

CIVIL SERVICES (MAIN) EXAMINATION, 2018

DEL. NO. : 0309432

AMEI KRUTHIKA

MARKS OBTAINED

SUBJECTS	MARKS
ESSAY (PAPER-I)	121
GENERAL STUDIES -I (PAPER-II)	100
GENERAL STUDIES -II (PAPER-III)	113
GENERAL STUDIES -III (PAPER-IV)	109
GENERAL STUDIES -IV (PAPER-V)	121
OPTIONAL-I (PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION) (PAPER-VI)	145
OPTIONAL-II (PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION) (PAPER-VII)	145
WRITTEN TOTAL	854
PERSONALITY TEST	165
FINAL TOTAL	1019

Remarks : RECOMMENDED

### General Studies 1

- History:** Bipin Chandra, spectrum. In spectrum, the structuring aspect is very good. That structure can be used in answer writing. I also read NCERTs. I focused more on the pictures in these textbooks and the description of these pictures. Rest of the content will remain the same. But these description of pictures can give us very good examples to quote. I also browsed through practice papers of many coaching institutes to identify questions which I should prepare. Also keep a tab on current affairs and prepare static portion of that's. For eg: Kabir was in news, Rabindranath Tagore was in news . So prepare all these topics.
- Culture:** I read Nitin Singhania, old NCERT class 11 and 12 to understand the socio-economic political context in which cultural developments took place. I also read NCERT fine arts book. I took test series questions from various coaching institutes and found answers for those questions.

3. **World history:** I read wizard publication small book on world history. Then read vision notes. Also read old NCERT of class 9 and 10.
4. **Geography:** I read NCERT of class 9, 10, 11. I followed videos of Rajtanil mam on Mrunal's website. I made notes from those videos. I also took help from my friend who had geography optional. He had compiled 100 pages of all important diagrams. I also read Mrunal's articles on location factors etc
5. **Society:** only newspaper, other current affairs sources
6. **Climate change:** from newspaper - collected data about climate change, reports to quote.

### General Studies

#### 2

1. **Current Affairs:** GS 2, most of the preparation I did from Current Affairs – reading newspaper, making notes, following online answer writing initiatives. I referred to coaching websites for daily newspaper summaries to fill any gaps.
2. **Reports:** I read all the ARC reports, NITI Aayog reports and made notes from them. They helped a lot in value addition. They were useful especially in writing answers on Administration, good governance, panchayati raj, law and order, reforms in civil services etc. From NITI Aayog reports, I extracted the best practices from different states which I quote as Case Studies in my answers. This made my content rich and unique
3. **International Relations:** This I wholly relied on newspaper reading and nothing else. I also referred to IDSA website for understanding the background of relations and to build a base.

4. **Social Justice:** again relied completely on newspaper. I prepared major schemes by the government in news that year and its critical analysis from newspaper. Nothing else is required for this.
5. **Definition:** I prepared some definitions which I could readily use in the answers eg: governance, NGO, Civil society organization and so on.

### **General Studies 3**

1. **Economic Survey:** I read summary of economic survey from 2 sources. Rest I covered from editorials of newspaper, test series papers of different coaching institutes. Newspaper reading and covering current affairs systematically are the single most important thing to do in this paper
2. For topics like **Security, Environment** I relied on newspaper and other current affairs sources.
3. **For Infrastructure**, I had made notes for each type is roadways, railways, waterways etc - with relevant data for current status, potential, problems faced, and futuristic solution and government initiatives. Similar notes I also prepared for economics of animal rearing.

4. **In Science and technology**, I prepared some broad fields like nanotech, biotech, information tech, space tech. I focused more on information tech like artificial intelligence, big data etc which were more in news.
5. I also read NITI 3 year action agenda and made notes from the same- which gave good inputs for infrastructure, social sectors.

#### **General Studies 4**

I got 121 in ethics paper which is one of the highest. So I will elaborate my approach.

I did not read any book for this. I thought about my own life and wrote down instances where I have displayed various ethical attributes.

I collected thoughts of some thinkers to be used in answers. Here again I read only the thinkers who had influenced me personally - like APJ Abdul Kalam ji, Gandhiji, swami Vivekananda etc. I collected important anecdotes from their lives which I could use in answers.

For eg- Gandhiji didn't copy in a dictation test and wrote a wrong spelling. He didn't mind to be a disgrace but didn't want to be dishonest.

Similarly APJ Abdul Kalam sir denied using glass pieces on compound walls of DRDO for security purpose, saying that birds would perch on compound walls and glass pieces would hurt them. I collected a lot of such examples. I

used to read about them out of my own interest, and not very particularly for the exam.

A sample of examples I collected [\(Here\)](#)

I also used to listen to TED talks that inspire me. I quoted even those inspiring talks in answers.

I also made a word file where I wrote all the important key words. I collected examples for each of these words and put them under the respective words. [\(Here\)](#)

I used several personal examples in answers. Eg- on how our value system is shaped - I wrote the role played by my school - we used to sing a song which goes- mandir masjid girijaghar me baant diya bhagwan ko, dharti baanti, sagar baanta, mat baanto insaan ko. Like this I quoted several examples from my own life. But for this to come in the exam hall, we have to spend time with ourselves, write down our own life experiences

Also there is no one good format in which questions have to be approached. There is a widespread feeling that ethics answers have to be in paragraphs to give it that organic flow. I personally wrote most of the answers in tabular format. I went through some toppers' copies. I incorporated SWOT diagrams in ethics papers also. In the introduction, in some case studies, I used the format of fact premises and value premises.

Never keep the approach for all the case studies the same. Structure every case study differently so that there is no monotony.

As far as part A is concerned, here again I made use of examples from personal life. I had made a list of quotes area wise which can be used for both ethics and essay. I had recorded this in my voice which I used to listen when I didn't feel like studying anything. This I used in many answers.