



SOCIOLOGY

OPTIONAL

Test Series(2027)



Vivek Rao Sir



29th March 2026



1:00 PM

Exploring the Merits of Sociology

High Success Rate

One of the most popular optionals with **20+ toppers in the top 50** over the last 5 years.



Scoring Potential



Consistently delivers good results — average scores around **270**, with many aspirants scoring **310–320**.

Extensive GS & Essay Overlap

Concepts are highly useful in **Essay, GS Paper 1 (Society)**, and also enrich **GS Paper 2, 3, and Ethics** answers.



Beginner-Friendly



Requires **no academic background** and can be **completed in 4–5 months** of focused study — ideal for any serious aspirant.

Predictable and Straightforward

Exam questions are generally **direct and less tricky**, making preparation more streamlined.



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Features

- ▶ **Batch Starts from 29th March 2026**
- ▶ **Total Number tests covering both Paper 1 and Paper 2:
Total 18 Tests (12 PLTs and 6 FLT)**
Paper 1 – 4 PLTs (Part Length Tests), 2 rPLTs (Part Length Tests – Revision) and 3 Full Length Tests (FLTs)
Paper 2 – 4 PLTs (Part Length Tests), 2 rPLTs (Part Length Tests – Revision) and 3 Full Length Tests (FLTs)
- ▶ **Test can be attempted both in OFFLINE & ONLINE MODE.**
- ▶ **Test Series is highly researched and especially curated by Senior Faculty (Vivek Sir), containing the most Probable Questions for UPSC Sociology Optional Mains Examination 2027 (All Important themes will be covered)**
- ▶ **Timely, detailed and personalized evaluation/feedback of each test provides a real perspective to students. Regular Doubt clearing session will be held in Online Mode.**
- ▶ **Complete handholding including Mentorship by the Senior Faculty (Vivek Sir) till FINAL Selection. On Demand, Students can interact/connect with faculty both in **Offline (@ Karol Bagh, Delhi Centre) and online** (telephonic) mode**
- ▶ **VALIDITY OF THE COURSE: September 2027**

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TEST SCHEDULE

S.No	Date	Paper	Topic Name
1.	29.3.2026 (SUNDAY)	Paper 1 (PLT-1)	1. Sociology - The Discipline: (a) Modernity and social changes in Europe and emergence of Sociology. (b) Scope of the subject and comparison with other social sciences. (c) Sociology and common sense. 2. Sociology as Science: (a) Science, scientific method, and critique. (b) Major theoretical strands of research methodology. (c) Positivism and its critique. (d) Fact value and objectivity. (e) Non-positivist methodologies. 3. Research Methods and Analysis: (a) Qualitative and quantitative methods. (b) Techniques of data collection. (c) Variables, sampling, hypothesis, reliability,
2.	26.4.2026 (SUNDAY)	Paper 1 (PLT-2)	4. Sociological Thinkers: (a) Karl Marx - Historical materialism, mode of production, alienation, class struggle. (b) Emile Durkheim - Division of labour, social fact, suicide, religion and society. (c) Max Weber - Social action, ideal types, authority, bureaucracy, protestant ethic and the spirit of capitalism. (d) Talcott Parsons - Social system, pattern variables. (e) Robert K. Merton - Latent and manifest functions, conformity and deviance, reference groups. (f) Mead - Self and identity.
3.	24.5.2026 (SUNDAY)	Paper 1 (PLT-3)	5. Stratification and Mobility: (a) Concepts - equality, inequality, hierarchy, exclusion, poverty, and deprivation. (b) Theories of social stratification - Structural functionalist theory, Marxist theory, Weberian theory. (c) Dimensions - Social stratification of class, status groups, gender, ethnicity and race. (d) Social mobility - open and closed systems, types of mobility, sources and causes of mobility. 6. Works and Economic Life: (a) Social organization of work in different types of society - slave society, feudal society, industrial capitalist society. (b) Formal and informal organization of work. (c) Labour and society. 7. Religion and Society: (a) Sociological theories of religion. (b) Types of religious practices: animism, monism, pluralism, sects, cults. (c) Religion in modern society: religion and science, secularization, religious revivalism, fundamentalism

TEST SCHEDULE

S.No	Date	Paper	Topic Name
4.	21.6.2026 (SUNDAY)	Paper 1 (PLT-4)	<p>8. Politics and Society:</p> <p>(a) Sociological theories of power. (b) Power elite, bureaucracy, pressure groups and political parties. (c) Nation, state, citizenship, democracy, civil society, ideology. (d) Protest, agitation, social movements, collective action, revolution.</p> <p>9. Systems of Kinship:</p> <p>(a) Family, household, marriage. (b) Types and forms of family. (c) Lineage and descent. (d) Patriarchy and sexual division of labour. (e) Contemporary trends.</p> <p>10. Social Change in Modern Society:</p> <p>(a) Sociological theories of social change. (b) Development and dependency. (c) Agents of social change. (d) Education and social change. (e) Science, technology, and social change.</p>
5.	26.7.2026 (SUNDAY)	Paper 2 (PLT-5)	<p>Section A (Introducing Indian Society):</p> <p>1. Perspectives on the Study of Indian Society:</p> <p>(a) Indology (G.S. Ghure). (b) Structural functionalism (M. N. Srinivas). (c) Marxist sociology (A. R. Desai).</p> <p>2. Impact of colonial rule on Indian society:</p> <p>(a) Social background of Indian nationalism. (b) Modernization of Indian tradition. (c) Protests and movements during the colonial period. (d) Social reforms.</p>
6.	23.8.2026 (SUNDAY)	Paper 2 (PLT-6)	<p>Section B (Social Structure):</p> <p>1. Rural and Agrarian Social Structure:</p> <p>(a) The idea of Indian village and village studies (b) Agrarian social structure— evolution of land tenure system, land reforms.</p> <p>2. Caste System:</p> <p>(a) Perspectives on the study of caste systems: G. S. Ghurye, M. N. Srinivas, Louis Dumont, Andre Beteille. (b) Features of caste system. (c) Untouchability-forms and perspectives</p> <p>3. Tribal Communities in India:</p> <p>(a) Definitional problems. (b) Geographical spread. (c) Colonial policies and tribes. (d) Issues of integration and autonomy.</p> <p>4. Social Classes in India:</p> <p>(a) Agrarian class structure. (b) Industrial class structure. (c) Middle classes in India.</p> <p>5. Systems of Kinship in India:</p> <p>(a) Lineage and descent in India. (b) Types of kinship systems. (c) Family and marriage in India. (d) Household dimensions of the family. (e) Patriarchy, entitlements, and sexual division of labour.</p> <p>6. Religion and Society:</p> <p>(a) Religious communities in India. (b) Problems of religious minorities.</p>

TEST SCHEDULE

S.No	Date	Paper	Topic Name
7.	29.9.2026 (SUNDAY)	Paper 2 (PLT-7)	<p>Section C (Social Changes in India):</p> <p>1. Visions of Social Change in India: (a) Idea of development planning and mixed economy. (b) Constitution, law, and social change. (c) Education and social change.</p> <p>2. Rural and Agrarian Transformation in India: (a) Programmes of rural development, Community Development Programme, cooperatives, poverty alleviation schemes. (b) Green revolution and social change. (c) Changing modes of production in Indian agriculture. (d) Problems of rural labour, bondage, migration.</p> <p>3. Industrialization and Urbanisation in India: (a) Evolution of modern industry in India. (b) Growth of urban settlements in India. (c) Working class: structure, growth, class mobilization. (d) Informal sector, child labour. (e) Slums and deprivation in urban areas.</p> <p>4. Politics and Society: (a) Nation, democracy and citizenship. (b) Political parties, pressure groups, social and political elite. (c) Regionalism and decentralization of power.</p>
8.	18.10.2026 (SUNDAY)	Paper 2 (PLT-8)	<p>Section C (Social Changes in India):</p> <p>5. Social Movements in Modern India: (a) Peasants and farmers' movements. (b) Women's movement. (c) Backward classes & Dalit movements. (d) Environmental movements. (e) Ethnicity and Identity movements.</p> <p>6. Population Dynamics: Population size, growth, composition and distribution. Components of population growth: birth, death, migration. Population Policy and family planning. Emerging issues: ageing, sex ratios, child and infant mortality, reproductive health.</p> <p>7. Challenges of Social Transformation: (a) Crisis of development: displacement, environmental problems and sustainability. (b) Poverty, deprivation and inequalities. (c) Violence against women. (d) Caste conflicts. (e) Ethnic conflicts, communalism, religious revivalism. (f) Illiteracy and disparities in education.</p>
9.	15.11.2026 (SUNDAY)	Paper 1 (PLT-9) (Revision Tests)	<p>1. Sociology - The Discipline</p> <p>2. Sociology as Science</p> <p>3. Research Methods and Analysis</p> <p>4. Sociological Thinkers</p>
10.	13.12.2026 (SUNDAY)	Paper 1 (PLT-10) (Revision Tests)	<p>5. Stratification and Mobility</p> <p>6. Works and Economic Life</p> <p>7. Politics and Society</p> <p>8. Religion and Society</p> <p>9. Systems of Kinship</p> <p>10. Social Change in Modern Society</p>

TEST SCHEDULE

S.No	Date	Paper	Topic Name
11.	10.1.2027 (SUNDAY)	Paper 2 (PLT-11) (Revision Tests)	Section A (Introducing Indian Society): 1. Perspectives on the Study of Indian Society 2. Impact of colonial rule on Indian society Section B (Social Structure): 1. Rural and Agrarian Social Structure 2. Caste System 3. Tribal Communities in India 4. Social Classes in India 5. Systems of Kinship in India 6. Religion and Society
12.	07.2.2027 (SUNDAY)	Paper 2 (PLT-12) (Revision Tests)	Section C (Social Changes in India): 1. Visions of Social Change in India 2. Rural and Agrarian Transformation in India 3. Industrialization and Urbanisation in India 4. Politics and Society 5. Social Movements in Modern India 6. Population Dynamics 7. Challenges of Social Transformation:
13.	To be announced	FLT1	Complete Paper 1
14.	post prelims 2027	FLT2	Complete Paper 2
15.		FLT3	Complete Paper 1
16.		FLT4	Complete Paper 2
17.		FLT5 & FLT6	Simulator test: Same Day Paper 1: 9 am – 12 pm Paper 2: 2 pm - 5 pm

Our Faculty



Vivek Rao

Sociology Faculty | UPSC Mentor

- Senior Faculty of Sociology with more than 7+ years in guiding UPSC aspirants.
- During his Preparation, Wrote 5 mains and Appeared Twice in interview (2010-2015).
- Former Senior Faculty at Pretigious Institutions like Crack IAS, SUNYA IAS.
- Mentored hundreds of students successfully in their UPSC Preparation since 2019.
- Distinguished alumni of IIT Delhi and IIM Lucknow.

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Book

Director's Desk

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Best Regards,
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