

The Union Public Service Commission conducts the "Combined Defense Services" (CDS) examination to recruit candidates for the Indian defence Academy like Officer training, Naval, and Air Force Academy.

In fact, Knowledge of the **syllabus** and the latest **CDS exam pattern** is important for the candidate to **strategically plan the preparation** for the CDS exam.

CDS Exam pattern

The **CDS exam pattern** has been **set by the UPSC** for the Indian Military Academy (**IMA**), the Indian Naval Academy (**INA**) and the Air Force Academy (**AFA**), and the Officers Training Academy (**OTA**).

With the help of the **CDS exam pattern**, candidates get an idea about the overall structure of the CDS exam.

For Example-

- section-wise weightage of topics,
- marking scheme,
- total marks

Quick overview on CDS Exam	
Conducted By	UPSC
Number of sections	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IMA, INA, and AFA – Three• Officers' Training Academy (OTA) – Two
Number in exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IMA, INA, and AFA – 300• OTA - 200

Type of question	Objective type(MCQ)
Languages	Hindi and English
Time limit	2 hours for each section
Negative Marking	0.33 Marks deducted
Exam Mode	Offline
Official Website	upsc.gov.in

CDS Exam Pattern for IMA, INA, AFA

Here, I will show you the detailed exam pattern for IMA, INA, AFA.

Subject	Duration	Maximum marks
English	2 hours	100
General Knowledge	2 hours	100
Elementary Mathematics	2 hours	100

CDS Marking Scheme for IMA, INA, AFA

- The maximum number of marks on each paper is 100 Marks.
- **Correct Answer-** +1 Marks given for each current answer.
- **Negative Marking-** 0.33 marks deducted on each wrong answer.
- **Unanswered Question-** No marks deducted.

CDS Exam Pattern for OTA

Here, you can check the detailed exam pattern for OTA.

The total marks for OTA are 200 marks.

Subject	Duration	Maximum marks
English	2 hours	100
General Knowledge	2 hours	100

CDS Marking Scheme for OTA

Check the following points to know about OTA marking scheme:

- The maximum number for each paper is 100 marks.
- **For correct Answer-** +1mark given for each correct option in both English and GK subject.
- **For the Wrong Answer- 0.33 Marks** deducted for each wrong option in both subjects.
- There are no marks deducted for unanswered questions.

SSB Interview

If you qualify CDS written exam, you will be able to attempt the SSB Interview exam.

The final merit list depends on marks scored in the interview.

CDS Interview contain in two stages. The **first stage** is the screening test and the **second stage** is the Physiological test.

1 Screening test: This is an officer rating test that comprises Picture Perception and Description Test (PP & DT).

Candidates will be selected as per their performance in the OIR Test and PP and DT.

2. Physiological test: After passing the stage first, the candidate attempts this stage.

This stage contains four tests: **first test** Group Testing Officer Tasks, **second** Psychology Test, **third** personal Interview, and **fourth** Conference.

- Total marks for IMA, INA, and AFA are 300 marks.
- For OTA interviews are allowed 200 marks.

Syllabus

Broadly, the CDS exam syllabus divide into three subjects

- English
- General Knowledge
- Mathematics

CDS English Syllabus

In English, mostly focus on English readability and Grammer.

check below to know about the syllabus of english

English

- * spotting error question
- *Sentence arrangement questions
- * synonyms antonyms
- * word choice
- * sentence order
- * comprehension questions
- * Sequence of words in a sentence
- *Fill in the questions with the blanks
- * Idioms and Phrases

General Awareness Syllabus

In general knowledge, you focus on these topics which given below

General Awareness (GK)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Economics *Physics * Current Affairs * Politics * chemistry * Sociology * history *Defense Award *Geography * atmosphere *sport *the biology * Cultural * Book * Statement * right wrong

CDS Maths Syllabus

In maths, learn these topics like algebra, Arithmetic, Geometry, Trigonometry, Statistics, Mensuration.

For detailed information check the below table.

Mathematics	
Algebra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic Operations, simple factors, Remainder Theorem, • HCF/LCM, Theory of polynomials, Quadratic equations, • Relation between its roots and coefficients • Simultaneous linear equations in two unknowns—analytical and graphical solutions, • Practical problems leading to two simultaneous linear equations or inequations in two variables • Set language and set notation, Rational expressions and conditional identities, Laws of indices
Arithmetic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number System: Natural numbers, Integers, Rational and Real numbers. • Fundamental operations: add, subtraction, multiple, division, Square roots, Decimal fractions • Unitary method, Time and Distance, Time and Work, • Percentages, Simple and compound interest, Profit and loss • Ratio and proportion, Variation, Elementary Number Theory: Division algorithm, Prime and composite numbers, • Tests of divisibility by 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, and 11, Multiples and factors. • Factorisation Theorem H.C.F. and L.C.M., Euclidean algorithm, • Laws of logarithms and logarithmic tables
Geometry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lines and angles, Plane and plane figures, • Theorems on Properties of angles at a point, Parallel lines, • Sides and angles of a triangle, Congruence of triangles, • Similar triangles, Concurrence of medians and altitudes, • Properties of angles, sides, and diagonals of a Parallelogram, • Rectangle and square, Circles and its properties including tangents and normals
Trigonometry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sine x, cosine x, Tangent x when $0^\circ < x < 90^\circ$ • Values of $\sin x$, $\cos x$, and $\tan x$, for $x = 0^\circ, 30^\circ, 45^\circ, 60^\circ$, and 90° • Simple trigonometric identities • Use of trigonometric tables

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simple cases of heights and distances
Statistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collection and tabulation of statistical data, • Graphical representation frequency polygons, • Histograms, Bar charts, Pie charts, etc.
Mensuration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas of squares, Rectangles, Parallelograms, • triangles, and circles. Areas of figures can be split up into these figures (Field Book), • Surface area and volume of cuboids, lateral surface and volume of right circular cones and cylinders, • Surface area and volume of spheres