Social Science (087)

CBSE Class 10 Board Examination 2027 – Practice Paper No. 2

Model Answer Paper

Time: 3 hours **Max. Marks: 80**

Model answers show one correct method; any other correct method gets full marks.

SECTION A – HISTORY History (20 marks). Q.1 to Q.4 are multiple choice questions of 1 mark each. **[4]**

Q.1 Read the statements given below about society in Europe in the mid-eighteenth century and choose the correct option.

Statement I: Members of the landed aristocracy spoke French for purposes of diplomacy and in high society.

Statement II: The landed aristocracy formed the majority of the population on the continent.

(A) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect.
(B) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct.
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(D) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.

Answer (1 mark)
(A) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect.
The aristocracy, united by a common way of life, spoke French for diplomacy and in high society, but it was numerically a small group; the majority of the population was made up of the peasantry.

Q.2 The Quit India Movement of 1942 drew in thousands of ordinary people as well as many leaders. Which one of the following persons is NOT associated with the Quit India Movement?

(A) Matangini Hazra in Bengal
(B) Aruna Asaf Ali
(C) Kanaklata Barua in Assam
(D) Alluri Sitaram Raju in the Gudem Hills

Answer (1 mark)
(D) Alluri Sitaram Raju in the Gudem Hills
Raju led the guerrilla movement of the Gudem hill people in the early 1920s and was executed in 1924. Matangini Hazra, Aruna Asaf Ali and Kanaklata Barua took part in the Quit India Movement.

Q.3 Archaeologists have found seashells from the Maldives at old trading sites in China and East Africa. What do such finds best show about the pre-modern world?

(A) Christian missionaries carried the shells as religious symbols along the silk routes.
(B) Cowries, used as a form of currency, travelled over long distances through trade.
(C) European sailors brought the shells after finding a sea route to Asia in the sixteenth century.
(D) The shells were sent west in return for cargoes of Chinese silk.

Answer (1 mark)
(B) Cowries, used as a form of currency, travelled over long distances through trade.
For more than a millennium, cowries (the Hindi cowdi or seashells, used as a form of currency)

from the Maldives found their way to China and East Africa – an early example of long-distance links.

Q.4 Match Column I with Column II and choose the correct option.

Column I (Person)	Column II (Associated with)
(a) Kitagawa Utamaro	(i) Gulamgiri (1871)
(b) Richard M. Hoe	(ii) Ukiyo prints – 'pictures of the floating world'
(c) Kashibaba	(iii) Chhote Aur Bade Ka Sawal (1938)
(d) Jyotiba Phule	(iv) Power-driven cylindrical press

(A) (a)-(iv), (b)-(ii), (c)-(iii), (d)-(i)
(B) (a)-(ii), (b)-(iii), (c)-(iv), (d)-(i)
(C) (a)-(ii), (b)-(iv), (c)-(i), (d)-(iii)
(D) (a)-(ii), (b)-(iv), (c)-(iii), (d)-(i)

Answer (1 mark)
(D) (a)-(ii), (b)-(iv), (c)-(iii), (d)-(i)
Utamaro (born in Edo, 1753) is known for ukiyo prints; Richard M. Hoe of New York perfected the power-driven cylindrical press (8,000 sheets per hour) by the mid-nineteenth century; Kashibaba, a Kanpur millworker, published Chhote Aur Bade Ka Sawal in 1938; Jyotiba Phule wrote Gulamgiri (1871) on the injustices of the caste system.

SECTION A – HISTORY (contd.) Q.5 (VSA, 2 marks), Q.6 (SA, 3 marks), Q.7 (LA, 5 marks), Q.8 (case-based, 4 marks), Q.9 (map-based, 2 marks). **[16]**

Q.5 Long before European sailors found a sea route to Asia in the sixteenth century, the Indian subcontinent was already linked by sea with distant lands. Give two pieces of evidence from the pre-modern world that support this statement.

Answer (2 marks)
Any two:
1. Indus valley trade: as early as 3000 BCE an active coastal trade linked the Indus valley civilisations with present-day West Asia.
2. Ships on memorial stones: from the ninth century, images of ships appear regularly in memorial stones found on the western coast (for example, a tenth-century memorial stone now in the Goa Museum), which shows the importance of oceanic trade.
3. Indian Ocean trade: for centuries before the sixteenth century the Indian Ocean had known a bustling trade, with goods, people, knowledge and customs criss-crossing its waters; the Indian subcontinent was central to these flows and a crucial point in their networks.
4. Silk routes over land and by sea: textiles and spices from India and Southeast Asia travelled along these routes, and in return gold and silver flowed from Europe to Asia.

Marking: Each correct piece of evidence – 1 mark × 2

Examiner tip: Give specific, dated evidence (coastal trade of 3000 BCE, ship images from the ninth century) – a general line such as 'India traded with many countries' earns no marks.

Q.6 (A) For a long time the imperial state in China was the major producer of printed material, mainly textbooks for the civil service examinations. Explain three ways in which the uses of print in China diversified from the seventeenth century onwards.

OR

(B) From the late nineteenth century, print in Europe reached large numbers of new readers. Explain how print reached children, women and workers, giving one example for each group.

Answer (3 marks)
(A) Any three:
1. Merchants: print was no longer used only by scholar-officials; merchants used print in their

everyday life, as they collected trade information.
2. Reading for leisure: as urban culture bloomed, reading increasingly became a leisure activity; the new readership preferred fictional narratives, poetry, autobiographies, anthologies of literary masterpieces and romantic plays.
3. Women readers and writers: rich women began to read, and many women began publishing their poetry and plays; wives of scholar-officials published their works and courtesans wrote about their lives.
4. New technology: in the late nineteenth century Western printing techniques and mechanical presses were imported; Shanghai became the hub of the new print culture, catering to Western-style schools, and there was a gradual shift from hand printing to mechanical printing.

OR

(B)
1. Children: as primary education became compulsory from the late nineteenth century, children became an important category of readers and school textbooks became critical for publishers. Example: a children's press devoted to literature for children alone was set up in France in 1857 (or the Grimm Brothers' collection of folk tales, 1812).
2. Women: women became important as readers as well as writers. Example: penny magazines and manuals teaching proper behaviour and housekeeping were meant especially for women; with the novel, women were seen as important readers, and some of the best-known novelists were women – Jane Austen, the Brontë sisters, George Eliot.
3. Workers: lending libraries in England became instruments for educating white-collar workers, artisans and lower-middle-class people. Example: after the working day was gradually shortened from the mid-nineteenth century, workers wrote political tracts and autobiographies in large numbers (Thomas Wood, a Yorkshire mechanic, rented old newspapers and read them by firelight).

Marking: (A) Any three ways – 1 mark each · (B) Each group with how print reached it and an example – 1 mark each (½ for the explanation, ½ for the example)

Examiner tip: In (A), do not write about woodblock printing or the examination textbooks – the question asks what changed after them. In (B), give one example for each group; an explanation without an example earns only half the mark.

Q.7 (A) In the middle of the nineteenth century Italy was divided into seven states. Examine how Italy was unified between the 1830s and 1861. Also state one limitation of this unification as far as the common people were concerned. (4 + 1)

OR

(B) In 1848 the liberal middle classes tried to build a German nation through an elected parliament; by 1871 Germany had been united under Prussian leadership. (a) Compare the two efforts on the basis of who led them and the methods they used. (2) (b) 'The nation-building process in Germany demonstrated the dominance of Prussian state power.' Justify the statement with three points. (3)

Answer (5 marks)

(A)
1. A divided land: Italians were scattered over several dynastic states and the Habsburg Empire. Of the seven states, only Sardinia-Piedmont was ruled by an Italian princely house; the north was under the Austrian Habsburgs, the centre was ruled by the Pope and the south was under the Bourbon kings of Spain. Even the Italian language had no single common form.
2. Mazzini's programme: during the 1830s Giuseppe Mazzini put together a programme for a

unitary Italian Republic and formed a secret society, Young Italy, to spread his goals. But the revolutionary uprisings of 1831 and 1848 failed.
3. Sardinia-Piedmont and Cavour: the task now fell on Sardinia-Piedmont under King Victor Emmanuel II, which sought to unify Italy through war; its ruling elites saw in a unified Italy the possibility of economic development and political dominance. Chief Minister Cavour – neither a revolutionary nor a democrat – engineered a tactful diplomatic alliance with France, and Sardinia-Piedmont defeated the Austrian forces in 1859.
4. Garibaldi and the south: a large number of armed volunteers under Giuseppe Garibaldi (the Red Shirts) joined the fray. In 1860 they marched into South Italy and the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies and won the support of local peasants to drive out the Spanish rulers. In 1861 Victor Emmanuel II was proclaimed king of united Italy.
Limitation: much of the Italian population, among whom illiteracy was very high, remained unaware of liberal-nationalist ideology. The peasants of southern Italy who had supported Garibaldi had never heard of 'Italia' and believed that 'La Talia' was Victor Emmanuel's wife.

OR

(B)
(a)
1. Who led: in 1848 the effort was led by middle-class professionals, businessmen and prosperous artisans, through the 831 elected representatives of the Frankfurt parliament; by 1871 it was led by Prussia – its chief minister Otto von Bismarck, the monarchy, the army and the bureaucracy, supported by the large landowners (Junkers).
2. Methods: in 1848 the liberals used elections to an all-German National Assembly and drafted a constitution for a German nation headed by a monarchy subject to a parliament; Prussia used war – three wars over seven years, with Austria, Denmark and France, ended in Prussian victory and completed unification.
(b) Any three:
1. The liberal initiative of 1848 was repressed by the combined forces of the monarchy and the military, supported by the Junkers of Prussia (the King of Prussia had rejected the crown offered by the Frankfurt parliament); from then on Prussia took over the leadership of unification.
2. Unification was carried out by Bismarck with the help of the Prussian army and bureaucracy, not by a popular movement.
3. In January 1871 the Prussian king, William I, was proclaimed German Emperor in a ceremony at Versailles.
4. The new state placed strong emphasis on modernising the currency, banking, legal and judicial systems, and Prussian measures and practices often became a model for the rest of Germany.

Marking: (A) Four relevant stages/points of unification – 1 mark each (4 marks); one limitation – 1 mark · (B)(a) comparison of leadership – 1 mark; comparison of methods – 1 mark; (b) three points – 1 mark each

Examiner tip: In (A), name the role of each leader (Mazzini, Victor Emmanuel II, Cavour, Garibaldi) with years 1859, 1860, 1861, and do not forget the fifth mark for the limitation. In (B)(a), each point must compare both efforts (1848 and 1871); in (b), show Prussian power (monarchy, army, bureaucracy, Prussian model), not just list events.

Q.8 Read the following source and answer the questions that follow.

Swaraj in the Tea Gardens

For the workers on the tea plantations of Assam, the garden was a closed world. Under the Inland Emigration Act of 1859 they were not permitted to leave the gardens without permission, and such permission was rarely given. When news of the Non-Cooperation Movement reached them, thousands of workers defied the authorities, left the plantations and set out for home. They believed that Gandhi Raj was coming and that everyone would be given land in their own villages. They never reached their destination. Stranded on the way by a railway and steamer strike, they were caught by the police and brutally beaten up. The visions of such movements were not defined by the Congress programme. Yet, when people acted in the name of Mahatma Gandhi, they were identifying with a movement which went beyond the limits of their immediate locality.
(Source: based on 'India and the Contemporary World – II', NCERT, Class X, Chapter 2)

8.1 Under which law were the plantation workers of Assam not permitted to leave the tea gardens without permission? (1)
8.2 What did 'swaraj' mean to these plantation workers? (1)
8.3 'The visions of such movements were not defined by the Congress programme.' Explain this statement, and show how the workers were still linked to the national movement. (2)

Answer (4 marks)
8.1 The Inland Emigration Act of 1859.
8.2 For them, freedom (swaraj) meant the right to move freely in and out of the confined space in which they were enclosed, and retaining a link with the village from which they had come (they hoped that under Gandhi Raj everyone would get land in their own villages).
8.3 Not defined by the Congress: the workers interpreted swaraj in their own way – as a time when they could leave the gardens, go home and receive land, when all suffering would be over – and not as the Congress's programme of non-violent non-cooperation; they acted on their own, leaving the plantations in large numbers.
Link with the national movement: by acting in the name of Mahatma Gandhi and in response to the call of Non-Cooperation, they were emotionally relating to an all-India agitation and identifying with a movement that went beyond their own locality.
Marking: 8.1 – 1 mark · 8.2 – 1 mark · 8.3 their own interpretation of swaraj – 1 mark; link with the all-India movement – 1 mark
Examiner tip: In 8.3 write two clear parts – how their idea differed from the Congress programme, and how acting in Gandhiji's name linked them to the national movement.

Q.9 **MAP SKILL-BASED QUESTION – text-only version (as set for Visually Impaired candidates in lieu of the outline map of India).**
Answer the following:
(a) Name the city where the Indian National Congress held a session in September 1920, at which Mahatma Gandhi convinced other leaders of the need to start a non-cooperation movement in support of Khilafat as well as for swaraj. (1)
(b) Name the place in Punjab where, in April 1919, General Dyer blocked the exit points of an enclosed ground and opened fire on a crowd that had gathered there – some to protest against the government's repressive measures and others to attend the annual Baisakhi fair. (1)

Answer (2 marks)
(a) Calcutta (Kolkata).
(b) Jallianwala Bagh, Amritsar.

Marking: (a) Calcutta – 1 mark · (b) Jallianwala Bagh (Amritsar) – 1 mark

Examiner tip: Both places are on the CBSE map list. Do not confuse the Calcutta session (September 1920, special session) with the Nagpur session (December 1920), where the Non-Cooperation programme was adopted.

SECTION B – GEOGRAPHY Geography (20 marks). Q.10 to Q.15 are multiple choice questions of 1 mark each. **[6]**

Q.10 A plot of land in a village of Jalna district can be cultivated, but it has been left uncultivated for the past seven agricultural years. Under which land-use category will this plot be recorded?

(A) Current fallow
(B) Other than current fallow
(C) Culturable waste land
(D) Barren and waste land

Answer (1 mark)
(C) Culturable waste land
Culturable waste land is land left uncultivated for more than 5 agricultural years. Current fallow is left for one or less than one agricultural year; other than current fallow for the past 1 to 5 agricultural years.

Q.11 The inhabitants of five villages in the Alwar district of Rajasthan have declared 1,200 hectares of forest as a protected area. They follow their own rules, which do not allow hunting, and protect the wildlife against outside encroachments. What have they named this forest?

(A) A sacred grove of the Mundas
(B) Bhairodev Dakav 'Sonchuri'
(C) Sariska Tiger Reserve
(D) Navdanya

Answer (1 mark)
(B) Bhairodev Dakav 'Sonchuri'
It is an example of villagers themselves protecting habitats. (Sariska is a tiger reserve where villagers fought against mining; Navdanya is a citizens' group for ecological farming.)

Q.12 Which of the following correctly states the goal of the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) of the Government of India?

(A) To enable every rural household to get an assured supply of potable piped water at 55 litres per capita per day, regularly and on a long-term basis
(B) To make rooftop rainwater harvesting structures compulsory for all houses in the country
(C) To ensure protective irrigation for every farm under 'har khet ko pani'
(D) To change the attitude of water-stressed gram panchayats from consumption to conservation

Answer (1 mark)
(A) To enable every rural household to get an assured supply of potable piped water at 55 litres per capita per day, regularly and on a long-term basis
(C) describes the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana and (D) the Atal Bhujal Yojana; compulsory rooftop harvesting is a rule of Tamil Nadu, not a national mission.

Q.13 A farmer near Latur wants to grow a pulse in rotation with other crops so that it restores soil fertility by fixing nitrogen from the air. Which one of the following pulses would NOT serve this purpose?

(A) Gram
(B) Moong
(C) Arhar (tur)
(D) Urad

Answer (1 mark)
(C) Arhar (tur)
Being leguminous crops, all pulses except arhar help in restoring soil fertility by fixing nitrogen from the air; therefore pulses are mostly grown in rotation with other crops.

Q.14 Read the statements given below and choose the correct option.
Statement I: Hematite has a higher iron content than magnetite.
Statement II: Magnetite has excellent magnetic qualities, which make it especially valuable in the electrical industry.

(A) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect.
(B) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct.
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
(D) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.

Answer (1 mark)
(B) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct.
Magnetite is the finest iron ore, with iron content up to 70 per cent; hematite is the most important industrial iron ore in terms of quantity used but has a slightly lower iron content (50–60 per cent).

Q.15 In the following question, a statement of Assertion (A) is followed by a statement of Reason (R). Choose the correct option.
Assertion (A): The cement industry has strategically located plants in Gujarat.
Reason (R): Cement is a light industry, which uses light raw materials and produces light goods.

(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
(C) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Answer (1 mark)
(C) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
The plants in Gujarat have suitable access to the market in the Gulf countries. Cement manufacture needs bulky and heavy raw materials like limestone, silica and gypsum, besides coal, electric power and rail transport.

SECTION B – GEOGRAPHY (contd.) Q.16 (VSA, 2 marks), Q.17 (LA, 5 marks), Q.18 (case-based, 4 marks), Q.19 (map-based, 3 marks). **[14]**

Q.16 The agriculture department of a district in Marathwada, where rainfall is uncertain and irrigation is limited, is encouraging farmers to grow more millets such as jowar, bajra and ragi. Give two reasons, from your study of millets, why this is a good choice.

Answer (2 marks)
1. High nutritional value: though millets are known as coarse grains, they have very high nutritional value. For example, ragi is very rich in iron, calcium, other micronutrients and roughage.
2. Suited to dry conditions and poorer soils: jowar is a rain-fed crop which hardly needs irrigation; bajra grows well on sandy soils and shallow black soil; ragi is a crop of dry regions that grows well on red, black, sandy, loamy and shallow black soils. (Maharashtra is a major producer of jowar and bajra.)
Marking: Nutritional value – 1 mark · Suitability to rain-fed / dry conditions or poor soils – 1 mark
Examiner tip: Give one nutrition reason and one geographical reason; 'coarse grain' alone is not a reason.

Q.17 (A) Read the three situations and answer the questions that follow.

Situation X: On the hill slopes of a village in Uttarakhand, farmers plough up and down the slope, and the topsoil is washed away every rainy season.

Situation Y: In western Rajasthan, strong winds blow loose soil off flat, open fields.

Situation Z: In the Chambal basin, running water has cut deep channels through the clayey soil, making the land unfit for cultivation.

(a) What is soil erosion? Name any two human activities that disturb the balance between soil formation and soil erosion. (1 + 1)

(b) Name the type of erosion seen in Situation Z and the name given to such land in the Chambal basin. (1)

(c) How should the farmers in Situation X change the way they plough? Suggest one method that would protect the fields in Situation Y. Give a reason for each. (1 + 1)

OR

(B) (a) Most of the jute mills of India are located in a narrow belt along the banks of the Hugli river in West Bengal. Explain any three factors responsible for this. (3)

(b) In recent years sugar mills have tended to shift and concentrate in the southern and western states, especially Maharashtra. Give two reasons for this. (2)

Answer (5 marks)

(A)

(a) Soil erosion is the denudation of the soil cover and its subsequent washing down. Human activities that disturb the balance: deforestation, over-grazing, construction and mining (any two). (Defective methods of farming, such as ploughing up and down the slope, also cause erosion.)

(b) Gully erosion – the running water cuts deep channels (gullies) through clayey soils. Such land becomes unfit for cultivation and is called bad land; in the Chambal basin such lands are called ravines.

(c) Situation X: they should stop ploughing up and down the slope and plough along the contour lines (contour ploughing), which slows down the flow of water down the slopes. (Terraces – steps cut out on the slopes – are also acceptable, since terrace cultivation restricts erosion.)

Situation Y (windy, flat land): strip cropping – large fields are divided into strips and strips of grass are left to grow between the crops, which breaks up the force of the wind; or shelter belts – rows of trees planted to create shelter, which have helped to stabilise sand dunes and the desert in western India.

OR

(B)

(a) Any three:

1. Proximity of the jute-producing areas, so the raw material is close at hand.
2. Inexpensive water transport, supported by a good network of railways, roadways and waterways to move raw material to the mills.
3. Abundant water for processing raw jute.
4. Cheap labour from West Bengal and the adjoining states of Bihar, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh.
5. Kolkata, as a large urban centre, provides banking, insurance and port facilities for the export of jute goods.

(b) Any two:

1. The cane produced in these states has a higher sucrose content.

2. The cooler climate ensures a longer crushing season.
3. Cooperatives are more successful in these states.

Marking: (A)(a) meaning – 1 mark; two human activities – ½ + ½ mark; (b) gully erosion with bad land / ravines – 1 mark; (c) correct method with reason for X – 1 mark, for Y – 1 mark · (B)(a) three factors – 1 mark each; (b) two reasons – 1 mark each

Examiner tip: In (A)(c), match the method to the situation – contour ploughing or terraces for slopes, strip cropping or shelter belts for wind; a method without its reason gets only half the mark. In (B)(b), 'more sugarcane' is not enough – write sucrose content, crushing season and cooperatives.

Q.18 Read the given text and answer the questions that follow.

Life Below the Dam

Fifty years ago a large dam was built across a river to store its water for irrigation, electricity, drinking water for towns and flood control. Villagers living downstream now describe the changes they have seen. Fishermen say that some fish no longer swim upstream in the breeding season. The silt that once spread over the floodplain every monsoon now settles at the bottom of the reservoir. Farmers in the canal area have shifted to water-intensive commercial crops, and in some fields the soil has turned salty. And yet, in a year of very heavy rainfall, the villages were flooded once again.

18.1 Why are dams like the one in the passage now called multi-purpose projects? (1)
18.2 Explain two ecological problems caused by damming the river that can be seen in the passage. (2)
18.3 'Dams that were constructed to control floods have themselves triggered floods.' Give one reason for this. (1)

Answer (4 marks)

18.1 Because the many uses of the impounded water – irrigation, electricity generation, water supply for domestic and industrial uses, flood control, recreation, inland navigation and fish breeding – are integrated with one another in one project.

18.2 Any two:

(i) Dams fragment rivers, making it difficult for aquatic fauna to migrate, especially for spawning; regulating the flow also causes poor sediment flow, rockier stream beds and poorer habitats for the river's aquatic life.

(ii) Excessive sedimentation at the bottom of the reservoir deprives the floodplains of silt, a natural fertiliser, adding to land degradation.

(iii) Irrigation has changed the cropping pattern, with farmers shifting to water-intensive and commercial crops; this has led to salinisation of the soil.

18.3 Sedimentation in the reservoir (which reduces its capacity); moreover, big dams have mostly been unsuccessful in controlling floods at the time of excessive rainfall.

Marking: 18.1 – 1 mark · 18.2 two problems linked to the passage – 1 mark each · 18.3 – 1 mark

Examiner tip: In 18.2 connect each problem to a line of the passage (fish migration, silt, salty soil); a general 'displacement of people' is a social, not an ecological, problem.

Q.19 MAP SKILL-BASED QUESTION – text-only version (as set for Visually Impaired candidates in lieu of the outline map of India).

Answer **any three** of the following:

(i) Name the iron ore mines in the Western Ghats of Karnataka which are a 100 per cent export unit and send their ore as slurry through a pipeline to a port near Mangaluru.

(ii) Name the place in Tamil Nadu where the principal lignite reserves of India are found and used for generating electricity.

(iii) Name the port of Goa which is the premier iron ore exporting port of India.

(iv) Name the most important oil field of Gujarat.

Answer (3 marks)

(i) Kudremukh.

(ii) Neyveli.

(iii) Mormugao (Marmagao).

(iv) Ankleshwar.

(Any three – 1 mark each.)

Marking: Any three correct answers – 1 mark each (3 marks)

Examiner tip: Kudremukh ore is exported through the port near Mangaluru (New Mangalore), while Mormugao in Goa is the premier iron ore exporting port, handling about half of India's iron ore exports – keep the two ports apart.

SECTION C – POLITICAL SCIENCE Political Science (20 marks). Q.20 to Q.23 are multiple choice questions of 1 mark each. **[4]**

Q.20 Three independent island States decide on their own to form a bigger federal unit. By pooling their sovereignty while retaining their identity, they hope to increase their security, and each of them keeps equal power in the new federation. This route of forming a federation is called –

(A) a 'coming together' federation
(B) a 'holding together' federation
(C) a unitary system
(D) a coalition government

Answer (1 mark)

(A) a 'coming together' federation

In this type (e.g. the USA, Switzerland and Australia) the constituent States usually have equal power and are strong vis-à-vis the federal government. In a 'holding together' federation (India, Spain, Belgium) a large country divides power between the States and the national government.

Q.21 After Sri Lanka became independent in 1948, its democratically elected governments adopted a series of majoritarian measures. Which one of the following was NOT one of them?

(A) An Act of 1956 that recognised Sinhala as the only official language
(B) Preferential policies that favoured Sinhala applicants for university positions and government jobs
(C) A constitutional provision that the state shall protect and foster Buddhism
(D) An equal number of ministers from the Sinhala and Tamil communities in the central government

Answer (1 mark)

(D) An equal number of ministers from the Sinhala and Tamil communities in the central government

Equal representation of communities in the central government is a feature of the Belgian model of power sharing (Dutch and French speaking ministers), not of Sri Lanka's majoritarian measures.

Q.22 Which one of the following has NOT helped in breaking down the old notions of caste hierarchy in modern India?

(A) Large-scale urbanisation
(B) Occupational mobility
(C) Growth of literacy and education
(D) Most people continuing to marry within their own caste or tribe

Answer (1 mark)
(D) Most people continuing to marry within their own caste or tribe
This is one of the older aspects of caste that has persisted. Economic development, urbanisation, literacy and education, occupational mobility and the weakening position of landlords have broken down the old notions of caste hierarchy.

Q.23 In the following question, a statement of Assertion (A) is followed by a statement of Reason (R). Choose the correct option.
Assertion (A): The law against defection has helped to bring defection down.
Reason (R): It is mandatory for every candidate who contests elections to file an affidavit giving details of his property and criminal cases pending against him.

(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
(C) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Answer (1 mark)
(B) Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
Defection came down because the amended Constitution says that an MLA or MP who changes parties will lose the seat. The affidavit is a separate reform, ordered by the Supreme Court to reduce the influence of money and criminals.

SECTION C – POLITICAL SCIENCE (contd.) Q.24 and Q.25 (VSA, 2 marks each), Q.26 (SA, 3 marks), Q.27 (LA, 5 marks), Q.28 (case-based, 4 marks). **[16]**

Q.24 Over the last three decades the number and strength of State parties in India has expanded. Explain two ways in which this has affected the working of democracy and federalism at the national level.

Answer (2 marks)
1. A more diverse Parliament and coalitions: the Parliament became politically more and more diverse. No one national party was able to secure a majority in the Lok Sabha on its own (until 2014), so the national parties were compelled to form alliances with State parties.
2. Share in national power: since 1996 nearly every State party has got an opportunity to be a part of one or the other national-level coalition government. This gave the States a voice in the Union Government and has strengthened federalism and democracy in the country (it also led to a new culture of power sharing and respect for the autonomy of State governments).
Marking: Each correct effect with explanation – 1 mark × 2
Examiner tip: Link the rise of State parties to coalition governments at the Centre, and then to stronger federalism – both links are needed.

Q.25 In India, some constituencies in the Lok Sabha and the State Legislative Assemblies are reserved for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.
(a) Which form of power sharing does this arrangement show? (1)
(b) Why are such arrangements made in a democracy? (1)

Answer (2 marks)
(a) Power shared among different social groups – a constitutional and legal arrangement by which socially weaker sections (and women) are represented in the legislatures and administration. (The 'community government' of Belgium is another example of this form.)
(b) Such arrangements give space in the government and administration to diverse social groups who would otherwise feel alienated from the government; they give minority and weaker communities a fair share in power (and so reduce the possibility of conflict).
Marking: (a) power shared among social groups – 1 mark · (b) correct reason – 1 mark
Examiner tip: In (a), 'vertical' or 'horizontal' division is wrong – these seats share power among social groups. In (b), use the idea of giving a fair share and avoiding alienation.

Q.26 'Gender division is an example that some form of social division needs to be expressed in politics.' Support the statement with three points.

Answer (3 marks)
1. Political mobilisation by women: women in different parts of the world organised and agitated for equal rights – the right to vote, the enhancement of their political and legal status, and better educational and career opportunities. This political expression of the gender division improved women's role in public life: women now work as scientists, doctors, engineers, lawyers, managers and university teachers.
2. Reservation in local bodies: because the issue became political, one-third of the seats in local government bodies – panchayats and municipalities – are now reserved for women, and there are more than 10 lakh elected women representatives in rural and urban local bodies.
3. Women's Reservation Act, 2023: women's organisations and activists long demanded one-third of the seats in the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies; in 2023 the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam (Women's Reservation Act, 2023) was passed, which will give 33 per cent reservation of seats for women in the Lok Sabha, the State Legislative Assemblies and the Delhi Assembly.
Thus disadvantaged groups do benefit when social divisions become a political issue.
Marking: Three correct points linked to the political expression of the gender issue – 1 mark each
Examiner tip: Each point must show a gain that came because the issue became political – a list of the problems women face does not answer this question.

Q.27 (A) A student from Tamil Nadu writes a Central Government recruitment examination in Tamil, while his cousin in Odisha works in an office where government work is done in Odia. Using such examples, examine how India's federation passed the 'tests' of (a) the creation of linguistic States (2) and (b) the language policy (3).
OR
(B) (a) Distinguish between a one-party system, a two-party system and a multiparty system, giving one example of each. (3) (b) State one merit and one demerit of a multiparty system. (1 + 1)

Answer (5 marks)
(A)
(a) Linguistic States:
1. In 1947 and later, the boundaries of several old States were changed to create new States, so that people who spoke the same language lived in the same State. Some States were created to recognise differences based on culture, ethnicity or geography (Nagaland, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand).

2. Some national leaders feared that linguistic States would lead to the disintegration of the country, and the Central Government resisted them for some time. But experience has shown that the formation of linguistic States has actually made the country more united and has also made administration easier.
(b) Language policy:
1. No national language: the Constitution did not give the status of national language to any one language. Hindi was identified as the official language, but it is the mother tongue of only about 40 per cent of Indians.
2. Safeguards for other languages: besides Hindi, 21 other languages are recognised as Scheduled Languages. A candidate in an examination for Central Government positions may take it in any of these languages (as the Tamil Nadu student did), and States have their own official languages in which much of the government work is done (as in Odisha).
3. No imposition of Hindi: the use of English for official purposes was to stop in 1965, but when non-Hindi-speaking States (in Tamil Nadu the movement turned violent) demanded its continuation, the Central Government agreed to continue English along with Hindi. Promotion of Hindi does not mean imposing it on States where people speak a different language. This flexibility helped India avoid the kind of situation Sri Lanka finds itself in.

OR

(B)
(a)
1. One-party system: only one party is allowed to control and run the government; the electoral system does not permit free competition for power. Example: China (Communist Party). It is not a democratic option.
2. Two-party system: several parties may exist and win a few seats, but power usually changes between two main parties, and only these two have a serious chance of winning a majority. Examples: the USA, the United Kingdom.
3. Multiparty system: several parties compete for power, and more than two have a reasonable chance of coming to power either on their own strength or in alliance with others. Example: India (alliances such as the NDA, the UPA and the Left Front in 2004).
(b) Merit: it allows a variety of interests and opinions to enjoy political representation.
Demerit: it often appears very messy and leads to political instability.

Marking: (A)(a) two points on linguistic States – 1 mark each; (b) three features of the language policy – 1 mark each · (B)(a) each system correctly explained with an example – 1 mark each (3 marks); (b) merit – 1 mark; demerit – 1 mark

Examiner tip: In (A), use the examples given in the question (examination in Tamil, government work in Odia) inside your answer. In (B)(a), an example without the feature, or a feature without an example, earns only half the mark.

Q.28 Read the given text and answer the questions that follow.

People's Own Government

Critics often say that democratic governments are slow, less efficient, not always very responsive and not always clean. Yet when people in five countries of South Asia were asked whether they preferred democracy, a large majority in most of them said yes. People wish to be ruled by representatives elected by them, and they believe that democracy is suitable for their country. A democratic government may have many shortcomings, but it is the people's own government.

Country	Democracy is preferable (%)	Sometimes dictatorship is better (%)	Doesn't matter to me (%)
Bangladesh	69	6	25
India	70	9	21
Nepal	62	10	28
Pakistan	37	14	49
Sri Lanka	71	11	18

(Source: SDSA Team, State of Democracy in South Asia, 2007, as given in 'Democratic Politics – II', NCERT, Class X, Chapter 5)

28.1 Why is a democratic government described as a 'legitimate' government? (1)
28.2 'Democracies have a mixed record in producing an accountable and responsive government.' Explain one respect in which democracies have done better and one respect in which they fall short. (2)
28.3 From the table, name the country with the smallest share and the country with the largest share of people who said 'democracy is preferable'. (1)

Answer (4 marks)
28.1 Because it is the people's own government – it is elected by the people and is run by their representatives; that is why there is overwhelming support for the idea of democracy all over the world, even though it may be slow or less efficient.
28.2 Better: democracies have had greater success in setting up regular and free elections and in setting up conditions for open public debate.
Fall short: most democracies fall short of elections that give a fair chance to everyone and of subjecting every decision to public debate; they do not have a very good record in sharing information with citizens (and are often not free of corruption or attentive to people's needs).
28.3 Smallest share: Pakistan (37 per cent). Largest share: Sri Lanka (71 per cent).
Marking: 28.1 – 1 mark · 28.2 one success – 1 mark; one shortcoming – 1 mark · 28.3 Pakistan – ½ mark; Sri Lanka – ½ mark
Examiner tip: In 28.3 read the 'Democracy is preferable' column only – India (70) is close to, but below, Sri Lanka (71).

SECTION D – ECONOMICS Economics (20 marks). Q.29 to Q.34 are multiple choice questions of 1 mark each. **[6]**

Q.29 State M has a lower per capita income than State N, but its Infant Mortality Rate is much lower. Which of the following is the most likely reason?

(A) People in State M can buy all the goods and services they need with their income.
(B) State M has a larger total income than State N.
(C) State M has adequate provision of basic health and educational facilities.
(D) Fewer children are born every year in State M.

Answer (1 mark)
(C) State M has adequate provision of basic health and educational facilities.
Money in one's pocket cannot buy all the goods and services needed to live well; like Kerala, a state with lower income can have a low IMR because of adequate public provision of basic health and educational facilities.

Q.30 Literacy Rate, which is used as an indicator of development, measures the proportion of literate population in the –

(A) 7-and-above age group
(B) 15–17 years age group
(C) 6–14 years age group
(D) 25-and-above age group

Answer (1 mark)
(A) 7-and-above age group
(The 15–17 years group is used for the Net Attendance Ratio at the secondary stage; 25 and above is used for mean years of schooling.)

Q.31 The Government of India buys wheat and rice from farmers at a 'fair price', stores them in its godowns and sells them at a lower price to consumers through ration shops. Which of the following best explains this activity?

(A) The government aims to earn the maximum profit from trade in food grains.
(B) The government bears a part of the cost and in this way supports both farmers and consumers.
(C) Private traders are not allowed to buy or sell food grains in India.
(D) It is an activity of the unorganised sector.

Answer (1 mark)
(B) The government bears a part of the cost and in this way supports both farmers and consumers.
The purpose of the public sector is not just to earn profits; here the government has to bear some of the cost.

Q.32 In the following question, a statement of Assertion (A) is followed by a statement of Reason (R). Choose the correct option.
Assertion (A): The rupee is widely accepted as a medium of exchange in India.
Reason (R): The law legalises the use of the rupee as a medium of payment that cannot be refused in settling transactions in India.

(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
(C) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
(D) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Answer (1 mark)
(A) Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
Modern currency has no use of its own; it is accepted because it is authorised by the government. No individual in India can legally refuse a payment made in rupees – hence the rupee is widely accepted.

Q.33 Sunita, a dairy farmer near Kolhapur, takes a bank loan to buy two cows. The bank keeps the papers of her house until she repays the loan, and it has the right to sell the house if she fails to repay. Here, the house is an example of –

(A) a demand deposit
(B) the rate of interest
(C) the mode of repayment
(D) collateral

Answer (1 mark)
(D) collateral
Collateral is an asset that the borrower owns (such as land, building, vehicle, livestock, deposits with banks) and uses as a guarantee to a lender until the loan is repaid.

Q.34 To protect domestic bicycle makers, a government imposes a tax on imported bicycles. This tax is an example of –

(A) liberalisation
(B) foreign investment
(C) a trade barrier
(D) a multinational corporation

Answer (1 mark)
(C) a trade barrier
A tax on imports is a trade barrier – a restriction that governments use to increase or decrease (regulate) foreign trade. Removing such barriers is called liberalisation.

SECTION D – ECONOMICS (contd.) Q.35 to Q.37 (SA, 3 marks each), Q.38 (LA, 5 marks). **[14]**

Q.35 The table shows the share of workers in the three sectors of an imaginary developed country, Country Z, in three different years.

Year	Primary sector (%)	Secondary sector (%)	Tertiary sector (%)
1850	70	15	15
1950	25	45	30
2020	3	22	75

(a) Name the sector that employed the largest share of workers in each of the three years. (1)
(b) Between 1850 and 1950 the share of workers in Country Z's primary sector fell from 70 per cent to 25 per cent, yet the country had more food than before. Explain how this was possible, and where most of these workers found work. (1 + 1)

Answer (3 marks)
(a) 1850 – primary sector (70%); 1950 – secondary sector (45%); 2020 – tertiary sector (75%). This is the general pattern observed in developed countries.
(b) More food with fewer farm workers: as methods of farming changed and agriculture began to prosper, it produced much more food than before, so fewer people were needed on farms and many could take up other activities.
Where they went: new methods of manufacturing were introduced and factories came up and expanded; people who had earlier worked on farms began to work in factories in large numbers, and people used many more goods produced in factories at cheap rates. So the secondary sector became the largest employer by 1950 (45 per cent).

Marking: (a) all three years correct – 1 mark (any two correct – ½ mark) · (b) prosperous agriculture producing more food – 1 mark; workers moving to factories (secondary sector) – 1 mark

Examiner tip: In (b) answer both parts – why fewer farm workers could still produce more food, and which sector absorbed them.

Q.36 A bank branch in Satara has deposits of ₹60 crore. It keeps 5 per cent of its deposits as cash and lends the rest. It pays interest at 4 per cent per annum on deposits and charges interest at 10 per cent per annum on its loans.

(a) How much does the bank keep as cash, and how much does it lend? (1)

(b) Calculate the bank's income for one year from the difference between the interest it charges and the interest it pays. (1)

(c) Why is the bank able to manage with only 5 per cent of its deposits as cash? (1)

Answer (3 marks)

(a) Cash = 5/100 × ₹60 crore = ₹3 crore. Loans = ₹60 crore − ₹3 crore = ₹57 crore.

(b) Interest received on loans = 10/100 × ₹57 crore = ₹5.7 crore.

Interest paid on deposits = 4/100 × ₹60 crore = ₹2.4 crore.

Bank's income = ₹5.7 crore − ₹2.4 crore = ₹3.3 crore. (This difference between what is charged from borrowers and what is paid to depositors is the main source of a bank's income.)

(c) The cash is kept only as a provision to pay depositors who might come to withdraw money on a given day. Since, on any particular day, only some of its many depositors come to withdraw cash, the bank is able to manage with this cash and uses the major portion of the deposits to extend loans.

Marking: (a) cash and loans – ½ + ½ mark · (b) correct income ₹3.3 crore with working – 1 mark · (c) correct reason – 1 mark

Examiner tip: Interest on deposits is paid on the whole ₹60 crore, but interest on loans is earned only on the ₹57 crore lent – students often take ₹60 crore for both.

Q.37 A company proposes to set up a large chemical factory on the coast of Ratnagiri district. Young people of nearby towns welcome it, hoping for jobs. Fishing families fear that waste from the factory will pollute the sea and destroy their livelihood, and some mango growers are worried about losing their land.

(a) Using this case, explain the statement: 'What may be development for one may not be development for the other.' (2)

(b) Suggest one question that should be asked to decide a fair and just path of development in such a case. (1)

Answer (3 marks)

(a) Different persons have different developmental goals, because their life situations are different, and these goals can even be conflicting. For the unemployed youth, the factory means regular work and better income – it is development. For the fishing families and mango growers, the same factory may mean pollution of the sea, loss of land and loss of livelihood – for them it may even be destructive. Thus what is development for one group may not be development for another.

(b) Would the project benefit a large number of people or only a small group? (Also acceptable: Is there a better way of doing things – for example, a site or technology that does not harm the livelihood of others? Can all the ideas be considered equally important?)

Marking: (a) different/conflicting goals explained – 1 mark; applied to the groups in the case – 1 mark · (b) one relevant question – 1 mark

Examiner tip: Name the groups from the case in your answer; a general definition of development will not get both marks in (a).

Q.38 (A) Eighteen women of a village in Nandurbar district form a Self-Help Group (SHG). Each member saves ₹150 every month.

(i) Calculate the total savings of the group at the end of one year. (1)

(ii) Rukhsana, a member, needs ₹5,000 to buy a sewing machine. Explain two ways in which taking this loan through the SHG is better for her than borrowing from a moneylender. (2)

(iii) The members say that their SHG has done much more for them than give cheaper loans. Explain two ways in which the SHG helps its women members, apart from providing loans at a lower rate of interest. (2)

OR

(B) Study the table and answer the questions that follow.

Country	Per capita income (PPP $)	Life expectancy at birth (years)	Mean years of schooling (people aged 25 and above)
L	14,200	68.5	6.1
M	7,800	75.2	9.4
N	9,600	71.0	7.0

(i) Which country is the richest according to the criterion used by the World Bank, and which country is ahead in health and education? (1)

(ii) The Human Development Report compares countries on their educational levels, health status and per capita income. Using the table, explain two reasons why per capita income alone is not an adequate measure of development. (2)

(iii) Country L earns most of its income from crude oil. Its reserves are 24 thousand million barrels and it extracts 0.8 thousand million barrels a year. Calculate how many years its reserves will last at this rate, and explain why its present level of development may not be sustainable. (1 + 1)

Answer (5 marks)

(A)

(i) Total savings = 18 members × ₹150 × 12 months = ₹32,400.

(ii) Any two:

1. Lower interest: the group charges interest on loans to members, but this is still less than what the moneylender charges; moneylenders charge very high rates of interest.
2. Timely loan from her own group: Rukhsana can get a timely loan from the group's own savings for a purpose such as acquiring a sewing machine, without having to offer an asset as security.
3. Fair terms decided by members: the group members themselves decide the purpose, amount, interest and repayment schedule; moneylenders keep no records of the transactions and often harass poor borrowers.

(iii) Any two:

1. Self-employment and financial self-reliance: loans from the group are meant to create self-employment opportunities for the members – for example, for acquiring assets like a sewing machine, handlooms or cattle, or for buying raw materials like bamboo and cloth. With such work Rukhsana and other members earn an income of their own and become financially self-reliant.
2. A platform for social issues: the regular meetings of the group provide a platform to discuss and act on a variety of social issues such as health, nutrition and domestic violence.
3. Organisation and decision-making: SHGs are the building blocks of organisation of the rural poor; the members themselves take most of the important decisions on savings and loans (purpose, amount, interest, repayment schedule), which gives the women experience and confidence in managing money together.

OR

(B)
(i) Richest by the World Bank's criterion (per capita income): Country L. Ahead in health and education: Country M (highest life expectancy, 75.2 years, and the most years of schooling, 9.4).
(ii) 1. Country L has nearly double the per capita income of Country M, yet its people live about 7 years less (68.5 against 75.2) and have fewer years of schooling (6.1 against 9.4). So higher income does not automatically mean better health and education – income by itself is not an adequate indicator of the goods and services citizens are able to use.
2. Money in one's pocket cannot buy everything needed to live well, such as a pollution-free environment, unadulterated medicines, protection from infectious diseases or good schools; these are best provided collectively through public facilities. Also, per capita income is an average and can hide how unequally income is distributed among people.
(iii) Number of years = 24 ÷ 0.8 = 30 years.
Crude oil is a non-renewable resource with a fixed stock that will get exhausted. If Country L's development depends on oil and it keeps extracting at this rate, the reserves will last only about 30 years; the present level of development cannot then be maintained or raised for future generations – so it is not sustainable.

Marking: (A)(i) ₹32,400 with working – 1 mark; (ii) two advantages over the moneylender – 1 mark each; (iii) two ways other than cheaper credit – 1 mark each · (B)(i) L and M – ½ + ½ mark; (ii) two reasons using the table – 1 mark each; (iii) 30 years – 1 mark; non-renewable/future generations explained – 1 mark

Examiner tip: In (A)(i), multiply by 12 months as well as by 18 members; in (A)(iii), do not repeat 'lower interest' from (ii) – the question asks for gains other than cheaper loans. In (B), quote the figures from the table (75.2 against 68.5 years) and show the division 24 ÷ 0.8 = 30.

All the best for your exam!