

# SOCIOLOGY OPTIONAL by ForumIAS for MAINS 2026

## OPTIONAL ANSWER WRITING FOCUS GROUP (O-AWFG)

- ◆ Total: **36 Tests**
- ◆ 2-3 Tests Every Week
- ◆ Each Test Consist of 7-10 Questions
- ◆ Evaluation: All Questions
- ◆ Test Discussion With Model Answers
- ◆ One to One Mentorship
- ◆ **An Ideal Student for Course:**
  - Wants to Strengthen Basics
  - Need Discipline to Follow a Structured Plan
  - Willing to Discuss Topics on Micro level with a Mentor

**STARTS** **06** **OCT.**  
**2025**

**COHORT - 7**

## SOCIOLOGY AUGMENTED TEST SERIES (ATS)

- ◆ Total: **10 Tests**
- ◆ 6 Sectional Test (**3 each in Paper I and II**)
- ◆ 4 Full Length Tests
- ◆ Test Discussion With Model Answers
- ◆ Evaluation: All Questions
- ◆ One to One Mentorship
- ◆ **An Ideal Student for Course:**
  - At least Finished Syllabus Reading Once
  - Failed to Attain a total Score of 280 Marks or above across Paper I & II

**STARTS** **12** **OCT.**  
**2025**

| STUDENT WHO WANTS TO PREPARE HOLISTICALLY BRICK BY BRICK CAN ENROLL IN BOTH ATS AND OAWFG |

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## Sociology Optional by ForumIAS for Mains 2026

### **ForumIAS Sociology Optional Answer Writing Focus Group (O-AWFG)**

36 Answer Writing Tests

**Starts – 06<sup>th</sup> Oct, 2025** (calendar in Annexure II)

### **About Optional Answer Writing Focus Group (O-AWFG)**

Optional Answer Writing Focus Group is an answer writing program for Optional Subjects. It will comprise of **2 – 3 answer writing tests in a week**. Each test consists of 7-10 questions. Comprehensive Evaluation for Every Question.

**The O-AWFG seeks to precisely solve four problems for the students:**

- a regular committed time for preparation of Optional for UPSC Mains 2026.
- to provide for incremental study plan on a day - day basis.
- to cover important and relevant PYQs as there has been trend from UPSC to repeat questions in optional.
- to solve the hurdle of answer writing practice for optional.

**Mentorship:** You will be made available dedicated mentor whom you can meet throughout the program to understand feedback as well as help with anything related to your optional. The mentorship is available seamlessly in both online as well as offline mode. Discuss your paper with the mentor to get insights on requisite presentation and content improvement. Tailor-made strategic grooming of each candidate.

*\*The ForumIAS OAWFG and ATS can be clubbed together to get the most optimal and to the point preparation for your UPSC Mains Optional 2026.*

### **ForumIAS Sociology Augmented Test Series (ATS)**

6 Sectional Tests (3 each on Paper 1 and 2) + 4 Full Length Tests

**Starts – 12<sup>th</sup> Oct, 2025** (calendar in Annexure I)

### **About Augmented Test Series (ATS)**

Optional Answer Writing Focus Group is an answer writing program for Optional Subjects. It will comprise of **2 – 3 answer writing tests in a week**. Each test consists of 5 questions. Comprehensive Evaluation for Every Question.

**The ATS seeks to ensure:**

- The students are writing in the pattern and difficulty which simulates the examination papers.
- will have a thorough evaluation and feedback on answers written by them.
- will be provided detailed solutions and test discussion which will add value to their answers.

| Course                | Fees (for both Online & Offline)      |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Sociology ATS         | Rs. 12,980/- (inclusive of all taxes) |
| Sociology OAWFG       | Rs. 12,980/- (inclusive of all taxes) |
| Sociology ATS + OAWFG | Rs. 22,420/- (inclusive of all taxes) |



### Concessions:

The program is available at a concession of **Rs. 2,500/- for optional foundation students and GS foundation students.**

The program is available at a concession of **Rs. 1,500/- for ForumIAS MGP and Current Affairs students.** The program

is available at a concession of **Rs. 1,000/- for ForumIAS students from courses other than mentioned above.**

### Fee Payment & Enrollment

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

- By visiting the website: <https://academy.forumias.com> and making payment through Net Banking / Debit / Credit Card / UPI etc.
- By doing a NEFT / Cash Deposit in HDFC bank Accounts. For this Option, please email us at [admissions@forumias.academy](mailto:admissions@forumias.academy)
- By Visiting the Offline Guidance Center\* and making payment through Credit Card / Debit Card / Cheque / DD

For any query you can call us at +91 – 93117 40900 | + 91 – 93117 40400 or write to us at

[admissions@forumias.academy](mailto:admissions@forumias.academy).

### Terms & Condition

- 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.
- Your test copies will be evaluated within 10 working days of copy submission.
- Copies must be submitted within three weeks of the test release for timely evaluation. We recommend that you stick to the timetable and write tests on designated days. The commitment of 10 working days evaluation is valid only for copies submitted in this time period.
- All fees once paid are non-refundable in nature. The course is also non-transferable in nature to another person.
- The course will be valid till **30 September, 2026**.
- 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. The company may initiate legal proceedings against candidates found sharing and selling such content.
- 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.
- **Force Majeure:** Flaviant Network Pvt Ltd ("FNPL") will deliver this program on best effort and good faith basis. By subscribing to the program, you understand that in the case of a force majeure event, such as natural disaster, calamity, outbreak of a pandemic, accident, bodily harm, sickness to any persons directly involved in delivery of the program FNPL reserves right to modify, change or discontinue the program and shall not be liable for any financial obligations arising out of it. All disputes will be subject to jurisdiction of Delhi High Court.

Annexure – I (ATS Calendar)

| S. No.         | DAY and DATE   Test Code               | TOPICS                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|----------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>PAPER 1</b> |                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 1              | 12 October, 2025   Sunday<br>(932201)  | <b>SECTIONAL TEST 1 - Units 1-3 (Sociology- The Discipline, Sociology as Science and Research Methods and Analysis)</b>                                                                                                    |
| 2              | 19 October, 2025   Sunday<br>(932202)  | <b>SECTIONAL TEST 2 - Units 4 &amp; 5 ( Sociological Thinkers , Stratification &amp; Mobility)</b>                                                                                                                         |
| 3              | 26 October, 2025   Sunday<br>(932203)  | <b>SECTIONAL TEST 3 - Units 6 to 10 (Work, Politics, Religion, Kinship, and Social Change)</b>                                                                                                                             |
| 4              | 02 November, 2025   Sunday<br>(932204) | <b>FULL LENGTH TEST 1 (PAPER 1)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>PAPER 2</b> |                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 5              | 09 November, 2025   Sunday<br>(932205) | <b>SECTIONAL TEST 4 - Part A (full ) + Part B (Rural and Agrarian Social Structure:, Caste System and Tribal Communities in India)</b>                                                                                     |
| 6              | 16 November, 2025   Sunday<br>(932206) | <b>SECTIONAL TEST 5 - Part B ( Social Classes in India, System of kinship in India, Religion and Society) + Part C ( Visions of Social Change, Rural and Agrarian transformation , Industrialisation and Urbanisation)</b> |
| 7              | 23 November, 2025   Sunday<br>(932207) | <b>SECTIONAL TEST 6 (UNIT 7-9) - Part C: Politics and Society , Social Movements, Population Dynamics, and Challenges of Social Transformation</b>                                                                         |
| 8              | 30 November, 2025   Sunday<br>(932208) | <b>FULL LENGTH TEST 2 (PAPER 2)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 9              | Post Prelims                           | <b>FULL LENGTH TEST 1 (PAPER 1)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 10             | Post Prelims                           | <b>FULL LENGTH TEST 2 (PAPER 2)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                        |

### Annexure – II (O-AWFG Calendar)

**ATS tests are denoted in coloured columns for students' opting for ATS + OAWFG**

| S. No.           | DATE   DAY                    | TEST TYPE   Code                 | TOPICS                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>PAPER - I</b> |                               |                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 1                | 06 October, 2025   Monday     | DAWT (981201)                    | Sociology - The Discipline: Modernity and social changes in Europe, emergence of Sociology, Sociology and common sense.                                                                                        |
| 2                | 08 October, 2025   Wednesday  | DAWT (981202)                    | Sociology - The Discipline: Scope of the subject and comparison with other social sciences. Sociology as Science: Science, scientific method, and critique.                                                    |
| 3                | 12 October, 2025   Sunday     | DAWT (981203)                    | Positivism and its critique. Major theoretical strands of research methodology.                                                                                                                                |
| 4                | 13 October, 2025   Monday     | DAWT (981204)                    | Non-positivist methodologies. Fact, value, and objectivity.                                                                                                                                                    |
| 5                | 17 October, 2025   Friday     | DAWT (981205)                    | Research Methods: Qualitative and quantitative methods, Techniques of data collection, Variables, sampling, hypothesis, reliability, and validity.                                                             |
| 6                | 18 October, 2025   Saturday   | DAWT (981206)                    | Sociological Thinkers: Karl Marx - Historical materialism, mode of production, alienation, class struggle.                                                                                                     |
|                  | 20 October, 2025   Monday     | <b>SECTIONAL TEST 1 (932201)</b> | <b>Units 1-3 (Sociology- The Discipline, Sociology as Science and Research Methods and Analysis)</b>                                                                                                           |
| 7                | 23 October, 2025   Thursday   | DAWT (981207)                    | Sociological Thinkers: Emile Durkheim - Division of labor, social fact, suicide, religion and society.                                                                                                         |
| 8                | 24 October, 2025   Friday     | DAWT (981208)                    | Sociological Thinkers: Max Weber - Social action, ideal types, authority, bureaucracy, protestant ethic and the spirit of capitalism.                                                                          |
| 9                | 25 October, 2025   Saturday   | DAWT (981209)                    | Sociological Thinkers: Talcott Parsons - Social system, pattern variables.                                                                                                                                     |
| 10               | 30 October, 2025   Thursday   | DAWT (981210)                    | Sociological Thinkers: Robert K. Merton - Latent and manifest functions, conformity and deviance, reference groups. Mead - Self and identity.                                                                  |
| 11               | 1 November, 2025   Saturday   | DAWT (981211)                    | Stratification and Mobility: Concepts - equality, inequality, hierarchy, exclusion, poverty, deprivation. Social mobility - open and closed systems, types, sources, causes.                                   |
| 12               | 4 November, 2025   Tuesday    | DAWT (981212)                    | Stratification and Mobility: Theories of social stratification (structural functionalism, Marxism, Weberian theory). Dimensions - Social stratification of class, status groups, gender, ethnicity, and race.  |
|                  | 8 November, 2025   Saturday   | <b>SECTIONAL TEST 2 (932202)</b> | <b>Units 4 &amp; 5 ( Sociological Thinkers , Stratification &amp; Mobility)</b>                                                                                                                                |
| 13               | 12 November, 2025   Wednesday | DAWT (981213)                    | Work and Economic Life: Social organization of work - slave society, feudal society, industrial capitalist society, Formal and informal organization of work. Labour and society.                              |
| 14               | 14 November, 2025   Thursday  | DAWT (981214)                    | Politics and Society: Theories of power, Power elite, bureaucracy, pressure groups, political parties.                                                                                                         |
| 15               | 17 November, 2025   Monday    | DAWT (981215)                    | Politics and Society: Nation, state, citizenship, democracy, civil society, ideology. Protest, agitation, social movements, collective action, revolution.                                                     |
| 16               | 20 November, 2025   Thursday  | DAWT (981216)                    | Religion and Society: Sociological theories of religion, animism, monism, pluralism, sects, cults, secularization, fundamentalism, religion and science, secularisation, religious revivalism, fundamentalism. |

|                   |                               |                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 17                | 22 November, 2025   Saturday  | DAWT (981217)                    | Systems of Kinship: Family, household, marriage, types and forms of family, patriarchy, sexual division of labor. Lineage and descent, Contemporary trends.                                             |
| 18                | 24 November, 2025   Monday    | DAWT (981218)                    | Social Change in Modern Society: Sociological theories of social change, Development and dependency, Agents of social change, education and social change. Science, technology, and social change.      |
|                   | 26 November, 2025   Wednesday | <b>SECTIONAL TEST 3 (932203)</b> | <b>Units 6 to 10 (Work, Politics, Religion, Kinship, and Social Change)</b>                                                                                                                             |
| <b>PAPER - II</b> |                               |                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 19                | 30 November, 2025   Sunday    | DAWT (981219)                    | Perspectives on Indian Society: Indology (G.S. Ghure), Structural functionalism (M.N. Srinivas), Marxist sociology (A.R. Desai).                                                                        |
| 20                | 1 December, 2025   Monday     | DAWT (981220)                    | Perspectives on Indian Society: Marxist sociology (A.R. Desai), D.P. Mukherji, R.K. Mukherji, Subaltern perspective                                                                                     |
| 21                | 5 December, 2025   Friday     | DAWT (981221)                    | Impact of Colonial Rule: Social background of Indian nationalism, modernization of Indian tradition, Protests, movements during the colonial period, social reforms.                                    |
| 22                | 7 December, 2025   Sunday     | DAWT (981222)                    | Rural and Agrarian Social Structure: Indian village and village studies, agrarian social structure, land tenure system, land reforms.                                                                   |
| 23                | 11 December, 2025   Thursday  | DAWT (981223)                    | Caste System: Perspectives on the caste system (Ghurye, Srinivas, Dumont, Beteille), Features of caste, untouchability.                                                                                 |
| 24                | 13 December, 2025   Saturday  | DAWT (981224)                    | Tribal Communities: Definitional problems, geographical spread, colonial policies, integration, and autonomy.                                                                                           |
|                   | 17 December, 2025   Wednesday | <b>SECTIONAL TEST 4 (932205)</b> | <b>Part A (full) + Part B (Rural and Agrarian Social Structure; Caste System and Tribal Communities in India)</b>                                                                                       |
| 25                | 21 December, 2025   Sunday    | DAWT (981225)                    | Social Classes in India: Agrarian class structure, Industrial class structure, Middle classes.                                                                                                          |
| 26                | 23 December, 2025   Tuesday   | DAWT (981226)                    | Kinship in India: Lineage and descent, types of kinship systems, family, and marriage, Household dimensions of the family, Patriarchy, entitlements and sexual division of labour.                      |
| 27                | 24 December, 2025   Wednesday | DAWT (981227)                    | Religion in India: Religious communities, problems of religious minorities.                                                                                                                             |
| 28                | 30 December, 2025   Tuesday   | DAWT (981228)                    | Visions of Social Change: Development planning and mixed economy, Constitution, law, education and social change.                                                                                       |
| 29                | 08 January, 2026   Thursday   | DAWT (981229)                    | Rural and Agrarian Transformation: Rural development programs, Green revolution, Changing modes of production, Migration, and rural labor issues.                                                       |
| 30                | 13 January, 2026   Tuesday    | DAWT (981230)                    | Industrialization and Urbanization: Evolution of industry, Growth of urban settlements in India, working class, informal sector, child labor, slums.                                                    |
|                   | 17 January, 2026   Saturday   | <b>SECTIONAL TEST 5 (932206)</b> | <b>Part B ( Social Classes in India, System of kinship in India, Religion and Society) + Part C ( Visions of Social Change, Rural and Agrarian transformation , Industrialisation and Urbanisation)</b> |
| 31                | 19 January, 2026   Monday     | DAWT (981231)                    | Politics and Society: Nation, democracy, citizenship, political parties, pressure groups, elites, regionalism, secularization.                                                                          |
| 32                | 22 January, 2026   Thursday   | DAWT (981232)                    | Social Movements: Peasants, women's movement, Backward classes, Dalit movements, environmental movements, identity movements.                                                                           |
| 33                | 25 January, 2026   Sunday     | DAWT (981233)                    | Population Dynamics: Size, growth, composition, birth, death, migration, sex ratio, infant mortality, reproductive health, Population Policy and family planning                                        |
| 34                | 28 January, 2026   Wednesday  | DAWT (981234)                    | Challenges of Social Transformation: Crisis of development, displacement, environmental problems, sustainability, Violence against women                                                                |

|    |                             |                                  |                                                                                                                     |
|----|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 35 | 30 January, 2026   Friday   | DAWT (981235)                    | Challenges of Social Transformation: Poverty, deprivation, inequality, violence against women.                      |
| 36 | 31 January, 2026   Saturday | DAWT (981236)                    | Challenges of Social Transformation: Caste conflicts, ethnic conflicts, Illiteracy and disparities in education     |
|    | 2 Feb, 2026   Monday        | <b>SECTIONAL TEST 6 (932207)</b> | <b>Part C: Politics and Society, Social Movements, Population Dynamics, and Challenges of Social Transformation</b> |
|    | 5 Feb, 2026   Friday        | <b>SECTIONAL TEST 6 (932204)</b> | <b>FULL LENGTH TEST PAPER 1</b>                                                                                     |
|    | 8 Feb, 2026   Sunday        | <b>SECTIONAL TEST 6 (932208)</b> | <b>FULL LENGTH TEST PAPER 2</b>                                                                                     |
|    | <b>Post Prelims</b>         |                                  | <b>FULL LENGTH TEST PAPER 1</b>                                                                                     |
|    |                             |                                  | <b>FULL LENGTH TEST PAPER 2</b>                                                                                     |