

Registrations are now open at Oracle IAS for UPSC Civil Services and State PCS Exam.

- Mentor:

Mr. Devesh: He is an Engineer by training and a teacher by heart. He teaches Geography at Oracle IAS. He has an expertise on the subject and has mentored pro-bono to several aspirants.

- Duration: 50-60 classes

- Included in the package:

- Pre cum mains strategy
- Detailed study notes for conceptual clarity
- Daily Answer writing practice
- Doubt clearing session

- Study notes based on:

- NCERTs:
 - India: Physical Environment – Class XI
 - Fundamentals of Physical Geography – Class XI
 - India and People Economy – Class XII
 - Human Geography – Class XII
- Certificate Physical and Human Geography – GC Leong
- Mazid Hussain
- Oxford School Atlas
- Erach Bharucha – Environment (UGC)

Course outline: GEOGRAPHY

Syllabus:

- Salient features of world's physical geography
- Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including South Asia and the Indian sub-continent); factors responsible for the location of primary, secondary, and tertiary sector industries in various parts of the world (including India)
- Important Geophysical phenomena such as earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity, cyclone etc., geographical features and their location-changes in critical geographical features (including water-bodies and ice-caps) and in flora and fauna and the effects of such changes.

Sub Topic:

1. Salient features of world's physical geography

- Geomorphology
 - a) Meaning & Scope of Geomorphology
 - b) Internal Structure of Earth
 - c) The Theory of Continental Drift
 - d) Plate Tectonics theory
 - e) Rocks
 - f) Classification of Forces affecting the landforms
 - g) Mountain Building
 - h) Earthquakes & Tsunamis
 - i) Volcanism
 - j) Plains and Plateau
- Oceanography
 - a) Ocean Bottom Relief
 - b) Temperature and Salinity of Ocean Waters

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- c) Ocean Currents
- d) Tides
- e) Coral Reefs
- f) Geopolitical importance of Indian Ocean

- Climatology

- a) Earth's Atmosphere
- b) Weather and Climate
- c) Air Mass, Fronts & Cyclones
- d) Climatic division of India

2. Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including South Asia and the Indian sub-continent)

- Distribution of soil
- Distribution of minerals
- Distribution of rivers
- Distribution of crops

3. Factors responsible for the location of primary, secondary, and tertiary sector industries in various parts of the world (including India)

- Introduction
- Primary sector and locations
- Secondary sector and locations
- Tertiary sector and locations
- Issues in industrial development
- GOI steps
- Recommendations

4. Important Geophysical phenomena

- Earthquakes
- Tsunami
- Volcanic activity

- Cyclone etc.

5. Geographical features and their location

- Mountains
- Plains
- Plateaus
- Other features
- Degradation due to human activities

6. Changes in critical geographical features

- Human impact on geographical features as climate change, ocean acidification, water depletion, pollution, deforestation, desertification, erosion

ENVIRONMENT

Syllabus:

Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment Disaster and disaster management.

Sub Topic List:

1. Basic Introduction

- Concept of environment
- Types of environment
- Concept of Biosphere
- Concept of Ecosystem
- Input and output of an ecosystem
- Components of ecosystem
- Characteristics of an ecosystem
- Food chains and food webs
- Trophic levels
- Ecological pyramids

- Laws related to ecology
- Geochemical Cycles

2. Biodiversity

- What is biodiversity?
- Types of biodiversity
- Importance of biodiversity
- Causes of biodiversity loss
- Impact of the loss of biodiversity
- Ecologically Sensitive area

3. Biodiversity conservation

- Why it needed?
- In situ and ex situ conservation
- New technologies for conservation
- Economic incentives for conservation
- Role of government
- Role of NGOs
- People participation
- Community forest management
- Eco tourism
- Traditional methods of biodiversity conservation
- Initiatives in India

4. Water resource degradation

- Ocean resource degradation
- Groundwater degradation
- Surface water degradation
- Water management

5. Climate change and environment

- Introduction

- Causes
- Impact
- Initiatives
- Future initiatives
- Some new technologies to overcome climate change
- National treaties
- International treaties
- Analysis of treaties
- Country specific initiatives (some important)
- Disparity between developed and non- developed on environment issues

6. Environment and urbanization

- Water degradation in urban areas
- Pollution in metros
- E-waste Management and Handling
- Disposal of untreated sewage
- Real estate boom and environment degradation
- Haphazard construction in hilly areas and impact
- Environment clearance and development issue
- Polythene bags and pollution
- Impact of tower radiation

7. Mining and environment

- Impact of mining on environmental degradation
- Go and No-Go policy of government
- Forest clearance issues
- Issue of displacement

8. Agriculture and environment

- Green revolution and its impact
- GM food and its impact

- Irrigation issues
- Contamination of land and water
- Desertification
- Deforestation

9. Renewable Energy

- Solar energy
- Hydro energy
- Tidal energy
- Wind energy
- Biomass
- OTEC
- Magnetohydrodynamics generator
- Fuel cell
- Geothermal energy
- Concept of green cities
- Hydrogen as a fuel
- Concept of green building
- Initiatives in India

10. Environmental impact assessment

- Meaning
- Process of EIA
- Process of EIA in India
- Organizations involved in EIA in India
- Advantages of EIA
- Economic development and EIA linkage
- Environment accounting
- Environment ethics

11. Concept of Sustainable Development

- What is sustainable development?
- Parameters of Sustainable development

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- Global and regional dimensions
- Sustainable agriculture
- Sustainable forest management
- Industrial waste management
- Water resource management

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