

YOGA (84)

Aims:

1. To enable young people to generate an understanding of the principles of yogic practices so as to improve quality of life.
2. To develop the ability to perform appropriate yogic asanas so as to improve physical and mental conditions and emotional equilibrium.
3. To help youngsters improve psychological functions, e.g. awareness, concentration, will power, humility.
4. To foster team spirit amongst the youth and avoid unhealthy competition.
5. To develop appreciation for Indian cultural practices that support meaningful and relevant educational strategies.
6. To create opportunities to develop ideals, social skills and strengths.

CLASS IX

*There will be one written paper of **two hours** duration carrying **100 marks** and Internal Assessment of **100 marks**..*

PAPER I (THEORY)

SECTION I: HUMAN BIOLOGY

1. The Human Skeleton

Functions and classification; axial and appendicular skeletal system; types of joints.

Functions of the human skeleton; classification of the skeletal system; the axial skeletal system: skull bones and vertebral column. Curves of the spine: cervical curve, thoracic curve, lumbar curve, sacral curve, coccyx. Rib cage and sternum, structure and functions (briefly); the appendicular skeletal system:

Location of pectoral girdle (scapula and clavicle), bones of arms; pelvic girdle - ilium, pubis, ischium; bones of the legs.

Types of joints: immovable, movable: Pivot, Hinge, Gliding, Ball and socket (with examples). Tendons, Ligaments, joints, cartilage - definition and basic function.

2. The Muscular System

Types of muscles, how muscles are attached, their role in movement. Important muscles of the human body, importance of a good posture.

Types of Muscles, cardiac, striated and smooth muscles;

Understanding a Muscle: (i) Its ability to contract (briefly) (ii) Its ability to extend (briefly) (iii) Muscle tone and its importance for maintaining posture (iv) Attachment of muscles to bones through tendons and a basic understanding of how muscles make movement possible (v) Concept of agonist and antagonist muscles;

Identifying the following important muscles: (i) Muscles in the neck and shoulder regions- Trapezius and Deltoid (ii) Muscles in the arms- biceps and triceps (iii) Muscles in the chest pectorals, intercostal muscles (iv) Muscles in the belly-Rectus abdominis, oblique, Transversus (v) Muscles along the spine-Paraspinal muscles (vi) Muscles in the buttocks-Gluteal muscles (vii) Muscles in the thighs - Hamstrings, Quadriceps, Adductors, (viii) Diaphragm.

Importance of a good posture: An understanding that a poor posture (rounded shoulders, a hunched back) can lead to headaches, backaches and sluggishness. A poor posture also interferes with healthy breathing.

3. The Respiratory System

Parts of the respiratory system: role of intercostal muscles, diaphragm, ribs and sternum; role of yoga in culturing breath and improving respiration.

Parts of the respiratory system: Nasal cavity, Pharynx, Larynx Trachea, Bronchi, Bronchioles,

Alveoli, Lungs, (location and function of each part);

The role of intercostal muscles, diaphragm, ribs and sternum for (i) inspiration (ii) expiration;

How yoga cultures breath and improves respiration.

4. The Digestive System

The alimentary canal and the importance of a healthy diet.

The Alimentary Canal: Mouth, Oesophagus, Stomach, Liver, Pancreas, Small Intestine, Large Intestine, Rectum, Anus (Location and function, in brief, of each of the above).

SECTION II: SAGES OF INDIA

Candidates are expected to know about the lives and teachings of the following sages of India:

1. Valmiki

Early Life; meeting Narada and the turning point of his life; repetition of 'Mara' changing to 'Rama'; formation of a Valmika (anthill) hence his name Valmiki; meeting with Rama and Sita; giving shelter to Sita and her sons Lava and Kusha, when she was banished by Rama; inspiration received to write the Ramayana; importance of the Ramayana and its story in brief; liberation of Ravana through Rama.

2. Kabir

Birth and early life; Meeting with and discipleship under Swami Ramananda; His marriage; Kabir as a social and religious rebel; His death in Magar; Works: Kabir Bijak. Concepts expounded by some of his famous dohas.

3. Mirabai

Birth and early life; Her connection from childhood with Sri Krishna; Her marriage to Prince Bhojraj; Akbar disguised as a merchant visiting her; Ill treatment at the hands of her in-laws after her husband's demise (incident of her drinking the poison unaffected); Her last days in Vrindavan; Importance of her poems and songs

4. Ramakrishna Paramhansa

Birth and early Life; His marriage to Saradamani; arrival at Dakshineswar and introduction to

priesthood; his meeting with teachers like Bhairavi Brahmani & Totapuri; Any three miraculous events in his life

SECTION III: CONCEPTS OF YOGA

1. Guru and Shishya

Importance of Guru in yoga, qualities of Guru, types of shishya and relationship between the Guru and shishya.

2. The four Purusharthas, the four Ashramas

Basic understanding of the above.

3. The four Margas (Bhakti, Karma, Raja, Jnana)

Bhakti yoga: the path of emotions: love devotion and worship, types of bhakti: saguna, nirguna and para bhakti, various ways of worshipping: navdha bhakti, concept of personal god.

Karma yoga: the path of actions, various concepts of karma like (i) Karma kaushalam (excellence in work), (ii) Nishkama karma (abandonment of expectations for the results and selfish motives), (iii) Samatvam (equanimity), (iv) faith and surrendering ego, types of karma, black, white and black and white, karmashaya and how it builds up, role of karma as cause of bondage and salvation

Raja yoga: the path to inner world through concentration and will to control the mind and its modifications, ashtanga yoga

Jnana yoga: the path of wisdom, knowledge and intellect

4. Patanjali and his contributions to Yoga

A brief story of his life, contribution to Sanskrit grammar, Ayurveda and the Yoga sutras.

5. Ashtanga Yoga as defined in the Yoga Sutras

Bahiranga and Antaranga sadhna.

The Five Yamas

Ahimsa, Satya, Asteya, Brahmcharya, Aparigraha.

The Five Niyamas

Saucha, Santosha, Tapas, Svadhyaya, Ishwar Pranidhana.

*A note on **Kriya Yoga** as explained in sutra 2.1*

(a) Asanas

(b) Pranayama

- (c) Pratyahara
- (d) Dharana
- (e) Dhyana
- (f) Samadhi

SECTION IV: PSYCHOLOGY AND PHYSIOLOGY OF YOGA

1. An Understanding of Yoga

Definition of yoga: according to Patanjali, as explained in the Bhagvad Gita. (yoga is excellence in action\works)

How is yoga different from other forms of physical exercise? To be discussed with respect to the interconnection between mind, body, and spirit and how yoga brings these into harmony with each other. Yoga also addresses imbalances and illnesses at an organic level (the action of yoga reaches the inner organs and heals chronic ailments from the roots).

2. Hatha Yoga

(a) Understanding the roots

Ha (the sun) Tha (the moon). Hence Hatha yoga is the art and science of balancing power (the sun) with peace (the moon) as applied to:

- (i) *Muscles: asanas should strengthen them (sun aspect) and make them flexible (moon aspect).*
- (ii) *Degree of stretch in an asana should not be maximum nor minimum but optimum (balanced and so recommended).*

(b) Breath

- (i) *Inhalation, the power or the sun aspect of the breath*
- (ii) *Exhalation, the peace or the moon aspect of the breath*

(c) Nadis

Ida (moon channel, left nostril), Pingala (sun channel, right nostril), Sushumna (central channel) (Just a basic concept and location of above nadis).

3. Psychological aspect of an asana practice

Reactivity threshold; psychological aspects of: Meditative and relaxing postures, forward bending

asanas, back bending asanas, standing asanas, balancing asanas and inverted asanas.

- *Reactivity threshold: By watching the breath instead of paying attention to the pain experienced during an asana one becomes less reactive in day to day life as well.*
- *Meditative and relaxing postures: bring self-discipline, relaxation and steadiness*
- *Forward bending asanas: Bring peace, release of tension, and humility to the mind.*
- *Back bending asanas: Energise the system and enhance self-esteem.*
- *Standing asanas: Help to root the practitioner in existence. Enhance stability and endurance.*
- *Balancing asanas: Increase concentration and focus*
- *Inverted asanas: Hormone balancing hence anti-anxiety and anti-depression.*

4. Pancha Koshas

Panch Koshas - a concept from the Taittiriya Upanishad: Annamaya Pranamaya, Manomaya, Vijnanamaya, Anandamaya kosha.

A basic understanding of how a human being is made up of the above sheaths; how each sheath is related to the next sheath. An understanding of the relationship between life force (prana) and the physical body (Annamaya) so also an understanding of connection between thoughts (Manomaya) and the energy flowing in the body (Pranamaya).

5. Pancha Pranas

Prana, Apana, Samana, Udana, Vyana

Location and basic functions of the above 5 pranas.

6. The Seven Chakras

Muladhara, Swadishthana, Manipura, Anahata, Visuddhi, Ajna, Sahasrara

Location and functions; the element the chakra is associated with; colour of the chakra.

7. Sutras

Sutras 2.29. 2.46

The above two sutras should be known with their meanings.

8. Yogachara: wellness through the four pillars of yoga

(i) Ahar (diet)

An introduction to the concepts of Sattva, Rajas and Tamas as applied to food; The importance of a healthy diet and its effect on physical, emotional and mental wellbeing. Importance of the following:

- Incorporating seasonal fresh fruit and vegetables in the diet*
- Drinking adequate amount of water in a day*
- Health hazards of in taking an excess of aerated drinks, refined flour, salt, white sugar, packaged foods.*
- Concept of mitahar (as in Hatha yoga), importance of eating right quality and quantity of food.*

(ii) Vihar (relaxation and recreation)

Importance of conscious relaxation as in shavasana, doing recreational activities (developing creative hobbies) in which, body, mind and emotions are involved.

(iii) Achar

Importance of discipline in routines and actions/work; for example: sleep and wake up early, maintain meal times.

(iv) Vichar (thoughts)

Positive thinking, pratipaksh bhavana, understanding the temporary nature of the objects through Anitya bhavana, attitude of gratitude and forgiveness, surrendering the 'I' sense.

PAPER II (Internal Assessment)

The practical work is divided into two sections as follows:

Section A (40 Marks): Course Work - the course work will be assessed by the teacher on the basis of continuous assessment. The candidate will be assessed on the basis of his/her output in the following areas:

- Degree of effort and progress in his/her yoga practice (judged through periodical tests).
- Assisting the yoga therapy sessions.

(c) Improving his/her own health and well being through yoga therapy.

(d) Participation in programmes..

Section B (60 Marks): This section will consist of three Practical Tests.

Test 1: Predetermined Asanas (30 marks)

The pupil must perform any six asanas from those given below:

Utthita Trikonasana, Utthita Parshvakonasana, Virbhadrasana I, Virbhadrasana II, Parasarita Pada Uttanasana I, Adho Mukha Shvanasana, Shirshasana(half), Karna Pidasana.

Test 2: Directed asanas (20 marks)

The pupil must perform 4 or 5 asanas of the teacher's choice. (The teacher will select asanas from the Class IX syllabus only). The teacher may test the pupil's ability to adapt and modify asanas.

Test 3: Preference of asanas (10 marks)

The pupil will perform 2 asanas of his/her own choice.

Important Notes: The pupil must choose two asanas from the Class IX syllabus only.

The pupil must not choose any asanas that he/she has already demonstrated in Test 1 and Test 2.

The practical work is to be covered under the following categories:

(A) Asanas

- Vrikshasana
- Garudasana
- Utthita Trikonasana
- Utthita Parshva Konasana
- Virbhadrasana I
- Virbhadrasana II
- Prasarita Pada Uttanasana I
- Pada Hastasana
- Adho Mukha Shvanasana
- Parvatasana
- Urdhva Prasarita Padasana
- Supta Virasana
- Ushtrasana
- Dhanurasana
- Marichyasana 1 (Twist only)

16. Bharadvajasana I
17. Bharadvajasana II
18. Malasana (Squatting only)
19. Shirshasana (half shirshasana, wherein, the student can climb the wall and rest the toes on the wall while doing shirshasana)
20. Salambha Sarvangasana I
21. Halasana
22. Karna Pidasana
23. Supta Konasana

(B) The Surya Namaskar

(C) Breathing pranayama

1. Anapanasati - sensing the incoming and outgoing breath in the nasal passages for about 3 minutes to begin with in order to slow down thoughts. This can be eventually extended to 5 minutes.
2. Abdominal Breathing, the students should be made aware that the belly should move outwards when we inhale and move inwards when we exhale.
3. The Full Yogic breath:
 - (a) Abdominal breath
 - (b) Thoracic breath
 - (c) Clavicular breath