



Mains Notes for IAS and PCS

GS-1 Modern Indian History

Last year questions of Mains

1. Explain, how the uprising of 1857 constitutes an important watershed in the evolution of British policies towards colonial India?
(Civil Services Examination 2016)
2. The third battle of Panipat was fought in 1761. Why were so many empire – shaking battles fought at Panipat?
(Civil Services Examination 2014)
3. What were the major political, economic and social developments in the world, which motivated the anti – colonial struggle in India?
(Civil Services Examination 2014)
4. In many ways Lord Dalhousie was the founder of the Modern India. Elaborate.
(Civil Services Examination 2013)
5. “Dalhousie’s predecessors had acted on the general principles of avoiding annexation, if these could be avoided. Dalhousie acted on the principles of annexation if he could do legitimately. His annexations were both of war and peace”. Analyse.
(Civil Services Examination 2010)
6. Write brief notes on each of the following in about 20 words each
(Civil Services Examination 2010, 1997)
 1. Laxmi Bai, Rani of Jhansi
 2. Chauth and Sardeshmukhi
 3. Calcutta Madarsa
 4. Jagat Seth
 5. Pandita Ramabai
 6. Sir Thomas Roe
 7. Darul – uloom
 8. Jyotirao Phule
 9. Sir William Jones
 10. James Wilson
 11. Sajjad Zahir
 12. Dharma Sabha
 13. Keshav Chandra Sen
 14. Nivedita
 15. Theodore Beck
 16. DG Karve
 17. Prarthana Samaj
 18. Narayana Guru
 19. Tantiya Tope
 20. Sayyid Ahmad
 21. Fort William College
 22. Sarda Act
 23. 1854 Education Despatch
 24. Nil Darpan

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25. Sarada Sadana

26. Vaikom

7. "The emergence of new social classes in British India was the direct consequences of the establishment of new social economy, new state system, administrative machinery and western education" Discuss. **(Civil Services Examination 2008)**

8. British vision of India has no single coherent set of ideas. On the contrary the ideas were shot through with contradictions and inconsistencies. Discuss. **(Civil Services Examination 2008)**

9. What was the character of socio – religious reforms in the 19th century and how did they contribute to the national awakening in India? **(Civil Services Examination 2007)**

10. What are the salient features of the Government of India Acts of 1858 and 1909? **(Civil Services Examination 2007)**

11. What was the attitude of Indian industrialists towards the Indian National Congress in the pre – independent era? **(Civil Services Examination 2006)**

12. Characterize the main features of Indian Renaissance. **(Civil Services Examination 2006)**

13. Regardless of distance in time, there was a lot of similarities between Lord Curzon and Jawaharlal Nehru. Discuss. **(Civil Services Examination 2006)**

14. What is your opinion were the positive steps taken by the British to modernize India? **(Civil Services Examination 2005)**

15. Examine the policy of Subordinate Union towards Princely States. Account for the shift from the policy of Subordinate Isolation. **(Civil Services Examination 2005)**

16. Write a note on Theosophical Society. **(Civil Services Examination 2004)**

17. Who established the Arya Samaj? What was its goal? **(Civil Services Examination 2004)**

18. Discuss the main findings of the Hartog Committee. **(Civil Services Examination 2004)**

19. Discuss the character of major tribal uprising in British India in the 19th century. **(Civil Services Examination 2003)**

20. In what way did Ramakrishna infuse a new vigour and dynamism into Hinduism? **(Civil Services Examination 1999)**

21. What do you know about Ilbert Bill? **(Civil Services Examination 1999)**

22. What began as a fight for religion, ended as a war of independence, for there is not the slightest doubt that the rebels wanted to get rid of the alien government and restore the old order to which the king of Delhi was the rightful representative. Do you support this viewpoint? **(Civil Services Examination 1999)**

23. How did the policy of free trade hurt Indian textile industry and crafts in the latter half of the 19th century? **(Civil Services Examination 1998)**

24. How did economic nationalism mirror the work of the early nationalist leadership in India? **(Civil Services Examination 1998)**

25. What solution has been arrived recently in the Cauvery water dispute? **(Civil Services Examination 1998)**

26. Why did the Moderates lose appeal with the Indians and failed to elicit desired response from the British? **(Civil Services Examination 1998)**

27. What do you understand about 'Drain of Wealth' during British rule? Examine its effects on Indian economy. **(Civil Services Examination 1997)**

28. Discuss Mahatma Gandhi's concept of 'Basic Education'. How far was it a departure from conventional system of education? **(Civil Services Examination 1997)**



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