

SOCIOLOGY OPTIONAL TREND ANALYSIS

SOCIOLOGY OPTIONAL PAPER I UNIT WISE TREND ANALYSIS												
UNIT IN PAPER 1	MARKS 2025	MARKS 2024	MARKS 2023	MARKS 2022	MARKS 2021	MARKS 2020	MARKS 2019	MARKS 2018	MARKS 2017	MARKS 2016	MARKS 2015	MARKS 2014
1: Sociology – The Discipline	30	30	30	30	40	20	20	30	30	20	20	30
2: Sociology as a Science	40	20	40	30	30	40	40	60	40	30	50	30
3: Research Methods and Analysis	50	40	40	50	30	20	10	20	30	40	30	20
4: Sociological Thinkers	60	50	40	90	50	80	60	90	50	70	70	80
5: Stratification and Mobility	40	20	50	40	40	30	90	50	50	40	30	40
	220	160	200	240	190	190	220	250	200	200	200	200

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UNIT IN PAPER 1	MARKS 2025	MARKS 2024	MARKS 2023	MARKS 2022	MARKS 2021	MARKS 2020	MARKS 2019	MARKS 2018	MARKS 2017	MARKS 2016	MARKS 2015	MARKS 2014
6: Works and Economic Life	40	40	40	10	50	40	30	40	30	30	30	30
7: Politics and Society	70	50	50	50	40	40	70	20	40	30	60	50
8: Religion and Society	10	50	40	20	20	30	20	30	30	50	40	30
9: Systems of Kinship	30	40	30	20	50	40	30	50	50	40	20	30
10. Social Change in Modern Society	30	60	40	60	50	60	30	10	50	50	50	60
	180	240	200	160	210	210	180	150	200	200	200	200

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OVERALL TREND ANALYSIS OF SOCIOLOGY PAPER I – 2025

- Every unit of the syllabus has been covered in the questions.
- The weightage of Unit 1 to 5 put together, was slightly higher than Unit 6 to 10 put together.
- The scenario of asking 2 questions back-to-back from Unit 1 in compulsory was a new trend.

E.g. Q 1 (a) common sense and Sociology

Q 1(b) Sociology and History

Q 5 (a) scope of Sociology

- There was a spread of questions to choose from across various units in the choice questions, the units were non repetitive in the same question and it was easy to make a choice in 2025
- The predominant trend of 2024 was Sec A and Sec B compulsory was a jumble from across various units.

[Unlike pre-2018, where Unit 1 to 5 would appear in Sec A and Unit 6 to 10 as Sec B].

- Compared to 2014, when there were 6 Indian society question in Paper I and 2019, when there were 3 Indian society questions, Paper I of 2024, where was 1 question on Indian society, Paper I of 2025 has 1 obvious question on Indian society. Seems like a trend of connecting Paper and II

E.g. Q 4 (a) recent trends of marriage in Indian context

[2020 to 2023 Paper I had tested aspirants on the world sociology areas alone]

- The pattern of specific in-depth questions continues. Thankfully, this time it was not in compulsory question like 2023's David Morgan family question, 2024's digital ethnography and visual culture question

E.g. Q 3(a) Capability deprivation and social capital deprivation

- The comparison is usually between 2 thinkers' opinion, 2025 saw 3 thinkers being compared on religion

E.g. Q 7 (b) Marx, Weber and Durkheim on religion

Q 4 (b) Mosca, Michels and Pareto on elites

- The questions on SDGs seemed to be trending areas as it appeared across both Paper I and II.

- A unique trend of gender blindness, gender bias in compulsory and choice areas of Sec A and Sec B in the same paper was found.

E.g. Q 5 (c) formal workspaces and gender bias

Q 1 (e) social stratification and gender blindness

Q 6 (b) gender based domestic division of labour

- Some of questions were on contemporary issues or current based static questions

E.g.: Q 6 (c) social movements in the digital era

Q 1 (d) reference group and identity making in the digital era

Q 8 (c) Queer Kinship

- There were some very specific thinkers based conceptual questions Weber's Vertsehen, in Q 5(d)
- There was a great deal of questions straight from the Syllabus key words from Unit 2,3 especially
- The trend of 3 pages for 20 markers which began in 2023 continues this year as well.

Overall, a very approachable paper, where a candidate was tested on content, ability to relate the syllabus to the contemporary society.

SOCIOLOGY OPTIONAL PAPER II UNIT WISE TREND ANALYSIS

UNIT IN PAPER II	MARKS 2025	MARKS 2024	MARKS 2023	MARKS 2022	MARKS 2021	MARKS 2020	MARKS 2019	MARKS 2018	MARKS 2017	MARKS 2016	MARKS 2015	MARKS 2014
A(i) : Perspectives on the study of Indian Society	20	20	10	30	with B(ii)	10	20	30	10	10	30	10
A(ii): Impact of colonial rule on Indian Society	40	20	10	40	20	30	20	20	40	10	40	30
B(i) : Rural and Agrarian Social Structure	40	20	40	30	10	10	30	-	-	20	-	30
B(ii): Caste System	with C(vii) and C(vi)	40	30	40	60	50	30	30	50	60	50	20
B(iii) : Tribal communities in India	10	20	20	10	20	30	30	-	40	30	20	40
B(iv): Social Classes in India	50	10	40	10	10	10	20	30	-	10	-	20
B(v): Systems of Kinship in India	20	30	50	30	20	40	30	50	30	30	50	20
B(vi): Religion and Society	20	20	with C(iv)	10	20	20	20	30	10	20	30	30
	200	180	200	200	160	200	200	190	180	190	220	200

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UNIT IN PAPER II	MARKS 2025	MARKS 2024	MARKS 2023	MARKS 2022	MARKS 2021	MARKS 2020	MARKS 2019	MARKS 2018	MARKS 2017	MARKS 2016	MARKS 2015	MARKS 2014
C(i): Visions of Social Change in India	20	40	10	30	40	20	20	20	0	0	0	0
C(ii): Rural and Agrarian transformation in India	40	20	40	50	50	50	10	20	20	50	10	20
C(iii): Industrialization and Urbanization in India	30	20	10	10	30	30	30	30	40	80	10	20
C(iv): Politics and Society	30	40	20	30	20	20	30	30	40	0	20	20
C(v): Social Movements in Modern India	10	40	40	40	20	30	10	40	20	20	40	50
C(vi): Population Dynamics	40	20	40	20	30	30	20	20	30	20	10	30
C(vii): Challenges of Social Transformation & other Generic [GS like]	30	40	40	20	50	20	80	50	70	40	90	60
	200	220	200	200	240	200	200	210	220	210	180	200

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OVERALL TREND ANALYSIS OF SOCIOLOGY PAPER II – 2025

- The trend of touching each and every unit to ask questions continued in this paper as well. Both Section A and Section B had questions from Unit A, B and C. With Unit A and B put together for 200 marks and Unit C for 200 marks, a well distributed weightage.
- The questions were predominantly broad based and technical covering core areas of sociology.
- Ghurye based theoretical pluralism question was very technical correlating with Unit 3 of Paper I
- Surprisingly, there were no direct questions of Caste theories , seemed to be like a cycle breaker from yesteryears. There were applicative questions on caste though.

E.g. Q 7 (a) Constitutional provisions on scheduled castes and tribes

Q 6(c) Caste Conflicts

- A beautiful blend of current theme based static questions like

E.g. Q 7 (a) Private and Public network for the aged

Q 6 (b) Sustainable development

- Paper I thinker-based question in Paper II is a rarity, however this year saw such a question

E.g. Q 4 (c) G P Murdock's contribution to kinship system

- Compulsory questions across Sec A were from Unit A and B and Sec B were from Unit C

- Q 8 was completely current oriented and SDGs and Questions on same sex marriage/queer kinship were asked in both Paper I and II
- There were no unsettling questions and some questions were very specific like orthogenetic changes and differentiation, though Yogendra Singh's name was not mentioned specifically it is impossible to answer this question without due credit to him.

E.g. Q 2 (a) society like India and its orthogenetic changes

- The learning from this paper was that bringing a sociological touch to the open-ended questions and being poised to open up and diversify will be the key to score well.
- Therefore “thinking on the feet” with sociological perspective was a prerogative. There is no point in omitting units while studying, as questions were asked from every unit of the syllabus.
- Overall, a very balanced and manageable paper.

All the very best to future aspirants!

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