJS) के सृजन से भारतीय न्यायपालिका की प्रभावशीलता और दक्षता में वृद्धि होगी। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Article 312 empowers government to setup All India Judicial Services (AIJS), through Rajyasabha.

AIJS shall enhance effectiveness & efficiency of judiciary as :-

1. Merit based → qualified personnel
 eg: UPSC civil servants efficient

2. Regularisation in appointment
 → reduce pendency

3. Promote federal co-operation
 → dynamic & new ~~use~~ innovations

4. Prevent corrupt practices in appointment

eg: Bihar recruitment scam

5. Decrease case pendency - eg: 7000 case pending SC,

5. Uphold constitutional mandate

However there are challenges

1. Encroachment on state powers
→ Undermine federalism
eg: Law - state subject
2. Language Issue - due to recruitment from all over India
3. Opposition from states → lack of consensus
4. Unifying / centralising tendency
5. May not be possible apathy → maneuvering of regional issues.

very forward → beginning at pilot scale
↓
for certain willing states

AITS can prove to be revolutionary in criminal justice system if brought with consensus of states

ensuring
Co-operative federalism.

Feedback
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TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.11) Although upholding the spirit of the Constitution through judicial activism is noble in its intent, in practice it runs the risk of undermining the delicate balance of power that the Constitution sought to achieve. Critically examine. (15 marks, 250 words)

यद्यपि न्यायिक सक्रियता के माध्यम से संविधान की भावना को कायम रखना अपने इरादे में नेक है, लेकिन व्यवहार में यह शक्ति के उस नाजुक संतुलन को कमजोर करने का जोखिम उठाता है जिसे संविधान हासिल करना चाहता था। आला. चनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Balance of power forms the basic structure of constitution through ORP (ART 50)

However frequent judicial overreach risks undermining it

Judicial activism is novel in intent because

1. upholding rule of law : grant of rights

Eq: Vishaka guidelines

2. Filling policy & statutory gaps

Eq: SR Bommai judgement

3. Limited government → protection of fundamental rights

eq: → Shreya Basu case.

4. Increases accessibility of justice - through PIL

Eq: Musamara Khatun case

5. Upholds federalism → ^{between} CO-ordination
between centre & state

Eq: TN governor case (2024)

However it threatens delicate balance of power as:

1. Judicial overreach → Eq: Crocker ban case

2. Lack of field expertise

Eq: Dissection of SC on writing hysterectomies (medical)

3. Erodes public trust in government

Eq: Repeated p se sending to courts

4. Lack of awareness of ground reality

Eq: Ban on liquor near highways

not just overreach but judicial apathy is a risk

1. Delay in judgments

Eg: Nithari case

2. Refusal to act → Eg: Maharashtra & anti-defection case

Way forward → Judicial restraint with careful activism

Though, separation of power is the foundation of Indian democracy, however judicial activism is a fundamental need to keep the concept of limited government alive.

Feedback

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Please put tick marks in the above table. Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			

Q.12) Governor is neither a saboteur nor a sage; he is a constitutional functionary who needs to be solely loyal to the Constitution. Critically examine the statement in the light of recent events. (15 marks, 250 words)

राज्यपाल न तो विध्वंसक है और न ही संत; वह एक संवैधानिक पदाधिकारी है जिसे पूरी तरह से संविधान के प्रति निष्ठावान रहने की आवश्यकता है। हाल की घटनाओं के आलोक में कथन का समालोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Governor is a constitutional officer under article 153 of constitution of India.

Recently office is under scrutiny due to its clash with state governments.

Governor sabotaging the Constitutionalism

1. Sitting on bills → delay
 → undermine elected governments
 Eg: Tamil Nadu - 20 bills delayed
2. Misuse of discretion
 Eg: Tamil Nadu governor referred > 10 bills for President's consideration
3. Agent of Centre → sabotaging
 functioning of opposition led governments

4. Obstacle in constitutional functioning of legislative assemblies
 Eg: Refusal to give opening speech
5. Constitutional punctuality under question
6. Unordinate power on tribal areas
 Eg: Power to assent AOC bills.

However, this office is important for constitutional functioning because

1. Check on Constitutional machinery of state → report centre for ~~base~~ curious activities
 Eg: Nagaland
2. Upholds federation → ^{strong} ~~only~~ link between centre & state
3. Functioning during emergencies

4. Upholds tribal rights

↳ report to president on functioning of tribal areas

5. State government formation & dispute resolution → discretionary power

Way forward

1. Depoliticisation of governor
2. Should be non-political & from different state (Punchhi Commission)
3. Fixed tenure to ensure independence (Sarkaria Commission)

Governor's office can be pivot of co-operative federalism if used with prudence.

#	⊙	⊙	⊙
AWIS			
CD & VA			
S & F			
P & R			

Please put tick marks in the above table.
 Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.

TOTAL MARKS

Q.13) Throw light on the various mechanisms for the settlement of disputes related to the equitable sharing of river water among states. Also, evaluate the effectiveness of these mechanisms in the resolution of inter-state river water disputes in the country. (15 marks, 250 words)

राज्यों के बीच नदी जल के न्यायसंगत बंटवारे से संबंधित विवादों के निपटारे के लिए विभिन्न तंत्रों पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, देश में अंतरराज्यीय नदी जल विवादों के समाधान में इन तंत्रों की प्रभावशीलता का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

River water being state subject (art 246) in schedule III is a result of constant contention between states.

Constitution & states provide mechanism for their resolution

Mechanisms for resolution of river water disputes

1. Constitutional

a) Inter State River water dispute Tribunal

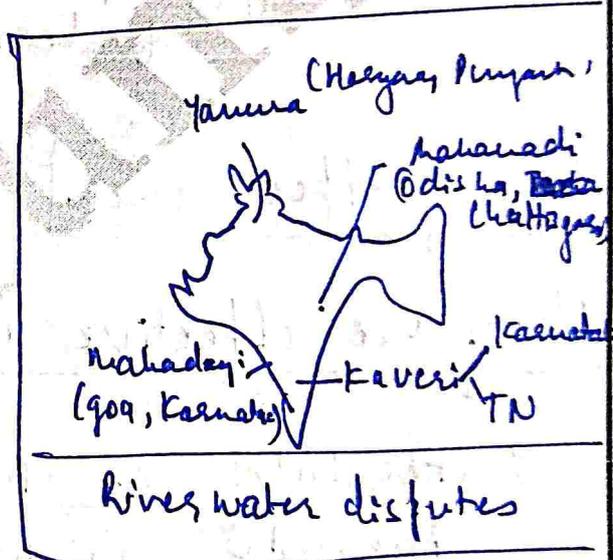
- original jurisdiction
- No judicial interference

eg: Cauveri river water dispute resolution

b) Inter state council → platform for

mutual resolution

c) Tonal council → mutual resolution



River water disputes

2. Judicial

- a) Supreme court held that it can accept cases related to river water dispute
 Eg: Cauveririver case

3. Administrative mechanism

- a) NITI aayog → promote co-operative federalism

Evaluation of effectiveness

I. They are effective as

- a) Interstate co-operation through impartial judgement
 Eg: Mahanadi dispute
- b) Expert panel → satisfactory advice
 Eg: Yamuna & river water dispute

c) Forum for mutual resolution provided

eg: Karnataka & Goa - Mahadayi

d) Fair Investigation & evidence based judgments → resolution

eg: ~~Deep~~ Krishna river, water Narmada.

II They have proved to be inefficient because

a) Continuing Interstate class

eg: Cauveri dispute

b) Outdated procedures

c) Delayed judgments →

d) Lack of data on seasonal river water flows.

Way forward

ADR mechanism
river water dispute session
in Zonal councils

Rivers are the lifelines of economy in

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

#	G	A	P
AWIS			
CD & VA			
S & F			
P & R			
Please put tick marks in the above table. Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			

to 15% agrarian, satisfactory resolution is imperative to ensure Sabka catch sabka water



Q.14) How does the inability of local bodies to generate their own funds affect their ability to function effectively? Suggest necessary measures to empower local governments in generating independent revenue streams. (15 marks, 250 words)

स्थानीय निकायों की स्वयं की धनराशि उत्पन्न करने में असमर्थता उनकी प्रभावी ढंग से कार्य करने की क्षमता को कैसे प्रभावित करती है? स्वतंत्र राजस्व उत्पन्न करने में स्थानीय सरकारों को सशक्त बनाने के लिए आवश्यक उपाय सुझाएँ। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Local bodies were constitutionalised through 73rd & 74th constitutional amendments. (Art 243K, Art 243P of Rural & ULB)

However, they struggle with fund, function & future.

Inability to generate own fund

- Lack of power devolution
- dependent on state grants
- Loss making bodies → no source of loans.

Inability affects function

1. Overdependence on state → lack of autonomy

Eg: Bhopal municipal body - 100% state funded.

2. affects civic works

Eg: parks &

3. Cannot hire staff → lack of ^{man} power

Eq: Indore municipal corporation → 25% short of staff.

4. Merely implementing agency of central or state schemes

Eq: Smart cities.

5. Lack of assets → lack of public trust

Eq: Inability to recover taxes

Necessary measures

1. Power devolution

a) Devolution of taxing powers apart from basic taxes

Eq: housing taxes, road taxes

b) Independent revenue bodies within ~~revenue~~ URB & RLBs

c) Devolution of civic powers

→ build public trust → tax collect

2. Innovative approaches
 a) Eq: → waste → wealth (Indore)
3. Municipal bonds → easy to release
 Eq: Pune municipal bonds
4. Accessibility to loans - both external & internal
5. forum for FDI in municipal corporation Eq: BMC (Mumbai)
6. ~~Reduce~~ Decrease parallel bodies like smart cities mission

(Case study) → Beijing through independent taxation powers, & compulsory taxation measures, prohibitive action against non tax payers led to development

For efficient devolution of powers, devolution of funds also necessary

hence ULB & RDs should be empowered further.

Q.15) Critically examine the functioning of National Human Rights Commission of India (NHRC) as an apex institution entrusted with the protection of human rights in the country. (15 marks, 250 words)

देश में मानवाधिकारों की सुरक्षा के लिए सौंपी गई एक शीर्ष संस्था के रूप में भारत के राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (NHRC) की कार्यप्रणाली का आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

~~Base~~ National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) is a statutory body formed under NHRC Act.

Recently GANHRI (Global Human Rights agency) refused to recognize NHRC for 2nd consecutive time.

NHRC as an effective agency

- a) → Has quasi judicial power to investigate breach of human rights
 eg: Habeas case
- b) → Takes suo moto action
 eg: Bengal medical student rape case
- c) Upholds human rights
 eg: Compensation to Punjab mass killing

- d) Co-operate & coordinate with other agencies
 eg: NCSL, NCST, NCSC, NCW.
- e) Submits report to president annually.

However there are some serious deficiencies in its

1. Related to powers

- a) Section 11 → dependent on central government for funds
- b) Section 18 → multiple exceptions
 eg: Army
- c) Section 36 → cannot act on complaints beyond 1 year

2. Appointment issues

- a) Influence of executive
 → PM in appointing committee
- b) Delay in appointment
 eg: No Chairperson for 2021-2024

B.) functioning issues

a) NO enforcement mechanism

Eq: Dependent on police

b) Only advisory body — not binding

c) Delayed reports

d) Suo motu powers rarely used

Eq: Not used in Manipur.

e) Lack of diverse representation
(stated by GANHRP)

Way forward

(IIARC)

1. Constitutionalize NHRC

2. Autonomy → funds charged on CFI

3. Own enforcement agency.

NHRC — as stated by ex chairman
H L Dattu — is a tooth less tiger.

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

#	G	A	P
AWIS			
CD & VA			
S & F			
P & R			
Please put tick marks in the above table. Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			



Q.16) "Right to vote is fundamental to democracy, and depriving undertrial prisoners of this right while allowing contesting elections reflects a flawed legal framework." Comment. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

"मतदान का अधिकार लोकतंत्र के लिए मौलिक है, और विचाराधीन कैदियों को चुनाव लड़ने की अनुमति देते हुए उन्हें इस अधिकार से वंचित करना एक दोषपूर्ण कानूनी ढांचे को दर्शाता है।" टिप्पणी करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Indian democracy functions on
right to equality (Art 14), free &
fair elections and limited government.

However, ^{undertrial} prisoners having
right to contest but not to vote
are against all these three principles.

Issues with allowing contesting elections
to undertrial

1. Criminalisation of politics → erosion of
Democracy
Eg: Balistan separatist allowed
to contest.
2. Erosion of public trust → reduce
government authority
3. Politician - Criminal syndicate
→ Corruption

4. Disturbed level playing field

q: criminals are usually rich

5. Encourages crimes → reward mechanism

Issues in not allowing to contest

1. May go against public will

q: Certain ^{undesirable} ~~persons~~ won election

q: Engines, Harrod (TFC)

2. Accusation ≠ Conviction →

3. Justicial

Issues with not allowing voting

1. Accusation is not equal to conviction
→ against fundamental rights

2. Against one man - one vote principle

3. Against right to equality

4. Undermines principle of universal adult franchise.

Difficulties in allowing undertrial to vote

1. Huge numbers → difficult to manage
eg: 80% prisoners are undertrials
2. Different constituencies → cannot hold ~~separate~~ voting on fair premise
3. Possible criminal → cannot contribute in decision for public
4. Reward mechanism for crime
→ will elect criminals.

~~base~~ Despite arguments ~~that~~ dichotomy is violation of rights of some while on the advantage to others.

As suggested by Supreme Court (Lilly Thomas case) & Patna High Court, undertrial prisoners must not be allowed to contest

elections

Q.17) Examine the scope of partnership between the State and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) towards improving public service delivery to benefit the common citizen. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

आम नागरिकों को लाभ पहुंचाने के लिए सार्वजनिक सेवा वितरण में सुधार लाने की दिशा में राज्य और नागरिक समाज संगठनों (CSOs) के बीच साझेदारी की संभावनाओं की परिक्षण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

State & civil society organisations are two important pillars of good governance.

Co-ordination & co-operation between them benefit citizens

the benefits possible

1. Justice delivery → through access to end beneficiary
 Eg: Kalyan Bachao Andolan
2. Remove poverty → funds of government & ^{through} fraternalities of CSOs.
 Eg: Akshaya patra foundation
3. Build social capital - through efficient service delivery.

6. Awareness about services - increase

Eg: ASHA, Aarogya

NMFI → financial awareness

However there are certain challenges

1. Agenda based functioning of CSOs.

Eg: PCCCI

2. Development hindering NGOs.

Eg: Green Peace

3. Frequent protests → economic downturn

Eg: Highway blockade

4. Lack of participatory governance

Eg: Farm bills.

Way forward

Consensus building by government
Utilise NGOs for service delivery

While government is larger unbreddha body, CSOs reach to the public

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

#	G	A	P
AWIS			
CD & VA			
S & F			
P & R			
Please put tick marks in the above table. Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			

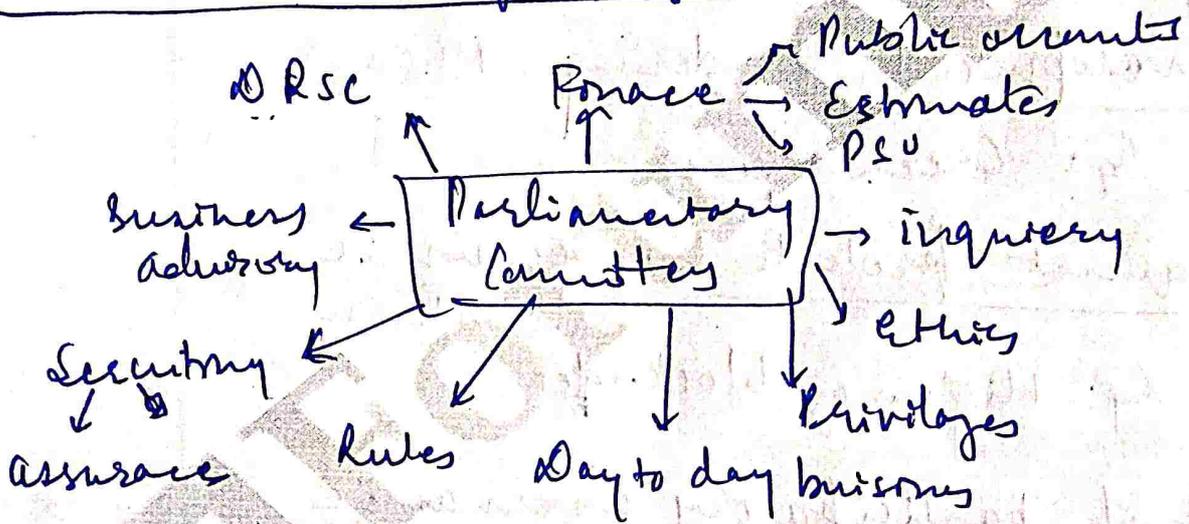
a harmonious relation between both will lead to effective service delivery.



Q.18) "Parliamentary democracy would be incomplete without Parliamentary committees." In light of the statement, examine the role of the Public Accounts Committee in establishing financial accountability of the executive. (15 marks, 250 words)

"संसदीय समितियों के बिना संसदीय लोकतंत्र अधूरा होगा।" कथन के आलोक में, कार्यपालिका के लिए वित्तीय जवाबदेही स्थापित करने में लोक लेखा समिति की भूमिका का परीक्षण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Parliamentary democracy functions on triple chain of responsibility & Parliamentary committees are mechanism of doing it.



Public Accounts Committee functions to ensure accountability of government

1. Checks & balance → scrutinize government expenditure

2. Examine CAG report → ensure transparency.
Eg: Coal allocation scam exposed.
3. Holds government accountable → placement of report in parliament
4. forum for opposition to speak
Eg: Chairman from opposition
5. Extra Time apart from regular parliamentary sittings

However it has proved to be inefficient as

1. Post mortem examination → no active policy action possible
2. Only causes of CAG report examined → not whole
3. Short tenure → only 1 year

- 4. Closed door sittings
- 5. Lack of expertise
 - a. - Consists of MPs
- 6. Lack of permanent staff
 - Continuity Issue

Best practices
 ↓
 USA
 - Open sittings
 - Independent tech experts

Way forward

1. Independent technical staff (CISA)
2. Increase tenure at least to 2 years
3. Democratic appointment of chair person
4. Compulsory bill referral

Despite their presence in parliament standing committees have been ineffective hence India can learn from world's oldest +

democracy ~~is~~ ~~to~~

Feedback (For OFFICE use)

#	⊙
AWIS	
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P & R	

Please put tick marks in the above table.
 Here G is Good, Average and P is Poor.

TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.19) While the NCST has made significant contributions to tribal welfare, a multi-faceted approach is necessary to complement its efforts and ensure the holistic development of tribals. Elaborate.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

जबकि NCST ने जनजातीय कल्याण में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान दिया है, इसके प्रयासों के पूरक के लिए और जनजातियों के समग्र विकास को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए एक बहुआयामी दृष्टिकोण आवश्यक है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

NCST is a constitutional body under article 238A, formed to ensure tribal rights.

Significant contribution

1. Inquire into tribal rights breach
Eq: Niyamgiri forest case.
2. Investigate into complaints of tribals
Eq: Sahayya Malkuhira (MP)
3. Advice government for policy formation
Eq: Forest rights act.

4. Assists in tribal & scheduled area governance → through advice

eg: forest practice of panchsheel

5. Report to President → functionary regarding tribal rights → parliamentary scrutiny

However there have been deficiencies

1. Delayed reports

eg: 2018 report still pending

2. Lack of enforcement powers

eg: dependent on police

3. Only advisory → not binding

eg: advice on Van Samvardhan adhiniyam ignored.

4. Ineffective enforcement

Ex: Rising crimes against ST/SC by 10% (2013) NCRB

5. Suo moto power rarely used

Multifaceted approach is necessary because

1. Diversity of tribal problems

Ex: Land alienation
Poverty, hunger
Lack of education
Addiction etc

2. Diverse tribal populations → diverse issues

Ex: A.N → Andamanese
Northeast → Naga

3. Modern problems → Impact of globalisation

Ex: Modern civilised tribes to integrate, ~~and~~ NCT must put forward holistic efforts to ensure the vision

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

#	G	A	P
AWIS			
CD & VA			
S & F			
P & R			
Please put tick marks in the above table. Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			

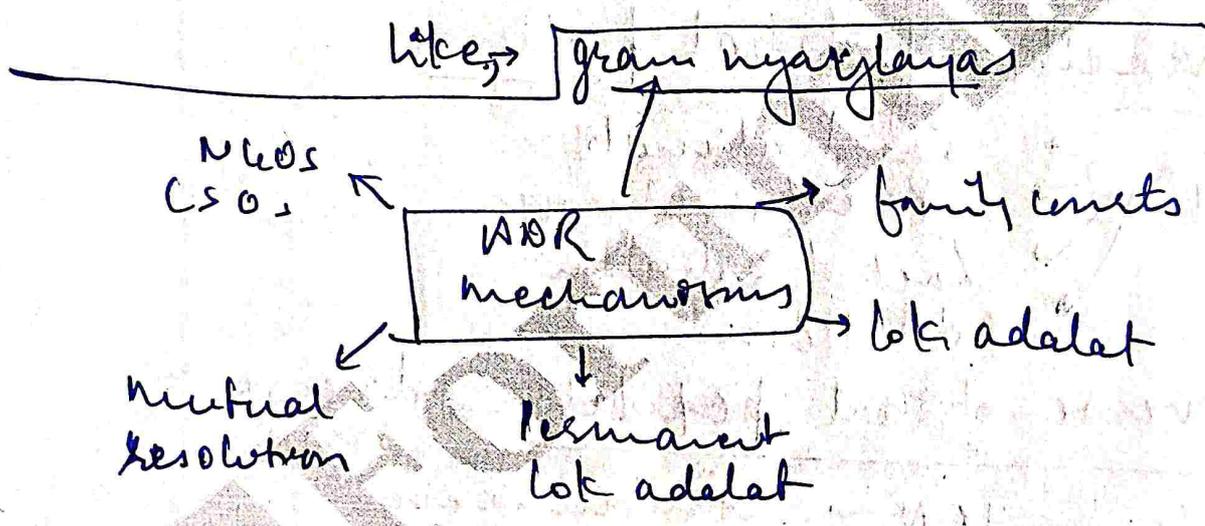


(Don't Write in this Area पर कुछ न लिखें)

Q.20) What do you understand by Alternate Dispute Redressal (ADR) mechanisms? What are the reasons for their low adoption as the primary mode of dispute resolution in the country? Suggest measures for improvement. (15 marks, 250 words)

वैकल्पिक विवाद निवारण (ADR) तंत्र से आप क्या समझते हैं? देश में विवाद समाधान के प्राथमिक माध्यम के रूप में इन्हें कम अपनाने के क्या कारण हैं? सुधारात्मक उपाय सुझायें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Alternate Dispute Redressal (ADR) mechanism is method of resolving disputes ~~do not~~ not through judicial methods but parallel mechanisms



Reasons for their low adoptation

± Lack of awareness → esp among public
eg: existence of gram nyayalayas goes unnoticed.

2. Lack of trust → due to apparent no legal backing

3. Lack of forum for appeal → binding

Ex: Lok Adalat → no appeal after decision

4. Risk of hurried decision due to procedural freedom

5. Lack of judicial oversight mechanism

Ex: → No in camera
No extensive record keeping

Measure to Improve

1. Awareness campaigns

Ex: NALSA awareness drives

2. Frequent ADR clinics in villages.

Ex: NALSA Clinics.

3. Involvement of NGOs & courts
Eg: PRS, AOR
4. Appeal mechanisms in Lokadalat
to district court
(like family courts)
5. In camera procedures
6. Compulsory for states to build
~~ways for roads~~ → gram nyayalayas
in each village.

More than 1.5 crore cases are pending in Indian courts.
AOR can prove to be a breath of fresh air to courts.

#	⊙	⊙
AWIS		
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P & R		

Please put tick marks in the above table.

Here G is Good, A Average and P is Poor.

TOTAL MARKS

MGP 2025

TEST CODE

8 1 2 5 5 1

ForumIAS

Maximum Marks : 250

अधिकतम अंक : 250

Time Allowed : Three Hours

समय : तीन घंटे

GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

Name Of Candidate
परीक्षार्थी का नाम

Aeksha Patkar

Medium/माध्यम

English हिंदी

Roll No./अनुक्रमांक

Date/दिनांक

12/7/2025

Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र

*Center Code : For Online - 1900 / Delhi : Karol bagh - 1901, ORN - 1902, Mukharji Nagar - 1903 / Patna : Boring Rd. - 2001 / Hyderabad : Jawahar Nagar - 2101

INDEX TABLE / अनुक्रमणिका

INSTRUCTION / अनुदेश

Q. No. प्र.सं.	Max. Marks अधिकतम अंक	Marks Obtained प्राप्तांक
1		
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20		
Total/कुल अंक	250	

- Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet.
कृपया उत्तर-पुरतिका में नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर और मोबाइल नंबर करें।
- There are **TWENTY** questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI, all questions are compulsory.
उत्तर पुरतिका में अंग्रेजी/हिंदी में बीस प्रश्न दिए गए हैं, सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
- The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए निर्धारित अंक उसके सामने अंकित किए गए हैं।
- Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided.
उत्तर प्रवेश पत्र में अधिकृत माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जो कि दिए गए स्थान में इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुरतिका के कवर पर स्पष्ट रूप से लिखा जाना चाहिए।
- Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off.
प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, यदि निर्दिष्ट हो, का पालन किया जाए। प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुरतिका में खाली छोड़े गये किसी भी पृष्ठ या पृष्ठ के भाग को स्पष्ट रूप से काट दें।

For Student Only / केवल परीक्षार्थी प्रयोग हेतु

Examiner's Discretion/मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक :

Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय :

End Time/समाप्त करने का समय :

01:30 pm

04:45 pm

Total Marks/कुल अंक :

Mode Of Examination/
परीक्षा की विधि :Online/ऑनलाइन Offline/ऑफलाइन

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*Examiner's Discretion is the marks awarded at the discretion of the examiner based on your overall impression, on the basis of (but not limited to) your handwriting, presentation, use of diagrams, flowcharts, facts and figures or absolutely anything that he/she liked in your copy.

मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक अंक, आपकी लिखावट, प्रस्तुति, आरेखों के उपयोग, पं-तोषाट, तथ्यों और आंकड़ों या समग्र रूप किसी अन्य विषय वस्तु जो मूल्यांकन कर्ता को आपकी कॉपी में पसंद आये के आधार पर (लेकिन इन्हें तुरंत सीमित नहीं) पर दिए गए अंक हैं।

ECN CODE/
ईसीएन कोड :

EG/ईजी :

① ② ③ ④ ⑤

Evaluation Date/
मूल्यांकन तिथि :

Mentor Feedback Questions

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

Test Goal

- 1
- 2
- 3

Outcomes

-
-
-
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Marking Scheme

Mark	Good	Average	Below average
10 Marker	3.75 - 5.0	3.0 - 3.5	< 3.0
15 Marker	5.75 - 7.0	4.0 - 5.5	< 4.0
20 Marker	7.75 - 10	6 - 7.5	< 6
	Key / Relevant Point		
	Vague / Irrelevant		

* Subject to change without prior notice.