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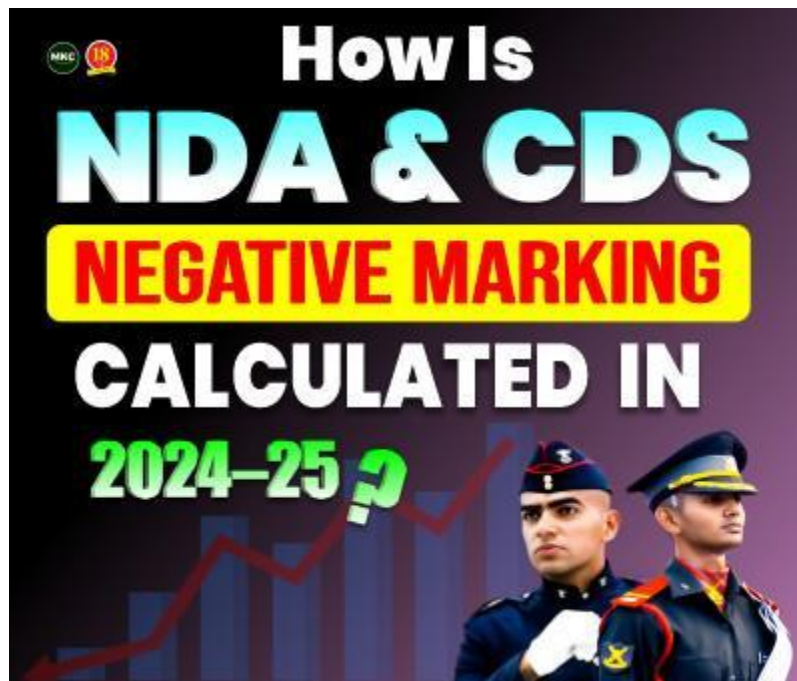
How is NDA & CDS Negative Marking Calculated in 2024–25?

(by Major Kalshi Classes)

Every year, lakhs of defence aspirants appear for the [CDS \(Combined Defence Services\)](#) and [NDA \(National Defence Academy\)](#) exams conducted by UPSC.

While preparing, understanding the marking scheme, especially negative marking, is crucial to maximizing your score and avoiding common pitfalls.

This blog will explain the marking pattern of both exams, how negative marking works, and how to calculate your expected score using real examples.



How to Calculate Marks in the UPSC CDS 2 Exam?

Same rule as NDA, but marks per question vary.

For example, in CDS 2 English:

- $100 \text{ questions} \times 0.83 = 83 \text{ marks (if all correct)}$
- $20 \text{ wrong} \times 0.27 = 5.4 \text{ deducted}$
- $\text{Final} = 83 - 5.4 = \mathbf{77.6 \text{ marks}}$

CDS 2 2025 ExamOverview

The **CDS 2 Exam 2025** is scheduled to be conducted by the [Union Public Service Commission \(UPSC\)](#) to appoint eligible candidates to the Indian Military Academy (IMA), Indian Naval Academy (INA), Air Force Academy (AFA), and Officers Training Academy (OTA).

- **Conducting Body:** UPSC
- **Mode of Exam:** Offline (Pen and Paper)
- **Medium:** English and Hindi
- **Type of Questions:** Objective (MCQ)
- **Negative Marking:** Yes

What is the CDS 2 Exam Pattern 2025

For the following: IMA, INA, and AFA

Paper	Subject	Duration	Marks
1	English	2 Hours	100
2	General Knowledge	2 Hours	100
3	Elementary Maths	2 Hours	100

For OTA:

Paper	Subject	Duration	Marks
1	English	2 Hours	100
2	General Knowledge	2 Hours	100

Negative Marking in CDS 2 2025

Yes, negative marking is applicable in the [CDS 2 2025 exam](#), as for **every wrong answer**, **one-third** of the marks assigned to that question are **deducted**.

- **Correct Answer:** Full marks

- **Incorrect Answer:** $-\frac{1}{3}$ of the marks gets deducted
- **Unanswered:** No penalty

CDS 2 Marking Scheme 2025

Each subject in CDS has objective-type questions. Here's the breakdown of marking per subject:

Subject	Total Marks	Number of Questions	Marks per Question	Negative Marking
English	100	120	-0.83	-0.27 approx
General Knowledge	100	120	-0.83	-0.27 approx
Mathematics	100	100	1.00	-0.33

Is Negative Marking There in the CDS 2 OTA Section?

Yes, even in **CDS 2 OTA**, which includes only **English and GK**, the same negative marking rule applies: **1/3rd mark is deducted** for every wrong answer.

Read More About : [CDS 2 Marking Scheme 2025](#)

What are the Steps to Calculate CDS 2 2025 Negative Marking

In order to calculate negative marking in CDS 2 2025 marks, use this simple formula:

$$(\text{Correct} \times \text{Marks per question}) - (\text{Wrong} \times \frac{1}{3} \times \text{Marks per question}) = \text{Final Marks}$$

Example:

If a candidate attempts 90 questions in Maths:

- 70 correct $\rightarrow 70 \times 1 = 70$
- 20 wrong $\rightarrow 20 \times 1/3 = 6.66$ deducted
- **Final Score = $70 - 6.66 = 63.34$ marks**

Useful Tips to Avoid Negative Marking in CDS 2 2025 Exam

- **Skip doubtful questions** rather than guess.
- **Use the elimination method** to increase accuracy.
- **Practice mock tests** to improve speed and precision.
- **Don't over-attempt:** quality over quantity.

How to Reduce Negative Marks in the CDS 2 Exam 2025?

- Focus on **accuracy over attempts**.
- Attempt only the questions you're confident about.
- Manage time well to avoid hasty guesses.
- Use rough sheets for calculations in Maths.

Understanding the **CDS exam pattern and negative marking** is essential to smart preparation. Avoid guesswork, stay accurate, and revise thoroughly to stay ahead of the competition.

UPSC NDA 2 2025 Exam Marking Scheme

The **NDA 2 exam2025** has two papers: **Mathematics** and **GAT (General Ability Test)**.

Paper	Total Marks	No. of Questions	Marks per Question	Negative Marking
Maths	300	120	2.5	-0.83
GAT	600	150	4.0	-1.33

Understanding How to Calculate Marks in the UPSC NDA Exam With Examples

In both papers, negative marking is 1/3rd of the marks for every wrong answer.

Final Marks = (Correct × Marks per question) – (Wrong × 1/3 × Marks per question)

How to Calculate Marks in the UPSC NDA Exam for the Mathematics Paper?

To **download the NDA 2 2025 exam for the mathematics papers**, follow the steps below:

- Each question carries **2.5 marks**
- The wrong answer penalty is **–0.83 per wrong answer**

NDA 2 Mathematics Section Marks Calculation

Suppose the candidate attempted 100 questions:

- Correct: $80 \times 2.5 = 200$
- Wrong: $20 \times 0.83 = 16.66$
- **Final Maths Marks = $200 - 16.66 = 183.34$**

How to Calculate Marks in the UPSC NDA Exam for the GAT Paper?

To **download the NDA 2 2025 exam for the GAT papers**, follow the steps below:

- Each GAT question = **4 marks**
- Wrong answer penalty = **–1.33**

Calculation of Marks in NDA 2 GAT Paper

Suppose the candidate attempted 120 questions:

- Correct are 90×4 equals 360
- Wrong: 30×1.33 equals 39.9
- **The final GAT mark is $360 - 39.9$, which equals 320.1.**

Both **CDS and NDA exams** follow strict negative marking rules that can significantly impact your score.

Understanding the marking scheme helps you strategize better, avoid careless errors, and perform smartly. Practice regularly, stay calm, and focus on **accuracy over guesswork**.

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