

WRAP Exams · wrapexams.com

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

ask@wrapexams.com · **+91 85951 84903** · wrapexams.com

Questions only**UPSC Mains 2026 Anthropology Paper 1**

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://wrapexams.com)

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

Health as a cultural construct.

Topic · Social-cultural Anthropology.

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://wrapexams.com)

Q1(b) · 10 marks

Canalization and catch-up growth.

Topic · Factors affecting growth and development

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://wrapexams.com)

Q1(c) · 10 marks

Myth as oral literature.

Topic · Tools of data collection

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://wrapexams.com)

Q1(d) · 10 marks

Genetic polymorphism and natural selection.

Topic · Concept of genetic polymorphism and selection, Mendelian population, Hardy-Weinberg law

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://wrapexams.com)

Q1(e) · 10 marks

Ethnoarchaeology and classical archaeology.

Topic · Neanderthal man

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://wrapexams.com)

Q2(a) · 20 marks

What is meant by a somatotype? Discuss the Heath-Carter anthropometric method, giving its advantages over that of Sheldon's method. How can somatotyping be

applied in sports sciences?

Topic · Ageing and senescence. Theories and observations

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://www.wrapexams.com)

Q2(b) · 15 marks

How do religious beliefs help people to devise cultural mechanisms to adapt to their environment? Discuss in detail with appropriate examples

Topic · Social-cultural Anthropology.

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://www.wrapexams.com)

Q2(c) · 15 marks

How is the theory of structuralism helpful in understanding the concepts of caste and gender?

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

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://www.wrapexams.com)

Q3(a) · 20 marks

How do the concepts of power, authority, legitimacy and social control change with changing political organization? Discuss in detail giving suitable examples

Topic · Political Organization and Social Control

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://www.wrapexams.com)

Q3(b) · 15 marks

Discuss 'incest taboo' as the basis of development of kinship systems in human societies

Topic · Marriage

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://www.wrapexams.com)

Q3(c) · 15 marks

Numerical chromosomal aberrations can be due to abnormalities in autosomes as well as sex chromosomes. Elaborate in terms of the effects these have on human body, giving suitable examples

Topic · Numerical and structural aberrations (disorders).

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://www.wrapexams.com)

Q4(a) · 15 marks

Human evolution is a product of both biological and cultural factors. Elaborate

Topic · Biological and Cultural factors in human evolution.

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://www.wrapexams.com)

Q4(b) · 15 marks

Give the distribution of Palaeolithic sites around the Himalayan and Sub-Himalayan areas, highlighting the typo-technologies of the tools

Topic · Paleolithic

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://www.wrapexams.com)

Q4(c) · 20 marks

Discuss the phylogenetic status, characteristic features, geographical distribution and lifeway of Paranthropus

Topic · Homo erectus

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://www.wrapexams.com)

Q5(a) · 10 marks

Ethics in anthropological fieldwork.

Topic · Fieldwork tradition in anthropology

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://www.wrapexams.com)

Q5(b) · 10 marks

Distinguishing features of nuclear and mitochondrial DNA.

Topic · The biological basis of Life

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://www.wrapexams.com)

Q5(c) · 10 marks

Feminist movement and family.

Topic · Family

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://www.wrapexams.com)

Q5(d) · 10 marks

Anthropometry in ergonomics.

Topic · Meaning, Scope and development of Anthropology.

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://www.wrapexams.com)

Q5(e) · 10 marks

Thermoluminescence dating method.

Topic · Principles of Prehistoric Archaeology. Chronology

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://www.wrapexams.com)

Q6(a) · 20 marks

How would you find out that a particular disease/disorder is inherited and, if so, in which manner? Elaborate with suitable examples

Topic · Genetic imprints in human disease, genetic screening, genetic counseling, human DNA profiling, gene mapping and genome study.

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://wrapexams.com)

Q6(b) · 15 marks

Critically discuss how culture determines human behaviour in the light of Leslie White's theory

Topic · Neo-evolutionism (Childe, White, Steward, Sahlins and Service)

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://wrapexams.com)

Q6(c) · 15 marks

What are Strepsirhini Primates? Describe their geographical distribution and mention the characteristics that distinguish them from Haplorhini Primates

Topic · Characteristics of Primates

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://wrapexams.com)

Q7(a) · 20 marks

Discuss the mixed method approach in anthropological research

Topic · Distinction between technique, method and methodology

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://wrapexams.com)

Q7(b) · 15 marks

What do you understand by fertility and mortality? How are these influenced by biological and socio-ecological factors?

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

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://wrapexams.com)

Q7(c) · 15 marks

Write a detailed note on the characteristic features, chronology, geographical distribution, tool types and lifeways of Magdalenian cultural tradition of Europe

Topic · Homo erectus

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://wrapexams.com)

Q8(a) · 15 marks

Compare Edmund Leach's structuralism with interpretive anthropology of Clifford Geertz

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

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://wrapexams.com)

Q8(b) · 15 marks

In what manner is our understanding of serogenetics and cytogenetics useful in reproductive biology? What are the major ethical issues involved in reproductive technology?

Topic · Applications of Anthropology

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://www.wrapexams.com)

Q8(c) · 20 marks

Discuss, with appropriate examples, how basic personality types may contribute towards building up of national character

Topic · Family

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://www.wrapexams.com)

WRAP Exams

Compiled answer key

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

ask@wrapexams.com · wrapexams.com

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) 15 marks
Q4(b) 15 marks	Q4(c) 20 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) 15 marks	Q8(b) 15 marks	Q8(c) 20 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) · 15 marks Solution

Q4(b) · 15 marks Solution

Q4(c) · 20 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) · 15 marks Solution

Q8(b) · 15 marks Solution

Q8(c) · 20 marks Solution

WRAP Exams · Write. Read. Analyse. Practice.

[Open on wrapexams.com](https://wrapexams.com)

ask@wrapexams.com · wrapexams.com

WRAP Exams