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UPSC Mains 2021 Anthropology Paper 1

Questions only

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains/anthropology/gs-1/2021/>

Answer key at the end of this PDF

Attempt the paper first. After the last question, this pack closes with a compiled answer key: official letters in boxed exam order, then a question-wise list with Solution links to WRAP Exams.

Q1(a) • 10 marks

Animism and Deep Ecology

Topic • Religion

Solution — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/animism-and-deep-ecology/>

Q1(b) • 10 marks

Marriage Regulations and Alliance Theory

Topic • Family

Solution —

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/marriage-regulations-and-alliance-theory/>

Q1(c) • 10 marks

Historical Particularism and Franz Boas

Topic • Historical particularism (Boas)

Solution —

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/historical-particularism-and-franz-boas/>

Q1(d) • 10 marks

"The bio-cultural approach is the hallmark of Biological Anthropology." Explain.

Topic • Biological Anthropology.

Solution — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/the-bio-cultural-approach-is-the-hallmark-of-biological-anthropology-explain/>

Q1(e) • 10 marks

Thermoluminescence (TL) dating.

Topic • Principles of Prehistoric Archaeology. Chronology

Solution — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/thermoluminescence-tl-dating/>

Q2(a) · 20 marks

What are the physical and cultural characteristics of Homo erectus? Discuss its phylogenetic status

Topic · Homo erectus

Solution — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/what-are-the-physical-and-cultural-characteristics-of-homo-erectus-discuss-its-phylogenetic-status/>

Q2(b) · 15 marks

Elucidate the concept of "thick description" of Clifford Geertz with a suitable example

Topic · Symbolic and interpretive theories (Turner, Schneider and Geertz)

Solution — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/elucidate-the-concept-of-thick-description-of-clifford-geertz-with-a-suitable-example/>

Q2(c) · 15 marks

Describe the features of early farming cultures and Neolithic of the Near East

Topic · Neolithic

Solution — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/describe-the-features-of-early-farming-cultures-and-neolithic-of-the-near-east/>

Q3(a) · 20 marks

How do political organisations of simple societies establish power, authority and legitimacy?

Topic · Political Organization and Social Control

Solution — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/how-do-political-organisations-of-simple-societies-establish-power-authority-and-legitimacy/>

Q3(b) · 15 marks

Explain the genetic mechanisms of micro and macro evolution

Topic · Synthetic theory of evolution

Solution — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/explain-the-genetic-mechanisms-of-micro-and-macro-evolution/>

Q3(c) · 15 marks

Discuss the salient features of different traditions of European Mesolithic

Topic · Mesolithic

Solution — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/discuss-the-salient-features-of-different-traditions-of-european-mesolithic/>

Q4(a) · 20 marks

Elaborate the scope of anthropology and elucidate its uniqueness in the field of other social sciences

Topic · Social-cultural Anthropology.

Solution — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/elaborate-the-scope-of-anthropology-and-elucidate-its-uniqueness-in-the-field-of-other-social-sciences/>

Q4(b) · 15 marks

Mention the major branches of linguistic anthropology and discuss language use in social and cultural settings

Topic · Linguistic Anthropology.

Solution — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/mention-the-major-branches-of-linguistic-anthropology-and-discuss-language-use-in-social-and-cultural-settings/>

Q4(c) · 15 marks

"Chromosomal aberrations can play havoc with the human body and mind." Explain with suitable examples

Topic · Numerical and structural aberrations (disorders).

Solution — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/chromosomal-aberrations-can-play-havoc-with-the-human-body-and-mind-explain-with-suitable-examples/>

Q5(a) · 10 marks

Human adolescent growth spurt

Topic · Factors affecting growth and development

Solution —

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/human-adolescent-growth-spurt/>

Q5(b) · 10 marks

The losses and gains of erect posture

Topic · Characteristics of Primates

Solution —

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/the-losses-and-gains-of-erect-posture/>

Q5(c) · 10 marks

Is race a valid and biologically meaningful concept?

Topic · The Nature of Culture

Solution — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/is-race-a-valid-and-biologically-meaningful-concept/>

Q5(d) · 10 marks

Descent Groups

Topic · Kinship

Solution — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/descent-groups/>

Q5(e) · 10 marks

Modes of Subsistence.

Topic · Meaning, Scope and development of Anthropology.

Solution — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/modes-of-subsistence/>

Q6(a) • 20 marks

What is acclimatization? Discuss adaptive responses to high altitude and cold climate

Topic · Concepts and methods of Ecological Anthropology: Bio-cultural Adaptations

Solution — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/what-is-acclimatization-discuss-adaptive-responses-to-high-altitude-and-cold-climate/>

Q6(b) • 15 marks

How are the cases of disputed paternity solved? Discuss the recent techniques

Topic · Applications of Anthropology

Solution — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/how-are-the-cases-of-disputed-paternity-solved-discuss-the-recent-techniques/>

Q6(c) • 15 marks

Critically evaluate Lewis Morgan's classification of family

Topic · Classical evolutionism (Tylor, Morgan and Frazer)

Solution — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/critically-evaluate-lewis-morgans-classification-of-family/>

Q7(a) • 20 marks

Critically evaluate different types of social stratifications with suitable examples

Topic · The Nature of Society

Solution — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/critically-evaluate-different-types-of-social-stratifications-with-suitable-examples/>

Q7(b) • 15 marks

Discuss the bio-social determinants of fertility and fecundity

Topic · Biological and socio-ecological factors influencing fecundity, fertility, natality and mortality.

Solution — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/discuss-the-bio-social-determinants-of-fertility-and-fecundity/>

Q7(c) • 15 marks

What is Anthropometry? Discuss its role in assessing the nutritional status and sports capability of a person

Topic · Applications of Anthropology

Solution — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/what-is-anthropometry-discuss-its-role-in-assessing-the-nutritional-status-and-sports-capability-of-a-person/>

Q8(a) • 20 marks

Discuss various tools of data collection in conducting anthropological research

Topic · Tools of data collection

Solution — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/discuss-various-tools-of-data-collection-in-conducting-anthropological-research/>

Q8(b) · 15 marks

Discuss the physiological and evolutionary theories of aging

Topic · Ageing and senescence. Theories and observations

Solution — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/discuss-the-physiological-and-evolutionary-theories-of-aging/>

Q8(c) · 15 marks

Explain the structural analysis of kinship as proposed by Levi-Strauss

Topic · Structuralism (Lévi-Strauss and E. Leach)

Solution — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2021/explain-the-structural-analysis-of-kinship-as-proposed-by-levi-strauss/>

Compiled answer key

Last pages of this pack. Each question links to the WRAP model answer on wrapexams.com.

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Q1(a) 10 marks	Q1(b) 10 marks	Q1(c) 10 marks	Q1(d) 10 marks
Q1(e) 10 marks	Q2(a) 20 marks	Q2(b) 15 marks	Q2(c) 15 marks
Q3(a) 20 marks	Q3(b) 15 marks	Q3(c) 15 marks	Q4(a) 20 marks
Q4(b) 15 marks	Q4(c) 15 marks	Q5(a) 10 marks	Q5(b) 10 marks
Q5(c) 10 marks	Q5(d) 10 marks	Q5(e) 10 marks	Q6(a) 20 marks
Q6(b) 15 marks	Q6(c) 15 marks	Q7(a) 20 marks	Q7(b) 15 marks
Q7(c) 15 marks	Q8(a) 20 marks	Q8(b) 15 marks	Q8(c) 15 marks

Question-wise key

Q1(a) · 10 marks Solution

Q1(b) · 10 marks Solution

Q1(c) · 10 marks Solution

Q1(d) · 10 marks Solution

Q1(e) · 10 marks Solution

Q2(a) · 20 marks Solution

Q2(b) · 15 marks Solution

Q2(c) · 15 marks Solution

Q3(a) · 20 marks Solution

Q3(b) · 15 marks Solution

Q3(c) · 15 marks Solution

Q4(a) · 20 marks Solution

Q4(b) · 15 marks Solution

Q4(c) · 15 marks Solution

Q5(a) · 10 marks Solution

Q5(b) · 10 marks Solution

Q5(c) · 10 marks Solution

Q5(d) · 10 marks Solution

Q5(e) · 10 marks Solution

Q6(a) · 20 marks Solution

Q6(b) · 15 marks Solution

Q6(c) · 15 marks Solution

Q7(a) · 20 marks Solution

Q7(b) · 15 marks Solution

Q7(c) · 15 marks Solution

Q8(a) · 20 marks Solution

Q8(b) · 15 marks Solution

Q8(c) · 15 marks Solution

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