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**INTERVIEW  
GUIDANCE  
SERIES 2023**

**#02**

**10 EXPECTATIONS  
OF UPSC IN  
INTERVIEW**

**Manoj K. Jha**

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# 10 EXPECTATIONS OF UPSC IN INTERVIEW

Manoj K. Jha

The UPSC expects certain qualities and attributes from candidates during the interview, also known as the Personality Test. Here are some key expectations:

## 1. Clarity of Thought:

Candidates should demonstrate a clear and organized thought process while answering questions. Logical reasoning and a structured approach to problem-solving are highly valued.

**Example:** Imagine a question about the economic impact of a government policy. A candidate with clarity of thought would provide a well-structured response, outlining the cause-and-effect relationships, and presenting the information in a logical sequence.

## 2. Effective Communication Skills:

The ability to articulate thoughts and ideas coherently is crucial. Candidates are expected to express themselves fluently and convincingly, using appropriate language.

**Example:** When asked about a complex social issue, a candidate with effective communication skills would convey their thoughts

coherently, avoiding jargon, and ensuring that the interviewer easily grasps the main points of their argument.

### 3. Awareness of Current Affairs:

A strong understanding of current events at the national and international levels is essential. Candidates should be well-informed about political, economic, social, and cultural issues.

**Example:** If questioned about recent geopolitical events, a candidate with good awareness might discuss not only the events themselves but also their potential implications on national and global scenarios, showcasing a deep understanding of the context.

### 4. Analytical and Critical Thinking:

The interview assesses the candidate's analytical and critical thinking abilities. This involves the capacity to analyze situations, understand complexities, and offer well-reasoned solutions.

**Example:** Suppose the interviewer presents a hypothetical scenario related to public policy. A candidate with strong analytical and critical thinking skills would break down the situation, assess different perspectives, and propose well-reasoned solutions.

### 5. Social Awareness:

Candidates are expected to have a broad understanding of societal issues and challenges. This includes an awareness of the diverse cultural, economic, and demographic aspects of the country.

**Example:** When discussing a societal issue, a candidate with social awareness might not only acknowledge the problem but also delve into the root causes, historical context, and potential socio-economic implications of the issue.

### 6. Leadership and Initiative:

Demonstrating leadership qualities and a proactive approach is valued. Candidates should be able to showcase instances

where some leaders or administrators have taken the lead or demonstrated initiative in different situations.

**Example:** If asked about a challenging situation faced in a previous role, a candidate showcasing leadership might describe a time when they took the initiative to lead a team, make tough decisions, and achieve positive outcomes.

## 7. Adaptability and Open-mindedness:

The ability to adapt to changing circumstances and openness to different perspectives are traits that UPSC looks for. Candidates should be receptive to new ideas and be able to adjust to evolving scenarios.

**Example:** If questioned about a controversial topic, a candidate demonstrating adaptability and open-mindedness would acknowledge different perspectives, consider alternative viewpoints, and show a willingness to adapt their opinions based on new information.

## 8. Integrity and Ethics:

Ethical conduct and moral integrity are paramount. Candidates should exhibit a strong sense of ethics and integrity in their responses and actions.

**Example:** When discussing a moral dilemma, a candidate with a strong sense of integrity might share an experience where someone upheld ethical principles, even in the face of personal or professional challenges.

## 9. Balance and Composure:

Maintaining composure under pressure is crucial. The interview may involve challenging questions or scenarios, and candidates are expected to handle them with equanimity.

**Example:** If confronted with a challenging question, a candidate with balance and composure would maintain a calm demeanor,

avoiding defensive or agitated responses, and address the question thoughtfully.

## **10. Curiosity and a Learning Orientation:**

UPSC values candidates who have a genuine interest in learning and staying informed. A curious and inquisitive mindset, coupled with a continuous desire for self-improvement, is appreciated.

**Example:** In response to a question about a recent technological advancement, a candidate with a learning orientation might not only provide information about the technology but also express a keen interest in its potential applications and future developments.

It's important for candidates to prepare thoroughly not only in terms of subject knowledge but more in developing these skills and qualities to meet UPSC's expectations during the interview process.

**Manoj K Jha**