



National Officers Academy

Mock Exams CSS-2026

August 2025 (Mock-3)

ENGLISH (PRECIS AND COMPOSITION)

TIME ALLOWED: THREE HOURS	PART-I (MCQS)	MAXIMUM MARKS = 20
PART-I(MCQS): MAXIMUM 30 MINUTES	PART-II	MAXIMUM MARKS = 80
NOTE:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Part-II is to be attempted on the separate Answer Book.ii. Attempt ALL questions from PART-II.iii. All the parts (if any) of each Question must be attempted at one place instead of at different places.iv. Write Q. No. in the Answer Book in accordance with Q. No. in the Q. Paper.		

PART-II

Q. 2 Make a précis of the following passage and suggest a suitable title. (15+5=20)

The civil service in Pakistan has long been regarded as one of the most prestigious career paths, coveted by many. Over time, however, the perception of this profession has evolved. What was once seen purely as a public service role has increasingly become a curious mix of necessity, obsession, and a ladder to social status — and now, thanks to social media, sometimes a stage for personal branding.

For many, the dream is rooted in practical reasons. Government jobs offer stability, respect, and a way out of the uncertainty of the private sector. In a country where secure, well-paying jobs are scarce, the civil service promises a predictable income, influence, and access to circles of power. It's the kind of career where one's visiting card can open more doors than years of hard work elsewhere.

But for others, this dream has become an obsession. The fierce competition for the CSS exam has created a culture where aspirants treat success not just as a career milestone but as a measure of self-worth. It's an all-or-nothing pursuit, with some sacrificing personal lives, hobbies, and even mental well-being to chase that coveted officer's seat. The narrative is often romanticized, with endless tales of "against all odds" success flooding coaching centers and YouTube channels.

And then comes the modern twist — the bureaucrat as a social media figure. In today's Pakistan, some officers have stepped far beyond files and field visits, embracing Instagram and TikTok as enthusiastically as they once embraced administrative briefings. There is a growing fascination with projecting the "look" of a civil servant — designer handbags beside official files, slow-motion videos walking into meetings, and captions about "serving the nation" paired with soft-focus portraits. One might cynically say they appear to serve better in front of the camera lens than in the dusty corridors of a tehsil office. Of course, they look perfectly at home behind a desk piled high with official documents; it's just that some seem equally at home rehearsing transition reels.

The result is a strange hybrid: part public servant, part lifestyle influencer. While some argue that these social media posts inspire youth, others wonder if the glamour distracts from the less photogenic work of governance — the endless paperwork, the village disputes, the stubborn power outages. But perhaps that's the point. In a country where symbols often matter more than substance, the image of authority might just be as powerful as authority itself. So, get the inspiration youth. Thy time is waiting!

Q. 3 Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. (20)

Is Food the Only Entertainment in Pakistan? When one looks at the cultural landscape of Pakistan, a strange realization dawns: for a country of 241 million people, the only universal source of happiness seems to be – food. We do not have Disneyland, we do not have Broadway, and we most certainly do not have stress-free electricity, but we have Biryani. And that, my friend, solves everything.

Every weekend, the national recreational plan unfolds like clockwork: family meeting, heated debate, and finally the golden decision, "Chalo bhai, kahin khanay chaltay hain." From Lahore's food streets to Karachi's dhaabas, food is the substitute for cinemas, parks, and perhaps even therapy. Rain? Let's go for pakoras. Heatwave? Falooda. Depression? Haleem. The connection between food and entertainment has grown so deep that it is no longer an activity; it is an emotion.

It is not that Pakistanis don't try to explore other forms of entertainment. There are parks, beaches, and historical sites. But all of these are just venues to sit, take selfies, and... eat. Even cricket matches are secretly about snacks. The game itself may be stressful, but the gol gappas outside the stadium? That's the real victory.

Why does this happen? Part of the reason is limited options. Cinemas? Either closed or showing movies nobody wants to watch. Concerts? Cancelled because someone said "family values are at risk." Amusement parks? They exist, but let's be honest – one ride and your back pain will need MRI. So, in the end, food remains the safest, cheapest, and socially acceptable way to gather joy.

Ironically, this obsession with food entertainment has created a society where waistlines expand but horizons do not. Ask a Pakistani about hobbies, and you'll often hear: "Yaar, biryani try ki hai Gulshan wali?" That's it. That's the weekend plan, the life plan, the retirement plan.

So, is food the only entertainment in Pakistan? At this point, yes. Our biggest adventure is trying "extra spicy broast" and our wildest nightlife is a midnight shawarma run. If aliens ever land in Pakistan, we will probably offer them nihari instead of showing them civilization. And honestly, who knows? They might just stay. After all, where else can you get entertainment and indigestion for the same price?

Questions:

- Q1. What humorous examples does the writer give to show how food is linked with different situations in Pakistan?
- Q2. According to the text, why do cricket matches in Pakistan often become more about food than the game itself?
- Q3. What can be inferred about the author's attitude toward Pakistan's amusement parks?
- Q4. The writer says, "Ironically, this obsession with food entertainment has created a society where waistlines expand but horizons do not." What does this mean?
- Q5. If Pakistan had developed entertainment industries like Disneyland or Broadway, how might people's reliance on food for recreation have been different?

Q. 4 Correct any FIVE of the following sentences.

(10)

- i. The government wants to keep the plan to themselves.
- ii. Knowledge of computer sciences is very important nowadays.
- iii. We met for breakfast yesterday.
- iv. They left the hotel in car where they had been staying.
- v. Running down the street, the bag fell from his hand.
- vi. The soldier was given a medal for his courage while his colleges cheered for him.
- vii. At the end of fall comes the hard tests.
- viii. The lawyer tried to site the correct law, but his opponent accused him of making false sites.

Q. 5. A. Punctuate the following passage:

(5)

let us explore the meaning of the quote do unto others as you would have them do unto you said the teacher the student replied does it mean that if i want kindness i must first show kindness the teacher nodded and said exactly it is about treating people the way you wish to be treated the student smiled and added so if i respect others i am more likely to be respected in return yes the teacher concluded that is the golden rule of life

B. Re-write the following sentences (ONLY FIVE) after filling in the blanks with appropriate

Prepositions.

(5)

- i. The professor insisted on our completing the assignment before the deadline despite the university being closed ____ holidays.
- ii. She has been working ____ a solution that lies hidden beneath the surface of the problem.
- iii. Success often depends not merely on effort but also ____ the opportunities presented to us.
- iv. The lawyer argued ____ the proposal while standing in front of the very committee that had voted in favor of it last year.
- v. His reputation rests on principles he never strayed ____, even when under severe pressure.
- vi. The old diary was discovered ____ the ruins, carefully placed between two broken bricks.
- vii. She remained silent throughout the meeting, yet her eyes spoke volumes ____ her disagreement with the decision.
- viii. The cat leapt gracefully ____ the shelf above the fireplace and curled itself around the vase.

Q.6. A. Use only FIVE of the following in your own sentences to bring out their meanings.

(10)

i. A different kettle of fish	v. To go bananas
ii. Donkey's years	vi. To have a chip on one's shoulder
iii. To have other fish to fry	vii. To raise a red flag
iv. Sour grapes	viii. The Midas touch

Q.7. Translate the following into English, keeping in view the idiomatic/figurative expression.

(10)

ہیلین کیلئے اپنی خود نوشت میں ایک انوکھی خواہش کا ذکر کیا کہ اگر مجھے صرف تین دن کے لیے آگھوں کی روشنی مل جائے تو میں اپنی زندگی کو کس طرح گزاروں گی۔ وہ کہتی ہے کہ پہلے دن میں اپنے پیاروں کے چہرے دیکھوں گی تاکہ جان سکوں کہ محبت کی روشنی آگھوں میں کس طرح جھلکتی ہے۔ دوسرا دن وہ نظرت کے جلوے دیکھنے کی خواہش رکھتی ہے، جیسے سورج کی کرنیں، درختوں کی بزیاں، پھولوں کے رنگ اور آسمان کی نیلائیت۔ تیسرا دن وہ دنیا کی رونقیں دیکھنا چاہتی ہے، بازاروں کی چھل پہل، تھیٹر کی روشنی اور فون لفیم کے نمونے تاکہ انسان کے تخلیقی جوہر کا مشاہدہ کر سکے۔ اس کے خود دیک تین دن کا یہ تجھے زندگی بھر کے اندر میرے کو روشنی میں بدلتے کے مترادف ہو گا۔