

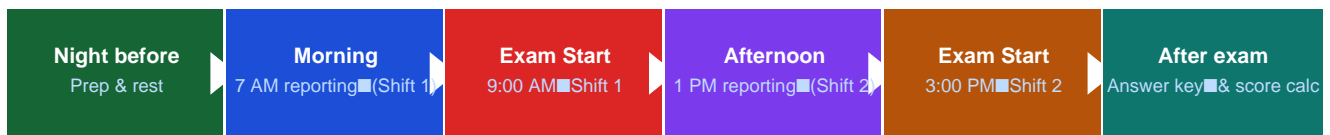
# CUET UG 2026

## Exam Day Survival Guide

CBT Mode · Documents · Dress Code · Timings · Interface Guide · Strategy

**Exam window: May 11–31, 2026 | CBT Mode | [cuet.nta.nic.in](https://cuet.nta.nic.in)**

Prepared by Shiksha.com | [shiksha.com/science/cuet-exam](https://shiksha.com/science/cuet-exam)



37 subjects	50 questions per subject	60 min per subject	250 max marks per subject	+5 / -1 marking
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### Section 1 — Shift timings & reporting schedule

	Shift 1 (Morning)	Shift 2 (Afternoon)
<b>Exam start time</b>	9:00 AM	3:00 PM
<b>Reporting time</b>	7:00 AM (by 7 AM)	1:00 PM (by 1 PM)
<b>Gate closing time</b>	8:30 AM — no entry after	2:30 PM — no entry after
<b>Exam end time</b>	12:00 PM (noon)	6:00 PM
<b>When to wake up</b>	5:00–5:30 AM latest	10:30–11:00 AM latest
<b>Allow travel buffer</b>	45–60 min minimum	45–60 min minimum

**GATE CLOSSES 30 MINUTES BEFORE EXAM START. No exceptions, no second chances. Leave home at least 90 minutes before your reporting time to account for traffic.**

### Section 2 — What to carry on exam day (official NTA list)

✓ MUST CARRY	✗ STRICTLY PROHIBITED
Printed CUET UG 2026 admit card (colour/B&W:)	Mobile phone / smartphone
Valid govt photo ID — Aadhaar / PAN / Passport / Voter ID / Driving Licence	Smartwatch, fitness band, any watch
Blue or black ballpoint pen (for rough work signature)	Calculator (unless subject-specific exception)
Transparent water bottle (allowed per NTA advisory May 2026)	Bluetooth earphones, earbuds, microphone
Passport-size photograph (if asked by centre)	Wallet, purse, handbag, backpack

PwD certificate if using scribe (for PwD candidates)	Pencil box, scale, geometry set, eraser
Religious threads like kalava — allowed per NTA advisory	Cap, helmet, goggles, belt
Woollens if required (arrive early for frisking)	Any notes, books, printed material, bits of paper
	Food (except transparent water bottle)
	Electronic pen, scanner, pen drive

Source: Official NTA advisory on CUET-UG 2026 dress code & permissible items, issued May 2026. Biometric verification (fingerprint/photo) is mandatory at entry — allow extra time.

### Section 3 — Dress code (official NTA advisory, May 2026)

Male candidates	Female candidates
Half-sleeve shirt or T-shirt — recommended	Light-coloured clothing — preferred
Simple trousers or pants — minimal pockets	Simple kurta, salwar, shirt — no embroidery
Slip-on sandals or simple flat footwear	Woollens allowed — arrive early for frisking
Full-sleeve or heavy clothes — NOT recommended	Articles of faith — allowed with early arrival
Shoes with thick soles — will be checked	Ornaments, earrings, necklaces — NOT advisable
Bulky jackets, zip pockets, sequins — NOT allowed	Hair clips, pins, bands — BANNED
Metal jewellery, watches, accessories — BANNED	High heels, boots, fancy footwear — NOT allowed

If wearing cultural/customary dress, report 2+ hours before gate closing time for frisking. Religious threads (kalava etc.) are explicitly permitted per NTA advisory.

## Section 4 — CBT interface guide — how the exam screen works

CUET UG 2026 is 100% computer-based. There is no OMR sheet or question booklet. You answer by clicking with the mouse. Here's exactly what you'll see on screen.

CUET UG 2026 | Subject: Economics | Roll: XXXXXXXX
Time Left: 42:18

**Q.12 Which of the following best describes opportunity cost?**

(A) The total cost of production

**(B) The cost of the next best alternative foregone**

(C) The fixed cost of a product

(D) The marginal cost of one unit

**Save & Next**

Question Palette

● Answered  
● Not answered  
● Marked for review  
● Not visited

1
2
3
4
5

6
7
8
9
10

Button	What it does	When to use it
<b>Save &amp; Next</b>	Saves your answer and moves to next question	After selecting every answer — most important button
<b>Mark for Review</b>	Flags question to revisit — answer may or may not be saved	Unsure of answer but want to return later
<b>Clear Response</b>	Removes your selected answer for this question	Changed your mind, want to deselect
<b>Previous</b>	Goes back to the previous question	To review or change an earlier answer
<b>Submit</b>	Final submission — cannot be undone	Only at the end when all questions are done

### Question palette colour legend

■	<b>Green — Answered</b>	You saved an answer. You're good.
■	<b>Red — Not answered</b>	Visited but no answer saved. Come back.
■	<b>Amber — Marked for review</b>	Flagged. Will be evaluated if answered.
■	<b>Grey — Not visited</b>	Not opened yet. Make sure to attempt all.
■	<b>Purple — Marked, unanswered</b>	Flagged but no answer. Will NOT be evaluated.

Rough sheets are provided at the centre — do not bring your own. Return rough sheets to invigilator before leaving. If computer stops working, calmly inform the invigilator — progress is auto-saved.

## Section 5 — Marking scheme & score calculation

Correct answer	Wrong answer	Unattempted / skipped	Question dropped by NTA
+5 marks	-1 mark	0 marks	+5 marks (to all who attempted)

### Score calculation examples

Scenario	Correct	Wrong	Skipped	Score calculation	Final score / 250
Conservative attempt	40	2	8	$(40 \times 5) - (2 \times 1) = 200 - 2$	198 / 250

Aggressive attempt	45	5	0	$(45 \times 5) - (5 \times 1) = 225 - 5$	220 / 250
Balanced attempt	42	3	5	$(42 \times 5) - (3 \times 1) = 210 - 3$	207 / 250
All attempted	48	2	0	$(48 \times 5) - (2 \times 1) = 240 - 2$	238 / 250

*Key insight: Skipping a question costs 0 marks. A wrong answer costs 1 mark. If you are less than 20% confident in an answer, skip it. Do not guess randomly.*

## Section 6 — 60-minute time management strategy

Phase	Time	What to do
Reading & setup	0:00 – 0:05	Read instructions, check question count, verify your subject name on screen. Report any mismatch immediately.
First pass — attempt	0:05 – 0:40	Go question by question. Attempt questions you know confidently. Use 'Save & Next'. Mark uncertain ones for review. Spend ~45 sec per question.
Second pass — review	0:40 – 0:55	Return to all 'Marked for Review' questions. Attempt or skip based on confidence. Don't change correct answers.
Final check	0:55 – 1:00	Scan the palette — check for any red (not answered) questions you may have missed. Submit when satisfied.

## Section 7 — Key changes in CUET 2026 vs 2025

What changed	CUET 2025	CUET 2026	Impact on you
Exam mode	Hybrid (CBT + pen-paper at some centres)	<b>100% CBT only</b>	No OMR sheet. All answers on screen.
Number of subjects	63 subjects available	<b>37 subjects only</b>	Entrepreneurship, Teaching Aptitude, Legal Studies removed. Check your subjects.
Optional questions	Some subjects had optional questions	<b>No optional questions</b>	All 50 questions must be attempted (or skipped with -0). Plan time accordingly.
Marking scheme	+5 correct, 0 wrong (some subjects)	<b>+5 correct, -1 wrong</b>	Don't guess randomly. Only attempt if 60%+ confident.
Max subjects	Up to 6 subjects	<b>Up to 5 subjects</b>	Check your application — you can only appear for subjects you registered for.
Duration	Varied by subject	<b>60 minutes per subject</b>	Uniform across all subjects. Time management is uniform.

## Section 8 — Night-before & morning-of checklist

Night before	Morning of exam day
■ Print admit card — 2 copies minimum (colour preferred)	■ Eat a proper breakfast — not too heavy
■ Keep original government photo ID ready	■ Double-check: admit card + ID + water bottle
■ Check exam centre address — look it up on Google Maps	■ Leave home 90 min before reporting time
■ Plan travel route — check for road closures / traffic	■ Switch off mobile phone before entering centre

■ Set 2 alarms — one early, one backup	■ Cooperate with frisking — don't argue, stay calm
■ Prepare clothes — half-sleeve, light, no metallic accessories	■ Check computer screen details: name, roll number, subject
■ Fill transparent water bottle	■ Take 5 minutes to read on-screen instructions fully
■ Sleep by 10–11 PM — rest is preparation	■ Start answering — Save & Next after every response

**Stay updated on CUET UG  
2026 — Shiksha.com**

Answer key · Score estimator · University cutoffs · College predictor  
[shiksha.com/science/cuet-exam](https://shiksha.com/science/cuet-exam)

*DISCLAIMER: This guide is prepared by Shiksha.com based on official NTA CUET UG 2026 advisory (May 2026) and [cuet.nta.nic.in](https://cuet.nta.nic.in). Always verify final instructions on your admit card and the official NTA portal.*

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