

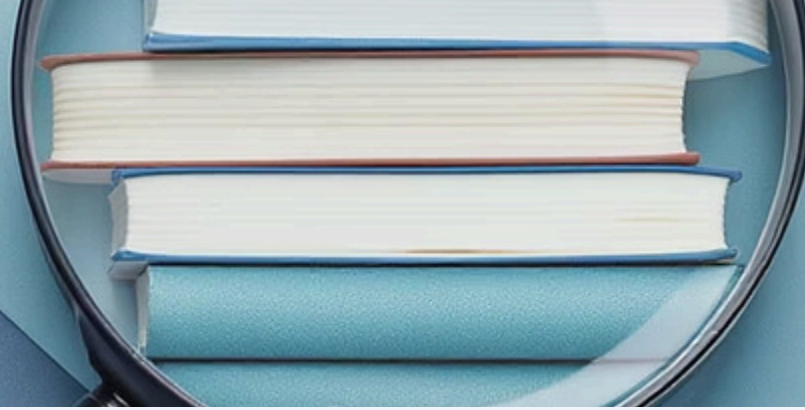
A study desk with an Indian flag, books, and stationery. The desk is cluttered with various items including an open book, a small potted plant, a cup of pens, and several sheets of paper with charts and graphs. The Indian flag is prominently displayed in the background, and a window with a view of a city is visible on the right.

UPSC MAINS GS Trend Analysis (2018–2024)

Powered by IASGanga – Study What Matters Most



by Satyajeeet Panchal



Why Trend Analysis Matters?

Time Management

7-year marks distribution reveals strategic focus areas. **Optimize limited preparation hours** by prioritizing **high-weightage topics**.

Strategic Preparation

Historical patterns help **allocate study resources effectively**. Trend analysis **prevents wastage** on **low-yield sections**.

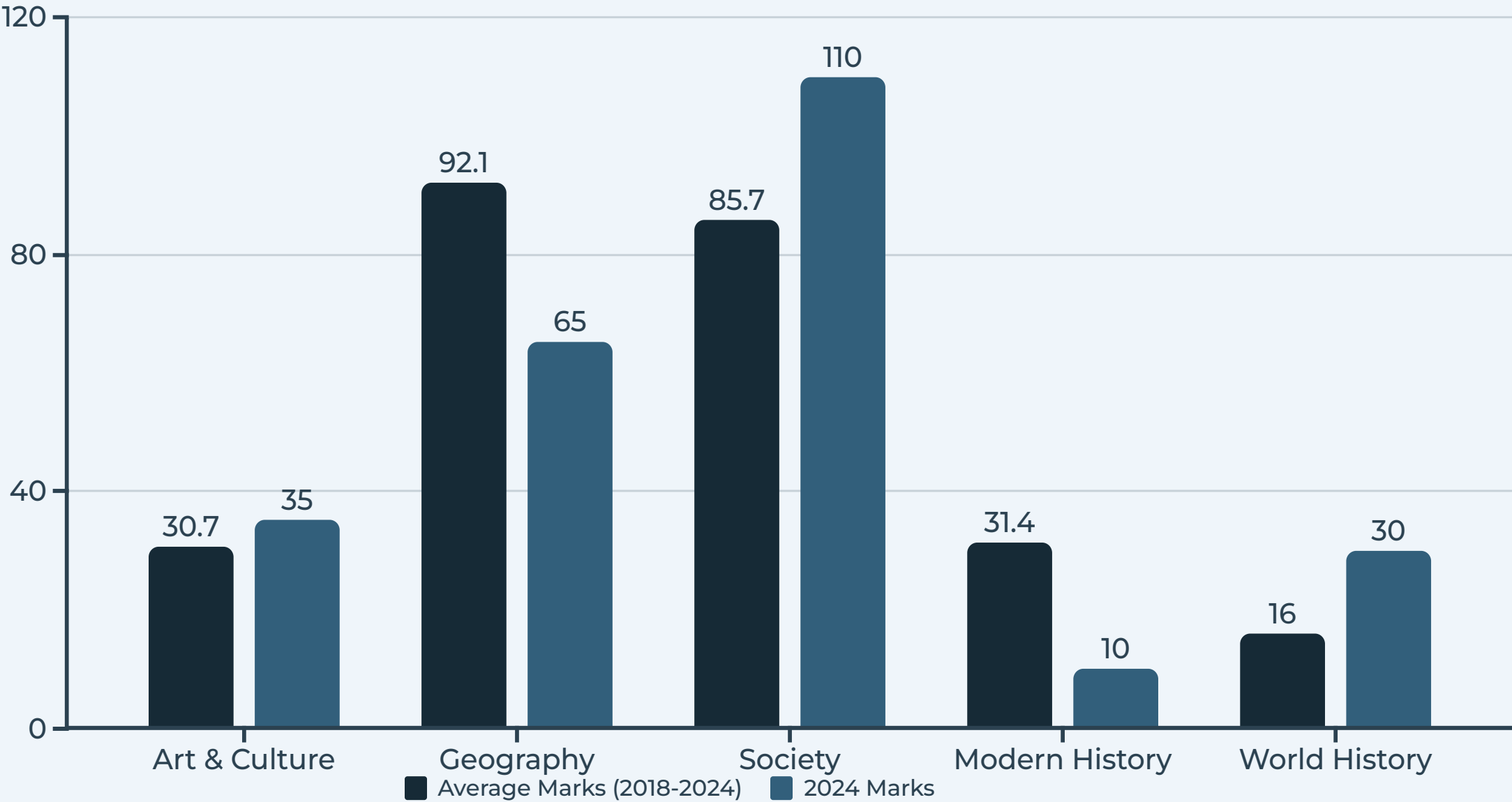
Score Optimization






High-yield topics maximize **mark potential**. **Smart candidates** follow **patterns** to gain **competitive edge**.

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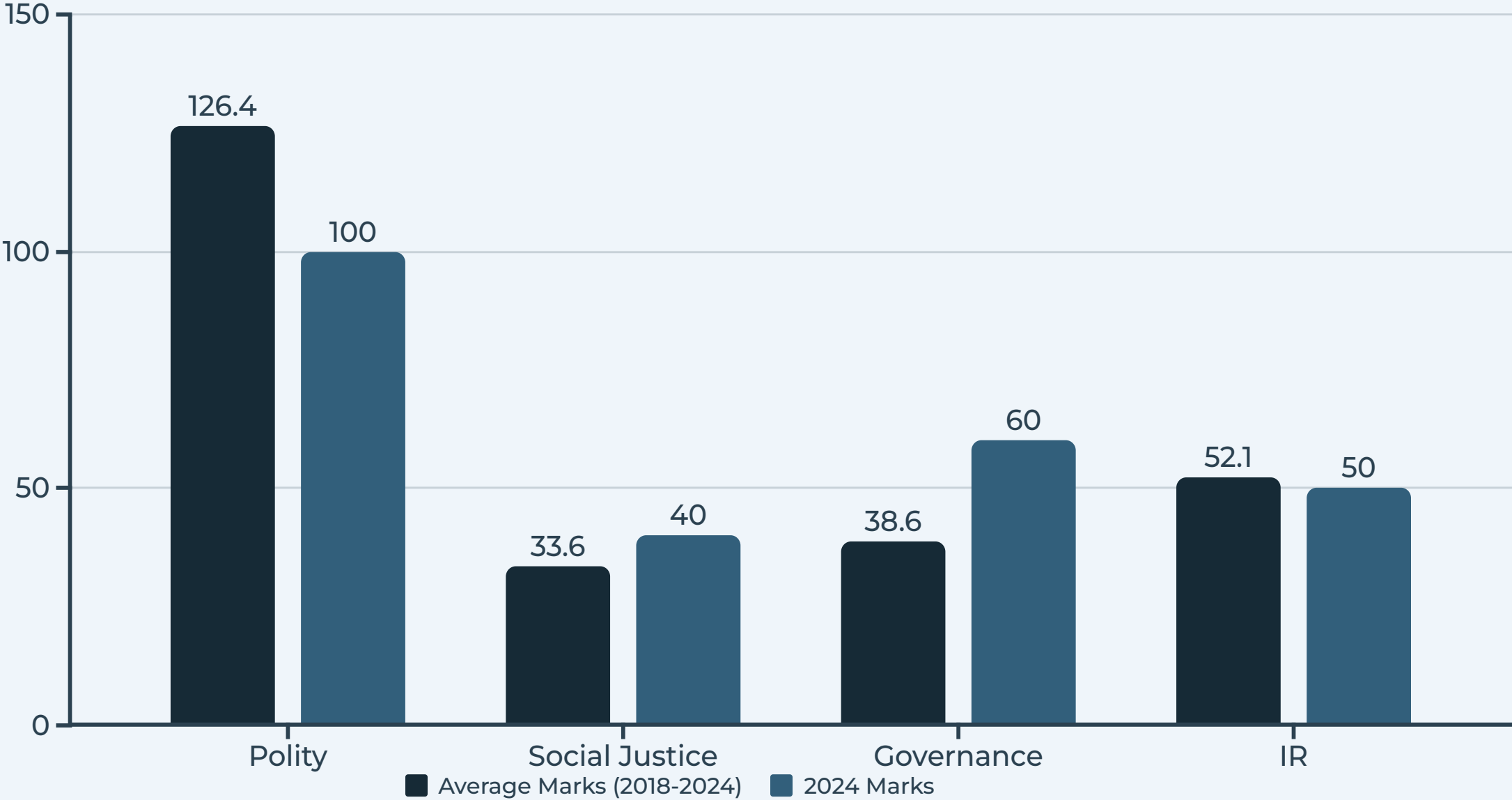
GS Paper 1: History | Geography | Society







Subject	Avg Marks (2018–2024)	2024 Marks	Key Insights
 Art & Culture	30.7	35	Highly volatile (10–50); prep basics smartly
 Geography	92.1	65	Most consistent paper; maps + themes are key
 Society	85.7	110	Rising trend , link with current issues
 Modern History	31.4	10	Low weight in 2024 – deprioritize over GS2/GS3
 World History	16.0	30	Highly inconsistent ; minimal effort needed



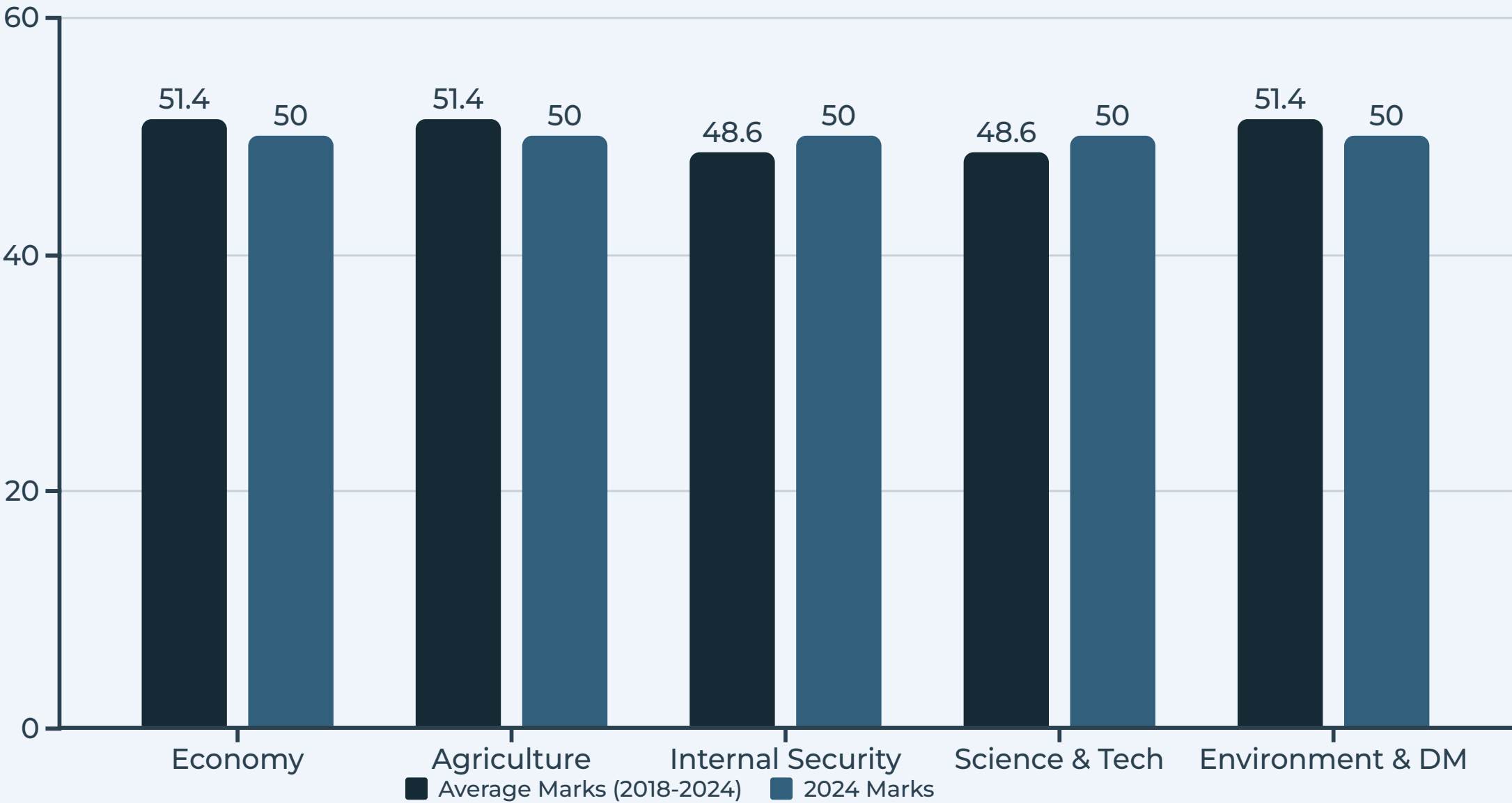
GS Paper 2: Polity | Governance | Social Justice | IR








Subject	Avg Marks (2018–2024)	2024 Marks	Key Insights
 Polity	126.4	100	King of GS2 – focus on constitution + amendments
 Social Justice	33.6	40	Stable range (25–40); link with SDGs, inclusion, poverty
 Governance	38.6	60	Sharp rise in 2024 – prep ARC + e-Gov examples
 IR (International Relations)	52.1	50	Stable – stick to India's bilateral & multilateral news



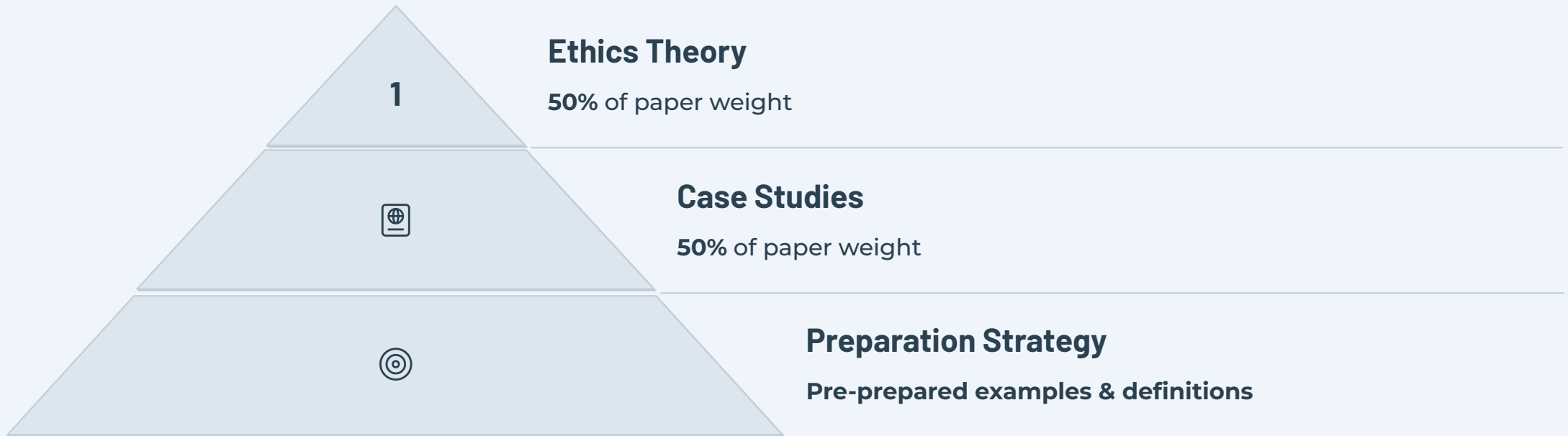
GS Paper 3: Economy | Security | Science | Environment



Subject	Avg Marks (2018–2024)	2024 Marks	Key Insights
 Economy	51.4	50	Predictable—link current data & concepts
 Agriculture	51.4	50	Consistently 50 – cover agri schemes + reforms
 Internal Security	48.6	50	Prepare Naxalism, NE, Cyber Security thoroughly
 Science & Tech	48.6	50	Use current tech + SDG linkages
 Environment & DM	51.4	50	Steady – link with Climate Summits + Acts



GS Paper 4: Ethics



- Divide into **Theory + Case Studies** (almost **50–50%**)
- Use **pre-prepared examples & definitions**
- Maintain a stock of **quotes, thinkers & templates** for case studies

8 Actionable Insights for 2025 Mains Strategy



1. Polity = Non-negotiable

Score-rich and **concept-driven**. Practice questions on **Articles**, **SC judgments**, and **governance reforms**.



2. GS1 Booster = Geography + Society

Focus on **map-based geography**, **gender & social issues**, **urbanization**, and **tribal society**.



3. GS2: ARC + Schemes = Governance Gold

Prepare **ARC topics**: **RTI**, **Civil Services Reforms**, **e-Governance**. Add **examples** from news/reports.



4. GS3: Predictability is Power

Economy, **Agri**, **Env**, **Security** – all around **50**. Don't skip any. Keep **ready-made intro-conclusion** for: Inclusive Growth, Food Security, Cyber Security, Disaster Management.



5. World History = Skip Smartly

Extremely low weight. Focus instead on core **Polity**, **Society**, **Geography**.



6. Art & Culture = Moderate Prep

Due to **fluctuations**, prep core **architecture**, **literature**, **Indus Valley**, and **Vedic Age** mainly.



7. Answer Writing = Real Differentiator

Use: **Micro-intros/conclusions**, **Diagrams**, **data**, **schemes**, **One-pager notes** for last-minute review.

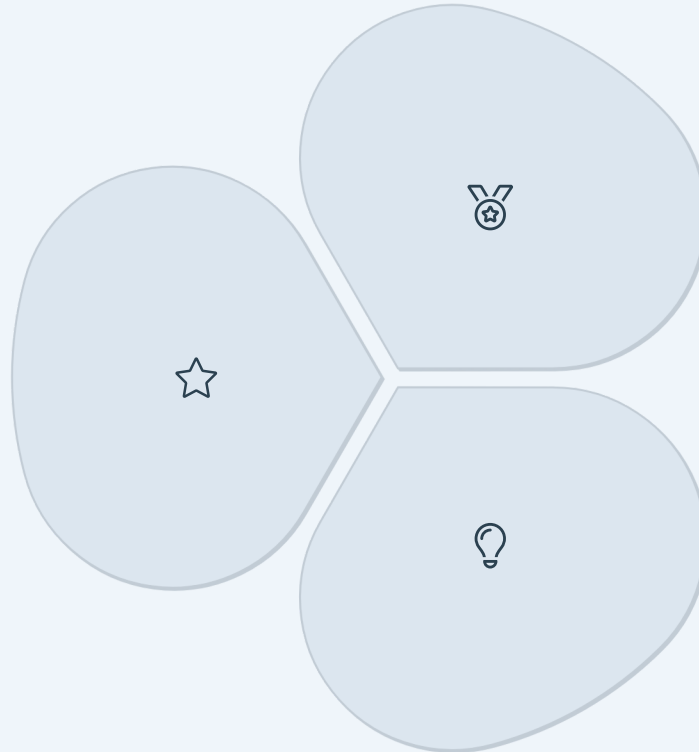



8. Case Study Edge in GS4

Make a **universal ethics toolkit**: **20 thinkers**, **20 quotes**, **Case studies templates**, **Value framework grid** (integrity, empathy, honesty, etc.)

IASGanga Final Strategy Summary

 **Top Priority**
GS 4, Polity, Society, Geography,
Economics, Agriculture, Security



 **Medium Priority**
IR, Governance, Environment, Disaster
Management

 **Low Priority**
Art & Culture, Modern History, World
History

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Bonus Strategy for Smart Preparation



One-Page Revision

Make 1-page revision sheets for each GS topic



Learn from Toppers

Use toppers' copies for structure and content



Timed Practice

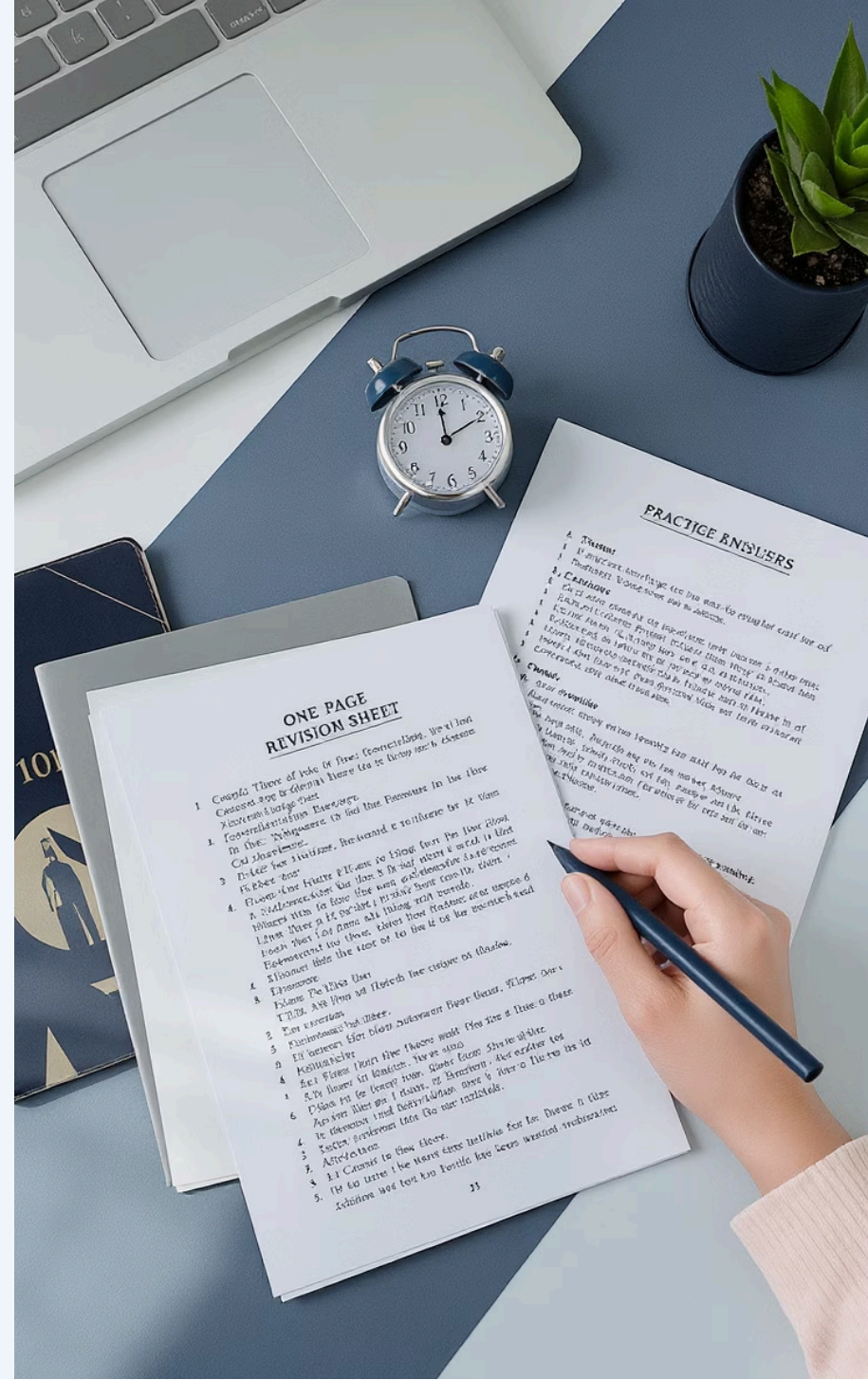
Time your full-length answer writing sessions weekly



Ready Resources

Maintain a GS folder with ready-made intros, facts, map templates

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UPSC



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