



Name of the cadet	CDT. Om Gupta
Recommended for	NDA 142 Army (NDA-2-2018)
Name of the Institute	Services Preparatory Institute, Govt. Of Maharashtra
All India Rank	3
Score in UPSC NDA	Math's=169.74 GAT=401.32
Score In SSB	475

My Strategy For UPSC -NDA

MATHS-to ensure that I get good marks, I studied all the topics of maths. Once the topic was taught to us, I would practice questions of that topic. Where ever I came across a challenging question or a question that has been asked several times, I would mark it in that book and also write the question along with its solution in a formula book that I had made. (The formula book had all the important and practically useful formulae and the above mentioned questions topic wise. Once I was done with the syllabus for math's, along with practicing from reference books, I would keep on revising from the formula book.) Several questions are repeated in the exam and since I had made note of them in the formula book, I didn't have to waste much time on such questions and thus I saved a lot of time during the exam. For scoring good in math's, I would suggest you to cover all the topics and not to think about skipping topics based on the trend of chapter wise questions. It's better to memorize the frequently asked questions so that you don't have to think much while solving them. Make a formula book for quick revision. Revise daily.

GAT- 1) English- practice previously asked questions. Make a list of errors that are asked- the errors are limited and only the sentence varies. So spotting the error becomes easy to solve. For questions based on vocabulary, vocabulary has to be built up over time and solving previously asked questions gives a fair idea of what type of words are generally asked and how to solve them.

2) geography- questions are repeated a lot. Pathfinder and previously asked questions will do the trick. This section is very easy to solve because the syllabus is well defined.

3) history, civics and economics- questions are repeated. I solved previously asked questions and studied the sections which were important.

I focused mainly on geography and English.

My Strategy For SSB

Your getting recommended depends solely on your personality. If you have the OLQs in you, you are bound to get recommended. But as your personality is judged through the tests they conduct, we have to do well in the test to give sufficient good quality material to the assessors so that can judge us in a better way.

So definitely working on the personality is paramount. I worked in my personality by trying to become a better person and improving in all aspects.

For the psychological tests, I practiced them till the sentences and stories came naturally to me and also prepared interesting themes. For TAT and particularly in PPDT, an interesting story is very important.

I practiced the GTO tasks with my course mates and prepared and delivered lecturettes to do well in the lecturette.

The questions asked in the interview are quite limited and follow a pattern (we were briefed by the instructor). I had written the answers to all the questions and memorized them so that I could answer without any mistakes and hesitation. I also gave mock interviews to get used to it.

TIPS FOR NEW STUDENTS

- ❓ to reach the SSB, you need to pass the written test first. So focus on your studies. Don't leave out any thing from the portion and don't study the things that are out of syllabus for GAT (many people waste their time by doing so).
- ❓ For SSB, your personality matters. Do develop your personality and build your leadership skills. Practice the tests but remember that too much practice of the psychological tests is detrimental.