

# IBPS Clerk (CRP CSA-XVI) 2026

Selection Process | Exam Pattern | Syllabus

## 1. Selection Process

The IBPS Clerk selection process for CRP CSA-XVI consists of three stages, followed by provisional allotment and document verification:

- Stage 1 — Online Preliminary Examination:** Objective test in English Language, Numerical Ability, and Reasoning Ability. Candidates must clear the sectional as well as overall cut-off to be shortlisted for the Main Exam.
- Stage 2 — Online Main Examination:** Objective test in General/Financial Awareness, General English, Reasoning Ability, and Quantitative Aptitude. Only marks scored in the Main Exam are used for the final merit list.
- Stage 3 — Local Language Proficiency Test (LLPT):** Conducted after qualifying the Main Exam / Provisional Allotment but before joining. Tests proficiency in the local language of the applied State/UT. Candidates who studied the local language up to 10th standard are exempted; others must clear it or will be disqualified.

After these stages, shortlisted candidates undergo **provisional allotment** to a Participating Bank (based on merit-cum-preference and State/UT-wise vacancies), followed by **document verification and joining formalities**.

## 2. Exam Pattern

### Preliminary Examination

| Test              | No. of Questions | Max. Marks | Duration          |
|-------------------|------------------|------------|-------------------|
| English Language  | 30               | 30         | 20 minutes        |
| Numerical Ability | 35               | 35         | 20 minutes        |
| Reasoning Ability | 35               | 35         | 20 minutes        |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>100</b>       | <b>100</b> | <b>60 minutes</b> |

### Main Examination

| Test                        | No. of Questions | Max. Marks | Duration           |
|-----------------------------|------------------|------------|--------------------|
| General/Financial Awareness | 40               | 50         | 20 minutes         |
| General English             | 40               | 40         | 35 minutes         |
| Reasoning Ability           | 40               | 60         | 35 minutes         |
| Quantitative Aptitude       | 40               | 50         | 35 minutes         |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>160</b>       | <b>200</b> | <b>125 minutes</b> |

### Key Pattern Details

- **Negative Marking:** 0.25 marks deducted for every wrong answer in both Prelims and Main. No penalty for unattempted questions.
- **Medium of Exam:** English Language / General English is tested only in English. Other sections may be attempted in English, Hindi, or the specified regional language of the applied State/UT.
- **Normalization:** Scores across different exam sessions/shifts are normalized using the equi-percentile method.

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### 3. Syllabus

IBPS does not publish a detailed topic-wise syllabus in its official notification — only the exam pattern (subjects, number of questions, marks, and timing) is specified. The topic breakdown below reflects the prescribed subjects and consistent patterns seen in recent IBPS Clerk examinations.

#### Preliminary Exam Syllabus

##### English Language

Reading Comprehension, Cloze Test, Error Detection / Sentence Improvement, Fillers, Vocabulary, Sentence Rearrangement, Para-jumbles, Word Swap / Rearrangement, Idioms & Phrases, Word Usage, Connectors / Starters.

##### Reasoning Ability

Puzzles (box-based, floor-based, day/month/year-based, etc.), Seating Arrangement (circular, linear, square/rectangular), Syllogism, Inequality, Coding-Decoding, Blood Relations, Direction Sense, Alphanumeric/Number Series, Ranking & Order, Word Pairs.

##### Numerical Ability

Simplification/Approximation, Number Series, Quadratic Equations, Ratio & Proportion, Percentage, Number System, HCF & LCM, Average, Ages, Partnership, Mixtures & Alligations, Simple & Compound Interest, Time & Work, Pipes & Cisterns, Profit & Loss, Speed Time & Distance, Boats & Streams, Mensuration, Probability, Permutation & Combination, Data Interpretation (table, bar, line, pie charts, caselets), Data Sufficiency.

#### Main Exam Syllabus

##### General English

Reading Comprehension (including multiple short passages), Fillers, Sentence Rearrangement, Error Detection, Cloze Test, Paragraph Completion/Inference, Match the Columns, Idioms & Phrases, Word Usage, Spelling Errors.

##### Reasoning Ability

Advanced Seating Arrangement (circular, linear, blood-relation based), Coded Inequality, Coded Blood Relations, Input-Output, Coded Syllogism, Logical Reasoning (statement-assumption / inference / conclusion), Data Sufficiency, Alphanumeric Series.

##### Quantitative Aptitude

Approximation, Number Series, Quadratic Equations, Arithmetic topics (Ratio-Proportion, Percentage, Average, Ages, Partnership, Mixtures, SI/CI, Time & Work, Pipes & Cisterns, Profit & Loss, Speed-Time-Distance, Boats & Streams, Trains, Mensuration, Probability, Permutation & Combination), Data Interpretation (including caselet and mixed DI), Data Sufficiency.

##### General / Financial Awareness

Banking and Financial Awareness (RBI functions, monetary policy, banking terms), Current Affairs (national, international, state), Government Schemes, Static Awareness (headquarters, currencies, etc.), Sports News, Books & Authors, Important Days, Awards & Honours, Appointments, Obituaries, Union Budget, Economic Survey, Committees/Reports/Indexes.

#### Preparation Tips

- Since only Main Exam marks count for final selection, prepare for it with equal seriousness even after clearing Prelims.
- Focus on accuracy given the negative marking — unattempted questions are safer than guesses in unfamiliar areas.
- For General/Financial Awareness, track at least the last 6 months of banking and current affairs before the Main Exam.

- Practice sectional mock tests since each section is separately timed.
  - Brush up on your local/regional language basics early, since the LLPT is mandatory and disqualifying if not cleared (unless exempted via 10th standard certificate).
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*Disclaimer: Exam pattern details are as per the official IBPS CRP CSA-XVI notification. The syllabus is not officially published by IBPS and is compiled from consistent patterns in recent IBPS Clerk examinations as reported by reliable exam-preparation sources. Candidates should refer to the official Information Handout (available with the call letter) for final confirmation closer to the exam date, and regularly check [www.ibps.in](http://www.ibps.in) for updates.*

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