

1. General IGNOU Exam Structure (Term-End Exams — TEE)

A. Format & Mode

- Term-end exams (TEE) are usually conducted twice a year (June and December).
- Most theory exams are **offline pen-and-paper modality**, though some programs use computer-based online delivery for question papers.

B. Duration

- Typical exam duration: **2 to 3 hours**, depending on the course guidelines.

C. Marks & Sections

- Most papers are **100 marks** with a variety of question types (descriptive & objective).
 - Some specialized exams like **entrance or professional tests** may fractionate marks differently.
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2. Common Question Types In IGNOU Papers

A. Descriptive Answers

- Long answer questions requiring written responses (often 10–15 marks each).
- Short answer questions (5 marks) cover definitions/fundamentals.

B. Objective/MCQ Format

- Some courses and online modules include **multiple choice questions** (MCQs).
- Certain professional or entrance tests (e.g., B.Ed Entrance Test) use only MCQs.

C. Section Division

- Papers often divide into **Sections A, B, C** (e.g., long, short, very short/MCQs).
 - Some exams may use parts (Part A/Part B) where specific areas or electives are separated.
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3. Typical Term-End Examination Pattern

While IGNOU does not publish a single uniform pattern for all programs, many Term-End Exams share the following structure:

Example Structure (Theory Papers)

Section	Type of Questions	Word-Limit / Instructions	Marks
Section A	Long Answers	±400–500 words	10–15 marks each
Section B	Short Answers	±150–300 words	5–6 marks each
Section C	Very Short/MCQs	Brief responses	2–3 marks (if present)

Note: The exact number of questions per section varies by course and program.

4. Course-Specific Variations

A. Undergraduate & Postgraduate Theory Courses

- Arts, Science, Commerce, and Social Sciences generally use a **descriptive pattern** with long and short compulsory questions.
- Use both **English and Hindi** media options.

B. Professional & Entrance Tests (e.g., B.Ed)

- Usually **100 MCQ questions**, no negative marking; divided into logical reasoning, language, awareness, etc.
- Duration fixed at **2 hours**; marks distribution commonly 1 mark per question.

C. Specialized Formats

- Some online and certificate courses may be **fully MCQ-based**, especially if delivered via CBT.
 - Management and professional exams like **OPENMAT** for MBA have separate sectional MCQ breakdowns.
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5. Marking Scheme & Evaluation

- Many Term-End exams follow **no negative marking** for MCQs unless specified; typically 1 mark per correct response.
 - Descriptive answers are evaluated on accuracy, explanations, structure, examples, and clarity.
 - Assignments and practicals are also part of overall assessment weightage as per course guide.
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6. How to Use the Pattern for Preparation

A. Study Syllabus First

- Always cross-check with the **official IGNOU syllabus for each course**; this defines units, weightage, and recommended blocks.

B. Solve Previous Year Question Papers

- Previous year papers help identify trends, common topics, and question difficulty.

C. Practice Time Management

- Practice full papers under time conditions to build speed and accuracy.

D. Refer Official Resources

- IGNOU uploads **previous year question papers** on its official site for practice: Official download portal: *ignou.ac.in* → *Student Services* → *Downloads* → *Question Papers*.

7. Official Sources & Downloads

- Direct access to **latest and archived IGNOU question papers** is available from **the official IGNOU website** under “Student Services → Downloads → Previous Years Question Papers”.