

CSS MENTOR



One should consult textbooks, get updates from internet and be innovative in his approach towards papers.

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10th Position, CSS-2009

Kindly tell us about your education and achievements.

I am a graduate from Nishter Medical College, Multan. I completed my MBBS degree in March 2008. During my stay in Multan, I also completed my BS (Medical Sciences) from Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan in 2006.

A candidate of CSS exams must possess the ability to comprehend what he is studying. I've seen many students studying and cramming notes provided to them by academies that have sprouted in every nook and corner of the city.

Why did you opt for DMG group?

DMG has been my dream since I started preparing for this exam. The main reason behind this fact is that DMG gives you ample chances of working in the field and making some difference in the lives of people. Secondly, being a doctor I am greatly concerned about the conditions in which majority of our population has to live. So I am especially looking for the departments like Health, Environment and Labour etc. DMG is the only service that gives you all these chances.

What are the various advantages of this group as compared to other top three groups?

It is a more challenging job since you

have to work in different departments. Secondly, it has a considerable clout in secretariat, so it brings you in a position where you can contribute in policy-making as well. And then promotions in this group are reasonably in time.

What is the source of inspiration behind choosing DMG?

My father has always been a source of inspiration for me. He does not belong to CSP cadre but he is an officer in Government of Punjab. It was he who convinced me to appear in competitive exam and opt for DMG.

What are the prerequisites of CSS?

A candidate of CSS exams must possess the ability to comprehend what he is studying. I've seen many students studying and cramming notes provided to them by academies that have sprouted in every nook and corner of the city.

Eventually they suffer in exams because questions are not asked in the similar way. Rather than cramming question answers, a candidate must learn to understand what he is studying. Secondly, he must be good at general knowledge

and be able to use his common sense in the papers.

What is the key to success?

We often tend to ignore the maxim that hard work is the key to success. In a competitive exam one has to put some extra effort so as to make your paper better than others. For that purpose, he should consult textbooks, get updates from internet and be innovative in his approach towards papers. Following are some tips for success:

- Hard work
- Better orientation



- Textbooks for subjects
- Innovative approach
- Use of common sense
- Lots and lots of prayers (after the exams, before that its hard work)

What are the steps for the preparation, especially English essay and composition?

Grammar and composition can be prepared systematically, as it consists of various segments which may be improved with practice. Past papers may be helpful in this regard but the candidate must solve them himself.

For essay he needs to improve his expression. Our only input is reading so if he is studying good textbooks, it will improve his English as well. And he should practise writing frequently. Outline-making is a skill and it can be improved by practice. I used to make outlines for all the topics I studied for my every subject. And I think that helped me scoring 72 marks in English essay paper.

What combination should the students opt for the optional subjects in order to get higher marks?

A student should decide it himself by going through the course outlines given for every subject. However a combination of science, social science and history, as I opted, helps widen your knowledge base which is a key factor in your success.

What are the ways to get higher marks in the written as well as in the interview and write down your written and interview score in detail?

In a competitive exam, your paper needs to be better than other papers. So where studying good books enables you to be better prepared, giving your answers an excellent presentation is equally important.

For example, when you give a heading, use catchy words or phrases for that. Wherever applicable, give figures and diagrams to support your answer. Your answer must be uptodate. In papers like geography and current affairs, draw maps.

English Essay :72
 English Precis & Composition:45
 Everyday Science: 75
 Current Affairs : 53
 Pakistan Affairs : 45
 Islamiyat : 69
 British History I: 63
 British History II: 64
 Journalism : 52
 Sociology : 75



Geography I: 70
 Geography II: 72
 Total: 755
 Interview : 201
 Grand Total : 956

How many months and daily hours are required for CSS preparation?

It really depends how much time you can spare. Whatever time is available, utilise that to your maximum. Make a schedule of study and then stick to that. I was doing a job when I appeared in exams. So it's not the time that matters, but the way you utilise your time. Six to eight months

of study should be sufficient if you can spare 8 - 10 hours for study.

Please recommend well-known books on different subjects for the help of CSS candidates.

Geography

Paper I

Modern Physical Geography
 — Strahler
 Physical Geography of the Global Environment Geosystems
 — H. De Blij

Paper II

Oxford Advanced Geography
 — Nagle
 World Geography — Glenkoe
 Pakistan — Geography, Economy and People — Fazl Karim Khan

Sociology

Sociology — Horton Hunt

Journalism

Journalism for All — Prof. Abdus Salam Khurshid, Mehdi Hassan.

British History

Modern British History
 — G.W. Southgate
 Modern British History
 — Norman Lowe
 England Since 1688
 — Vidya Dhar Mahajan

Islamiyat

Islamic Ideology
 — Khurshid Ahmad

Any Message.

Respect your subjects and try to understand what you are reading. Studying is not merely a preparation for exams, it must have an effect on your personality. This only happens when you have absorbed what you have studied.

And lastly, respect your parents. They are really the most precious thing that you have in this world. I wish everyone of you reading this a very best of luck in future. May Allah bless you all.