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UPSC CSE MAINS

Previous Year Questions

Aptitude & Foundational Values — GS-IV

Previous Year Questions (verbatim, official syllabus)

18 Questions

Year range: 2013–2025

Verbatim from official UPSC papers

"Master Mains with PYQs — consistency is key"

— Neil Sir, Founder, UnlockIAS

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Aptitude and foundational values for Civil Service

2025 GS-IV 10M · 150W

Q5. "Constitutional morality is not a natural sentiment but a product of civil education and adherence of the rule of law." Examine the significance of constitutional morality for public servant highlighting the role in promoting good governance and ensuring accountability in public administration.

2025 GS-IV 10M · 150W

Q6. "For any kind of social re-engineering by successfully implementing welfare schemes, a civil servant must use reason and critical thinking in an ethical framework." Justify this statement with suitable examples. (Answer in 150 words) 10

2025 GS-IV 10M · 150W

Q11. To achieve holistic development goal, a civil servant acts as an enabler and active facilitator of growth rather than a regulator. What specific measures will you suggest to achieve this goal?

2024 GS-IV 10M · 150W

Q4. Mission Karmayogi is aiming for maintaining a very high standard of conduct and behaviour to ensure efficiency for serving citizens and in turn developing oneself. How will this scheme empower the civil servants in enhancing productive efficiency and delivering the services at the grassroots level?

2021 GS-IV 10M · 150W

Q4. Identify five ethical traits on which one can plot the performance of a civil servant. Justify their inclusion in the matrix.

2021 GS-IV 10M · 150W

Q5. Identify ten essential values that are needed to be an effective public servant. Describe the ways and means to prevent non-ethical behaviour in the public servants.

2018 GS-IV 10M · 150W

Q2. State the three basic values, universal in nature, in the context of civil services and bring out their importance.

2017 GS-IV 10M · 150W

Q7. Examine the relevance of the following in the context of civil service: (a) Transparency (b) Accountability (c) Fairness and justice (d) Courage of conviction (e) Spirit of service.

2015 GS-IV 10M · 150W

Q6. How do the virtues of trustworthiness and fortitude get manifested in public service? Explain with examples.

Integrity, impartiality, non-partisanship, objectivity

2021 GS-IV 10M · 150W

Q2. "Integrity is a value that empowers the human being." Justify with suitable illustration.

2021 GS-IV 10M · 150W

Q6. Should impartial and being non-partisan be considered as indispensable qualities to make a successful civil servant? Discuss with illustrations.

2017 GS-IV 10M · 150W

Q6. One of the tests of integrity is complete refusal to be compromised. Explain with reference to a real life example.

2016 GS-IV 10M · 150W

Q5. Why should impartiality and non-partisanship be considered as foundational values in public services, especially in the present day socio-political context ? Illustrate your answer with examples.

2014 GS-IV 10M · 150W

Q5. Integrity without knowledge is weak and useless, but knowledge without integrity is dangerous and dreadful. What do you understand by this statement? Explain your stand with illustrations from the modern context.

2014 GS-IV 10M · 150W

Q9. The current society is plagued with widespread trust-deficit. What are the consequences of this situation for personal well-being and for societal well-being? What can you do at the personal level to make yourself trustworthy?

2013 GS-IV 25M · 250W

Q2. (a) What do you understand by the following terms in the context of public service? (i) Integrity (ii) Perseverance (iii) Spirit of service (iv) Commitment (v) Courage of conviction (3×5=15 marks, 250 words) (b) Indicate two more attributes which you consider important for public service. Justify your answer. (100 words, 10 marks)

Dedication to public service, empathy, tolerance and compassion toward...

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2025 GS-IV 10M · 150W

Q10. "One who is devoted to one's duty attains highest perfection in life." Analyse this statement with reference to sense of responsibility and personal fulfilment in a civil servant. (Answer in 150 words) 10

2022 GS-IV 10M · 150W

Q2. Apart from intellectual competency and moral qualities, empathy and compassion are some of the other vital attributes that facilitate the civil servants to be more competent in tackling the crucial issues or taking critical decisions. Explain with suitable illustrations.