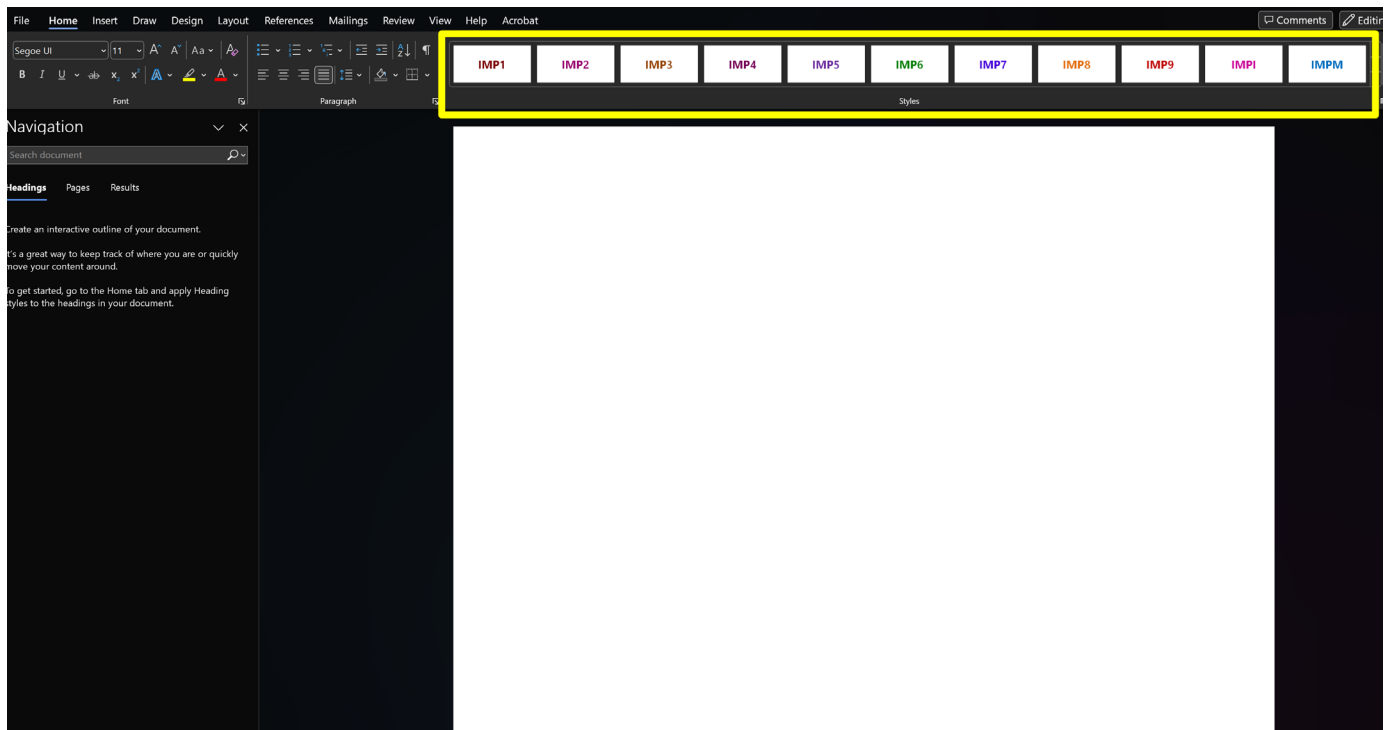


Color Coding

- Headings styles are predefined in the template.
- The template may **not** work fine in the older versions of MS Word. Please install the latest version.
- If you are facing any issues or not able to see the styles, **RESET** your MS Office settings.

<https://www.minitool.com/news/reset-microsoft-office-word-to-default-settings.html>

All the colors are predefined in the template file



Less Important But Needs To Be Highlighted

- **Bolden** the keyword or phrase

More Important And Needs To Be Highlighted

- If a keyword or a phrase is somewhat more critical and has to be distinguished from the rest of the topic, use the brown color.
- If a keyword or a phrase is somewhat more critical and has to be distinguished from the rest of the topic, use the other brown color.
- If a keyword or a phrase is somewhat more critical and has to be distinguished from the rest of the topic, use the dark pink color.

IMP1	IMP2	IMP3	IMP4
------	------	------	------

- If a keyword or a phrase is somewhat more critical, has a NEGATIVE connotation, and has to be distinguished from the rest of the topic, use the violet color.

IMP1	IMP2	IMP3	IMP4	IMP5
------	------	------	------	------

Very, Very Important And Needs To Be Highlighted

- If a keyword or a phrase is very important for PRELIMS/MAINS, and has a POSITIVE connotation, use the green color.

IMP4	IMP5	IMP6	IMP7	IMP8
------	------	------	------	------

- If a keyword or a phrase is very important for PRELIMS/MAINS, and has a NEGATIVE connotation, use the red color.

IMP6	IMP7	IMP8	IMP9	IMPI
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- If a keyword or a phrase is very important for PRELIMS/MAINS, and has a NEUTRAL connotation, use the blue color.
- If a keyword or a phrase is very important for PRELIMS/MAINS, and has a NEUTRAL connotation, use the orange color.

IMP5	IMP6	IMP7	IMP8	IMP9	IMPI
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- If a keyword or a phrase is specifically important for MAINS ONLY, use the other blue color.

IMP5	IMP6	IMP7	IMP8	IMP9	IMPI	IMPM
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Very, Very, Very Important And Needs To Be Highlighted

- If a keyword or a phrase is very important for PRELIMS/MAINS, and has a very chance of being asked in the upcoming exam, use pink color.

IMP8

IMP9

IMPI

IMPM

Do's and Don't's w.r.t Colour Coding

Do's

- You can alternate colors to distinguish the keywords/phrases better.
- Keep it simple and neat.
- Used the predefined colors only.
- Apply the colour codes based on the merit of the topic.

Don't's

- Don't overdo color coding.

Color Coding: Example 1

Helmand River

- **Helmand River** is **Afghanistan's longest river** (95% of it is in Afghanistan).
- It originates near **Kabul** in the western **Hindu Kush mountain range**.
- It irrigates southwestern Afghanistan and eastern Iran.
- It flows for approximately 1,150 km before reaching the **endorheic Sistan Basin**.
- It bifurcates into **Shele Charak River** and the **Sistan River** at **Helmand Fork**.
- The **Shele Charak** briefly flows along the **Iran-Afghanistan border** and drains into **Hamun-e-Puzak**.
- The **Sistan River** flows into Iran and eventually drains into marshy **Lake Hamun (Hamun-i-Helmand)**.

⇒ An **endorheic basin** is a drainage basin that typically retains water and **allows no outflow to other external bodies of water, such as rivers or oceans**. Instead, drainage converges into lakes or swamps (permanent or seasonal) that equilibrate through evaporation.

⇒ The **Sistan Basin** is a vast, low-lying area shared by **Afghanistan and Iran**.

The Hamouns

- The Hamouns are **transboundary wetlands on the Iran-Afghan border** made up of three lakes:
 1. **Hamun-e-Helmand (which is entirely in Iran; is the largest freshwater lake in Iran),**
 2. **Hamun-e Sabari (on the Iran-Afghan border),** and
 3. **Hamun-e Puzak (almost entirely inside Afghanistan).**
- The three lakes are interlinked and fed by water from the **Helmand River**.
- The lakes are of great importance for the regional environment and economy.
- But they are drying up due to drought and the impact of **dams and water controls**.



Example 2

Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS)

- **Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS)** constitute India's **lowest tier** of the **Short-Term Co-operative Credit (STCC)** structure.
- They provide **short-term and medium-term credit** and other input services, like seeds, fertilizers, pesticide distribution, etc., to member farmers.
- In **short-term lending** (also called **crop loans**), farmers avail credit at the start of the cropping cycle. **Banks (including PACS)** extend this credit at **7% interest** (under the **interest subvention scheme**, central and state governments subsidize a part of this interest).
- **NABARD** refinances PACS through 352 District Central Cooperative Banks (DCCBs) and 34 State Co-operative Banks (StCBs).

Example 3

Negative Impact of these Unusual Western Disturbances

- These WDs cause heavy rainfall and hailstorms in many regions, which **destroy crops**.

- Increasing WDs during summer can **interact with monsoon weather systems** such as low-pressure areas and depressions in the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea.
- The interaction can lead to **extreme rainfall events** and **cloud bursts** in the hills and mountains, which can cause **floods, flash floods, and landslides**.
- The WDs can also **interact with the monsoon trough** (a low-pressure region that extends from northwest India to northeast India) during the monsoon months and can cause extreme events. This happened in June 2013, causing the massive **Uttarakhand floods**, which killed at least 5,000 people.

Western Disturbances (WD)

- **Western disturbances** are **east-moving rain-bearing wind systems** that **originate** and **pick up moisture** from as far as the **Mediterranean Sea** and even the **Atlantic Ocean**.
- **Western disturbances** are examples of **extra-tropical cyclones**.
- In the case of the Indian subcontinent, moisture is sometimes **shed as rain** when the storm system encounters the **Himalayas**.
- WDs **start declining in numbers after winter**. During the summer months of April and May, they move across north India.

Formation of Western Disturbance

- A high-pressure area over Ukraine and the neighborhood consolidates, causing **cold air intrusion** from polar regions towards an area of relatively warmer air with high moisture.
- This generates **favorable conditions** for **cyclogenesis** in the **upper atmosphere**, which promotes the formation of an eastward-moving extratropical depression.
- Traveling at speeds up to 12 m/s (43 km/h; 27 mph), the disturbance moves towards the Indian subcontinent until the Himalayas inhibits its development, upon which the depression rapidly weakens.
- The western disturbances are embedded in the **mid-latitude subtropical westerly jet stream**.

Impact of Western Disturbances

- WDs bring **heavy rainfall, snowfall, and fog** to northern India.
- Precipitation caused by WDs leads to an abrupt **decrease in air temperature** over northwest India.
- They also bring the **pre-monsoon showers** in north-west India.
- WDs are essential for the excellent yield of **Rabi crops** (wheat, barley, mustard, gram, lentil, etc.).
- WDs can cause extreme weather events like **floods, flash floods, landslides, dust storms, hail storms**, and **cold waves**, killing people, destroying infrastructure, and impacting livelihoods.

Example 4

Buddha Nullah

- **Buddha Nullah** is a 40 km long seasonal stream that runs through the **Malwa region (region of Punjab south to river Sutlej)**.

- **Buddha Nullah** passes as an open drain through **highly populated and industrialised Ludhiana City** before merging with the **Sutlej River** (a tributary of the Indus) as an open drain in the Ludhiana district.
- **Heavy metals** such as **chromium, nickel, arsenic,** and **mercury** are present in the stream.
- Polluted water from Budha Nullah enters various canals after the **Harike waterworks** (located downstream of the confluence of the **Beas** and **Sutlej** rivers just south of **Harike**) near Firozpur, thus affecting far-reaching areas.

Example 5

El Nino Conditions

- **El Nino** is a climatic phenomenon of **unusual warming of the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean**. It results in low-pressure conditions in the eastern Pacific, because of which **Walker Circulation weakens**.
- El Nino is a part of the more significant climatic phenomenon called **El Nino-Southern Oscillation (ENSO)**.
- ENSO is the **fluctuations in temperature between the ocean and atmosphere in the eastern and central tropical Pacific**. It has two phases **El Nino (warm phase)** and **La Nina (cool phase)**.
- Both El Nino and La Nina last for 9 to 12 months, but some prolonged events may last for years.
- El Nino occurs every 3 to 5 years. It occurs **more frequently than La Nina** but is **not a regular event**. Hence it is **not predictable**.

Example 6

Reserves of Lithium

Global

- Countries with largest lithium reserves are: **1st Bolivia > 2nd Argentina > 3rd Chile > 4th United States > 5th Australia > 6th China**
- **54% of the world's lithium reserves** are in three South American countries: **Argentina, Bolivia,** and **Chile**. The area is referred to as the '**Lithium Triangle**'.

India

- Lithium reserves were found in **Karnataka's Mandya district** and **Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district**.
- Potential sites are:
 - ✓ Mica belts of Rajasthan, Bihar, and Andhra Pradesh.
 - ✓ Pegmatite belts of Odisha and Chhattisgarh.
 - ✓ Rann of Kutch (Gujarat).