

## Strategy For The Preparation (Mains Exam)

Clarity in thinking, lucidity, good content, well expressed language. A good Communication Skill i.e.. Written Communication so that the answer script speaks for itself. Various intelligent students are there, well equipped with knowledge about the subject matter and yet they do not avail good scores in the Mains Examination. The only Reason is poor writing skills. Thus Civil Services Examination needs a two-pronged strategy to hit the target Content and Writing Skill.

Content involves the following points stated below:

1. Conceptual understanding.
2. Facts.
3. Biasness in the facts.
4. Something different, in the context of knowledge base, relation, ingenuity or diagrams.
  - a. Conceptual understanding-Conceptual understanding must be there regarding the subject matter as it is most crucial. Give a layman's interpretation to the concepts and relate it with mundane example for long term memory.
  - b. Facts-After conceptual understanding, the second most important step is remembering the crucial facts. For example-some crucial theoretical aspects are to be remembered to try any question pertaining to the spatial subject matter judgement.
  - c. Something Different-new diagrams, new ideas, original ideas, new content, latest reports, linkages etc. However, one must be aware that a balance is maintained and the ideas are must not be radical. Also it should be well equipped with the answer.

## Writing Skill

1. Write in brief.
2. Writing must be neat and possess clarity.
3. Grammatical mistakes should must not be there.
4. Language should be easy.
5. Make neat and clear diagrams whenever it needed, graphs reflects more understanding in your answer.

6. Writing skills does not depends on decorative language, having outstanding vocabulary. It shows that the ideas should be well shown in a most logical manner. Easier language but a speaking Language is the demand hence, the answer sheet should speak out everything for itself with desirable words.

## Key Points

- Inculcate appropriate linkages (Transfer of Training so that better application in second paper).
- Updated material (To deal with the growing advances, which solve the purpose as cherry on the cake).
- Application of Phemonia and other easy to remember techniques.
- Individual attention to each and every student (Proper strength, weakness, opportunities and threats analysis) Above mentioned are the crucial points, rest i.e.. That is being left is your experience yourself here at Khan Study Group Institute.

## Approaches on Preparation of Pyschology

1. Develop a habbit of reading the basic books, instead of going for journals and foreign authors etc. Whether 'Preliminary Examination' or 'Mains' what is needed is the mastering of the BASICS (A, B, C) of the subject. Hence, first step depends on mastering and enhancing your command.
2. When you are reading, your attention must be on CONCEPTUAL UNDERSTANDING and not on simply remembering the facts. The Facts are very much easier to remember, if we have the clarity about concepts in our minds.
3. Remembering the FACTS (i.e.. The conceptual words, books-authors etc. If one has the subject in the Preliminary Examination). Using Mnemonics or other interesting tools which suits your style, you can achieve this.
4. Make your flashcard or one register in which all your facts are intact and you can revise them anytime.
5. Rather than simply collecting new fact everyday, focus should be on revising what you have with you. Only when that is remembered thoroughly move on the new facts. Even when you are reading the new material, keep coming to the old materials in between. This is very crucial, else during the examination, you will remember that you have read something like this somewhere but "what was it exactly" might not come to you mind and the memory of it will remain only as a faint image. This has to be checked. The ultimate success depends on not 'what all you have read'but' how 'much you retain it' How far you have practiced diagrams as well organizing the event in chronological manner. This is very crucial and must not be ignored.

6. Solve that much questions as you can. One should solve all the previous years questions of UPSC and solve them again and again. Many of the questions are repeated. Even if the same questions are not repeated in the same words, often the areas remain similar. The nature of the subject matter. There should be no confusion in your answers. Writing skill comes through practice. Writing skill is dependent on your knowledge base and conceptual understanding. This only can give flow and flexibility to your answers. The thorough understanding will make your answer well equipped and well integrated. Hence, writing skill as well as content both are complement and supplement each other. Writing skill has its building block in the content and content requires writing skill to be well manifested.

## **Effective Presentation (Seven Principles)**

1. Main and Crucial words should be well Underlined and highlighted.
2. Also underline the current updates that you have come across while writing your answers.
3. Draw neat and clear diagrams, it will your presentation even more effective. But you must need to keep in mind that the diagram needs to be well related with the answer.
4. Every topic contains few key words and all examiner expects you to state them in your answers.
5. One more crucial factor which many of us tend to overlook is the selection of the first answer. Always keep in mind **FIRST IMPRESSION IS THE LAST IMPRESSION**, hence first answer given by you should be your best answer, Len one in which you have command and also have **SOMETHING NEW** to give-in the form of linkages, recent reports, diagrams, maps and so on:

## **Why Psychology as an Optional?**

Psychology is a very vast subject is the study of behaviour of human beings and animals and application of it for the benefit of mankind. It is equally favourite among all streams of students irrespective of their background to appear in the Civil Services Main Examination. Besides being interesting in nature its simplicity and more marks fetching character attracts the students. Civil Services preparation is not just a preparation but strategic preparation. To be successful not only hard work, determination, dedication etc required but also wise selection of subjects. Psychology is the subject which gives limited course and desirable gap with other optionals thus enhancing the chances of selection.

The best approach is to go through all the available material for the better understanding but you are not doing a PHD course but want to be selected in the civil services. Coaching institutions share this burden from you and filter the relevant material so that you can better utilize your scarce resources of time, money and energy. But in this market of coaching institutions you need wisdom to choose the right one.

1. Check out the earlier years UPSC question paper in detail and try to find out the areas of the question. Also note down these questions topic wise and keep going through them very frequently.
2. Mark your mistakes too, which you do any mistake while solving these questions. Do not talk them for granted, do not ignore them and do not lie to yourself that it is just a careless mistake. Even was a careless mistake like overlooking the word "not" in the question, be cautious that you should not repeat it in the examination hall. Also judge your mistake thoroughly whether it was due to lack of conceptual understanding or it was forgetting the facts. Master you weakness after judging them. IMPORTANT NOTE-Do not read the guide books first and then basic books.
3. Last but not the least, discuss with your friend. Discussion helps a lot provided it is honest discussion with the motive to help the other and in turn getting help. Else it can be disastrous also. These are broadly few tips, which can help you in the Mains as well as Preliminary Examination. However, what matters is the mental calmness and alertness, which you maintain in the examination hall. Do not be panic if you do not know about any question. Use your mind and knowledge. Though not always, but most of the times the questions can be rightly solved if one maintains his cool and analyses it logically. However, At the end, what matters is giving your best shot.
4. Try to connect the statement of the question with your answer. You can either begin with it or end with it. This makes your answer more REAL and LIVELY.
5. At last, just before your examination give your eralier three to four hours to those things which are the dynamic aspects of your preparation. This includes the latest updates, reports, diagrams etc. Even just looking over these things at the last moment makes they alive and fresh in your memory (provided you have read them earlier) and they can be reproduced more authentically in the examination. This will indeed make the Difference. These are the SEVEN GOLDEN RULES for availing good scores in PSYCHOLOGY. These are not just to be remembered and retold to others, but need to be applied practically while you are writing the answers. So the thrust should be on writing answers and getting them evaluated. The more you practice the better answers you would be able to write. Remember, It is not huge reading but useful reading that leads towards excellence and developement.

## Section B

- Application of Psychology to disadvantaged groups: The concepts of disadvantaged, deprivation and socially deprived. Social, physical, cultural and economic circumstances of disadvantaged and deprived groups. Educating and inducing the disadvantaged group will lead towards development.
- Psychological and the problem of social integration: The concept of social integration. The problem of caste, class, religion and language conflicts and prejudice. Nature and

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manifestation of prejudice between the ingroup and outgroup. Casual factors of such conflicts and prejudices.

- Other applications of psychology: Sports psychology-improving performance of sports, personnel, psychology and understanding of political behaviour. Voting behaviours.

## Writing

- Don't cross the word limit in your answers.
- Make the introduction very interesting, while answering short and long questions. Students often use real-life examples to make the answers more lively.
- Highlight and underline the crucial points, Short sentences should be order of the day. Conclusion should be at the end and comprising the crux of the overall discussion.
- Form a pattern or design of answering like what would you write in the main paragraph, body text and the conclusion before you start writing the answer.
- Time management is ultimately very vital and candidates should must ensure that they have minimum 25 minutes before they try the last question.

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