

UPSC CSE Sanskrit Paper Syllabus 2024

[Answers must be written in Sanskrit]

The UPSC Sanskrit syllabus in 2024 will evaluate candidates on their proficiency in the language. The exam pattern will remain similar to previous years. Aspirants will be tested on comprehension of Sanskrit passages, both long and short, covering diverse themes including literary, philosophical, scientific and social topics. Their knowledge of Sanskrit grammar, vocabulary, syntax and ability to translate passages will also be assessed.

As the ancient classical language of India, Sanskrit has a rich literary heritage covering epics, scientific works and philosophy. Despite limited contemporary usage, Sanskrit is offered as an optional UPSC subject across two papers assessing proficiency in grammar, vocabulary, comprehension, translation and analysis of seminal texts.

The specialized Sanskrit language is recommended as an optional only for candidates with formal Sanskrit education. The UPSC syllabus across two papers specifies answering some questions in Sanskrit using Devanagari script, and others in the chosen exam medium. It evaluates grammar, vocabulary, comprehension, translation and analysis of key Sanskrit texts.



UPSC CSE Sanskrit Paper Syllabus 2024 Paper 1

There will be three questions as indicated in the Question Paper which must be answered in Sanskrit. The Remaining questions must be answered either in Sanskrit or in the medium of examination opted by the candidate.

Section A

1. **Significant features of Sanskrit grammar (to be answered in Sanskrit):**
 - शब्दरूपं संज्ञा, सन्धि, कारक, समास, कर्त्तरि और कर्मणि वाच्याः इत्यादि।
2. **Characteristics of Vedic and Classical Sanskrit:**
 - **Main characteristics of Vedic Sanskrit language**
 - **Prominent features of classical Sanskrit language**
 - **Contribution of Sanskrit to linguistic studies**
3. **General Knowledge:**
 - **Literary history of Sanskrit**
 - **Principal trends of literary criticism**
 - **Ramayana**
 - **Mahabharata**
 - **Origin and development of literary genres such as Mahakavya, Rupaka (drama), Katha, Akhyayika, Campu, Khandakavya, and Mukataka Kavya.**

Section B

1. Essentials of Indian Culture:

- Purusarthas
- Samskaras
- Varnashramavyavastha
- Arts and fine arts
- Technical Sciences

2. Trends of Indian Philosophy:

- Mimamsa
- Vedanta
- Nyaya
- Vaisheshika
- Samkhya
- Yoga
- Buddha
- Jaina
- Charvaka

3. Short Essay (in Sanskrit)

4. Unseen passage with questions (to be answered in Sanskrit)

UPSC CSE Sanskrit Paper Syllabus 2024 Paper 2

Question from Group 4 is to be answered in Sanskrit only. Questions from Groups 1, 2 and 3 are to be answered either in Sanskrit or in the medium opted by the candidate.

Section A

Group 1:

- Raghuvamsam by Kalidasa
- Kumarasambhavam by Kalidasa
- Kiratarjuniyam by Bharavi
- Sisupalavadham by Magha
- Naisadhiyacaritam by Sriharsa
- Kadambari by Banabhatta
- Dasakumaracaritam by Dandin
- Sivarajyodayam by S.B. Varnekar

Group 2:

- Isavasyopanisad
- Bhagavadgita

- **Sundarakanda** of Valmiki's Ramayana
- **Arthashastra** of Kautilya

Group 3:

- **Svapnavasavadattam** by Bhasa
- **Abhijnanasakuntalam** by Kalidasa
- **Mricchakatikam** by Sudraka
- **Mudraraksasam** by Visakhadatta
- **Uttararamacaritam** by Bhavabhuti
- **Ratnavali** by Sriharshavardhana
- **Venisamharam** by Bhattanarayana

Group 4 (Short Notes in Sanskrit):

- **Meghadutam** by Kalidasa
- **Nitisatakam** by Bhartrihari
- **Panchatantra**
- **Rajatarangini** by Kalhana
- **Harsacaritam** by Banabhatta
- **Amarukasatakam** by Amaruka
- **Gitagovindam** by Jayadeva

Section B

Group 1:

- Selections from **Raghuvamsam**, **Kumarasambhavam**, and **Kiratarjuniyam**

Group 2:

- Selections from **Isavasyopanisad**, **Bhagavadgita**, and **Sundarakanda**

Group 3:

- Selections from **Meghadutam**, **Nitisatakam**, and **Kadambari**

Group 4:

- Selections from **Svapnavasavadattam**, **Abhijnansakuntalam**, and **Uttararamacaritam**