

Dos:

- **Revision:** Whatever subject and topic you are studying, make sure to revise and remember so you do not lose marks in those topics. Without proper revision, you will probably carry more confusion into the exam hall and end up with a higher negative score.
- **Make assessment on Facts vs Concepts:** Nowadays UPSC prelims become more conceptual. So look at the last 4-5 year's question papers and make an assessment of the type of questions that are asked on each subject. Make assessment of all subjects. If your preparation is mismatch to the exam pattern, then you will only be wasting time.
- **Current affairs preparation:** Spend few hours everyday from now itself on current affairs and make sure again to revise regularly. Even if you are unable to finish all current affairs, do not worry. Study and revise what you can. Same applies to map work - allot a small time slot for it daily and keep revising.
- **Practice Test papers:** Make sure to pick up some test series booklets and attempt them regardless of the level of your preparation. This will help you assess the level of your preparation, your ability to finish on time, and the kind of basic errors you commit like improper reading of the questions or options etc.
- **Active during exam hours:** During the last weeks leading to the exam, make sure you are studying with intense concentration .
- **Reach the venue well on time:** Make sure you reach the venue 1 hour before the scheduled time. Last minute rush and anxiety to reach the venue could have negative impact on your concentration.

Dont's

- **Do not be afraid:** The paper is same for everyone. Trust your preparation and give your best. Any anxiety before or during the exam will hurt your performance. Close your eyes, and take deep breathes for a minute to find calmness. Even if at first look, the paper looks tough and you feel you know nothing, do not get scared. Keep calm and go through the paper question by question and you will find ample number of questions that you can answer.
- **Do not think you are unprepared or under-prepared:** Focus only on what you know and make a smart attempt of the paper.

- **Do not leave OMR sheet filling to the end:** If you do not want to go to the OMR sheet after every question, make sure you fill it up after every 45 minutes at least. This will help you to plan your paper better towards the end. Also, while filling OMR sheet, make sure to read out the number of question in your mind; serial filling without looking at question numbers could lead to a big tragedy.
- **Do not make mistakes in attendance sheet:** You will need to fill an attendance sheet during the exam where you also will have to fill out circles. Be very careful and it only takes 1-2 minutes. It is quite a common scene to see students making mistakes in exam sheets. So, be very careful.
- **Do not leave any question before looking at the options:** Make sure that you read at least once all questions and options. There will always be 2-3 questions which you can answer just by reading the questions and options carefully. Even with minimal information, you will be able to eliminate 2-3 options.
- **Do not over-attempt:** If the paper looks very tough and your preparation has been good, then attempting around 70 questions (in paper-I) well might also be enough. So, again, there is no fixed number but do not feel compelled to attempt like 90-100 questions just because some toppers did so.