Art & Culture

Climate-related disasters pose a growing threat to cultural heritage. Discuss the challenges involved in conserving archaeological sites and suggest suitable measures.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 24/10/2026	—	Art & Culture

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Climate change, forest fires, cultural heritage, archaeological conservation, disaster preparedness, documentation, international cooperation.

Model Answer

Introduction:

Cultural heritage preserves evidence of human history, artistic development and past societies. Climate-related disasters increasingly threaten archaeological sites and irreplaceable historical artefacts.

Major threats:

1. Wildfires: Heat can damage rock surfaces, while smoke deposits obscure paintings.
2. Extreme weather: Floods, droughts and temperature fluctuations accelerate the deterioration of heritage structures.
3. Ecosystem degradation: Fires and changing environmental conditions can damage the natural surroundings of archaeological sites.
4. Loss of historical evidence: Irreversible damage reduces opportunities for future research and cultural understanding.

-

Conservation measures:

1. Develop disaster-risk assessments and early-warning systems around heritage sites.
2. Strengthen fire prevention, emergency response and environmental monitoring.
3. Digitally document artefacts using high-resolution imaging and 3D scanning.
4. Promote cooperation among governments, archaeologists and international conservation organisations.

-

Conclusion:

Protecting cultural heritage requires integrating climate adaptation and disaster management into conservation policies to preserve humanity’s shared history.

BECOME IAS
AI POWERED UPSC PREP