

Urdu Literature — Optional Syllabus

UPSC Civil Services (Main) Examination

The Urdu language and its literature — history, criticism and prescribed texts.

Paper I	250 marks	3 hours
Paper II	250 marks	3 hours
Optional total	500 marks	Counts toward the Mains merit

Paper I syllabus 250 marks · 3 hours

Answer must be written in Urdu

Section A: Development of Urdu Language

- (a) Development of Indo-Aryan
 - (i) Old Indo-Aryan
 - (ii) Middle Indo-Aryan
 - (iii) New Indo-Aryan.
- (b) Western Hindi and its dialects Brij Bhasha Khadi Boli, Haryanavi, Kannauji, Bundeli—Theories about the origin of Urdu language.
- (c) Dakhani Urdu—origin and development, its significant linguistic features.
- (d) Social and Cultural roots of Urdu language— and its distinctive features.
- Script, Phonology, Morphology, Vocabulary.

Section B

- (a) Genres and their development :
 - (i) Poetry: Ghazal, Masnavi, Qasida, Marsia, Rubai Jadid Nazm.
 - (ii) Prose : Novel, Short Story, Dastan, Drama, Inshaiya, Khutoot, Biography.
- (b) Significant features of : (i) Deccani, Delhi and Lucknow schools, (ii) Sir Syed movement, Romantic movement, Progressive movement, Modernism.
- (c) Literary Criticism and its development with reference to Hali, Shibli, Kaleemuddin Ahmad, Ehtisham Hussain, Ale-Ahmad Suroor.
- (d) Essay writing (covering literary and imaginativetopics).

Paper II syllabus 250 marks · 3 hours

Answer must be written in Urdu This paper will require first hand reading of the texts prescribed and will be designed to test the candidate's critical ability.

Section A

- 1. Mir Amman Bagho-Babar
- 2. Ghalib Intikhab-e-Khutoot-e Ghalib
- 3. Mohd. Husain Azad Nairang-e-Khayal
- 4. Prem Chand Godan
- 5. Rajendra Singh Bedi Apne Dukh Mujhe Dedo
- 6. Abul Kalam Azad Ghubar-e-Khatir

Section B

- 1. Mir Intikhab-e-Kalam-e-Mir (Ed. Abdul Haq.)
- 2. Mir Hasan Sahrul Bayan
- 3. Ghalib Diwan-e-Ghalib
- 4. Iqbal Bal-e-Jibrail
- 5. Firaq Gul-e-Naghma
- 6. Faiz Dast-e-Saba
- 7. Akhtruliman Bint-e-Lamhat

Syllabus as per the official UPSC Civil Services (Main) Examination notification. Study notes for this optional are being added on RaahUPSC — raahupsc.com.