

**ESSAY QUESTION PAPER – UPSC Civil Services IAS Mains – 2018**

**Write two essays, choosing one topic from each of the following Sections A and B, in about 1000-1200 words each:**

**SECTION A**

1. Alternative technologies for a climate change resilient india
2. A good life is one inspired by love and guided by knowledge
3. Poverty anywhere is a threat to prosperity everywhere
4. Management of indian border dispute a complex task

**SECTION-B**

5. Customary morality cannot be a guide to modern life
6. The past is a permanent dimension of human Consciousness and values
7. A people that values it's privileges above it's principles loses both
8. Reality doesn't confirm to ideal, but confirm it

**ESSAY QUESTION PAPER – UPSC Civil Services IAS Mains –  
2019**

**Write two essays, choosing one topic from each of the  
following Sections A and B, in about 1000-1200 words each:**

**SECTION A**

1. Wisdom finds truth
2. Values are not what humanity is, but what humanity ought to be
3. Best for an individual is not necessarily best for the society
4. Courage to accept and dedication to improve are two keys to success

**SECTION B**

5. South Asian societies are woven not around the state, but around their plural cultures and plural identities
6. Neglect of primary health care and education in India are reasons for its backwardness
7. Biased media is a real threat to Indian democracy
8. Rise of Artificial Intelligence: the threat of jobless future or better job opportunities through reskilling and upskilling

**ESSAY QUESTION PAPER – UPSC Civil Services IAS Mains –  
2020**

**Write two essays, choosing one topic from each of the  
following Sections A and B, in about 1000-1200 words each:**

**Section A**

1. Life is long journey between human being and being humane
2. Mindful manifesto is the catalyst to a tranquil self
3. Ships do not sink because of water around them, ships sink because of water that gets into them
4. Simplicity is the ultimate sophistication

**Section B**

1. Culture is what we are, civilization is what we have
2. There can be no social justice without economic prosperity but economic prosperity without social justice is meaningless
3. Patriarchy is the least noticed yet the most significant structure of social inequality
4. Technology as the silent factor in international relations

**ESSAY QUESTION PAPER – UPSC Civil Services IAS Mains –  
2021**

**Write two essays, choosing one topic from each of the  
following Sections A and B, in about 1000-1200 words each:**

**Section A**

1. The process of self-discovery has now been technologically outsourced.
2. Your perception of me is a reflection of you; my reaction to you is an awareness of me.
3. Philosophy of wantlessness is Utopian, while materialism is a chimera.
4. The real is rational and the rational is real.

**Section B**

5. Hand that rocks the cradle rules the world.
6. What is research, but a blind date with knowledge!
7. History repeats itself, first as a tragedy, second as a farce.
8. There are better practices to “best practices”.

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## ESSAY QUESTION PAPER – UPSC Civil Services IAS Mains – 2022

**Write two essays, choosing one topic from each of the following Sections A and B, in about 1000-1200 words each:**

### Section A

1. Forests are the best case studies for economic excellence
2. Poets are the unacknowledged legislators of the world
3. History is a series of victories won by the scientific man over the romantic man
4. A ship in harbor is safe, but that is not what ship is for

### Section B

5. The time to repair the roof is when the sun is shining
6. You cannot step twice in the same river
7. A smile is the chosen vehicle for all ambiguities
8. Just because you have a choice, it does not mean that any of them has to be right

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## ESSAY QUESTION PAPER – UPSC Civil Services IAS Mains – 2023

Write two essays, choosing one topic from each of the following Sections A and B, in about 1000-1200 words each

### Sections A

1. Thinking is like a game . It does not begin unless there is a opposite team
2. Visionary decision making happens at the intersection of intuition and logic
3. Not all who wander are lost
4. Inspiration for creativity springs form the effort to look for the magical in the mundane

### Sections B

5. Girls are weighed down by restrictions. Boys with demands - two equally harmful disciplines
6. Mathematic is the music of reason
7. A society that has more justice is a society that needs less charity
8. Education is what remains after one has forgotten what one has leaned in school