Himachal Pradesh

Basic MCQ practice

40 original MCQs + explained answers

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

Foundation level: direct recall, simple concepts and one-step applications. Useful for building the state-GK component of entry-level recruitment preparation.

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

Attempt every item before opening the answers. Record uncertain answers and revise the explanation. One correct option per question; no official marking scheme is implied.

Research and scope - page 2
Start practice - page 3
Answers and explanations - page 13
Source register - page 21

What the exam research tells us

1 / Foundation-level preparation

An inspected HPRCA Pharmacy Officer syllabus copy lists HP GK with current affairs, science, reasoning and languages alongside specialist subjects. It is a primary-document copy hosted by a publisher, not independently matched to the official download page. It is a post-specific example, not a universal basic-exam pattern. [EX1]

2 / Higher-level evidence

The indexed official HPAS 2025 advertisement lists HP history, geography, polity, art/culture and socioeconomic development in objective prelims. An official indexed notice changes GS mains questions from 2024 onwards to 150-word/8-mark and 225-word/12-mark formats. Full legacy PDF access was unreliable. This book's 10-mark guides are editorial, not that official scheme. [EX2/EX3]

3 / State coverage

Formation and statehood; Himalayan regions and rivers; railway and natural heritage; monasteries, painting, embroidery, festivals and architecture; tea, horticulture, hydropower, wetlands, tourism and mountain services.

Format and evidence limits

All items are original practice, not previous-year questions or an official mock. MCQs use four options. Mains models are about 150 words with practice self-assessment guides. This state-focused collection does not cover a complete language, aptitude, technical or current-affairs syllabus.

Using the three PDFs

Basic develops recall and simple applications. Advanced adds chronology, statements, evidence checks, data and policy reasoning. Mains develops structured analysis. Match the applicable official advertisement, syllabus and amendments to your target post and examination stage.

Try first - check answers later

01 / Capital

Which city is the capital of Himachal Pradesh?

A. Kullu
B. Shimla
C. Mandi
D. Chamba

02 / Administrative formation

Himachal Pradesh was formed as a centrally administered territory on which date?

A. 15 April 1948
B. 1 November 1966
C. 25 January 1971
D. 1 May 1960

03 / Statehood

Himachal Pradesh attained full statehood on which date?

A. 15 April 1948
B. 15 August 1947
C. 25 January 1971
D. 26 January 1950

04 / Territorial integration

Bilaspur was integrated with Himachal Pradesh in which year?

A. 1948
B. 1966
C. 1954
D. 1971

Try first - check answers later

05 / Punjab reorganisation

Additional hill areas were transferred to Himachal Pradesh during Punjab reorganisation in which year?

A. 1966
B. 1987
C. 1960
D. 1950

06 / Regional geography

Himachal Pradesh lies mainly in which mountain region?

A. Western Ghats
B. Eastern Ghats
C. Aravalli Range
D. Western Himalayas

07 / Highland landscapes

Spiti is especially associated with which landscape?

A. A high-altitude cold desert
B. A coastal mangrove delta
C. A tropical coral island
D. A humid equatorial rainforest

08 / River entry

Which river enters Himachal Pradesh near Shipki La?

A. Yamuna
B. Ravi
C. Beas
D. Sutlej

Try first - check answers later

09 / River valleys

Kullu valley is especially associated with which river?

A. Krishna
B. Beas
C. Narmada
D. Mahanadi

10 / River geography

Which river is closely associated with Chamba?

A. Kaveri
B. Tapi
C. Godavari
D. Ravi

11 / River confluence

Which two rivers meet at Tandi to form the Chandrabhaga, also known as Chenab?

A. Sutlej and Yamuna
B. Spiti and Baspa
C. Beas and Ravi
D. Chandra and Bhaga

12 / Reservoirs

Pong Dam Lake was created on which river?

A. Chenab
B. Yamuna
C. Beas
D. Ravi

Try first - check answers later

13 / Natural heritage

The Great Himalayan National Park is associated with which district?

A. Bilaspur
B. Kullu
C. Hamirpur
D. Una

14 / World Heritage chronology

The Great Himalayan National Park Conservation Area was inscribed on the World Heritage List in which year?

A. 2021
B. 2008
C. 2014
D. 1999

15 / Heritage categories

The Great Himalayan National Park Conservation Area is a UNESCO property of which category?

A. Intangible performing art
B. Historic urban settlement
C. Natural
D. Cultural railway

16 / Rail heritage

Which railway forms a component of the UNESCO Mountain Railways of India property?

A. Delhi–Mumbai main line
B. Konkan Railway as a whole
C. Kalka–Shimla Railway
D. Kolkata Metro

Try first - check answers later

17 / Railway chronology

In which year was the Kalka-Shimla Railway added to the Mountain Railways of India World Heritage property?

A. 1948
B. 2008
C. 2014
D. 1971

18 / Monastic geography

Tabo monastery is located in which region?

A. Bilaspur reservoir shore
B. Una foothills
C. Kangra plains
D. Spiti

19 / Monastic chronology

Tabo monastery is traditionally dated to its foundation in which year?

A. 1948 CE
B. 1848 CE
C. 1526 CE
D. 996 CE

20 / Craft traditions

Chamba Rumal is especially associated with which craft?

A. Embroidery
B. Printed circuit manufacture
C. Lost-wax metal casting
D. Stone inlay

Try first - check answers later

21 / Painting

Kangra Kalam is associated with which art form?

A. Metal casting
B. Miniature painting
C. Carpet knotting only
D. Glass blowing

22 / Festivals

Which town or valley is associated with a prominent Dussehra celebration?

A. Nahan only
B. Kullu
C. Paonta Sahib only
D. Una only

23 / Festivals

Minjar fair is especially associated with which place?

A. Chamba
B. Kullu
C. Solan
D. Keylong

24 / Festivals

Which place is especially associated with a major Shivratri fair?

A. Reckong Peo
B. Kaza
C. Mandi
D. Una

Try first - check answers later

25 / Performing arts

Nati is associated with which cultural form?

A. Group folk dance
B. A type of apple storage box
C. A hydropower turbine
D. A Buddhist manuscript script

26 / Vernacular architecture

Kath Kuni construction is especially associated with which materials?

A. Alternating timber and stone
B. Glass and aluminium panels only
C. Reinforced plastic shells
D. Steel sheets without walls

27 / Regional products

Which Himachal region is especially associated with tea cultivation?

A. Chandratal lake surface
B. Kangra
C. Upper Lahaul glaciers
D. Spiti cold desert only

28 / Horticulture

Which is an important temperate fruit crop of Himachal Pradesh?

A. Apple
B. Rubber
C. Oil palm
D. Coconut

Try first - check answers later

29 / Wetland geography

Renuka Wetland is associated with which district?

A. Kullu
B. Hamirpur
C. Sirmaur
D. Kinnaur

30 / High-altitude wetlands

Chandertal is associated with which district?

A. Lahaul and Spiti
B. Una
C. Bilaspur
D. Solan

31 / Hydropower

Nathpa Jhakri Hydropower Station is built on which river?

A. Sutlej
B. Beas
C. Yamuna
D. Ravi

32 / Energy units

Megawatt, used in describing a power station, measures which quantity?

A. Rainfall depth
B. Power
C. Annual energy generated by itself
D. Water-storage volume

Try first - check answers later

33 / Post-harvest management

Why can suitable cold storage help fruit growers?

A. It removes all transport costs
B. It guarantees higher prices in every market
C. It eliminates the need for quality management
D. It can reduce deterioration and improve timing of sale

34 / Economic sectors

Growing apples in an orchard belongs mainly to which sector?

A. Tertiary tourism
B. Primary
C. Public administration
D. Secondary manufacturing

35 / Economic sectors

Processing apples into juice belongs mainly to which sector?

A. Primary cultivation
B. Tertiary guiding
C. Subsistence grazing
D. Secondary

36 / Economic sectors

Providing a guided heritage walk in Shimla belongs mainly to which sector?

A. Primary extraction
B. Crop cultivation
C. Tertiary
D. Secondary manufacturing

Try first - check answers later

37 / Numerical ability

A hypothetical orchard sells 45 boxes at Rs. 800 each. What is gross revenue?

A. Rs. 40,000
B. Rs. 45,000
C. Rs. 32,000
D. Rs. 36,000

38 / Numerical ability

A hypothetical homestay occupies 15 of its 20 rooms. What is the occupancy percentage?

A. 90%
B. 60%
C. 80%
D. 75%

39 / Computer basics

Which spreadsheet formula adds the numbers in D2 to D6?

A. =AVERAGE(D2:D6)
B. =MAX(D2:D6)
C. =SUM(D2:D6)
D. =COUNT(D2:D6)

40 / Exam preparation

Which source should determine the pattern of a particular Himachal recruitment examination?

A. An undated forwarded message
B. The applicable official advertisement, syllabus and amendments
C. This practice collection alone
D. Another state's old pattern

Answer key + explanations

01 / Answer B

Shimla. Shimla is the state capital.

Evidence: H1

02 / Answer A

15 April 1948. Distinguish the 1948 formation from later statehood.

Evidence: H1

03 / Answer C

25 January 1971. Statehood followed several stages of administrative development.

Evidence: H1

04 / Answer C

1954. The integration took place in 1954, before full statehood.

Evidence: H2

05 / Answer A

1966. The 1966 enlargement preceded statehood in 1971.

Evidence: H1

Answer key + explanations

06 / Answer D

Western Himalayas. It is a mountainous state in the northwestern Himalayan region.

Evidence: G1

07 / Answer A

A high-altitude cold desert. Its arid highland setting contrasts with wetter mountain valleys elsewhere in the state.

Evidence: G2

08 / Answer D

Sutlej. The tourism department describes the Sutlej entering near Shipki La and flowing through Kinnaur.

Evidence: G3

09 / Answer B

Beas. The Beas is a defining river of the Kullu valley.

Evidence: G3

10 / Answer D

Ravi. The Ravi drains an important part of the Chamba region.

Evidence: G3

Answer key + explanations

11 / Answer D

Chandra and Bhaga. The confluence is in the Lahaul region.

Evidence: G4

12 / Answer C

Beas. The Ramsar description identifies it as a reservoir on the Beas.

Evidence: N2

13 / Answer B

Kullu. The park lies in the Kullu region of Himachal Pradesh.

Evidence: N1

14 / Answer C

2014. UNESCO records the inscription year as 2014.

Evidence: N1

15 / Answer C

Natural. Its recognition concerns natural biodiversity and conservation significance.

Evidence: N1

Answer key + explanations

16 / Answer C

Kalka–Shimla Railway. Kalka–Shimla is a component of the serial World Heritage property.

Evidence: U1

17 / Answer B

2008. The 2008 extension is distinct from the original inscription of other railway components.

Evidence: U2

18 / Answer D

Spiti. Tabo is a major monastic site in Spiti.

Evidence: C1

19 / Answer D

996 CE. The official tourism description records its foundation in 996 CE.

Evidence: C1

20 / Answer A

Embroidery. It is a celebrated embroidered textile associated with Chamba.

Evidence: C2

Answer key + explanations

21 / Answer B

Miniature painting. Kangra painting is part of the wider Pahari painting tradition.

Evidence: C3

22 / Answer B

Kullu. Kullu Dussehra is one of the state's well-known festivals.

Evidence: C4

23 / Answer A

Chamba. The state tourism page associates Minjar with Chamba.

Evidence: C4

24 / Answer C

Mandi. Mandi Shivratri is among the prominent religious fairs of the state.

Evidence: C4

25 / Answer A

Group folk dance. Nati has regional forms across several districts.

Evidence: C5

Answer key + explanations

26 / Answer A

Alternating timber and stone. Traditional Kath Kuni uses layered stone and timber construction.

Evidence: C6

27 / Answer B

Kangra. Kangra is a recognised tea-growing region.

Evidence: E1

28 / Answer A

Apple. Apple is a major horticultural association; crop suitability varies by local conditions.

Evidence: E2

29 / Answer C

Sirmaur. The state wetland authority places Renuka in Sirmaur.

Evidence: N3

30 / Answer A

Lahaul and Spiti. The state wetland authority identifies Chandertal in Lahaul and Spiti.

Evidence: N3

Answer key + explanations

31 / Answer A

Sutlej. SJVN identifies Nathpa Jhakri as a project on the Sutlej, also spelt Satluj.

Evidence: E3

32 / Answer B

Power. Power is a rate of energy conversion. Energy over time is measured in units such as MWh.

Evidence: Original science concept

33 / Answer D

It can reduce deterioration and improve timing of sale. Benefits depend on costs, handling, reliability and market conditions.

Evidence: Original supply-chain concept

34 / Answer B

Primary. Cultivation is a primary-sector activity.

Evidence: Original economic concept

35 / Answer D

Secondary. Processing transforms agricultural produce into a manufactured product.

Evidence: Original economic concept

Answer key + explanations

36 / Answer C

Tertiary. Guiding is a service-sector activity.

Evidence: Original economic concept

37 / Answer D

Rs. 36,000. 45 x 800 = Rs. 36,000. Production and selling costs have not been deducted.

Evidence: Original calculation

38 / Answer D

75%. 15 / 20 x 100 = 75%.

Evidence: Original calculation

39 / Answer C

=SUM(D2:D6). SUM adds numerical values within the specified range.

Evidence: Original computer-literacy concept

40 / Answer B

The applicable official advertisement, syllabus and amendments. Match the post, recruitment cycle and examination stage.

Evidence: EX1/EX2/EX3

Source register

Source IDs beside answers map to the links below. Blue source titles are clickable. Research checked 28 October 2026.

EX1 / HPRCA Pharmacy Officer syllabus: publisher-hosted document copy, p6

img2.freejobalert.com

EX2 / HPPSC: HPAS 2025 advertisement; official indexed text

www.hppsc.hp.gov.in

EX3 / HPPSC: change to GS mains question format from 2024; indexed notice

hppsc.hp.gov.in

H1 / Government of Himachal Pradesh: formation, enlargement and statehood

himachal.gov.in

H2 / Revenue Department: formation and Bilaspur integration

himachal.gov.in

G1 / Himachal Tourism: mountain setting and topography

himachaltourism.gov.in

G2 / Himachal Tourism: Spiti landscape and settlement

himachaltourism.gov.in

G3 / Himachal Tourism: rivers and Himalayan regions

himachaltourism.gov.in

Source register

Source IDs beside answers map to the links below. Blue source titles are clickable. Research checked 28 October 2026.

G4 / Himachal Tourism: Lahaul and Tandi confluence

himachaltourism.gov.in

N1 / UNESCO: Great Himalayan National Park Conservation Area

whc.unesco.org

N2 / Convention on Wetlands: Pong Dam Lake on the Beas

www.ramsar.org

N3 / HIMCOSTE: state wetland authority and Ramsar sites

www.himcoste.hp.gov.in

U1 / UNESCO: Mountain Railways of India and Kalka-Shimla component

whc.unesco.org

U2 / UNESCO: 2008 decision adding Kalka-Shimla Railway

whc.unesco.org

C1 / Himachal Tourism: monasteries and Tabo foundation

himachaltourism.gov.in

C2 / Chamba district: embroidered Chamba Rumal

hpchamba.nic.in

Source register

Source IDs beside answers map to the links below. Blue source titles are clickable. Research checked 28 October 2026.

C3 / Kangra district: painting traditions

hpkangra.nic.in

C4 / Himachal Tourism: fairs and festivals

himachaltourism.gov.in

C5 / Himachal Tourism: regional arts and Nati

himachaltourism.gov.in

C6 / G.B. Pant NIHE: Kath Kuni in Himalayan resilient-practices collection

www.gbpihed.gov.in

E1 / Tea Board of India: Kangra tea region

teaboard.gov.in

E2 / HP SHIVA: agroclimatic zones and fruit suitability

hpshiva.hp.gov.in

E3 / SJVN: Nathpa Jhakri station on the Sutlej

sjvn.nic.in

Read sources in context

Formation in 1948 and full statehood in 1971 are different milestones. Old state pages may contain outdated boundaries or statistics; only stable associations are used here. Verify changing administrative details and recruitment instructions separately.

World Heritage, Ramsar and intangible-heritage systems are distinct. Numerical figures and administrative cases are invented practice exercises. Model answers and 10-mark guides are editorial suggestions. Heritage discussion is not a building-safety certification.