

# UPSC MAINS TEST SERIES 2025 GEOGRAPHY (OPTIONAL SUBJECT)

**Available in English & Hindi Medium** 

STARTING: 12TH JANUARY 2025

**Total 16 Tests** 

12 Sectional

4 Full Syllabus

Available in Online and Offline Mode

FEE: ₹16,000/-

### MUKHERJEE NAGAR BRANCH

641, MUKHERJEE NAGAR. DELHI

### KAROL BAGH BRANCH

21, PUSA ROAD, New Delhi

### PRAYAGRAJ BRANCH

13/15, TASHKENT MARG, Patrika Chauraha, Civil Lines, Uttar Pradesh

### JAIPUR BRANCH

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### **LUCKNOW BRANCH**

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C-171/2, BLOCK-A, SECTOR 15, UTTAR PRADESH



## Salient Features

- Language, style and standard of questions are similar to Geography optional questions asked by the Union Public Service Commission.
- The sectional tests comprise of 14 questions, and all are compulsory. Each test is of 200 marks and has to be completed within a time period of 2.5 hours.
- The sectional tests cover topic wise basics of entire Geography optional syllabus.
- The full-length tests consist of cross-topic questions to simulate real time exam pattern.
- Use of standard Geography reference books and authentic sources for model answers.
- Crisp and fluid model answers that cover basic aspects to applied principles of Geography and current affairs relevant to the question.
- Use of suitable examples, accurate diagrams and graphic analysis in model answers for lucid presentation and better scoring.
- Adequately spaced tests to allow for better preparation, feedback and improvement.

Test Code	Date	Syllabus	
Test-1 OPT-G-2501	12 January, 2025 (Sunday)	Geomorphology	
Test-2 OPT-G-2502	19 January, 2025 (Sunday)	Climatology; Oceanography	
Test-3 OPT-G-2503	2 February, 2025 (Sunday)	Biogeography; Environmental Geography	
Test-4 OPT-G-2504	16 February, 2025 (Sunday)	Economic Geography; Regional Planning	
Test-5 OPT-G-2505	2 March, 2025 (Sunday)	Population and Settlement Geography	
Test-6 OPT-G-2506	16 March, 2025 (Sunday)	Perspective in Human Geography; Models, Theories and Laws in Human Geography	
Test-7 OPT-G-2507	1 June, 2025 (Sunday)	Physical Setting; Resources	
Test-8 OPT-G-2508	8 June, 2025 (Sunday)	Agriculture	

Test Code	Date	Syllabus	
Test-9 OPT-G-2509	15 June, 2025	Industry	
Test-10 OPT-G-2510	(Sunday)	Transport, Communication and Trade	
Test-11 OPT-G-2511	29 June, 2025	Settlements; Regional Development and Planning	
Test-12 OPT-G-2512	(Sunday)	Cultural Setting; Political Aspects; Contemporary Issues	
Test-13 OPT-G-2513	13 July, 2025	Full Length Paper-I	
Test-14 OPT-G-2514	(Sunday)	Full Length Paper-II	
Test-15 OPT-G-2515	27 July, 2025	Full Length Paper-I	
Test-16 OPT-G-2516	(Sunday)	Full Length Paper-II	

<sup>\*</sup>For detailed breakup of syllabus, kindly refer to the subsequent pages.



		Test Schedule
Test Code	Test Date	Subject
Test-1 OPT-G-2501	12 January, 2025 (Sunday)	• Geomorphology: Factors controlling landform development; endogenetic and exogenetic forces; Origin and evolution of the earth's crusts; Fundamentals of geomagnetism; Physical conditions of the earth's interior; Geosynclines; Continental drift; Isostasy; Plate tectonics; Recent views on mountain building; Volcanicity; Earthquakes and Tsunamis; Concepts of geomorphic cycles and Land scape development; Denudation chronology; Channel morphology; Erosion surfaces; Slope development; Applied Geomorphology; Geomorphology, economic geology and environment.
Test-2 OPT-G-2502	19 January, 2025 (Sunday)	• Climatology: Temperature and pressure belts of the world; Heat budget of the earth; Atmospheric circulation; Atmospheric stability and instability. Planetary and local winds; Monsoons and jet streams; Air masses and fronto; Temperate and tropical cyclones; Types and distribution of precipitation; Weather and Climate; Koppen's Thornthwaite's and Trewar Tha's classification of world climate; Hydrological cycle; Global climatic change, and role and response of man in climatic changes Applied climatology and Urban climate.
		• Oceanography: Bottom topography of the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific Oceans; Temperature and salinity of the oceans; Heat and salt budgets, Ocean deposits; Waves, currents and tides; Marine resources; biotic, mineral and energy resources; Coral reefs coral bleaching; Sea-level changes; Law of the sea and marine pollution.
Test-3 OPT-G-2503	2 February, 2025 (Sunday)	• Biogeography: Genesis of soils; Classification and distribution of soils; Soil profile; Soil erosion, Degrada-tion and conservation; Factors influencing world distribution of plants and animals; Problems of deforestation and conservation measures; Social forestry, agro-forestry; Wild life; Major gene pool centres.
		• Environmental Geography: Principle ecology; Human ecological adaptations; Influence of man on ecology and environment; Global and regional ecological changes and imbalances; Ecosystem their management and conservation; Environmental degradation, management and conservation; Biodiversity and sustainable development; Environmental policy; Environmental hazards and remedial measures; Environmental education and legislation.
Test-4 OPT-G-2504	16 February, 2025 (Sunday)	• Economic Geography: World economic development: measurement and problems; World resources and their distribution; Energy crisis; the limits to growth; World agriculture: typology of agricultural regions; Agricultural inputs and productivity; Food and nutritions problems; Food security; famine: causes, effects and remedies; World industries: location patterns and problems; Patterns of world trade.
		• Regional Planning: Concept of a region; Types of regions and methods of regionalisation; Growth centres and growth poles; Regional imbalances; Regional development strategies; Environmental issues in regional planning; Planning for sustainable development.



Test-5 OPT-G-2505	2 March, 2025 (Sunday)	• Population and Settlement Geography: Growth and distribution of world population; Demographic attributes; Causes and consequences of migration; Concepts of over-under-and optimum population; Population theories, world population problems and policies, Social well-being and quality of life; Population as social capital. Types and patterns of rural settlements; Environmental issues in rural settlements; Hierarchy of urban settlements; Urban morphology; Concept of primate city and rank-size rule; Functional classification of towns; Sphere of urban influence; Rural-urban fringe; Satellite towns; Problems and remedies of urbanization; Sustainable development of cities.
Test-6 OPT-G-2506	16 March, 2025 (Sunday)	<ul> <li>Perspectives in Human Geography: Areal differentiation; Regional synthesis; Dichotomy and dualism; Environmentalism; Quantitative revolution and locational analysis; Radical, behavioural, human and welfare approaches; Languages, religions and secularisation; Cultural regions of the world; Human development index.</li> <li>Models, Theories and Laws in Human Geography: System analysis in Human geography; Malthusian, Marxian and</li> </ul>
		demographic transition models; Central Place theories of Christaller and Losch; Perroux and Boudeville; Von Thunen's model of agricultural location; Weber's model of industrial location; Ostov's model of stages of growth. Heart-land and Rimland theories; Laws of international boundaries and frontiers.
Test-7 OPT-G-2507	1 June, 2025 (Sunday)	<ul> <li>Physical Setting: Space relationship of India with neighbouring countries; Structure and relief; Drainage system and watersheds; Physiographic regions; Mechanism of Indian monsoons and rainfall patterns; Tropical cyclones and western disturbances; Floods and droughts; Climatic regions; Natural vegetation, Soil types and their distributions.</li> <li>Resources: Land, surface and ground water, energy, minerals, biotic and marine resources, Forest and wild life resources and their conservation; Energy crisis.</li> </ul>
Test-8 OPT-G-2508	8 June, 2025 (Sunday)	• Agriculture: Infrastructure: irrigation, seeds, fertilizers, power; Institutional factors; land holdings, land tenure and land reforms; Cropping pattern, agricultural productivity, agricultural intensity, crop combination, land capability; Agro and social-forestry; Green revolution and its socio-economic and ecological implications; Significance of dry farming; Livestock resources and white revolution; Aqua-culture; Sericulture, Agriculture and poultry; Agricultural regionalisation; Agro-climatic zones; Agro-ecological regions.
Test-9 OPT-G-2509	15 June, 2025 (Sunday)	• Industry: Evolution of industries; Locational factors of cotton, jute, textile, iron and steel, aluminium, fertiliser, paper, chemical and pharmaceutical, automobile, cottage and ago-based industries; Industrial houses and complexes including public sector underkings; Industrial regionalisation; New industrial policy; Multinationals and liberalisation; Special Economic Zones; Tourism including ecotourism.
Test-10 OPT-G-2510	15 June, 2025 (Sunday)	• Transport, Communication and Trade: Road, railway, waterway, airway and pipeline net works and their complementary roles in regional development; Growing importance of ports on national and foreign trade; Trade balance; Trade Policy; Export processing zones; Developments in communication and information technology and their impacts on economy and society; Indian space programme.



Test-11 OPT-G-2511	29 June, 2025 (Sunday)	<ul> <li>Settlements: Types, patterns and morphology of rural settlements; Urban developments; Morphology of Indian cities; Functional classification of Indian cities; Conurbations and metropolitan regions; Urban sprawl; Slums and associated problems; Town planning; Problems of urbanisation and remedies.</li> <li>Regional Development and Planning: Experience of regional planning in India; Five Year Plans; Integrated rural development programmes; Panchayati Raj and decentralised planning; Command area development; Watershed management; Planning for backward area, desert, drought-prone, hill tribal area development; Multi-level planning; Regional planning and development of island territories.</li> </ul>
Test-12 OPT-G-2512	29 June, 2025 (Sunday)	<ul> <li>Cultural Setting: Historical Perspective of Indian Society; Racial linguistic and ethnic diversities; religious minorities; Major tribes, tribal areas and their problems; Cultural regions; Growth, distribution and density of population; Demographic attributes: sex-ratio, age structure, literacy rate, work-force, dependency ratio, longevity; migration (interregional, interaregional and international) and associated problems; Population problems and policies; Health indicators.</li> <li>Political Aspects: Geographical basis of Indian federalism; State reorganisation; Emergence of new states; Regional consciousness and inter-state issues; International boundary of India and related issues; Cross-border terrorism; India's role in world affairs; Geopolitics of South Asia and Indian Ocean realm.</li> <li>Contemporary Issues: Ecological issues: Environmental hazards: landslides, earthquakes, Tsunamis, floods and droughts, epidemics; Issues related to environmental pollution; Changes in patterns of land use; Principles of environmental impact assessment and environmental management; Population explosion and food security; Environmental degradation; Deforestation, desertification and soil erosion; Problems of agrarian and industrial unrest; Regional disparities in economic development; Concept of sustainable growth and development; Environmental awareness; Linkage of rivers; Globalisation and Indian economy.</li> </ul>
Test-13 OPT-G-2513	13 July, 2025	• Full Length Paper-I
Test-14 OPT-G-2514	(Sunday)	• Full Length Paper-II
Test-15 OPT-G-2515	27 July, 2025 (Sunday)	• Full Length Paper-I
Test-16 OPT-G-2516		• Full Length Paper-II



# SUGGESTED RESOURCES

- 1. NCERT
- 2. Certificate Physical and Human Geography G C Leong
- 3. Geography Made Simple (Vol1 and Vol2) Rupa Publication
  - a. Physical Geography
  - b. Economic and Social Geography
- 4. Geomorphology Savindra Singh
- 5. Climatology Savindra Singh
- 6. Oceanography Savindra Singh
- 7. Biogeography Savindra Singh
- 8. Environmental Geography Savindra Singh

- 9. Human Geography Majid Hussain
- 10. Models and Theories Majid Husain
- 11. Geographical thought R D Dixit
- 12. Fundamentals of Geographical thought Sudipta Adhikari
- 13. Settlement Geography K Siddhartha & S. Mukherjee
- 14. India's Comprehensive Geography D R Khullar
- 15. Oxford School Atlas
- 16. Economic Survey
- 17. Down to Earth, Yojna, Kurukshetra
- 18. UN reports and NITI Aayog reports

# UPSC (2024) & Drishti IAS Mains Test Series (Geography Optional) Comparative Analysis

	PAPER-I						
Test Series (Code)	Question Code	Drishti IAS Test Series Question	UPSC Question Number	UPSC Question	Marks		
G-2413	2. (a)	• Describe the lifecycle of a temperate cyclone as per the 'Polar Front Theory'. Differentiate between the frontal precipitations associated with the cold and the warm fronts in a temperate cyclone.	1. (b)	Formation of temperate cyclone depends on the condition of axis of dilation. Elucidate.	10		
G-2402	3. (a)	• Many of the major cities of the world are located in coastal areas. In this context, discuss the potential global socio-economic impacts of sea level rise.	1. (c)	With suitable examples explain the factors causing sea level changes.	10		

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G-2403	2. (c)	Discuss the potential benefits of and challenges involved in agro-forestry and social forestry in arid and semi-arid regions.	1. (d)	• Examine the impacts of social forestry in socio- economic transformation of rural areas.	10
G-2401 G-2415	3. (b) 2. (b)	<ul> <li>Discuss with examples the mountain building processes along different types of convergent margins based on plate tectonic theory.</li> <li>Critically examine Kober's geosynclinal orogen theory and discuss how plate tectonic theory has supported his ideas on the movement of kratogens.</li> </ul>	2. (a)	Examine the recent views on mountain building process and divide the world mountains on the basis of their genesis.	20
G-2403	3. (c)	Bring out the difference between soil erosion and soil degradation. Discuss how they impact agriculture.	3. (b)	"Soil erosion is creeping death." Explaining the statement, suggest various soil conservation measures.	15
G-2405	4. (c)	• As compared to earlier models, the multiple nuclei model and the urban realm model are better suited to explain the morphological changes that have occurred in modern cities. Discuss.	5. (c)	Central Business Districts (CBDs) are in decline as the economic core of metropolitan cities. Critically examine.	10
G-2406	1. (a)	Explain the stages of growth as under Rostow's model of economic growth. Use suitable examples.	5. (e)	• Explain the theoretical framework and stages of economic growth proposed by Rostow's model.	10
G-2413	8. (a)	Positivist-Spatial Science tradition born out of quantitative revolution in Geography had its own criticisms which led to the critical revolution. Discuss the development of humanistic and behavioral approaches in geography due to critical revolution.	5. (a)	Critically examine the significance of Behavioural Approach in the development of human geography.	10



G-2406	4. (a)	Schaefer-Hartshorne debate of the mid-twentieth century led to a shift in focus from areal differentiation to spatial analysis in geographical studies. Comment.	6. (b)	Explain how the physical view of geographical space has impacted the forms of spatial analysis.	15
G-2413	7. (a)	Discuss the evolution of Mackinder's perception of politico-geographic reality from 'Pivot Area' to 'Midland and Heartland basins' as power centers on global stage.	6. (c)	• Explain the Heartland theory with reference to contemporary geopolitical scenario of the world.	15
G-2404	2. (c)	Describe the various agricultural regions under Whittlesey's classification with examples.	7. (a)	• Explain the basis of D. Whittlesey's classification of agricultural regions of the world.	20
G-2406	2. (a)	• Give a brief account of Christaller's Central Place Theory. Discuss the concepts of range and threshold and their role in his theory.	8. (a)	What is complementary region? With reference to hierarchy of settlements, describe the different types of complementary regions as proposed by Christaller.	20
G-2405	4. (a)	• In recent times, many West European countries have adopted welcoming policies towards migrants and refugees. While it has its benefits, it has also led to a multitude of problems in these countries. Discuss.	8. (c)	• "In developed countries, migration rather than fertility will be the main driver of population dynamics over the next few decades." Examine the statement.	15
G-2404	3. (b)	• Explain the role of comparative advantage and specialization in determining patterns of international trade with special reference to the semiconductor industry.	8. (b)	Analyse the spatial changes and emerging patterns of semiconductor manufacturing in the world.	15
G-2413	6. (a)	• Discuss the idea of a planning region and regionalisation in the context of regional development planning. In this regard, explain the cluster method of regionalisation and its utility.	7. (c)	Assess the criteria required for selecting regions for developmental planning.	15

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		PA	PER-II		
Test Series (Code)	Question Code	Drishti IAS Test Series Question	UPSC Question Number	UPSC Question	Marks
G-2414	3. (c)	Examine the major challenges confronting Indian agriculture today, with particular emphasis on the institutional reforms required to address them.	2. (a)	• Institutional factors are playing a dominant role in controlling the agricultural prosperity in India. Justify with evidences.	20
G-2410	3. (a)	• Facilitating private players in space sector and ISRO's technology transfer to industries will drive both the economic and the technological aspects of the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'. In this regard, discuss the key aspects of Indian Space Policy 2023 and its vision to leverage the space sector's commercial potential and to use it as a driver of technology development in the nation.	2. (b)	The Indian Space Policy, 2023 supports the commercial presence in space. In what ways will it benefit the socio-economic development and security of India?	15
G-2411 G-2405	1. (c) 2. (a)	<ul> <li>Throw light on the challenges faced by conurbations in India with specific examples.</li> <li>Discuss the characteristics of conurbation and the role of urban sprawl in its formation. What are the major problems associated with conurbations?</li> </ul>	2. (c)	Discuss the process of formation of conurbations in India and describe their problems.	15
G-2404 G-2404	1. (b) 1. (e)	<ul> <li>Discuss the consequences of regional imbalances within a country.</li> <li>Write a short note on the importance of regional development strategy.</li> </ul>	3. (a)	• India has wide-ranging regional disparities in economic development. Explain the patterns, implications and challenges.	20



G-2416 G-2414	4. (c) 4. (c)	<ul> <li>In recent times the risk posed by Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) events has increased in India. Discuss government initiatives in this regard and suggest effective mitigation measures.</li> <li>While the Himalayan rivers of India are predicted to have reduced flow as the glaciers recede, instances of flooding in the Himalayan region have increased in recent times. Discuss the underlying factors.</li> </ul>	3. (b)	Discuss the variations in nature of glaciers in India and the emerging issues due to climate change.	15
G-2409 G-2414	1. (b) 5. (e)	<ul> <li>Green tourism has the potential to balance economic benefits and ecological preservation in the Indian Himalayan Region (IHR). Discuss.</li> <li>Examine how sustainable tourism can be leveraged to support local development in the island territories of India.</li> </ul>	3. (c)	Domestic tourism in India has immense local resource potential. Discuss the reasons and its various dimensions.	15
G-2414	8. (a)	Uneven regional development and demographic transition across the states have been major determinants of internal migration patterns in India. Discuss.	4. (a)	Migration is the reflection of regional disparities. What socio-economic and demographic consequences are experienced at the place of origin and destination?	20
G-2411 G-2412	4. (c) 1. (b)	<ul> <li>Discuss the multi-level planning and functions involved in Tribal Sub-plan for Tribal Area Development in India.</li> <li>Present a brief picture of major tribal areas, tribal population and its growth in Independent India.</li> </ul>	4. (b)	• In spite of various tribal area development programmes in India, tribal areas still lag behind. Discuss critically with examples.	15
G-2412 G-2411	3. (b) 3. (a)	<ul> <li>Highlight the role of geography in understanding Inter-state disputes in independent India using suitable examples.</li> <li>Examine the state of watersheds and watershed management in India. Discuss the impact of Integrated Watershed Management Program (IWMP) and other such programs in India.</li> </ul>	4. (c)	Water-scarcity is an important cause of disputes and conflicts in India. Suggest innovative methods for location-based solutions.	15

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G-2407	1. (b)	• The temporal rainfall variability in India is highest in areas where the amount of rainfall is lowest. Elaborate.	5. (a)	How are geographic factors influencing the distribution of high annual rainfall in certain parts of India?	10
G-2408 G-2413	1. (b) 5. (c)	<ul> <li>Discuss the potential and challenges of farm mechanisation towards improving farm productivity in India.</li> <li>Write a short note on harvesting Artificial Intelligence (AI) for agricultural innovation with specific reference to India.</li> </ul>	5. (c)	Examine the transitional role of technology on Indian agriculture sector.	10
G-2408 G-2411 G-2411	4. (c) 2. (b) 3. (a)	<ul> <li>Evaluate the strategies and technologies used to reduce the impact of droughts on agriculture in India. Discuss the effectiveness of water conservation methods, drought-resistant crop varieties, and irrigation practices in improving resilience against drought conditions.</li> <li>Discuss the concept of Command Area Development with particular attention to Indira Gandhi Canal Command Area Development Programme.</li> <li>Examine the state of watersheds and watershed management in India. Discuss the impact of Integrated Watershed Management Program (IWMP) and other such programs in India.</li> </ul>	5. (d)	Describe the area-specific strategies for the development of drought-prone areas in India.	10
G-2410 G-2410	2. (a) 2. (c)	<ul> <li>Discuss the key aspects of Maritime India Vision 2030. Explore how it can help boost India's maritime trade and impact India's export trade favorably.</li> <li>Kolkata port has a serious problem of 'bends', 'bars' and 'bores'. Discuss the nature of shipping and trade via Kolkata port and the geographical challenges that the port faces today.</li> </ul>	5. (e)	• Examine the relationship between seaports and regional development in India.	10



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G-2414 G-2416	7. (a) 7. (a)	<ul> <li>Analyze the structure of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) across various regions of India and their role in facilitating decentralized planning. Highlight their limitations and propose measures to enhance their effectiveness in fostering regional development in India.</li> <li>Examine the evolution and current status of multi-level planning in India. How do Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) play a role in this context?</li> </ul>	7. (b)	• The 73 <sup>rd</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act devolved functions, finances and functionaries for planning of rural areas in India. Discuss the major achievements with examples.	15
G-2416 G-2408	1. (d) 3. (b)	<ul> <li>Outline the issues related to agricultural land holdings and agricultural profitability in India.</li> <li>Cooperative farming and land consolidation can help improving agricultural productivity in India.     Examine the potential benefits of cooperative farming for smallholder farmers and the impact of land consolidation on reducing fragmentation and increasing productivity.</li> </ul>	7. (c)	How do small and fragmented landholdings affect the agro-ecological system in rural India? What are the resilient steps needed to overcome this issue?	15
G-2411 G-2411	4. (a) 1. (b)	<ul> <li>The morphology of modern Indian towns is significantly different from older more ancient urban settlements in India. Examine what challenges arise due to these differences in modernizing the landscape of old Indian Cities.</li> <li>Compare and contrast the urban development in India during the British period with that in the post-Independence period.</li> </ul>	8. (a)	How can morphology of Indian towns be described historically? Discuss the major features of the first planned city in India after independence.	20

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G-2410 G-2414	4. (a) 5. (d)	<ul> <li>Gati Shakti Master Plan aims to integrate several transport infrastructure schemes and improve connectivity to various economic zones thus boosting Indian Economy and facilitating Indian Public. Discuss the significance of the envisioned multimodal connectivity and the execution of the Plan.</li> <li>Analyze the challenges confronting the construction of India's first bullet train route, connecting Mumbai and Ahmedabad.</li> </ul>	8. (c)	What are the major regional rapid transit systems developed in India? How are urban problems being addressed by them?	15
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