

**MGP 2024**

# Essay Guidance Program 2024

Mentor Supported, Test Series Based  
Program for Civil Services Examination.

**Batch - 2**

Starts  
**JULY, 06, 2024,**  
Saturday

**Workshop: 6th July, 5 PM**

**Available in Offline and Online**

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### Top Rankers of ForumIAS Academy, CSE 2023

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1. Aditya Srivastava (IAS Rank 1)
2. Donuru Ananya Reddy (IAS Rank 3)
  3. Ruhani (IAS Rank 5)
  4. Shristi Dabas (IAS Rank 6)
5. Anmol Rathore (IAS Rank 7)
6. Ashish Kumar (IAS Rank 8)
7. Kush Motwani (IAS Rank 11)
8. Medha Anand (IAS Rank 13)
9. Shaurya Arora (IAS Rank 14)
10. Kunal Rastogi (IAS Rank 15)

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### ForumIAS Academy Students Rankers from other years

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1. Anudeep Durishetty (IAS Rank 1, 2017)
2. Sachin Gupta (IAS Rank 3, 2017)
3. Anubhav (IAS Rank 8, 2017)
4. Varnit Negi (IAS Rank 14, 2018)
5. Ankita Choudhary (IAS Rank 14, 2018)
6. Minal Karanwal (IAS Rank 35, 2018)
7. Pratibha Verma (IAS Rank 3, 2019)
8. Jivani Kartik Nagjibhai (IAS Rank 8, 2020)
9. Apala Mishra (IAS Rank 9, 2020)
10. Apurva Pandey (IAS Rank 39, 2017)

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### Top Rankers of ForumIAS Academy, CSE 2021 & 2022

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1. Ishita Kishore (IAS Rank 1, 2022)
2. Shruti Sharma (IAS Rank 1, 2021)
3. Garima Lohia (IAS Rank 2, 2022)
4. Uma Harathi N (IAS Rank 3, 2022)
5. Smriti Mishra (IAS Rank 4, 2022)
6. Dr. Mayur Hazarika (IAS Rank 5, 2022)
7. Utkarsh Dwivedi (IAS Rank 5, 2021)
8. Waseem Ahmad Bhat (IAS Rank 7, 2021)
  9. Ishita Rathi (IAS Rank 8, 2021)
  10. Preetam Kumar (IAS Rank 9, 2021)

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### ForumIAS Academy Students have scored among the highest marks secured in General Studies

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1. Pratham Kaushik (IAS Rank 5, 2017) (501 marks)
2. K. Varun Reddy (IAS Rank 7, 2018) (448 marks)
3. Sanjita Mohapatra (IAS Rank 9, 2019) (451 marks)
4. Mamta Yadav (IAS Rank 5, 2020) (418 marks)
5. Shruti Sharma (IAS Rank 1, 2021) (494 marks)
6. Garima Lohia (IAS Rank 2, 2022) (470 marks)

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### 5 Times Rank I in Indian Forest Service

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**IFoS Rank I — Vaibhav Srivastava (2017), M Naveen Reddy (2018), Rishi Kumar (2019), Shruti (2021), Kolluru Venkata Srikanth (2022)**

## What is Essay Paper in UPSC CSE?

It is the first paper in the UPSC CSE Mains exam schedule having weightage of **250 marks**. The candidates are expected to write **2 essays** choosing one topic from each **section A and B** in three hours. The syllabus is not clearly defined by UPSC, hence the dynamism of the Essay paper makes it, a challenge for students. UPSC in its notification has given specific guidelines about the essay paper.

*“Candidates may be required to write **essays on multiple topics**. They will be expected to **keep closely to the subject of the essay** to **arrange their ideas in orderly fashion**, and to **write concisely**. Credit will be given for **effective and exact expression**.”*

## Why has the essay paper become a cause of concern in recent times?

The essay paper presents an opportunity to score as high as 170 with an effort much lesser when compared to GS Papers. On analysis of marks of approx. 130 selected aspirants, as many as 28 candidates have scored 135+ marks in essay paper of CSE Mains 2022. Hence, the essay paper in recent years has become the **determinant factor for getting top ranks** in UPSC CSE.

But, essay is also the paper which has shown huge variation in marks for the same student in two consecutive mains. In our experience we have seen students' marks dropping from 140 in 2021 to 75-85 in 2022. This trend has continued in 2023. This **variation of 45-50 marks** along with the **ability to score high right up to 150** with less effort - brings attention to the essay paper.

## What makes the essay paper a challenge for candidates?

Candidates are expected to write two essays of **1000-1200 words** each. This requires **ability to interpret and understand** the topic and **break it down into multiple dimensions and arguments**. Specially in the recent years, UPSC along with objective themes has emphasized on **philosophical and abstract essay topics** - which has become tricky to address. Due to open ended nature of the essay exam, the thought processes of aspirant can deviate from the actual expectation of the examiner, resulting in lesser marks.

There is no holy grail strategy for essay and hence there could be numerable ways of approaching a single essay topic. The essay requires content and being able to present in a coherent structure and at the same time correlating it with different aspects of the syllabus and current affairs while not making it a GS answer.

**This makes practice writing an essay very important.**

## How can EGP 2024 program help the student?

We believe that aspects where the program will assist the student i.e., **a)** better understanding of the complexities and core demand of the topic, **b)** build reusable content and expand your available knowledge base, and **c)** practice and evaluate your essay writing skills.

The program through its tests solutions and discussions will help you in generating ideas and examples for effectively utilizing the same in the essay paper.

The different workshops will help you with a know-how of approaching and brainstorming an essay topic, with emphasis on philosophical topics. We don't expect the student to drastically change their style of writing but **aim to guide them to enhance their essay writing technique** to fetch 140+ marks.

With our guidance, the UPSC CSE toppers have been able to fetch high scores (175 and in recent years 145+) and improve from low scores in earlier attempts.

## What are the features of the program?

**Workshops:** Multiple **interactive workshops** will be conducted to equip you with various strategies and techniques for essay writing. These workshops will assist you in brainstorming, understanding essay requirements, and organizing your content effectively. It will also show how to structure your essay to meet exam expectations.

**Thematic Classes:** The content classes will cover both objective (GS themes) and philosophical themes to give the student **adequate content to write a good essay**. The objective is to not burden students with excessive content but train them to use the available content in their essays.

**Essay Tests:** The Test Series will have **4 Sectional Tests (HLT) and 4 Full-Length Tests (FLT)** of which **two FLTs will be in self-assessment mode**. With every test, there will be a live interactive discussion allowing you to understand different arguments and how to reach them.

**Sectional Half Length Tests:** There will be 4 sectional Half Length Tests with every thematic class. You will be expected to write **one essay in 1.5 hours**. The half-length tests are conducted to ensure that **a) your learning is incremental, b) you are writing one essay in a focused mode, c) you have ample time to implement feedback**.

**Self-Assessment Tests:** Two FLTs will be for self-assessment which will allow you to practice essays and apply learnings, strategies and techniques from the sectional tests on different aspects of essay writing. It will also assist you to brainstorm and understand the requirements of the essay. It will give you a know-how of how to segregate your content in a structure that meets the expectations of the exam. **Answer approach or discussion video for the same will not be provided**, though you are encouraged to discuss these answer scripts with your designated mentor.

**Full Length Tests:** This simulates the UPSC CSE mains essay paper with **choice of 4 topics in each Section A and B**. The objective is to help student understand how to choose the topics and write two topics of varied content in three hours. The Full-Length Tests will have a **discussion class** to help students get perspective about different topics. An **answer skeleton** will be provided to help orient students towards developing thought process required for the essay.

**Essay Orientation Session:** Two sessions based on workshop format will be conducted before the start of the test series with objective to teach the students the **art and science of writing essays**. The aim is to help students understand the structuring of the essay with respect to introduction, body and conclusion and other nuances. This will ensure that you can finetune the overall approach to structuring and writing essay before you attempt the very first test. It will give you a know-how of how to segregate your content in a structure that meets the expectations of the exam.

**Test Copy Evaluation:** The essay evaluation unlike GS evaluation is not done on set parameters. Instead the focus is on multi-dimensional analysis, and trying to appreciate different viewpoints on the topic. An experienced team of evaluators will provide **comprehensive, objective and timely evaluation** of Sectional test and Full-length test copy within 5 days from the date of submission.

**Mentorship Support:** A team of dedicated mentors will provide **individual mentorship** based on the essay test, both in offline and online mode. As every student has a different understanding and approach on a topic, a mentor can guide the student to highlight shortcomings and bridge the gap of their understanding and the expectation.

**Material and Resources:** The handouts (answer skeleton) on essay topics will be provided with every test and will consist of adequate **content in usable format** with value addition points like examples, anecdotal references and quotes.

# FEE STRUCTURE

Course	Total Fees
<b>Essay Guidance Program 2024 (Batch - 2)</b> 4 Sectional Test + 4 Full Length Test	₹ 11,800/-
<b>Essay Guidance Program+ 2024 (Batch - 2) (with thematic classes)</b> 4 Thematic Classes + 3 workshops + 4 Sectional Test + 4 Full Length Test	₹ 14,800/-

## Fee Concession:

- Students of the GS Foundation program can avail a 50% fee concession.
- Students of the Eklavya, MGP, and GS Advanced Program can avail a 30% fee concession.
- Students enrolled in any ForumIAS Program exclusive of the above-mentioned programs can avail a 10% fee concession.

**Note:** Fee concession can be availed by writing to [admissions@forumias.academy](mailto:admissions@forumias.academy). No other concession will be granted on any other ground.

## HOW TO ENROLL?

Students can enroll in the program by paying the fees through the below mentioned means:

Visit website:

<https://academy.forumias.com>



- Net Banking • Debit Card • Credit Card • UPI
- By Visiting the Offline Center (Credit Card / Debit Card / Cheque / DD)
- By doing a NEFT / Cash Deposit in ICICI account.

Please note that you must retain the payment proof in case of Cash deposit / NEFT and send it to [admissions@forumias.academy](mailto:admissions@forumias.academy) within 48 hours of making the payment for your course to be activated. While sharing screenshot do share your ForumIAS roll no. along with course paid for.

For any query you can call us at

+91 – 9311740400, 9311740900 or write to us at [admissions@forumias.academy](mailto:admissions@forumias.academy)



## TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- Students enrolled in any course of ForumIAS must get a physical ID card for availing services in the offline mode. A nominal fee of Rs. 30 will be payable for the same.
- The program is non-refundable and non-transferable.
- Each program of ForumIAS is linked to ForumIAS Account with a fixed mobile number. No sharing of any programs is allowed. If candidates are found sharing programs, ForumIAS shall be free to terminate that or all program access to the candidate without any refund to the candidate.
- ForumIAS shall have full rights to close admissions as per its capacity. ForumIAS shall be free to amend its schedule in case of any exigencies that may arise.
- You can make the payment online at <https://academy.forumias.com> (recommended) or by writing to us at [admissions@forumias.academy](mailto:admissions@forumias.academy).
- Please create an account on <https://academy.forumias.com> before enrolling either offline or online.
- This program will be valid till Mains 2024.
- All fees once paid are non-refundable in nature. The course is also non-transferable in nature to another person. By subscribing to the course, you agree to the terms and conditions mentioned above.

# Test Plan for the Essay Guidance Program 2024

#	Date   Day   Time	Activity	Code	Theme
1.	6 July 2024   Saturday   5 PM	<b>Workshop</b>	<b>WS#1</b>	Session on how to write an Essay
2.	9 July 2024   Tuesday   5 PM	Class	ESSAY#1	Theme: Gender Issues and Issues of Vulnerable Sections   Intelligence, Knowledge and Wisdom; Leadership and Power
3.	13 July 2024   Saturday   9:30 AM	Test	721201	<b>Sectional Test 1</b>
4.	13 July 2024   Saturday   5 PM	Class	ESSAY#2	<b>Test Discussion</b>
5.	16 July 2024   Tuesday   9.30 AM	Class	ESSAY#3	Theme: Government and governance   Perception and awareness, rationality, and reality
6.	18 July 2024   Thursday   5 PM	<b>Workshop</b>	<b>WS#2</b>	Essay Writing Session – Approaching the topic, methods of brainstorming, dimensions and arguments
7.	20 July 2024   Saturday   9:30 AM	Test	721202	<b>Sectional Test 2</b>
8.	20 July 24   Saturday   5 PM	Class	ESSAY#4	<b>Test Discussion</b>
9.	23 July 2024   Tuesday   5 PM	Class	ESSAY#5	Theme: Social justice: inclusive growth, poverty, health, and education   Human life, Humanity, and compassion
10.	27 July 2024   Saturday   9:30 AM	Test	721203	<b>Sectional Test 3</b>
11.	27 July 2024   Saturday   5 PM	Class	ESSAY#6	<b>Test Discussion</b>
12.	30 July 2024   Tuesday   5 PM	Class	ESSAY#7	Theme: Climate Change and breakthroughs in science; International Relations   Values and Morality, Concept of Justice, and Peace
13.	3 August 2024   Saturday   9:30 AM	Test	721204	<b>Sectional Test 4</b>
14.	3 August 2024   Saturday   5 PM	Class	ESSAY#8	<b>Test Discussion</b>
15.	6 August 2024   Tuesday   5 PM	<b>Workshop</b>	<b>WS#3</b>	Understanding Different Types Philosophical Topics
16.	10 August 2024   Tuesday   9.30 AM	Test	721205	Full Length Test 1 (Self-Assessment)
17.	17 August 2024   Saturday   9.30 AM	Test	721310	<b>Full Length Test 2</b>
18.	17 August 2024   Saturday   5 PM	Class	ESSAY#9	<b>Full Length Test 2 Discussion</b>
19.	20 August 2024   Tuesday   9.30 AM	Test	721311	Full Length Test 3 (Self- Assessment)
20.	24 August 2024   Saturday   9.30 AM	Test	721312	<b>Full Length Test 4</b>
21.	24 August 2024   Saturday   5 PM	Class	ESSAY#10	<b>Full Length Test 4 Discussion</b>