University Entrance Examination
Humanities Syllabus

Economics

1) Microeconomics

A. Nature and scope of economics: basic economic problem of scarcity and choice; concept of opportunity cost; production possibility curve; price mechanism and efficient resource allocation.

B. Resource allocation in competitive markets: demand, supply and equilibrium; shifts in demand and supply; price ceilings and price floors; price, income and cross elasticities of demand; price elasticity of supply; application to various markets.

C. Production and costs: profit maximization and other firm objectives; short run and long run cost curves; fixed versus variable costs; diminishing returns; economies and diseconomies of scale; deriving individual and industry supply curves.

D. Market structures: equilibrium of the firm and the industry under (i) perfect competition, (ii) monopolistic competition, (iii) monopoly, and (iv) oligopoly; price discrimination; non-price competition; collusion and mutual dependence with oligopolies.

E. Market failures and Government Intervention: imperfect competition; imperfect information; externalities with diagrammatic analysis; public goods; inequalities in distribution of income and wealth.

2) Macroeconomics and International Economics

A. Key macroeconomic indicators and objectives: National Income Accounting, GDP, GNP, economic growth, inflation rate, unemployment rate; circular flow of expenditures and incomes; comparisons over time and between countries; macroeconomic objectives in relation to inflation, employment and growth.

B. Macroeconomic models and policy: income-expenditure model; AD-AS model; multiplier effect; crowding out; fiscal policy in theory and practice.
C. **Money and the economy:** functions of money; quantity theory of money; liquidity preference theory of money; relationship between money and inflation; monetary policy in relation to macroeconomic models.

D. **Trade theory and policy:** comparative advantage; protectionism; global and regional free trade agreements.

E. **Balance of payments and exchange rates:** broad understanding of the main accounts; currency markets and exchange rates; demand and supply for exchange rate determination; fixed and flexible exchanged rates.

**Representative Textbooks**


Mankiw, G. Principles of Economics 5\textsuperscript{th} international edition, South-Western Cengage Learning, 2009.

GEOGRAPHY

SECTION A – EAST ASIA/SOUTHEAST ASIA

1 General Overview of the Region

This includes an understanding of the region: identity and personality. Basic knowledge of the geomorphology, biogeography (vegetation and soils) and climate of the region and their relationships to human activities.

2 Urban Geography

The location, function and size of urban settlements; the urbanisation processes and problems involved; rural-urban interaction: processes and consequences.

3 Agricultural Geography

The Green Revolution; Alternative Agriculture; the effects of government planning and policies with regard to agriculture and land tenure systems.

4 Environmental Issues and Management

The location and utilisation of nature resources; environmental degradation (pollution, deforestation, soil erosion, depletion of natural resources) and the solution to these problems.

SECTION B - EUROPE

1 General Overview of the Region

The historical background to European regionalism; the nature, problems and prospects of the European Union. Knowledge of the geomorphology, biogeography (vegetation and soils) and climate and their relationship to human activities.

2 Industry

The growth and location of industries; patterns; problems and policies of industrialisation in the region. The nature, problems and prospects of the tourist industry.

3 Environmental Issues and Management

The location and utilisation of natural resources, environmental degradation (pollution, acid rain, deforestation, soil erosion, depletion of natural resources) and the solutions to these problems.
SECTION C – USA

1 General Overview of the North American Region

Regional geography of North America. Knowledge of the geomorphology, biogeography (vegetation and soils) and climate of North America and their relationships to human activities. The nature, problems and prospects of North American trade.

2 Urban Geography

The location, function and size of urban settlements; the urbanisation processes and problems involved.

3 Agricultural Geography

Mechanisation of agriculture; nature of North American agriculture: problems and prospects.

4 Environmental Issues and Management

The location and utilisation of natural resources, environmental degradation (pollution, acid rain, deforestation, soil erosion, depletion of natural resources) and the solutions to these problems.

Reading List

SECTION A – EAST ASIA/SOUTHEAST ASIA


SECTION B: EUROPE


SECTION C: NORTH AMERICA


HISTORY

GENERAL HISTORY OF ASIA

1 European Imperialism in Asia

2 Nationalism and the Struggle for Independent Nation-States

3 Comparisons of Events and Developments between Larger Societies (eg. China and India)

4 Globalisation and Its Influence on Asia

Reading List


