

# UPSC IFoS EXAM PATTERN AND MARKING SCHEME - PRELIMS, MAINS & INTERVIEW

The **Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)** conducts the Indian Forest Service (IFoS) Examination every year to recruit officers for one of the most prestigious All-India Services. The exam structure is rigorous, designed to test the knowledge, analytical skills, and personality of aspirants. A clear understanding of the exam pattern and marking scheme is vital for success. To master this, most aspirants trust the **best forest service coaching institute in india**, where expert guidance and structured training help them align their preparation with the official UPSC pattern.

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## STAGE I - PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION

The Preliminary stage is the **screening test** for both the Civil Services and the Forest Service. Candidates who clear this stage move forward to the Mains Examination.

### Structure:

- **Paper I: General Studies (200 marks)**
  - Current events of national and international importance
  - History of India and Indian National Movement
  - Indian and World Geography
  - Indian Polity and Governance
  - Economic and Social Development
  - Environmental Ecology, Biodiversity and Climate Change
  - General Science
- **Paper II: Civil Services Aptitude Test (CSAT) - 200 marks**
  - Comprehension
  - Logical reasoning and analytical ability
  - Decision-making and problem-solving
  - General mental ability
  - Basic numeracy and data interpretation (Class X level)

## Marking Scheme:

- Both papers are objective type.
- Paper I marks are counted for merit.
- Paper II (CSAT) is qualifying with 33% minimum.
- Negative marking: 1/3rd mark is deducted for each wrong answer.

At the **best forest service coaching institute in india**, students get focused Prelims test series and current affairs integration, ensuring they score above the cutoff comfortably.

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## STAGE II - MAINS EXAMINATION

Candidates who qualify Prelims are eligible for the IFoS Mains Examination. This stage is descriptive and requires strong conceptual knowledge and answer-writing skills.

### Structure:

- **Paper I: General English - 300 marks**
  - Essay writing, précis, comprehension, and grammar.
- **Paper II: General Knowledge - 300 marks**
  - Current events, polity, history, geography, everyday science.
- **Paper III to VI: Two Optional Subjects (200 marks each, 2 papers per subject) - 1200 marks total**
  - Candidates choose from Agriculture, Forestry, Botany, Zoology, Geology, Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Statistics, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Science, and select Engineering subjects.
  - Certain combinations are not allowed (e.g., Agriculture with Forestry, Mathematics with Statistics, etc.).

### Marking Scheme:

- General English and General Knowledge: 600 marks combined.
- Optional papers: 1200 marks combined.

- Total written exam = **1400 marks**.

The **best forest service coaching institute in india** provides structured classes for optionals like Forestry, Botany, and Zoology, which are popular choices among IFoS aspirants. With regular mains answer-writing practice, candidates gain the confidence to score high in these descriptive papers.

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## STAGE III - PERSONALITY TEST (INTERVIEW)

Those who qualify the Mains written exam are called for the Personality Test at the UPSC headquarters in New Delhi.

### Structure:

- **Interview Marks: 300**
- Conducted by a panel of experts.
- Evaluates:
  - General awareness
  - Intellectual curiosity
  - Mental alertness
  - Social traits and integrity
  - Decision-making and leadership qualities
  - Interest in forestry, environment, and biodiversity

### Marking Scheme:

- The interview is not about theoretical knowledge but about presence of mind, confidence, and clarity of thought.
- Final merit is prepared on the basis of **Mains (1400) + Interview (300) = 1700 marks**.

The **best forest service coaching institute in india** conducts multiple mock interviews with panels comprising retired civil servants, subject experts, and psychologists, ensuring candidates face the UPSC board with confidence.

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## TOTAL MARKS DISTRIBUTION

- **Prelims:** 400 marks (qualifying for IFoS cut-off)
- **Mains:** 1400 marks (merit ranking)
- **Interview:** 300 marks (merit ranking)
- **Grand Total:** 1700 marks

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## WHY THE BEST FOREST SERVICE COACHING INSTITUTE IN INDIA IS ESSENTIAL

1. **Expert guidance on Prelims and Mains strategy**
2. **Subject specialization in Forestry, Botany, Zoology, etc.**
3. **Personalized answer-writing evaluations**
4. **Updated current affairs integration**
5. **Mock interview sessions with expert panels**
6. **Proven track record of selections**
7. **Time management and stress-handling techniques**

By enrolling in the **best forest service coaching institute in india**, aspirants receive holistic training across Prelims, Mains, and the Interview stage, increasing their chances of success.

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## FAQs

### **Q1: Is the UPSC Prelims exam common for IAS and IFoS?**

Yes, the Preliminary exam is the same for Civil Services and Forest Services.

### **Q2: How many papers are there in IFoS Mains?**

There are six papers: General English, General Knowledge, and two optional subjects with two papers each.

### **Q3: What is the total marks of the IFoS exam?**

The written exam is 1400 marks, and the interview is 300 marks, making the total 1700 marks.

### **Q4: Is there negative marking in Prelims?**

Yes, 1/3rd of the marks for a question are deducted for every wrong answer.

**Q5: Which optional subjects are popular in IFoS?**

Forestry, Botany, Zoology, Agriculture, and Geology are considered popular and scoring. The **best forest service coaching institute in india** provides focused preparation for these.

**Q6: How important is the interview in the final selection?**

The interview carries 300 marks and plays a crucial role in determining the final rank.

**Q7: Why should I join the best forest service coaching institute in india?**

Because it provides specialized faculty, structured courses, test series, and personalized mentoring that align directly with the UPSC IFoS exam pattern.

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**Final Word**

Understanding the **UPSC IFoS exam pattern and marking scheme** is the first step towards success. With systematic preparation and expert mentorship from the **best forest service coaching institute in india**, aspirants can crack Prelims, excel in Mains, and confidently face the Interview, securing their place in the prestigious Indian Forest Service.

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