Nagaland

Mains answer-writing practice

8 original descriptive questions + model answers

State GK and state-linked general studies, in one PDF.

Higher level: eight analytical prompts, each with a roughly 150-word model response and a suggested 10-mark self-assessment guide.

These are original practice questions, not previous-year questions or an official mock. This focused first collection does not replace an exam-specific syllabus.

Language: English. Core focus: history, geography, heritage, governance, development, environment and institutions.

This edition emphasises stable concepts. It is not a current-affairs digest; verify changing schemes, office-holders, district boundaries and budget figures separately.

How to use this book

Write your response before reading the model. Use the marking guide to check coverage, accuracy and structure. Marks and word targets are practice choices.

Research and scope - page 2
Start practice - page 3
Source register - page 11

What the exam research tells us

Entry-level exam evidence

The NSSB common syllabus includes Naga history/culture, broader GK, English and comprehension, basic computer, arithmetic and reasoning. It specifies objective questions and makes applicability subject to relevant recruitment rules. This foundation collection samples state GK and selected skills; its question mix does not reproduce an official mock or subject weightage. [EX1]

Higher-level exam evidence

The June 2026 NPSC syllabus includes conceptual prelims, broader GS and a Nagaland mains paper covering history, culture, geography, economy, governance and society. Its scan was downloaded, read with OCR and visually checked. The implementation notice applies it from the next advertisement effective 2026; check your cycle. [EX2, EX3]

Three editorial levels

Basic uses direct recall and one-step tasks. Advanced adds statements, chronology, evidence and calculations. Mains has eight analytical prompts, model answers and suggested 10-mark rubrics. These difficulty labels, timings and word targets are editorial choices. All questions are original; no previous-paper frequency analysis is claimed.

State focus and evidence

Topics link statehood and the 1944 Kohima battle with Article 371A, village development, festivals, Morung learning, Kisama, Saramati, Intanki and community conservation. Official sources anchor facts. Dataset figures and policy scenarios are hypothetical. Cultural associations do not imply that every community or individual follows identical practices.

Scope and revision

Checked 29 October 2026. These books supplement full syllabus and current-affairs study. Verify schemes, boundaries, office-holders and recruitment instructions separately. Conflicting peak heights and changing district counts are excluded. Sources are clickable; historical tourism descriptions are not current schedules or access advice.

Write, compare, improve

01 / Migratory-bird conservation

Propose a community-centred conservation approach for the Pangti-Doyang Amur Falcon roosting landscape.

Practice target: about 150 words | Suggested marks: 10 | Try: 10 minutes

Model answer

The Pangti-Doyang area in Wokha is associated with seasonal Amur Falcon roosting. Protecting a migratory species requires attention to the places where birds rest, not only to individual animals. Community participation can connect habitat care with locally understood responsibilities and benefits.

An assessment should document roost use, disturbance, habitat condition and visitor pressure through consistent methods. Appropriate technical guidance should inform protection measures and any visitor limits. Public communication must explain why chasing birds, loud activity and poorly placed facilities can undermine resting habitat.

Residents should help design access arrangements, monitoring and suitable visitor services. Training and fair contracts can support local opportunities, while decisions must recognise people who may bear restrictions without receiving tourism income. Conservation rules should be explained clearly and applied through lawful, accountable procedures.

Evaluation should combine ecological indicators with household outcomes and records of expenditure. A popular destination or a striking photograph cannot establish conservation success. Periodic review, accessible complaints and transparent responsibilities help sustain cooperation as ecological and social conditions change.

Self-assessment

Ecological rationale: 3 | Practical measures: 3 | Community and accountability: 3 | Structure: 1

Evidence / basis: N1; editorial conservation framework. Editorial model answer.

Write, compare, improve

02 / Village development

Design an accountable project cycle for a Village Development Board.

Practice target: about 150 words | Suggested marks: 10 | Try: 10 minutes

Model answer

Nagaland's Village Development Boards have roots in an experimental initiative in 1976 and a tradition of grassroots development planning. Their value depends on turning local knowledge into useful, fairly selected and well-maintained public assets. Participation must shape decisions rather than merely endorse a completed proposal.

The cycle should begin with a recorded assessment of needs, including people who face barriers to meetings or services. Proposals need feasible designs, cost estimates, required permissions and clear maintenance responsibilities. Selection criteria and reasons should be understandable to residents.

Implementation should identify who approves payments, checks work and records changes. Expenditure must be linked to evidence of delivery, with safeguards for conflicts of interest. Public summaries can improve transparency while protecting personal information and confidential complaints.

Review should assess whether the asset functions, who benefits and whether upkeep is affordable. Independent checks and a practical grievance route can reveal exclusion or poor quality. The objective is dependable rural services and accountable local choice, rather than treating the number of sanctioned projects as sufficient proof of development.

Self-assessment

Institutional context: 2 | Project cycle: 4 | Inclusion and accountability: 3 | Structure: 1

Evidence / basis: P2; editorial planning framework, subject to applicable rules. Editorial model answer.

Write, compare, improve

03 / Constitution and administration

Explain how administrators should approach Article 371A without treating it as unlimited exemption.

Practice target: about 150 words | Suggested marks: 10 | Try: 10 minutes

Model answer

Article 371A contains special provisions for Nagaland. Clause 1(a) concerns specified religious and social practices, customary law, customary-law-based justice, and ownership and transfer of land and its resources. It includes a mechanism involving a resolution of the state Legislative Assembly.

Administrative analysis must begin with the exact text and the particular legal question. A broad claim that every Act of Parliament is excluded would ignore the provision's defined subjects. Uncertainty should be addressed through competent legal advice and relevant authoritative decisions, not informal assumptions.

For a project affecting land or community interests, officials should identify applicable rights, required permissions and responsible institutions. Consultation must explain alternatives and likely effects in accessible language. Records should show how concerns were considered and why a decision was reached.

Respect for constitutional safeguards should operate alongside reasoned administration, accountability and fair access to services. Clear responsibilities and legitimate review channels reduce both institutional bypass and avoidable delay. The aim is lawful decision making grounded in the actual provision, rather than slogans about autonomy or administrative convenience.

Self-assessment

Accurate constitutional scope: 3 | Practical process: 3 | Rights and accountability: 3 | Structure: 1

Evidence / basis: P1; editorial administrative analysis, not a case-specific legal opinion. Editorial model answer.

Write, compare, improve

04 / Learning and living heritage

How can Morung-inspired learning and festival interpretation support cultural continuity?

Practice target: about 150 words | Suggested marks: 10 | Try: 10 minutes

Model answer

Morung is associated with traditional community learning and skills transmission. Nagaland's festival associations, including Sekrenyi with Angami and Moatsu with Ao, also show the importance of distinct cultural settings. Educational programmes should preserve this diversity rather than present one uniform account of Naga life.

Practitioners and educators should jointly identify appropriate learning goals. Paid teaching, safe participation and practical opportunities can connect stories, skills and historical understanding. A display building or a short promotional performance cannot by itself demonstrate that knowledge is being transmitted.

Documentation requires informed consent, attribution and clear terms for storage and reuse. Materials should distinguish documented history, interpretation and remembered tradition. Translation and accessible formats can widen participation while allowing communities to decide what information should remain restricted.

Evaluation should examine sustained learning, practitioner influence and fair compensation. Learners should be encouraged to ask questions and compare evidence respectfully. Cultural continuity is strengthened when people can participate voluntarily and shape change, rather than when outsiders reduce living traditions to static images or assume every community member has identical experiences.

Self-assessment

Accurate examples: 3 | Learning design: 3 | Consent and evaluation: 3 | Structure: 1

Evidence / basis: C1, C3; editorial cultural-education framework. Editorial model answer.

Write, compare, improve

05 / Forests and community action

Compare the planning lessons from Intanki and Khonoma without treating their governance arrangements as identical.

Practice target: about 150 words | Suggested marks: 10 | Try: 10 minutes

Model answer

Intanki is a national park in Peren, described by the Forest Department as connected with adjoining forests in Assam. Khonoma's conservation account highlights community organisations and stakeholders. Both matter for environmental planning, but their institutional arrangements should be examined separately.

At Intanki, assessment should address habitat condition, disturbance and ecological links beyond the park boundary. Coordination with relevant neighbouring authorities can help identify pressures that a single administrative unit cannot manage alone. Work must follow the applicable management framework and required permissions.

At Khonoma, planners should understand how local organisations participate, how decisions are made and how benefits and restrictions are distributed. Consultation should include less visible households. Community participation deserves support, but it does not eliminate the need for reliable ecological evidence.

Both settings require clear responsibilities, consistent monitoring and accessible complaint routes. Success should be assessed through habitat outcomes and fair local opportunities, rather than publicity or visitor numbers alone. A shared commitment to accountability can coexist with site-specific law, knowledge and management choices.

Self-assessment

Accurate site distinctions: 3 | Practical planning: 3 | Evidence and communities: 3 | Structure: 1

Evidence / basis: N2, N3; editorial comparative framework. Editorial model answer.

Write, compare, improve

06 / Hill services and resilience

Propose a framework for reliable public services in a hypothetical Nagaland hill district.

Practice target: about 150 words | Suggested marks: 10 | Try: 10 minutes

Model answer

A hill district's public services depend on terrain, drainage, seasonal access and the distribution of settlements. Planning should begin with local evidence about interrupted travel, water availability and the needs of vulnerable users. Construction totals alone cannot establish that services are reliable.

Authorities should map exposed routes, slope conditions and existing assets. Proposed works need appropriate technical review, realistic operating costs and an identified maintenance body. Simple repairs or better coordination may sometimes deliver more value than a new structure, depending on the assessment.

Service design must include people facing mobility, language or digital barriers. Assisted access and suitable local facilities can complement online channels. Community consultation should identify seasonal problems and practical warning methods without assuming that every household receives information in the same way.

Monitoring should track safety, continuity, response times and fair access alongside expenditure. Emergency arrangements need clear duties and tested communication routes. Independent checks and complaints can expose failures early. The goal is dependable service over time, supported by maintenance and adaptive decisions rather than promises based on a single favourable season.

Self-assessment

Terrain-sensitive diagnosis: 3 | Feasible service measures: 3 | Inclusion and review: 3 | Structure: 1

Evidence / basis: Editorial hypothetical district-planning scenario. Editorial model answer.

Write, compare, improve

07 / History and evidence

Design a source-based lesson linking Kohima in 1944 with the later formation of Nagaland.

Practice target: about 150 words | Suggested marks: 10 | Try: 10 minutes

Model answer

The Battle of Kohima belongs to the Second World War in 1944. Nagaland's later formation involved the Sixteen-Point Agreement of 1960 and statehood on 1 December 1963. A sound lesson should distinguish these periods instead of treating every milestone as part of one event.

Students could build a timeline using maps, official historical accounts and carefully selected memorial information. Each item should identify its evidence and explain whether it records an event, offers an interpretation or preserves remembered experience. Sources should be compared within their proper scope.

Activities should ask learners to explain the difference between a wartime site and a constitutional transition. Oral histories can add perspectives when collected with informed consent and attribution. They should complement documentary inquiry without being used to invent certainty where questions remain open.

Accessible language and translated summaries can widen participation. Assessment should reward accurate chronology, explanation and source judgement rather than memorised slogans. The purpose is informed public understanding that respects historical complexity and helps learners recognise both supported claims and the limits of available evidence.

Self-assessment

Chronological accuracy: 3 | Learning programme: 3 | Evidence and inclusion: 3 | Structure: 1

Evidence / basis: H1, H2, H3; editorial education programme. Editorial model answer.

Write, compare, improve

08 / Ethics and local grants

An influential applicant pressures an officer to divert a community grant. What should the officer do?

Practice target: about 150 words | Suggested marks: 10 | Try: 10 minutes

Model answer

A community grant must serve its published purpose through fair and lawful decisions. Influence is not evidence of eligibility or public benefit. The officer should protect impartiality while treating the applicant respectfully and ensuring that legitimate proposals are assessed without unnecessary delay.

First, record the communication and examine the applicable criteria, approval powers and any conflict of interest. Obtain the required technical and financial assessments. Comparable applications should face consistent standards, and missing information should be requested through authorised procedures rather than concealed or invented.

The decision should state reasons and identify legitimate review routes. Persistent pressure or suspected misconduct should be escalated through designated channels with relevant records preserved. Personal and confidential information must remain protected; transparency does not justify publishing allegations that have not been established.

The wider process needs traceable approvals, expenditure checks and verification that promised benefits reach residents. Independent review and confidential complaints can reveal recurring favouritism or exclusion. Integrity means resisting improper influence while delivering a reasoned decision that can be reviewed and implemented in the public interest.

Self-assessment

Ethical diagnosis: 2 | Lawful response: 4 | Accountability and privacy: 3 | Structure: 1

Evidence / basis: Editorial hypothetical case; apply actual governing rules. Editorial model answer.

Source register

Source IDs beside answers map to the links below. Blue source titles are clickable. Research checked 29 October 2026.

EX1 / NSSB: common general-paper syllabus

nssb.nagaland.gov.in

EX2 / NPSC: new civil-services syllabus published June 2026

npsc.nagaland.gov.in

EX3 / NPSC: notice on prospective implementation, 23 June 2026

npsc.nagaland.gov.in

H1 / State portal: statehood, capital, language and borders

www.nagaland.gov.in

H2 / NHIDCL: Kohima War Cemetery and 1944 battle

www.nhidcl.com

H3 / Chief Minister archive: 1960 agreement and state formation

chiefminister.nagaland.gov.in

P1 / Legislative Department: Constitution, Article 371A

www.legislative.gov.in

P2 / Rural Development: origins of Village Development Boards

rd.nagaland.gov.in

Source register

Source IDs beside answers map to the links below. Blue source titles are clickable. Research checked 29 October 2026.

C1 / State portal: communities and festival associations

nagaland.gov.in

C2 / Kohima district: Kisama Heritage Village

kohima.nic.in

C3 / Samagra Shiksha: Morung concept of education

samagra.nagaland.gov.in

N1 / Wokha district: Amur Falcon roosting near Pangti

wokha.nic.in

N2 / Forest Department: Intanki National Park

forest.nagaland.gov.in

N3 / DIPR: community conservation at Khonoma

ipr.nagaland.gov.in

N4 / State Biodiversity Board: state animal and bird

nsbb.nagaland.gov.in

N5 / ICAR: mithun and its importance in Nagaland

icar.gov.in

Source register

Source IDs beside answers map to the links below. Blue source titles are clickable. Research checked 29 October 2026.

G1 / Kiphire district: Mount Saramati and border setting

kiphire.nic.in

G2 / Phek district archive: Shilloi Lake and Lutsam village

phek.nic.in

Read sources in context

EX1 is a common syllabus subject to post-specific rules. EX2 and EX3 must be read together for the revised pattern and its prospective application. Editorial practice marks and word limits here are not official examination instructions.

P1 is an official Constitution edition; consult Article 371A itself for its complete provisions. Source C2 is older: only stable venue information is used, not its historical festival dates. G2 is an older district page; no current district assignment is inferred.

Official pages give different Saramati heights, so no precise elevation is tested. Historical ecological accounts are not current population surveys. Calculations, planning measures, ethical cases and rubrics are original editorial practice; apply actual governing rules in real cases.