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UPSC CSE MAINS

Previous Year Questions

Geophysical Phenomena & Geography Features — GS-I

Previous Year Questions (verbatim, official syllabus)

22 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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22 Questions across 3 Sections

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Geophysical phenomena (earthquakes, tsunami, volcanic activity, cyclon...

2025 GS-I 10M · 250W

Q13. What are Tsunamis? How and where are they formed? What are their consequences? Explain with examples.

2024 GS-I 10M · 250W

Q16. What is sea surface temperature rise? How does it affect the formation of tropical cyclones?

2022 GS-I 10M · 250W

Q14. Discuss the meaning of colour-coded weather warnings for cyclone prone areas given by India Meteorological Department.

2021 GS-I 10M · 250W

Q17. Differentiate the causes of landslides in the Himalayan region and Western Ghats.

2021 GS-I 10M · 250W

Q18. Mention the global occurrence of volcanic eruptions in 2021 and their impact on regional environment.

2020 GS-I 15M · 250W

Q19. Account for the huge flooding of million cities in India including the smart ones like Hyderabad and Pune. Suggest lasting remedial measures.

2018 GS-I 10M · 250W

Q18. Define mantle plume and explain its role in plate tectonics.

2016 GS-I 12.5M · 250W

Q17. "The Himalayas are highly prone to landslides." Discuss the causes and suggest suitable measures of mitigation.

201
Q

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201
Q
M

2013 GS-I 10M · 200W

Q22. (a) Bring out the causes for more frequent occurrence of landslides in the Himalayas than in the Western Ghats. (100 words) (b) There is no formation of deltas by rivers of the Western Ghats. Why? (100 words)

Geographical features and their location

2016 GS-I 12.5M · 250W

Q19. South China Sea has assumed great geopolitical significance in the present context. Comment.

Changes in critical geographical features, flora and fauna and their e...

2025 GS-I 10M · 250W

Q19. How are climate change and the sea level rise affecting the very existence of many island nations? Discuss with examples.

2021 GS-I 10M · 250W

Q15. What are the environmental implications of the reclamation of water bodies into urban land use? Explain with examples.

2021 GS-I 15M · 250W

Q19. How do the melting of the Arctic ice and glaciers of the Antarctic differently affect the weather patterns and human activities on the Earth? Explain.

2020 GS-I 10M · 250W

Q14. How will the melting of Himalayan glaciers have a far-reaching impact on the water resources of India?

2019 GS-I 10M · 250W

Q13. Discuss the causes of depletion of mangroves and explain their importance in maintaining coastal ecology.

2019 GS-I 10M · 250W

Q18. Assess the impact of global warming on the coral life system with examples.

2019 GS-I 15M · 250W

Q19. How can the mountain ecosystem be restored from the negative impact of development initiatives and tourism?

2017 GS-I 10M · 250W

Q19. How does the cryosphere affect global climate?

2015 GS-I 15M · 250W

Q16. The states of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, and Uttarakhand are reaching the limits of their ecological carrying capacity due to tourism. Critically evaluate.

2014 GS-I 10M · 150W

Q15. Bring out the relationship between the shrinking Himalayan glaciers and the symptoms of climate change in the Indian sub-continent.

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