

UPSC Mains 2025 Aug 31, 2025 Anthropology (Paper 1) Question Paper and Answer Key PDF

Q. No.	Question	Check Solution
Q1 (A)	Write a note in 150 words: Mendelian and non-Mendelian traits.	Check Solution
Q1 (B)	Write a note in 150 words: Theoretical significance of Purum kinship-system.	Check Solution
Q1 (C)	Write a note in 150 words: Osteodontokeratik culture and its makers.	Check Solution
Q1 (D)	Write a note in 150 words: Smell as a signal among non-human primates.	Check Solution
Q1 (E)	Write a note in 150 words: Culture and embodiment.	Check Solution
Q2 (A)	Discuss the Miocene hominoid remains and their significance in evolution.	Check Solution
Q2 (B)	Compare and contrast the symbolic approaches of Clifford Geertz and Victor Turner to understand culture	Check Solution
Q2 (C)	How political economy is integrated with ecological and adaptability perspectives in bio-cultural anthropology?	Check Solution
Q3 (A)	How anthropologists assess the nutritional status of a community? Discuss the significance of intersectionality of ecology, culture, and social inequality in the study of nutritional anthropology.	Check Solution
Q3 (B)	Critically examine the drawbacks in assuming culture as an 'integrated-closed system in understanding of contemporary society.	Check Solution
Q3 (C)	Differentiate between pedigree and genealogical analyses. Discuss the history and application of these methods in anthropological studies.	Check Solution
Q4 (A)	Anthropology provides a multidimensional understanding of human beings by bridging the gap between science and humanities. Elucidate.	Check Solution
Q4 (B)	Write a note on Mousterian tool tradition, Mousterian culture and its makers.	Check Solution
Q4 (C)	Critically examine James Frazer's theory of evolutionism. Elucidate the place of religion in modernity.	Check Solution
Q5 (A)	Write a note in 150 words: Multispecies, Multi-sited and Critical Ethnography.	Check Solution
Q5 (B)	Write a note in 150 words: Evolutionary significance of menopause.	Check Solution
Q5 (C)	Write a note in 150 words: Fission track dating method and its applications.	Check Solution
Q5 (D)	Write a note in 150 words: Mitochondrial DNA and human evolution.	Check Solution
Q5 (E)	Write a note in 150 words: Foetal origin of adult diseases and contribution of David Barker.	Check Solution
Q6 (A)	What are genetic markers ? Discuss their applications in understanding population variation, disease association and forensics.	Check Solution
Q6 (B)	"The agenda of biological anthropology became more scientific from the middle of the twentieth century." Justify.	Check Solution
Q6 (C)	Describe briefly the theoretical perspectives in linguistic anthropology to explain the	Check Solution

	relationship of culture, language and thought.	
Q7 (A)	How the study of variation in forms of marriage led to rethinking on the concepts of social reproduction, kinship and family?	Check Solution
Q7 (B)	What are the major theories proposed in support of the origin of food production? How the change in subsistence economy brought revolution during this period?	Check Solution
Q7 (C)	Critically discuss the centrality of the African continent in the narrative of human evolution.	Check Solution
Q8 (A)	How the theories of postmodernism are relevant in promoting social justice and empowerment of marginalised communities?	Check Solution
Q8 (B)	Genome-wide Disease Association Studies (GWAS) advanced our understanding of health and disease.' Discuss.	Check Solution
Q8 (C)	Examine the utility of human remains in forensic analysis. Discuss the facial reconstruction technique.	Check Solution