

IC-38 Syllabus & Exam Preparation Detailed Guide 2026

Syllabus Roadmap • Study Plan • Revision Strategy • Exam-Day Checklist

Prepared as an original learning and revision resource.

This guide is designed to explain concepts in clear language and support exam preparation. It is not a replacement for the latest official syllabus, regulations, circulars, or insurer instructions.

How to Use This PDF

- Use the latest official IC-38 material as the source of truth for the syllabus.
- The Insurance Institute of India currently provides revised IC-38 study material for Insurance Agents.
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- Do not rely on old websites for exam duration, fees, passing marks or registration details.
- Build a study schedule around your branch and available preparation time.
- Complete multiple rounds of MCQ practice and review incorrect answers.

Chapter 1: How the IC-38 Course Is Structured

The Insurance Institute of India provides revised IC-38 study material for insurance agents, with common material plus branch-specific Life, General and Health sections. The official syllabus includes insurance fundamentals, customer service, grievance redressal, regulatory aspects and legal principles, followed by branch-specific topics.

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Core/common learning

Common learning covers insurance concepts, customer service, grievance mechanisms, agent regulation and legal principles. The official General-branch syllabus lists these areas explicitly.

- Study common concepts first.
- Learn definitions and principles with examples.
- Practise objective questions after each chapter.

Branch-specific learning

After common topics, study the relevant branch: Life, General/Non-Life or Health. The Insurance Institute of India currently lists Common, Life, Health and General IC-38 study-material resources.

- Choose the correct branch material for the intended licence.
- Do not rely on a generic internet summary when official material is available.

Chapter Practice Questions

1. Insurance primarily helps a person or organisation to:

- A. eliminate every risk
- B. transfer specified financial risk
- C. guarantee a profit
- D. avoid all uncertainty

Answer: B — Insurance is a risk-transfer mechanism for specified insured risks.

2. A peril is best described as:

- A. a condition increasing risk
- B. the cause of a loss
- C. the amount of premium
- D. a policy document

Answer: B — A peril is a cause of loss, such as fire or theft.

3. Utmost good faith requires parties to:

- A. hide unfavourable facts
- B. disclose material facts
- C. pay no premium
- D. avoid documentation

Answer: B — Material facts relevant to underwriting must be disclosed.

4. Insurable interest means:

- A. the policy has a high premium

- B. the proposer has a recognised financial/legal interest in the subject
- C. the insurer guarantees returns
- D. the claim is always payable

Answer: B — The person seeking insurance must have a recognised interest in the subject matter.

5. Indemnity generally aims to:

- A. create a profit from a loss
- B. restore the insured financially, subject to policy terms
- C. double the claim
- D. remove exclusions

Answer: B — Indemnity is intended to compensate for covered loss rather than create profit.

Chapter 2: Examination Preparation Strategy

The exact examination administration, fee, pass requirements and operational process can change. Confirm the latest instructions through the official examination body, insurer or regulator before the exam.

Four-stage plan

Stage 1: learn concepts. Stage 2: make short revision notes. Stage 3: practise MCQs and analyse mistakes. Stage 4: complete timed mock tests.

- Prioritise weak chapters.
- Review explanations, not only answer letters.
- Use spaced revision rather than one long final session.

High-value revision areas

Focus on definitions, insurance principles, customer service, agent responsibilities, regulatory concepts, claims terminology and the branch-specific product concepts in the official material.

- Make a one-page glossary.
- Create principle-versus-principle comparisons.
- Practise scenario-based questions.

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Chapter 3: Exam-Day Checklist

Use this as an operational checklist rather than as a substitute for current instructions.

Before the exam

Confirm date, time, venue or online instructions, identification requirements and any permitted items from the official communication.

- Carry required identity/documentation.
- Arrive early if the exam is in person.
- Follow the examination body's instructions.

During the exam

Read each question carefully, eliminate clearly incorrect options and avoid changing an answer without a reason. Allocate time so every question is attempted according to the current rules.

- Watch for words such as 'always', 'only' and 'except'.
- Do not assume an industry practice is a universal rule.
- Use the final minutes for review if permitted.

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Final Revision Checklist

- Can you define the major insurance terms without referring to notes?
- Can you explain the core principles and distinguish them from one another?
- Can you identify the customer-service and ethical responsibilities of an agent?
- Can you explain the relevant policy, underwriting and claim concepts for your branch?
- Have you completed the practice questions and reviewed every incorrect answer?
- Before the examination, confirm the current examination instructions with the official authority or examination body.