

When one aspires to take this exam, he or she must be fully determined and committed.

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Throw light on your education and achievements.

I am basically masters in English literature. After doing my masters I appeared in CSS exams and luckily got selected in Pakistan Audit and Accounts Group. Nowadays, I am working as Deputy Director Finance

& Training at Pakistan Railways Academy, Lahore. I started my career as Assistant Accountant General of Pakistan Revenue that was very important post with respect to its powers and responsibilities. I have learnt a lot from that posting. I have also written some books for CSS students, most of them are published by Jahangir Book Depot.

What are the steps for CSS preparation?

CSS exam is not like an ordinary exam. It is a complete process to judge your writing, speaking and analytical skills. So when one aspires to take this exam, he or she must be fully determined and committed to come out of it with flying colours. So the first step is commitment and the rest of the process of preparation fully depends upon it.

The CSS candidates should plan their studies, select their optional subjects with due

consideration of their interest and give equal time to all the subjects.

Should the students join the academies or not for CSS preparation?

It depends. One can prepare at home or by joining libraries or by joining academies. But academies

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have an edge over other methods of preparation. Because academies do give you an exposure to the other students and learned teachers and this is beneficial. In academies, candidates discuss issues and take regular tests that polish both their

writing and speaking skills.

What is the key to get higher marks in written?

To get higher marks in written exams, one must be very clear and concise. The answer should be according to the question. It should not be like that you have prepared a topic fully but the question in the exams covers only one part of it and candidates write down all the material they have prepared. No, one must be much focused. Relevant quotations and verses especially in paper of English literature give extra benefit.

What is the technique to get higher marks in interview?

Interview is the part of examination where overall personality of the candidates is judged. Often, the candidates give importance to the written exams and interview but there is another aspect of the CSS exams that is psychological test. This is very important because when a student appears before an interview panel, candidate's marks in written exams and a pen picture of your personality are with the panel and they try to assess the candidates according to it. Besides, to get higher marks in interview, one must be very confident, concise and clear about what he or she is saying.

What are the general problems of a CSS student?

The general problems faced by the CSS student are like lack of proper guidance, monitoring and confidence. Initially, they face problems while selecting their optional subjects, then there is a

problem of getting relevant material for preparation. Another thing that is very important is consistency. The students often lose patience because the CSS written exams are held consecutively both in the morning and evening times and it is quite tiresome.

Again there are rigorous medical test, psychological test and



interview. Again there is an element of disappointment when one qualifies the exams but cannot be allocated due to limited number of seats and quota system. But one should not lose heart and appear again with more preparation to get higher position in merit list. This is not very difficult as I have witnessed many of my friends getting selected in the second or third attempt. So

the prior most requirements are determination and hardwork.

Why do the students fail in English essay?

The students fail in English essay because they are not focused and do not write the relevant material in the paper. In the English essay, it is not very important that how lengthy your essay is but it is very important that whatever material is written is grammatically correct and is according to the topic selected by the candidate.

How should the students prepare English essay and English composition?

Both the papers of English essay and English composition are basically to test the students' knowledge of English language. So to prepare these papers, the students must know the basics of English language, grammar and composition. Once the student gets command over the language, he cannot only easily attempt the paper of composition but can also get good marks in English essay. This is because of the fact that one can express his or her views over a topic more specifically if he or she is proficient in the language.

For essay paper, the students should collect the relevant material over different topics. They should not get panic if the topics in the essay paper are not according to their preparation. In CSS exams, one should always be ready to handle the situation wisely and tactfully.

Sometimes extraordinary students cannot qualify CSS while an average student gets allocation.

Comment.

This is so simple. As I have already mentioned that to succeed is not necessary that one must possess extraordinary intelligence. The students possessing extraordinary intelligence fail because they are not persistent in their efforts, while CSS exam requires consistent efforts and hardwork. The students with average intelligence get allocated because they are determined and put their utmost to achieve their goal.

What optional subjects should be opted for CSS?

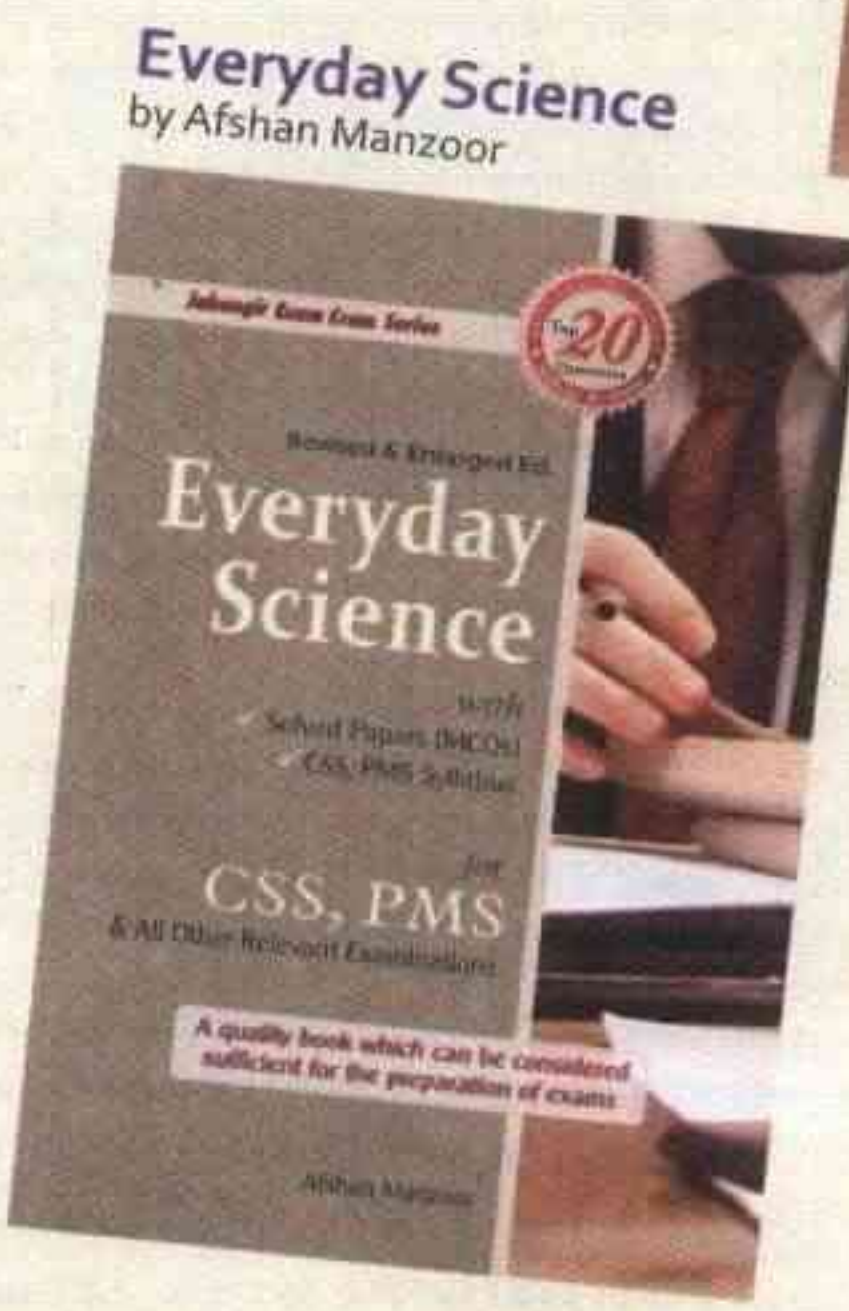
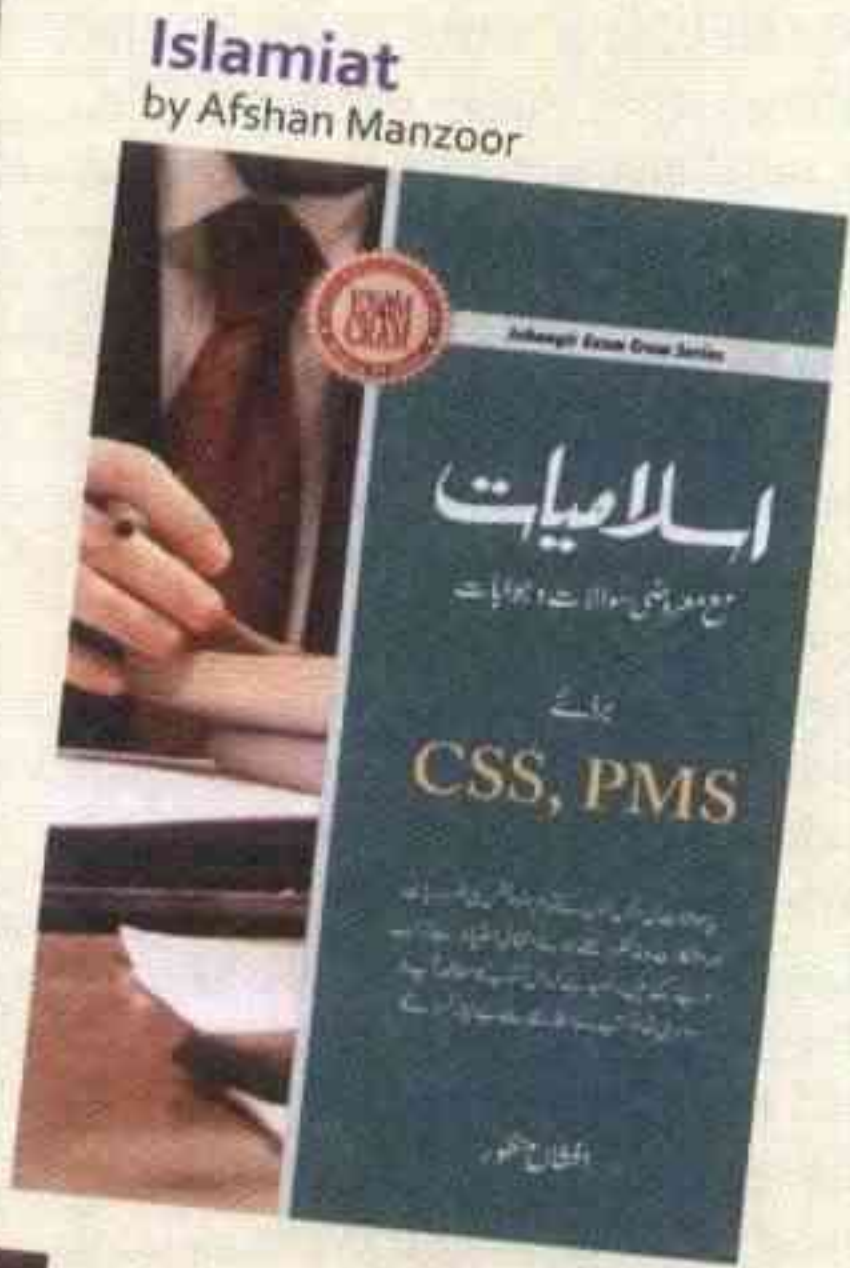
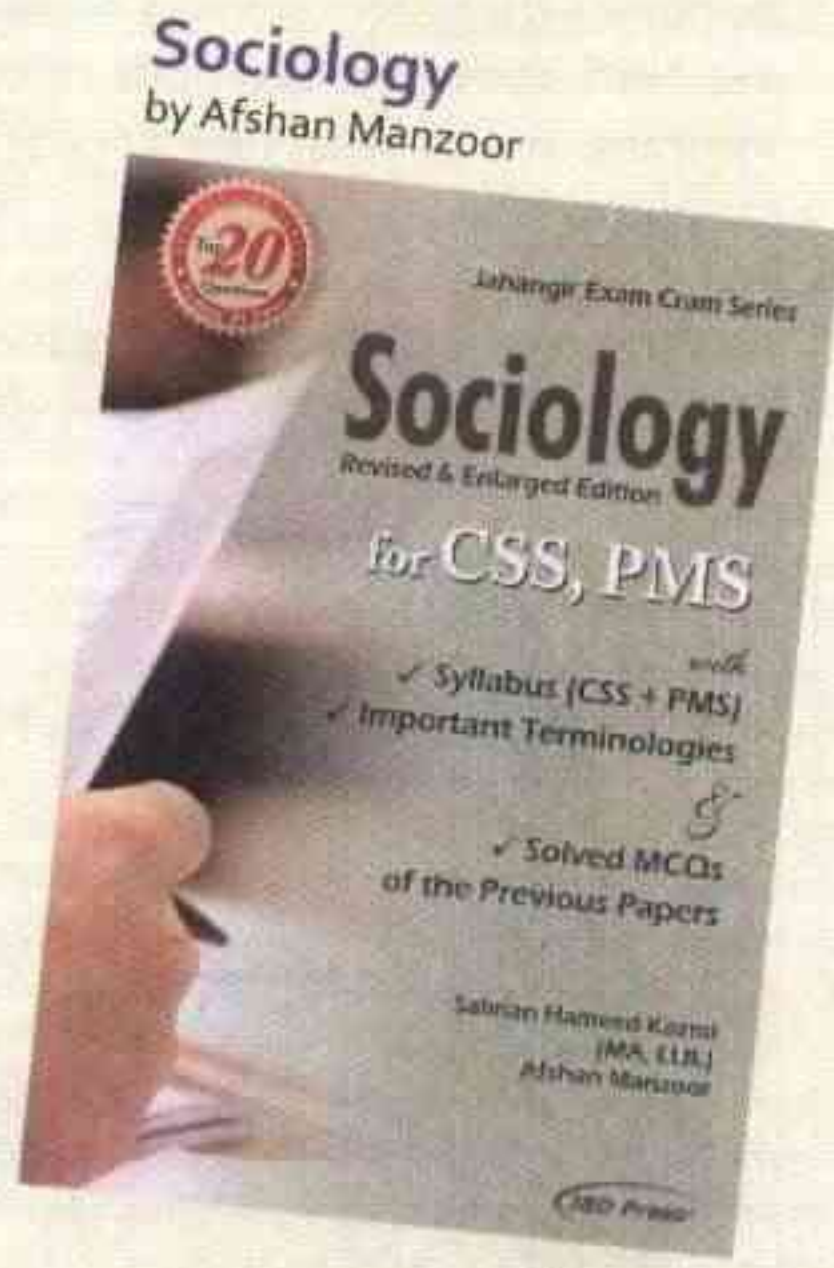
One should be very careful in selecting the optional subjects. Usually, some subjects are considered more scoring as compared to others but I think this is not correct. All subjects may give good result but it depends how you prepare them. I will give my own example. I have done masters in English literature and opted for it as one of my optional subjects.

Many people advised me not to select this because it is considered as a low scoring subject but I knew that I could get good marks in it because I had a prior knowledge of the subject. And by the grace of God I got highest marks in it as compared to the marks of my other optional subjects.

Any Message.

The message, I want to give to those who are preparing for CSS exams, is that they should prepare with full confidence and determination, especially, for the girls who are aspiring to take this exam. I want to say this is the best and most prestigious career for them. I also want to say thanks to the management of *World Times* which has given me an opportunity to express my views about CSS exam.

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