

## **Analysis of the Himachal Pradesh Administrative Services (Pre) Examination-2010**

### **General Studies Paper-I**

The GS paper had a good mix of questions from all the sections (as seen in a typical General Studies paper). All the sections of GS like Polity, Economics, History, Science, and Geography were covered. There were 15-20 questions from each section. Also, there were 5 questions from ecology (keeping in view the current emphasis of ecology by UPSC in the 2011 prelims).

There were 20 questions about Himachal Pradesh and it was not easy for people from other states to answer them. However, it is difficult to assume that applicants from Himachal Pradesh will find these questions easy.

Section-wise distribution of the GS paper is given below:

<b>S.NO.</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>No. of questions</b>
1	Polity	11
2	Economics	10
3	History	12
4	Science	13
5	Current Affairs	14
6	Himachal specific GK	20
7	Geography	10
8	Ecology	5
9	Miscellaneous	5
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>

Overall, the questions were fact based and did not require much time to answer. HPPSC has introduced negative marking (one third of the marks allocated to that question) in the preliminary examination so the number of attempts by the candidates will come down. A good candidate should attempt between 65-70 questions with 90 percent accuracy to stay in competition.

## Aptitude Test Paper-II

Following the lead of the UPSC, Himachal Pradesh Public Service Commission has introduced aptitude testing as a part of the preliminary examination for the state civil services examination. The number of questions in the paper was 100 and each correct answer fetched 2 marks and each wrong answer invited a penalty of one third of the marks allocated to that question. The time allocated for the paper was two hours. The aptitude paper had a good mixture of questions. It had questions from arithmetic, decision-making, interpersonal communication skills, analytical reasoning, logical reasoning, alphabetical series, blood relations, reading comprehension and sentence completion (two blanks type). Questions of reading comprehension and sentence completion were only in English (rest of the questions paper was in both English and Hindi languages).

Following is the distribution of the questions in the Aptitude Test:

Reading Comprehension (Two passages)	10
Sentence Completion (Two blank type)	5
Odd one out	4
Necessary Pair	3
Alphabetical Series	3
Analogy	3
Case-let based Decision-making	5
Blood Relation	4
Reasoning Based	26
Arithmetic	6
Number System	8
Decision-making	4
Data Interpretation (Table)	5
Interpersonal Communication	5
Statistics	5
Miscellaneous	4

Overall, the paper was easy in terms of level of difficulty but required one to have a good speed in order to finish the paper within the time limit. A problem with the paper was that there were a few questions, which were either wrong or none of the options given were correct. A good candidate needed to attempt 80 to 90 questions with 90 percent accuracy.

As already mentioned that the general studies paper was fact based and aptitude paper was easy, it can be deduced that a good candidate should get 260-280 marks to get a call for the main examination.

**All the best!**  
**CL Educate**