

Dos and Don'ts for the General Science & Ability Paper

Hi there — you've prepared well!

DATE / /

Remember, knowing the content is one thing but presenting it in the paper exactly as required is another. Here are a few key points to keep in mind:

1. For a 5-mark part, aim to write at least 2 and at most 3 sides of the answer sheet.

Address all parts. A question has two or three parts, and the marks are divided accordingly — so address each part fairly.

Cell is the structural and functional unit of living organisms.

A cell consists of various organelles that work in coordination to perform important cellular activities.

Following are some of the components of cell which are necessary for its functions.

Cell wall :- It is present only in plants, or some bacterial cells, but absent in animal cells. It helps in protection of cell and give shape.

Cell Membrane :- Cell membrane is the outer layer of cell which helps in protection and also acts as permeable, semi-permeable or non-permeable membrane to various components, ions or elements.

Nucleus :- Nucleus is present in cell which consists of genetic material i.e. chromosomes of cell.

Endoplasmic Reticulum :- Smooth endoplasmic reticulum is necessary for lipid

5. Mind your spelling and grammar — while GSA doesn't deduct marks for these, your expression leaves an impression.

6. In the ability portion, explain analytical ability questions in words. For a 5-mark part, show all steps and provide clear explanations.

Good luck for CSS 2026 — you're going to ace it, in sha Allah! 🌟

Scanned with CS CamScanner

DATE: / /

synthesis. They are also involved in detoxification of toxins, carbohydrate metabolism, and storage and release of calcium ions.

Rough endoplasmic reticulum is mainly involved in protein synthesis.

Golgi complex:- It is the organelle that helps in packaging and transfer of cellular components.

Mitochondria:- Mitochondria is involved in generating cell's energy supply in the form of ATP hence named as "powerhouse of cell". They are also involved in apoptosis (programmed cell death), cell growth and differentiation, heat generation and maintaining cell health.

Vesicles:- Vesicles consist of cellular fluid and it is involved in excretion of waste material from cell.

Cytoplasm:- It is a gel like fluid in the cell which gives place to rest of the organelles and is a site for various cellular reactions.

Vacuole:- It is a fluid filled body that stores water, nutrients, and waste products. They are also important for waste disposal, detoxification and defense against pathogens.

Chloroplast :- This organelle is absent in animals but present in plants and autotrophic bacteria i.e. cyanobacteria. It is the site where photosynthesis takes place.

Difference Between Prokaryotic and Eukaryotic Cells :-

Prokaryotic Cell :-

A prokaryotic cell is a simple, single celled organism that lacks a true nucleus and other membrane bound organelles. Its genetic material is mostly circular called plasmid and movement is mostly done with the help of cilia or flagella.

e.g. Bacteria, Cyanobacteria, Archaea
Escherichia coli
Bacillus anthracis

Eukaryotic Cell :-

Eukaryotic cells are complex cells characterized by the presence of true, membrane bound nucleus that contains genetic material. It also consist of membrane bound organelles like mitochondria and chloroplasts. The genetic material can be linear, circular etc. For movement, most of them have proper well developed structures.

e.g. Yeast cells
Human cells.

Add in the form of points, not paragraphs

Cells' Response to External Stimuli:-

Cells respond only to threshold stimuli. When there is a threshold stimulus, the receptor proteins on the surface of cell membrane respond by setting on the transduction pathway. This pathway converts the external signal into an internal cellular message such as activation of second messenger or intracellular proteins. This signalling leads to specific cellular responses such as changes in gene expression, enzyme production, or cell movement altering the cell's behavior.

Maintenance of Homeostasis:-

Cells maintain homeostasis by controlling their internal environment. The cell membranes are selectively permeable to various ions, molecules etc which maintain the internal environment of cell. Additionally, cells have glands i.e. sweat glands which regulate the water and nutrients contents. Skin itself and kidney are a major organs for maintaining homeostasis that work by filtering the nutrients and water molecules, retaining essential salts and nutrients and excreting

DATE: / /

unnecessary by products. Cell signalling and communication initiates signalling cascades that regulate cellular activities and contribute to overall tissue and organ homeostasis. Cells are also involved in apoptosis which can also regulate homeostasis.

(b)

⇒ Working of Mobile Phones:

Mobile phones work like two way radios, converting voice into digital signals that are transmitted as radio waves to a nearby cell tower. This signal then travels through the cellular network, which uses a system of cell towers and fiber optics, to reach a tower nearby recipient. The recipient's tower then sends the signal to their phones, which converts it back into sound or data for them to receive. Following is the step by step breakdown:-

1. Signal Creation:-

Phone's microphones convert voice into digital electrical signals. These signals are then packaged into electromagnetic waves by an antenna.

2. Transmission to Cell Tower:-

The phone sends these

radiowaves to the closest cell tower.

3. Network Routing:-

The cell tower, acting as a relay station, sends the signal through the cellular network.

4. Wired Connection:-

The signal travels via fiber optic cables to a base transceiver box at the nearest cell tower to the destination.

5. Destination Cell Tower:-

The destination tower receives the signal and converts the light pulses back into radio waves.

6. Recipient's Phone:-

The signal is transmitted to the recipient's phone, which converts the digital signal back into sound waves so they can hear the voice.

⇒ Key Technologies Enabling Mobile Communication:-

Key technologies enabling mobile communication include cellular networks, which divide geographic areas into cells for signal reuse, and seamless handover, and wireless communication protocols like 4G LTE and 5G NR, which provide high speed data and low latency connections.

DATE: ___/___/___

Cellular Networks :-

Cellular Structure :-

The land is divided into small cells, each with a radio base station. This structure allows for frequency reuse in different cells, significantly increasing network capacity.

Handover :-

As a user moves between cells, their device seamlessly connects to the next base station, ensuring uninterrupted communication.

Wireless Communication Protocols :-

4G LTE

A widespread standard for high speed data transfer and improved connectivity.

4G (New Radio)

The latest generation, offering enhanced mobile broadband, ultra low latency, greater device connectivity, and higher reliability.

Advanced Network Technologies :-

MIMO

Multiple Input Multiple Output

Uses multiple antennas to send and receive signals, increasing data capacity and improve signal quality.

Beamforming

A technique that directs wireless

signals towards specific devices, improving efficiency and reducing interference.

Small cells

Denser deployment of smaller base stations to enhance capacity and coverage, especially in congested areas.

mmWave

Utilizes higher frequency bands to achieve much greater bandwidth, enabling faster data rates.

⇒ Advantages of Mobile Phone Use :-

Following are some of the advantages of mobile phone use

- i) Enhanced communication
- ii) Entertainment access
- iii) Productivity tools
- iv) Information and education
- v) Convenient navigation
- vi) Emergency assistance
- vii) Financial convenience.

⇒ Disadvantages of Mobile Phone Use:-

- i) Physical ailments
- ii) Sleep disruption
- iii) Radiation exposure
- iv) Cyberbullying
- v) Privacy and security risks
- vi) Social isolation
- vii) Reduced attention span
- viii) Environmental impact

DATE: ___/___/___

⇒ Impacts of Mobile Phone Usage on Social Interactions and Mental Health:-

Social Isolation

Depression and anxiety

Overuse of phones, particularly social media, is linked to increased feelings of envy, social isolation, depression and anxiety.

Despite connecting people, virtually, excessive use can decrease face to face interactions, weaken real world relationships and contribute to a sense of disconnect.

⇒ Mobile Phones and Their Role in

a) Communication:-

Instant and Global Communication:-

People can now communicate with anyone, anywhere at anytime breaking down geographical barriers and fostering real time interactions across continents.

Versatile Channels:-

Communication is no longer limited to voice calls. Mobile phones offer a wide range of platforms, including text messages, video calls, and social media catering to diverse communication needs.

Personal and Accessible :-

Mobile phone serve as a personal communication device, making communication more direct and accessible to individuals, which has helped bridge the digital divide in many developing countries.

Social and Political Impact :-

Mobile phones have become tools for social and political tools, enabling the organization of social movements, raising awareness, and advocating for change.

b) Access to Information :-

On-Demand Information :-

Mobile phones provide instant access to a vast array of information, from news and educational content to entertainment and practical information, whenever and wherever it is needed.

Personalized Information Consumption

User can customize their information intake through news apps, social media, and streaming services, shifting away from one size fits all approach to information.

Educational & Financial Inclusion

Mobile platforms have opened up new avenues for education and financial services, such as mobile

DATE: ___/___/___

money platforms, bringing essential services to underserved populations.

Contextualized knowledge

With the ability to search and access information on the go, mobile phones allow for more contextualized learning and decision making, whether for travel, work or daily life.

(C) Layers of Earth:-

The earth is structured by its chemical layers and mechanical layers.

a) Chemical layers:-

Crust:- The outermost, thin, rocky layer where life exists.

Mantle:- A thick-dense, semi solid layer of rock beneath the crust that behaves like a very slow fluid due to intense heat.

Outer Core:- liquid layer of molten metal, primarily iron and nickel, surrounding the inner core.

Inner Core:- Extremely hot, solid, dense ball of iron and nickel at the Earth's centre.

b) Mechanical layers:-

These layers are defined by

DATE: / /

their physical strength and elasticity.
Lithosphere:- Rigid, outermost layer, which includes the crust and the uppermost part of the mantle.

Asthenosphere:- The semi solid, weaker layer beneath the lithosphere, upon which tectonic plates rest.

Mesosphere (Lower Mantle):- The stronger, deeper part of the mantle beneath the asthenosphere.

Outer Core:- A molten liquid layer.

Inner Core:- A solid dense layer.

How the Layers Interact:-

a) Tectonic Activity:-

The convection currents in the mantle's asthenosphere cause the rigid lithospheric plates to move, leading to processes like earthquakes, and Volcanic activity.

b) Magnetic Field:-

The swirling molten metal in the outer core generates Earth's magnetic field, which protects the planet from harmful solar radiations.

c) Heat Transfer:-

Heat from the Earth's inner core is transferred outward through the mantle to the crust, a process that drives the convection responsible for plate tectonics.

DATE: ___/___/___

⇒ Process of Water Cycle :-

i) Evaporation :-

Solar energy heats water from oceans, lakes and rivers, turning it into water vapor, which rises into the atmosphere.

ii) Transpiration :-

Plants and trees release water vapour from their leaves into the atmosphere.

iii) Condensation :-

Water vapour in the atmosphere cools and turns back into liquid water, forming clouds.

iv) Precipitation :-

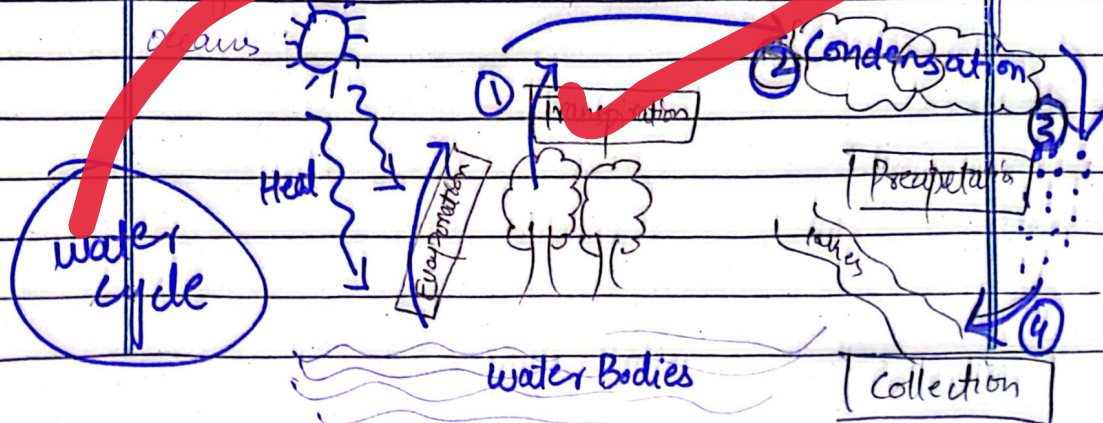
When clouds become too full, water falls back to Earth as rain, snow, sleet or hail.

v) Infiltration :-

Precipitation seeps into the ground becoming groundwater.

vi) Runoff :-

Water flows over the land's surface, into rivers, lakes and eventually oceans.



How water cycle supports life:-

i) Provision of Freshwater:-

Water cycle is primary way freshwater is renewed, making it available for drinking, agriculture, support ecosystems.

ii) Temperature Regulation:-

Helps regulate temperature by absorbing and releasing heat energy

iii) Supports Plant Growth

Plants need water for photosynthesis and nutrient uptake, and the water cycle ensures a continuous supply of agricultural and natural vegetation.

⇒ Other ways by which water cycle support life are

Transporting nutrients

Maintaining ecosystems

Connecting global systems.

Impact of Human Activities on Earth's Ecosystem and Natural Resources:-

Human activities impact the ecosystems and natural resources in following ways

i) Pollution

ii) Deforestation and habitat loss

iii) Resource depletion

iv) Climate change

v) Biodiversity loss

DATE: / /

- vi) land degradation
- vii) Introduction to Invasive species
- viii) Ecosystem disruption

Consequences for the Environment and Society:-

- i) Environmental Degradation
- ii) Harm to human health
- iii) Resource scarcity and Conflict
- iv) Mass extinction.

SECTION - II

Q#5

a) let,

3 consecutive prime numbers are
 $x+3, x+5, x+7$

So, $x+3+x+5+x+7 = 187$

$$3x + 15 = 187$$

$$x = \frac{187 - 15}{3} = \frac{172}{3}$$

$$x = 57.\overline{33}$$

$$\Rightarrow x+3 = 57.\overline{33} + 3 = 60.\overline{33}$$

$$\Rightarrow x+5 = 57.\overline{33} + 5 = 62.\overline{33}$$

$$\Rightarrow x+7 = 57.\overline{33} + 7 = 64.\overline{33}$$

Hence the consecutive numbers are

$60.\overline{33}, 62.\overline{33}, 64.\overline{33}$

DATE: ___/___/___

(b)

let the positive number be x
reciprocal of the number = $\frac{1}{x}$
 $x+17 = 60\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \rightarrow \textcircled{1}$

$$x(x+17) = 60$$

$$x^2 + 17x - 60 = 0$$

$$x^2 + 12x + 5x - 60 = 0$$

$$x^2 + 12x - 3x - 60 = 0$$

$$x(x+12) - 3(x+20) = 0$$

$$(x-3)(x+20) = 0$$

$$x = 3$$

$$x = -20$$

Hence the positive number is 3