



OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY™

IAS ACADEMY BY IAS OFFICERS

An ISO 9001-2015 Certified Institute

Delhi | Chennai | Bengaluru

DECODING EVALUATION PROCESS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION OPTIONAL

Deepuk Sukumar



IIITian, Faculty - Public Administration

Findings from mock answer scripts of toppers and inputs from an Ex-question setter and evaluator.

- **'Academic language' 'logical flow' and 'relevance'** are the BIGGEST SCORE MOVERS.
- In regard to academic language and relevance, the biggest factor influencing one's score is the **density of relevant key-words / key-phrases** used in the answer pertaining to foundational concepts / issues from the respective units. If you did a count of key-words per page in Topper answer copies, you will notice that they easily exceed 10 per page.
- For a key-word to be valued, it needs to be placed in a **meaningful full sentence**. But using commas can help to an extent. Example: The influence of New Right Philosophy, Public Choice Approach and Neo-Institutional Economics are evident in the growth of NPM.
- In regard to logical flow, your points need to have an **orderly sequence / linearity**.
- However, there will be **no mark deduction for poor grammar** (mentioned by evaluator)
- While answering questions pertaining to the major thinkers from Paper 1, please **mention place / country of research, methodology followed** and the most **predominant book he/she has authored** in the context of the question. It's not a coincidence that we see the backstory of every thinker in the IGNOU / CEC videos of Professors.
- In Paper 2, wherever possible use the names of appropriate **Indian Thinkers and scholars of Public Administration**. Example - Pai Panandikar, Kuldeep Mathur, kshirsagar etc.

Contd.

- As much as possible **use up the entire space provided for an answer** even if it means exceeding the word-limit. DO NOT resort to larger size hand-writing or increase of line-spacing for the purpose.
- **No concept of 1/2 mark**, rounded off to the nearest 1.
- **Equal division of marks between each part of the question.** If one part is just definition, elaborate it adequately to the extent you proportionately fill up the page.
- Keep the answers **as broad-based / holistic as possible**, by increasing the dimensions presented.
- **Pay attention to the directives.** Example - for critically examine, the critical component needs to be highlighted and needs to be a predominant part of your answer. Not just 2-3 lines towards the end.
- If you are giving **solutions** for an issue in the question as a conclusion (without being asked for it), **don't elaborate**. Just use commas to separate them and move on.
- Rather than using 2-3 examples for a point, **use one example and elaborate** it in the context of your argument. Also, keep the examples recent and don't be prejudiced about the age profile of the evaluator.
- For paper 2, bringing out the **relevant constitutional provisions** for a question is very important.
- Each answer should **compulsorily carry an Introduction and Conclusion**, should be a paragraph (not bulleted) or titled as introduction / conclusion. Just 2-3 lines is enough. Directly jump into the core demand of the question.

Contd.

- **Originality in expression** will be valued much above blind re-production of popular content from coaching institutes. But pardonable as most tend to do the same. Those who use the phrase 'way forward' at the end are recognised as the coaching centre type.
- For introduction, you can go with '**why aspect**', **definition or establishing the current relevance of the question**.
- Maximum marks for a question - **7/10, 9/15 and 13/20**. But don't bother yourself with this information. It is also subject to a lot of contention.
- For a tough question, if you are better prepared, go for it, an extra mark is possible. BUT DO NOT RISK IF YOU ARE NOT WELL PREPARED.
- It is **unpardonable to leave out any question**, as even just 3-4 lines with appropriate key-words can fetch you a mark or two.
- Be **mostly neutral and slightly pro-government** in all your answers.
- Most importantly, **shorter points more in number is better than fewer points with more elaboration**.
- Just FYI, fun-fact **question papers are set by june-end**.

Best of luck!

**Deepuk Sukumar,
Faculty for Public Administration,
Officers IAS Academy.**

OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY™

Delhi | Chennai | Bengaluru

**Public Administration Full-Course
Classroom - Chennai / Online**

**by Deepuk Sukumar
starting from *September 3rd*.**

Deliverables

- 200 Hours of Classes to cover the syllabus end to end.
- Classes only on weekends (7 AM to 10 30 AM)
- Comprehensive printed material for Paper 1 and 2.
- Key-word documents for every unit
- Special Current Affairs Compilation for Pub Ad.
- 10 Tests till before Prelims and 10 Tests upon qualifying for Mains.
- Mentorship
- Live-doubts clarification

For details, call 9677174226