

SSC CGL Complete Preparation Guide

The **SSC CGL examination** is one of India's most sought-after government recruitment exams. Every year, lakhs of graduates compete for Group B and Group C posts across various departments and ministries of the Government of India.

This guide covers everything an aspirant needs to know to start and structure their SSC CGL preparation effectively.

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SSC CGL: Exam Overview

Particulars	Details
Exam Name	SSC Combined Graduate Level Examination
Conducting Body	Staff Selection Commission
Popularly Known As	SSC CGL
Level	Graduate
Selection Process	Tier 1 & Tier 2
Mode of Examination	Computer-Based Examination
Posts	Group B and Group C posts
Eligibility	Graduation
Official Website	ssc.gov.in

2. SSC CGL Eligibility Criteria

Before starting preparation, candidates should check whether they satisfy the eligibility requirements.

Educational Qualification

Candidates generally need a Bachelor's degree from a recognised university or institution.

However, specific posts may have additional educational requirements. Candidates should carefully check the post-wise qualification mentioned in the official notification.

Age Limit

The age limit varies according to the post. Different posts may have different maximum age limits.

Age relaxation is applicable to eligible candidates belonging to reserved categories as per Government of India rules.

Nationality

Candidates must satisfy the nationality/citizenship conditions prescribed by SSC.

3. SSC CGL Selection Process

The SSC CGL selection process is conducted through 2 stages – Tier 1 and Tier 2

Tier 1

Tier 1 is a computer-based examination consisting of four sections:

1. General Intelligence & Reasoning
2. General Awareness
3. Quantitative Aptitude
4. English Comprehension

Subject	No. of Questions	Maximum Marks
General Intelligence & Reasoning	25	50
General Awareness	25	50
Quantitative Aptitude	25	50
English Comprehension	25	50
Total	100	200

Tier 2

Tier 2 consists of multiple papers/modules depending on the post applied for.

SSC CGL Tier 2 Exam Pattern 2026 – Paper I

Paper-I is compulsory for **all candidates** appearing for SSC CGL Tier 2.

Section	Subject	Questions	Marks
Section-I	Mathematical Abilities	30	90
	Reasoning and General Intelligence	30	90
Section-I Total		60	180
Section-II	English Language and Comprehension	45	135
	General Awareness	25	75
Section-II Total		70	210
Section-III	Computer Knowledge Test	20	60
Section-IV	Data Entry Speed Test (DEST)	1	Qualifying

SSC CGL Tier 2 Paper II and Paper III

Paper	Subject	Questions	Marks	Applicable to
Paper-II	Statistics	100	200	Junior Statistical Officer (JSO)
Paper-III	General Studies – Finance & Economics	100	200	Assistant Audit Officer / Assistant Accounts Officer

5. SSC CGL Tier 1 Syllabus

General Intelligence & Reasoning

Important topics include:

- Analogy
- Classification
- Coding-Decoding
- Series
- Blood Relations
- Direction Sense
- Venn Diagrams

- Syllogism
- Statement & Conclusion
- Mathematical Operations
- Mirror Images
- Water Images
- Paper Folding
- Embedded Figures
- Figure Completion
- Non-Verbal Reasoning

Preparation Tip

Focus on identifying **question patterns** rather than memorising individual questions. Solve previous-year questions topic-wise and maintain a mistake notebook.

6. Quantitative Aptitude Syllabus

Important topics include:

Arithmetic

- Percentage
- Profit & Loss
- Ratio & Proportion
- Average
- Simple Interest
- Compound Interest
- Time & Work
- Time, Speed & Distance
- Mixture & Alligation
- Partnership

Algebra

- Basic Algebraic Identities
- Linear Equations
- Surds & Indices

Geometry

- Lines & Angles
- Triangles
- Circles
- Quadrilaterals
- Polygons

Mensuration

- Area
- Perimeter
- Volume
- Surface Area

Trigonometry

- Trigonometric Ratios
- Heights & Distances
- Basic Identities

Data Interpretation

- Tables
- Bar Graphs
- Pie Charts
- Line Graphs

Preparation Tip

For Quantitative Aptitude, **concept + calculation speed + repeated practice** is the key.

7. English Comprehension Syllabus

Important areas include:

- Vocabulary
- Synonyms & Antonyms
- One Word Substitution
- Idioms & Phrases
- Spelling
- Fill in the Blanks
- Error Detection

- Sentence Improvement
- Active & Passive Voice
- Direct & Indirect Speech
- Cloze Test
- Para Jumbles
- Reading Comprehension

Preparation Tip

Spend time every day on vocabulary and reading. Instead of trying to learn hundreds of words at once, build a daily vocabulary habit.

Target: Learn and revise 10–15 useful words every day.

8. General Awareness Syllabus

General Awareness is one of the broadest sections in SSC CGL.

Static GK

- History
- Geography
- Indian Polity
- Economy
- General Science
- Art & Culture
- Important Organisations
- Books & Authors
- Awards & Honours
- Sports

Current Affairs

Focus on:

- National & International Events
- Government Schemes
- Appointments
- Awards
- Important Days

- Sports
- Defence
- Science & Technology
- Economy
- Reports & Indices

9. SSC CGL Tier 2

The examination includes different papers/modules depending on the post and eligibility requirements.

Paper 1

Paper 1 includes major areas such as:

- Mathematical Abilities
- Reasoning & General Intelligence
- English Language & Comprehension
- General Awareness
- Computer Knowledge
- Data Entry Speed Test (where applicable)

Additional papers may be applicable to specific posts.

10. Subject-Wise Preparation Strategy

Quantitative Aptitude

Step 1: Learn concepts

Step 2: Solve basic questions

Step 3: Move to SSC-level questions

Step 4: Practice previous-year questions

Step 5: Take timed tests

Daily Target

- 1–2 concepts
- 30–50 practice questions
- 15–20 previous-year questions
- Analyse mistakes

Reasoning

Reasoning can become a high-scoring section with regular practice.

Daily Target

- 30–40 questions
- 2–3 topic-wise sets
- One timed practice session

Focus particularly on topics where you repeatedly make mistakes.

English

Create three notebooks/sections:

Vocabulary → Grammar → Mistakes

Read, practise and revise every day.

General Awareness

Use a combination of:

Static GK + Current Affairs + Previous-Year Questions

Avoid spending too much time making lengthy notes. Your notes should be short enough to revise repeatedly.

11. 90-Day SSC CGL Study Plan

Phase 1: Days 1–30

Build Your Foundation

Focus on:

- Understanding the syllabus
- Learning basic concepts
- Starting vocabulary
- Covering important static GK
- Beginning previous-year questions

Goal: Complete the basics of all major subjects.

Phase 2: Days 31–60

Strengthen Concepts

Focus on:

- Advanced-level questions

- Topic-wise PYQs
- Sectional tests
- Current affairs
- Speed improvement

Goal: Identify your weak areas.

Phase 3: Days 61–75

Intensive Practice

Focus on:

- Full-length mock tests
- PYQs
- Time management
- Accuracy
- Weak-topic revision

Goal: Improve both speed and accuracy.

Phase 4: Days 76–90

Revision & Exam Simulation

Focus on:

- Full mocks
- Formula revision
- Vocabulary revision
- Current affairs revision
- Error notebook
- Previous-year questions

Goal: Replicate the actual exam environment.

12. Final 30-Day Strategy

During the final month, avoid starting too many new topics.

Focus on:

- ✓ Previous-year questions
- ✓ Full-length mocks
- ✓ Current affairs
- ✓ Formula revision
- ✓ Vocabulary
- ✓ Important GK topics
- ✓ Error notebook
- ✓ Weak areas

Last 7 Days

- Reduce new learning
- Revise short notes
- Solve selected PYQs
- Take manageable mocks
- Maintain your sleep schedule
- Avoid unnecessary resources

13. SSC CGL Preparation Checklist

Before the examination, make sure you have:

- ☐ Completed the syllabus
- ☐ Solved previous-year questions
- ☐ Taken regular mock tests
- ☐ Analysed mock performance
- ☐ Revised important formulas
- ☐ Revised vocabulary
- ☐ Covered important current affairs
- ☐ Identified weak areas
- ☐ Created short revision notes
- ☐ Practised time management
- ☐ Checked the latest official notification