**Section A (society, media, knowledge, culture)**

1. Noise vs. Knowledge: truth in the age of social media
2. Comfort as a trap
3. Free press and its responsibilities
4. Future of indigenous languages of North-East India

**Section B (governance, technology, region, wellbeing)**

5. Need for unplugging digital connect in order to reconnect
6. Waste management: India's everyday governance challenge
7. The perennial crisis of floods in Assam
8. Depression and work life

# Key Trends

1. **Digital life dominates.** Topics 1, 3 and 5 all deal with media, information and technology. The theme is not praise of technology but its costs: misinformation, attention, disconnection.
2. **Abstract, reflective topics are back.** "Comfort as a trap" is philosophical and open-ended, which suits aspirants who can build a thesis with examples rather than recite facts.
3. **Assam and North-East relevance is steady.** Floods (7) and indigenous languages (4) are regional anchors. Floods are a near-perennial in APSC essays, so they are a high-probability area.
4. **Governance as everyday problem-solving.** Waste management is framed as a "daily governance challenge", not a policy abstract. Expect questions that ask how institutions deliver at ground level.

5. **Human and wellbeing angle.** Depression and work life reflects the shift toward mental health, workplace culture and modern lifestyle stress.
6. **Balanced choice.** Each section mixes one regional or governance topic, one tech or media topic, and one reflective or social topic, so every aspirant has a “safe” option.

# Takeaways for Future Preparation

- Prepare 3-4 reusable frameworks (cause, impact, governance gap, way forward).
- Keep a bank of Assam-specific data and examples (floods, erosion, Brahmaputra, language policy, Kaziranga).
- Practise both factual and philosophical essays.
- Always add the human, ethical and sustainability dimension.