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Prelims PYQ, Mains model answers, and copy evaluation. Write to the desk for this paper, a doubt, or the AI waitlist.

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Q1(d)

**Smell as a signal among non-human primates.**

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2025 · Anthropology GS 1 · 10 marks · Characteristics of Primates

1.5 Characteristics of Primates; Evolutionary Trend and Primate Taxonomy; Primate Adaptations; (Arboreal and Terrestrial) Primate Taxonomy; Primate Behaviour; Tertiary and Quaternary fossil primates; Living Major Primates; Comparative Anatomy of Man and Apes; Skeletal changes due to erect posture and its implications.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round. This sheet is for revision, not a substitute for the model answer.

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**Vomeronasal organ**

An accessory olfactory structure used in many strepsirrhines to detect chemical cues. It is reduced in catarrhine monkeys and apes.

**Ring-tailed lemur scent marking**

Antebrachial and brachial glands. Males use marked tails in ritual stink fights over space and status.

**Callitrichid marking**

Marmosets and tamarins deposit glandular scent to label home range and social identity.

**Strepsirrhine-haplorhine split**

Wet-nosed primates retain stronger olfactory specialisation. Dry-nosed monkeys and apes emphasise vision and facial signalling.

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