

YASASVI Social Science

Sample Paper – 2

Duration: 38 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 100

Instructions

- This paper contains **25** Multiple Choice Questions (Single Correct Answer), modelled on the Social Science portion of the **YASASVI** entrance test.
- Each correct answer carries **+4 marks**. There is **no negative marking** for incorrect or unattempted answers.
- Only **one** option is correct. Choose carefully.
- Syllabus level: **Class 8 NCERT — History (Our Past III), Geography (Resources and Development), Civics (Social and Political Life III), and Economics basics.**
- Use of mobile phones, calculators, or electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited.

Q1. The British East India Company received its first Royal Charter from Queen Elizabeth I, granting it a monopoly of trade with the East. In which year was this charter granted?

- (A) 1757
- (B) 1600
- (C) 1689
- (D) 1720

Q2. The Battle of Buxar (1764) was fought between the British East India Company and a coalition of Indian rulers. Which of the following rulers was NOT part of the anti-British coalition at Buxar?

- (A) Mir Qasim, Nawab of Bengal
- (B) Shuja-ud-Daulah, Nawab of Awadh



- (C) Siraj-ud-Daulah, former Nawab of Bengal
- (D) Shah Alam II, the Mughal Emperor

Q3. The Ryotwari settlement differed from the Permanent Settlement in its approach to revenue collection. Under the Ryotwari system, land revenue was collected:

- (A) From zamindars who acted as intermediaries between peasants and the colonial government
- (B) Collectively from all villagers, who shared joint responsibility for the total village revenue
- (C) Only from merchants and traders operating in urban market centres
- (D) Directly from individual peasant cultivators (ryots), each having direct contact with the government

Q4. During the Indigo revolt of 1859–60 in Bengal, peasant farmers rose against European indigo planters. What was the main grievance of the peasants that sparked this revolt?

- (A) Under the “tinkathia” system, peasants were compelled to grow indigo on a portion of their land at prices fixed by the planters, leaving them impoverished and unable to grow food crops
- (B) Peasants were forced to hand over their entire agricultural land to the British East India Company without any compensation
- (C) The colonial government imposed a special tax on every Bengal household engaged in indigo cultivation
- (D) European planters refused to buy indigo grown by Indian farmers, causing it to rot in the fields

Q5. On 13 April 1919, the day of the Baisakhi festival, General Reginald Dyer ordered troops to open fire on a large, unarmed crowd gathered in a walled enclosure. This tragedy is known as the Jallianwala Bagh massacre. In which city did it take place?



- (A) Lahore
- (B) Amritsar
- (C) Ludhiana
- (D) Chandigarh

Q6. Dadabhai Naoroji, often called the “Grand Old Man of India,” used economic data to argue that British rule systematically impoverished India by transferring India’s wealth to Britain. The name given to this economic argument is:

- (A) Theory of Surplus Value
- (B) Permanent Settlement Debate
- (C) Drain of Wealth theory
- (D) Comparative Cost Advantage theory

Q7. Mahatma Gandhi launched the Non-Cooperation Movement in 1920 but called it off in February 1922. Which of the following was a key reason for withdrawing the movement?

- (A) The British government agreed to grant India self-rule (Swaraj) within one year
- (B) A majority of Indian leaders refused to participate in the movement from the outset
- (C) The Indian National Congress voted to end the movement at its 1921 annual session
- (D) A violent incident at Chauri Chaura, where a mob set fire to a police station and killed police personnel, prompted Gandhi to call off the movement to preserve non-violence

Q8. Jyotiba Phule and Savitribai Phule are celebrated as pioneers of girls’ education and social reform in Maharashtra. Which of the following is CORRECTLY associated with them?



- (A) In 1848, they established one of India's first schools for girls from lower-caste communities in Pune, with Savitribai serving as its teacher
- (B) They founded the Indian National Congress in Pune in 1885 as a platform for women's rights
- (C) Jyotiba Phule established the Arya Samaj and used it to promote girls' education across Maharashtra
- (D) Savitribai Phule represented India at the first International Women's Conference in London in 1900

Q9. Resources are classified as renewable or non-renewable based on whether they can naturally replenish within a human timescale. Which of the following pairs consists ENTIRELY of non-renewable resources?

- (A) Wind energy and petroleum
- (B) Coal and natural gas
- (C) Tidal energy and coal
- (D) Solar energy and natural gas

Q10. Black soil, also called regur soil, covers large parts of the Deccan plateau and is one of India's major soil types. Which of the following BEST describes a key property of black soil and the crop it is most famous for supporting?

- (A) Black soil is light and sandy, making it ideal for paddy cultivation in river basins
- (B) Black soil is extremely acidic and well-drained, making it suited to tea cultivation in hill regions
- (C) Black soil has a high clay content that retains moisture for a long time, making it ideal for cotton cultivation – hence it is also called “cotton soil”
- (D) Black soil is particularly rich in humus and nitrogen, making it the best soil for wheat production in peninsular India



- Q11.** Rainwater harvesting is the practice of collecting and storing rainwater for future use. Which of the following is NOT a method of rainwater harvesting?
- (A) Rooftop collection systems that channel rainwater through pipes into underground storage tanks
 - (B) Johads (traditional village ponds) built by communities to store monsoon rainwater for local use
 - (C) Check dams constructed across seasonal streams to slow runoff and allow groundwater recharge
 - (D) Pumping water from rivers at high pressure into deep bore wells during the monsoon to increase water pressure
- Q12.** India is one of the world's largest producers and exporters of iron ore. Which state has the LARGEST iron ore reserves in India?
- (A) Odisha
 - (B) Kerala
 - (C) Haryana
 - (D) Assam
- Q13.** Rabi crops are the winter crops of India, sown in October–November and harvested in March–April. Which of the following lists contains ONLY Rabi crops?
- (A) Jowar, bajra, and cotton
 - (B) Wheat, gram (chickpea), and mustard
 - (C) Rice, maize, and groundnut
 - (D) Sugarcane, jute, and soybean
- Q14.** Millions of people migrate from rural villages to cities in India every year. Which of the following CORRECTLY identifies one push factor and one pull factor driving this rural-to-urban migration?



- (A) Push factor: better hospitals in cities; Pull factor: floods destroying village crops
- (B) Push factor: higher wages in cities; Pull factor: overpopulation in urban centres
- (C) Push factor: lack of employment and low agricultural income in villages; Pull factor: availability of better-paying jobs and services in cities
- (D) Push factor: modern lifestyle in cities; Pull factor: traditional festivals celebrated in villages

Q15. India's jute textile industry is heavily concentrated in West Bengal, particularly along the Hugli river near Kolkata. Which of the following BEST explains this geographic concentration?

- (A) West Bengal has large coal deposits along the Hugli river that provide cheap fuel for jute mills
- (B) The central government's planned industrial policy directed all jute mills to be built in West Bengal
- (C) The state government of West Bengal offers the highest subsidies to jute mill owners in the country
- (D) The Hugli river basin's humid climate is ideal for jute cultivation, and Kolkata provides the rail, road, and port connectivity required for domestic trade and export

Q16. India's petroleum industry has its roots in the northeastern part of the country. Which of the following CORRECTLY identifies the location of India's oldest oil refinery?

- (A) Digboi in Assam – India's oldest oil refinery, established in 1901
- (B) Ankleshwar in Gujarat – the first oil refinery set up in British India in the 1890s
- (C) Barmer in Rajasthan – the site of British India's first petroleum discovery



(D) Mumbai High offshore field – India's first-ever site of petroleum extraction

Q17. Article 19 of the Indian Constitution guarantees several fundamental freedoms to citizens. Which of the following is DIRECTLY guaranteed under Article 19(1)?

- (A) Right to equality before law irrespective of religion, race, caste, sex, or place of birth
- (B) Freedom of speech and expression
- (C) Right against exploitation and prohibition of child labour in hazardous industries
- (D) Freedom of religion and the right to manage one's own religious affairs

Q18. The Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP) are listed in Part IV of the Indian Constitution. Which of the following statements about the Directive Principles is CORRECT?

- (A) The Directive Principles are enforceable in courts, just like Fundamental Rights; a citizen can sue the government for not implementing them
- (B) The Directive Principles apply only to central government policies and do not bind state governments
- (C) The Directive Principles are non-justiciable guidelines — they cannot be enforced in a court of law but are fundamental to the governance of the country
- (D) The Directive Principles were added to the Constitution by the 42nd Amendment in 1976 and were not part of the original Constitution

Q19. The President of India is the constitutional head of the country. Which of the following is a CORRECT statement about a power of the President?

- (A) The President can independently dissolve the Rajya Sabha (upper house) during a national emergency



- (B) The President can introduce a Money Bill in Parliament without the recommendation of the Council of Ministers
- (C) The President can dismiss any Cabinet Minister at will, without consulting the Prime Minister
- (D) When a non-Money Bill passed by Parliament is sent to the President, the President may return it once for reconsideration, but if Parliament passes it again, the President must give assent

Q20. Under the Indian Constitution and the Code of Criminal Procedure, a person who has been arrested is entitled to certain legal rights. Which of the following is a legal right of an arrested person?

- (A) The right to be informed of the grounds of arrest and the right to consult and be defended by a legal practitioner of their choice
- (B) The right to be released automatically if the police cannot file a charge sheet within 24 hours
- (C) The right to have all evidence against them disclosed before the police can make an arrest
- (D) The right to refuse to appear in court until a government-appointed lawyer has been provided at no cost

Q21. The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 is a comprehensive law protecting women from abuse within the home. Which of the following types of abuse is recognized under this Act?

- (A) Only physical violence such as hitting, slapping, or kicking
- (B) Physical violence, emotional and verbal abuse, sexual abuse, and economic abuse such as denial of money or property rights
- (C) Only violence committed within a legally registered marriage
- (D) Violence only when it results in hospitalization or a serious bodily injury requiring medical treatment

Q22. A writ of Habeas Corpus can be filed in the Supreme Court or in a High Court. Which of the following CORRECTLY describes this writ?



- (A) A writ commanding a public official to perform a specific duty required by law
- (B) A writ that transfers a case from a lower court to a higher court for retrial or review
- (C) A writ issued to an authority holding a person in detention, requiring it to produce the person before the court and legally justify the detention
- (D) A writ that prohibits a lower court or tribunal from acting beyond the limits of its jurisdiction

Q23. Workers in India are employed in either the organised sector or the unorganised sector. Which of the following BEST distinguishes these two sectors?

- (A) The organised sector includes all rural workers; the unorganised sector includes all urban workers
- (B) Workers in the unorganised sector have more job security because they are not bound by corporate rules
- (C) The organised sector employs more than 90% of India's total workforce
- (D) The organised sector consists of registered enterprises where workers have fixed working hours, paid leave, provident fund, and legal protections; the unorganised sector consists of small or unregistered units where such protections are typically absent

Q24. The Government of India uses a poverty line to identify people living in poverty and to design welfare programmes. On what basis is the poverty line typically measured in India?

- (A) The minimum monthly household expenditure needed to purchase a specified level of food calories and other basic necessities
- (B) The number of family members who earn below the minimum wage in a given month



- (C) The total area of land owned by a household, below which it is classified as poor
- (D) The number of days per month a household is able to earn any income from work

Q25. Globalisation refers to the rapid integration of economies, cultures, and societies across the world through trade, investment, and technology. Which of the following is a **NEGATIVE** consequence of globalisation for workers in small-scale Indian industries?

- (A) Globalisation caused all Indian factories to relocate abroad, leaving India with no manufacturing sector
- (B) Small and medium Indian enterprises in sectors such as toys, textiles, and electronics struggled to compete with cheaper imported goods after trade barriers were reduced, leading to job losses
- (C) Globalisation made Indian workers the highest-paid in Asia because large multinationals entered India and raised wage standards
- (D) Globalisation led to a total ban on foreign goods entering India, causing domestic industries to shut down due to shortage of raw materials



Detailed Solutions**Q1.****Solution**

Concept — East India Company Charter: The English East India Company (EIC) was established by a Royal Charter from Queen Elizabeth I on 31 December 1600, granting it the monopoly to trade with Asia (the “East Indies”). This charter marked the formal entry of the English into eastern trade.

Step 1 — Historical significance: The EIC began as a trading company seeking spices and textiles. Over time it transformed into a political and military power that eventually controlled much of India.

Step 2 — Key date: The charter was granted on 31 December 1600, making the company’s founding year 1600 — more than a century and a half before the Battle of Plassey (1757).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: 1757 is the year of the Battle of Plassey — not the founding charter.
- Option C: 1689 was a year of expansion and some charter renewals, not the original grant.
- Option D: 1720 has no significant association with the EIC’s founding or charter.

Final Answer: Queen Elizabeth I granted the EIC its first Royal Charter in 1600.

⇒ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q1](#)

Q2.**Solution**

Concept — Battle of Buxar 1764: The Battle of Buxar was fought on 22 October 1764 between the British East India Company and a coalition of three Indian rulers. The British victory consolidated their control over Bengal, Bihar, and Awadh and is considered even more decisive than Plassey.

Step 1 — The coalition at Buxar: The three rulers who jointly fought the British were Mir Qasim (Nawab of Bengal), Shuja-ud-Daulah (Nawab of Awadh), and Shah Alam II (the Mughal Emperor).



Step 2 — Who was NOT at Buxar: Siraj-ud-Daulah was the Nawab of Bengal at the time of the Battle of Plassey (1757). He was defeated and killed shortly after Plassey in 1757 — seven years before Buxar — so he could not have been part of the 1764 coalition.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Mir Qasim was indeed part of the Buxar coalition — he was the Nawab of Bengal who had been installed by the British but later turned against them.
- Option B: Shuja-ud-Daulah, Nawab of Awadh, was also part of the coalition and fought at Buxar.
- Option D: Shah Alam II, the Mughal Emperor, joined the coalition and was also present at the Battle of Buxar.

Final Answer: Siraj-ud-Daulah was NOT at Buxar (he had died after Plassey in 1757). ⇒

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q2](#)

Q3.

Solution

Concept — Revenue Settlement Systems: The British introduced different land revenue systems in different parts of India. The Permanent Settlement (Bengal), Ryotwari (Madras and Bombay Presidencies), and Mahalwari (North-Western Provinces and Punjab) each had distinct approaches.

Step 1 — Ryotwari system: Introduced by Thomas Munro in the Madras Presidency (and later Bombay Presidency), the Ryotwari system dealt directly with individual peasant cultivators called ryots. Each ryot was recognised as the owner of their plot and paid revenue directly to the government.

Step 2 — No intermediary: Unlike the Permanent Settlement (which used zamindars as intermediaries) or the Mahalwari system (which dealt with the village as a collective unit), the Ryotwari system had no middleman between the government and the cultivating peasant.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Collection from zamindars describes the Permanent Settlement of Bengal (1793), not Ryotwari.
- Option B: Collective village responsibility describes the Mahalwari settle-



ment introduced in parts of northern India.

- Option C: Collection from merchants and traders was not a land revenue system used by the British for agricultural land.

Final Answer: Ryotwari collected revenue directly from individual peasant cultivators (ryots). ⇒

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q3](#)

Q4.

Solution

Concept — Indigo Revolt (Blue Mutiny) 1859–60: Indigo was a blue dye in high demand in European textile markets. European planters in Bengal coerced peasants into growing indigo instead of food crops, using the exploitative tinkathia system. The revolt was one of the first organised peasant movements in colonial India.

Step 1 — The tinkathia system: Under tinkathia, peasants were forced to cultivate indigo on a fixed portion (typically 3 kathas out of every 20 kathas, i.e., three-twentieths) of their land. The planters paid them a nominal advance (dadon) and then fixed a price far below the market rate.

Step 2 — Why peasants revolted: With a portion of their best land reserved for indigo at below-subsistence prices, peasants could not grow enough food. When the advance (dadon) was given, it created a cycle of debt. In 1859, peasants across Bengal refused to grow indigo and the revolt spread rapidly.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: Peasants were not required to hand over all their land; the issue was forced cultivation on part of their land.
- Option C: There was no special government tax on indigo-cultivating households; the exploitation was by the planters, not the colonial tax system directly.
- Option D: Planters were eager to buy indigo — the problem was the unfair price they paid, not refusal to buy.

Final Answer: Peasants were forced to grow indigo at planter-fixed prices under the tinkathia system. ⇒

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q4](#)



Q5.

Solution

Concept — Jallianwala Bagh Massacre 1919: On 13 April 1919, a large gathering of unarmed men, women, and children had assembled at Jallianwala Bagh to celebrate Baisakhi and also to protest the Rowlatt Act. Brigadier General Reginald Dyer blocked the only exit and ordered troops to open fire without warning.

Step 1 — Location: The massacre took place at Jallianwala Bagh, a public garden enclosed by walls in the city of Amritsar, Punjab. The crowd had no way to escape as the exits were blocked by soldiers.

Step 2 — Significance: The massacre shocked the entire nation and the world. It accelerated the Indian independence movement, leading directly to Gandhi's Non-Cooperation Movement of 1920.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Lahore is a major city in Punjab but is not where Jallianwala Bagh is located.
- Option C: Ludhiana is an industrial city in Punjab but has no connection to the massacre.
- Option D: Chandigarh became the capital of Punjab only after independence (1966); it did not exist as a city in 1919.

Final Answer: The Jallianwala Bagh massacre occurred in Amritsar, Punjab. ⇒

B

Answer: (B)

[Go Back to Q5](#)

Q6.

Solution

Concept — Dadabhai Naoroji and the Drain of Wealth: Dadabhai Naoroji (1825–1917), a Parsi intellectual and politician, was among the first to systematically analyse India's economic exploitation by Britain. He presented detailed statistics to show that India's wealth was being drained to Britain, causing poverty.

Step 1 — His argument: In his book *Poverty and Un-British Rule in India* (1901), Naoroji calculated the “drain” — money that left India as payments to British officials, army costs, profits of British companies, and interest on loans — which was never returned to India in any form.

Step 2 — Name of the theory: This argument is known as the Drain of Wealth



theory (or the Economic Drain). It became a powerful tool for nationalist leaders to criticize British economic policy and build public support for independence.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: The Theory of Surplus Value was developed by Karl Marx and concerns labour and capitalism, not India's colonial economy.
- Option B: The Permanent Settlement Debate refers to debates around Lord Cornwallis's 1793 land revenue policy in Bengal.
- Option D: Comparative Cost Advantage is an economic theory by David Ricardo about international trade benefits, unrelated to colonial exploitation.

Final Answer: Naoroji's argument about colonial transfer of India's wealth is the Drain of Wealth theory. $\Rightarrow$

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q6](#)

Q7.

Solution

Concept — Non-Cooperation Movement 1920–22: Gandhi launched the Non-Cooperation Movement in August 1920, calling on Indians to boycott British goods, surrender titles, and withdraw from government schools, courts, and councils. The movement was built entirely on the principle of non-violence (ahimsa).

Step 1 — Chauri Chaura incident (February 1922): On 5 February 1922, at Chauri Chaura in the Gorakhpur district (now Uttar Pradesh), a large crowd of protesters clashed with police. The crowd set fire to a police station, killing 22 policemen inside.

Step 2 — Gandhi's response: Gandhi was devastated by the violence. He believed that the movement had strayed from the path of non-violence and was not ready for Swaraj. He unilaterally suspended the movement on 12 February 1922, to the dismay of many nationalist leaders.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: The British did not agree to grant Swaraj; the movement was suspended entirely because of internal violence.
- Option B: Participation in the Non-Cooperation Movement was widespread; this is factually incorrect.
- Option C: The Congress did not vote to end the movement at the 1921 session; Gandhi made this decision himself after Chauri Chaura.



Final Answer: The Chauri Chaura violence prompted Gandhi to withdraw the Non-Cooperation Movement. $\Rightarrow$

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q7](#)

Q8.

Solution

Concept — Jyotiba Phule and Savitribai Phule: Jyotiba Phule (1827–1890) and his wife Savitribai Phule (1831–1897) were social reformers from Maharashtra who fought against caste discrimination and worked tirelessly for women's education and the rights of lower-caste communities.

Step 1 — First school for girls: In January 1848, Jyotiba and Savitribai opened one of India's first schools for girls from lower-caste communities at Bhide Wada in Pune. Savitribai became one of India's first female teachers, facing social ridicule and hostility as she walked to school.

Step 2 — Other contributions: Jyotiba also founded the Satyashodhak Samaj (Society of Truth Seekers) in 1873 to promote equality and oppose Brahminical domination. He was not affiliated with the Arya Samaj or the Indian National Congress.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: The Indian National Congress was founded in 1885 by Allan Octavian Hume and others, not by the Phules.
- Option C: The Arya Samaj was founded by Swami Dayananda Saraswati in 1875 in Bombay; Jyotiba Phule had no connection to it.
- Option D: There was no International Women's Conference in London in 1900 that Savitribai attended; she passed away in 1897.

Final Answer: In 1848 they opened one of India's first girls' schools in Pune; Savitribai was its teacher. $\Rightarrow$

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q8](#)



Q9.

Solution

Concept — Renewable vs Non-Renewable Resources: A renewable resource can naturally replenish within a human timescale (wind, solar, tidal, water, forests). A non-renewable resource exists in finite amounts and takes millions of years to form (coal, petroleum, natural gas, minerals).

Step 1 — Classify the options:

- Wind energy: Renewable (wind is inexhaustible).
- Petroleum: Non-renewable (fossil fuel).
- Coal: Non-renewable (fossil fuel, formed over millions of years).
- Natural gas: Non-renewable (fossil fuel).
- Tidal energy: Renewable (driven by the moon's gravitational pull).
- Solar energy: Renewable (sunlight is inexhaustible).

Step 2 — Identify the all-non-renewable pair: Only Option B (coal and natural gas) contains two non-renewable resources. All other options mix at least one renewable with a non-renewable.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Wind energy is renewable; only petroleum is non-renewable — a mixed pair.
- Option C: Tidal energy is renewable; only coal is non-renewable — a mixed pair.
- Option D: Solar energy is renewable; only natural gas is non-renewable — a mixed pair.

Final Answer: Coal and natural gas are both fossil fuels – both non-renewable.

⇒ B

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q9](#)



Q10.

Solution

Concept — Black Soil (Regur): Black soil, also known as regur soil, is found mainly across the Deccan plateau (Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, parts of Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, and Karnataka). It is formed by the weathering of volcanic (basaltic) rocks.

Step 1 — Key property: Black soil has a very high clay content (montmorillonite clay), which gives it an exceptional ability to retain moisture. During the dry season, this soil develops deep cracks (due to shrinkage), which naturally aerate the soil. Because of this moisture-holding capacity, black soil does not need frequent irrigation.

Step 2 — Suited crop: Cotton thrives in black soil because it can draw on the stored moisture throughout the long growing season without additional irrigation. Black soil is therefore called “cotton soil” or regur (from Telugu *reguru*).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Black soil is not sandy or light; it is heavy and clay-rich. Paddy grows best in alluvial or clayey lowland soils.
- Option B: Tea grows in acidic, well-drained red or laterite soils of hilly regions (Assam, Darjeeling, Nilgiris), not in black soil.
- Option D: While black soil has some minerals, it is not especially noted for wheat production; wheat thrives best in alluvial soils of the Punjab plains.

Final Answer: Black soil retains moisture and is ideal for cotton cultivation, earning it the name “cotton soil.” ⇒ C

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q10](#)

Q11.

Solution

Concept — Rainwater Harvesting: Rainwater harvesting is the collection, storage, and use of rainwater for agriculture, domestic use, and groundwater recharge. It is a traditional practice revived as a solution to water scarcity.

Step 1 — Valid rainwater harvesting methods: Rooftop systems (A) collect rain from roof surfaces into tanks. Johads (B) are traditional earthen check dams used for centuries in Rajasthan and other states. Check dams (C) slow stream flow and allow water to percolate and recharge underground aquifers.



Step 2 — The incorrect method: Pumping water from rivers into bore wells at high pressure (D) is not a rainwater harvesting technique. It is an engineering practice (sometimes used in managed aquifer recharge) but it uses river water, not harvested rainwater, and pumping at “high pressure” into bore wells could damage well casings and cause geological harm. This option does not describe any recognised rainwater harvesting method.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Rooftop rainwater collection is one of the most common forms of urban rainwater harvesting.
- Option B: Johads are centuries-old community water-storage structures and a recognised form of traditional rainwater harvesting.
- Option C: Check dams are a standard technique for groundwater recharge by slowing runoff so water can seep into the earth.

Final Answer: Pumping river water into bore wells at high pressure is NOT a rainwater harvesting technique. ⇒ D

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q11](#)

Q12.

Solution

Concept — Iron Ore Distribution in India: India has vast iron ore reserves, primarily in the eastern and southern peninsular region. The major iron ore belts are in Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, and Goa.

Step 1 — Leading state: Odisha (formerly Orissa) holds the largest iron ore reserves in India. Important mining districts include Keonjhar, Sundargarh, and Mayurbhanj. Major mines include Bailadila (Chhattisgarh), but Odisha’s total reserve base is the highest.

Step 2 — Quality of ore: Odisha’s iron ore is of high quality (high-grade haematite), making it valuable for both domestic steel production and export. India exports significant quantities of iron ore through the port of Paradip (Odisha) and Vishakhapatnam.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: Kerala has negligible iron ore deposits; it is not a significant iron ore state.
- Option C: Haryana is a north Indian state and has no significant iron ore



reserves.

- Option D: Assam is known for its petroleum and tea, not for iron ore reserves.

Final Answer: Odisha has the largest iron ore reserves in India. $\Rightarrow$ **A**

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q12](#)

Q13.

Solution

Concept — Rabi Crops: India has two main cropping seasons. Kharif crops are grown in the monsoon season (June–October). Rabi crops are grown in the winter season — sown in October–November and harvested in March–April. They need cool temperatures during their growing period.

Step 1 — Identify Rabi crops: Wheat, gram (chickpea), mustard, barley, and peas are Rabi crops. They require cool, dry weather during growth and mild, warm conditions at the time of harvest.

Step 2 — Verify Option B: Wheat (sown in winter, harvested in spring), gram/chickpea (a winter pulse), and mustard (a winter oilseed) are all Rabi crops — making Option B an all-Rabi list.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Jowar, bajra, and cotton are all Kharif crops grown during the monsoon season.
- Option C: Rice, maize, and groundnut are Kharif crops that need warm, wet conditions.
- Option D: Sugarcane is planted in spring and harvested after 12–18 months; jute and soybean are Kharif crops.

Final Answer: Wheat, gram, and mustard are all Rabi (winter) crops. $\Rightarrow$ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q13](#)



Q14.

Solution

Concept — Push and Pull Factors of Migration: Migration from rural to urban areas is driven by two sets of forces. Push factors are negative conditions in the place of origin that drive people away. Pull factors are positive conditions in the destination that attract people.

Step 1 — Define push and pull:

- Push factors (villages): unemployment, low wages, drought, floods, lack of schools and healthcare, landlessness.
- Pull factors (cities): better-paying jobs, higher wages, educational institutions, hospitals, social opportunities.

Step 2 — Evaluate Option C: “Lack of employment and low agricultural income in villages” is a classic push factor. “Availability of better-paying jobs and services in cities” is a classic pull factor. Option C correctly identifies one of each.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: This reverses the categories — better hospitals are a pull factor (city advantage), and floods are a push factor (village problem). The labels are swapped.
- Option B: Higher wages in cities are a pull factor, not a push factor; over-population in cities would actually discourage migration.
- Option D: “Modern lifestyle” in cities is a pull factor, not a push factor; “cleaner air in rural areas” might pull people back to villages, not drive them away.

Final Answer: Lack of rural jobs (push) and better urban employment (pull) correctly describe migration factors. ⇒

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q14](#)



Q15.

Solution

Concept — Jute Industry in West Bengal: India is one of the world's largest producers of jute. The jute textile industry is heavily concentrated along the Hugli river in West Bengal, with most mills located within 100 km of Kolkata.

Step 1 — Agro-climatic advantage: Jute requires a warm and humid climate with high rainfall and waterlogged soils. The Hugli river basin and the Ganga delta in West Bengal provide exactly these conditions, making jute cultivation very productive here.

Step 2 — Industrial and logistical advantages: Kolkata (formerly Calcutta), as a major port city, provides easy access for exporting jute products. The city also offers a large labour pool, banking facilities, and excellent rail and road connectivity. These combined factors explain why jute mills are clustered along the Hugli.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: West Bengal does not have coal deposits along the Hugli; coal comes from the Damodar Valley (Jharkhand/West Bengal border area), and this is not the primary reason for jute industry location.
- Option B: The jute industry grew organically due to geographic and logistical advantages, not from a central government policy directing mills to West Bengal.
- Option C: Government subsidies are not the main reason for the jute industry's historic concentration, which predates such policies.

Final Answer: The Hugli river basin's humid climate suits jute cultivation, and Kolkata's port enables trade. $\Rightarrow$ **D**

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q15](#)

Q16.

Solution

Concept — Petroleum in India – Digboi, Assam: Petroleum (crude oil) is a non-renewable fossil fuel. India has oil fields in Assam (northeast), Gujarat, Rajasthan (Barmer), and offshore in the Mumbai High (Arabian Sea).

Step 1 — Historical background: Oil was first struck in Digboi, in the Dibrugarh district of Assam, in 1889 during the construction of the Assam Railway. The Digboi Oil Refinery was commissioned in 1901, making it the oldest operating oil



refinery in Asia.

Step 2 — Significance: Digboi holds a unique place in India's petroleum history. It is often called the "Oil Town of India." The refinery, now run by Indian Oil Corporation, is still in operation after more than 120 years.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: Ankleshwar in Gujarat is a major oil field discovered in 1960, long after Digboi; it was never home to the oldest refinery.
- Option C: Barmer in Rajasthan is a significant modern oil field discovered in 2004 by Cairn Energy; it has no connection to British India's first petroleum discovery.
- Option D: Mumbai High is an offshore oil field in the Arabian Sea, discovered in 1974 — decades after independence and far removed from being the first.

Final Answer: Digboi in Assam (1901) is the site of India's oldest oil refinery. ⇒

A

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q16](#)

Q17.

Solution

Concept — Article 19 of the Indian Constitution: Article 19 of Part III (Fundamental Rights) guarantees six freedoms to citizens of India under Article 19(1): (a) freedom of speech and expression; (b) right to assemble peaceably; (c) right to form associations; (d) right to move freely throughout India; (e) right to reside and settle anywhere in India; (g) right to practise any profession or carry on any occupation, trade, or business.

Step 1 — Identify the Article 19 freedom: Freedom of speech and expression [Article 19(1)(a)] is the most fundamental of the freedoms listed in Article 19. It allows citizens to express their views through speech, writing, art, and other media.

Step 2 — Distinguish from other articles: Right to equality (Article 14), right against exploitation (Articles 23–24), and freedom of religion (Articles 25–28) are separate from Article 19.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: The right to equality before law regardless of religion, race, caste, sex, or place of birth is guaranteed under Article 14 and Article 15 — not



Article 19.

- Option C: Right against exploitation, including prohibition of child labour in hazardous industries, is covered under Articles 23 and 24.
- Option D: Freedom of religion and the right to manage religious affairs are guaranteed under Articles 25 to 28.

Final Answer: Article 19(1)(a) directly guarantees freedom of speech and expression. ⇒

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q17](#)

Q18.

Solution

Concept — Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP): The Directive Principles are listed in Part IV (Articles 36–51) of the Indian Constitution. They are inspired by the Irish Constitution and provide guidance to the government for making laws aimed at achieving social and economic justice.

Step 1 — Non-justiciable nature: Article 37 of the Constitution explicitly states that DPSPs “shall not be enforceable by any court.” This means a citizen cannot approach a court and demand that the government implement a particular Directive Principle. In this way, DPSPs differ fundamentally from Fundamental Rights (which are justiciable).

Step 2 — Purpose: Although not legally enforceable, DPSPs are “fundamental in the governance of the country.” The government is expected to apply them when making laws. Over time, many DPSPs have been given legal backing through legislation (e.g., MNREGA for employment, Right to Education Act).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: DPSPs are explicitly NOT enforceable in courts — this directly contradicts the Constitution.
- Option B: DPSPs apply to all governments (central and state); Article 36 defines “State” broadly to include both.
- Option D: DPSPs were part of the original Constitution adopted in 1949; the 42nd Amendment (1976) strengthened them relative to Fundamental Rights but did not create them.

Final Answer: DPSPs are non-justiciable guidelines fundamental to governance but unenforceable in courts. ⇒

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q18](#)



Q19.

Solution

Concept — Powers of the President of India: The President is the constitutional head of India (Article 52) and acts on the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers headed by the Prime Minister (Article 74). The President has executive, legislative, and emergency powers.

Step 1 — President's role in legislation: When Parliament passes a bill (other than a Money Bill) and sends it to the President, the President has three options under Article 111: (i) give assent; (ii) withhold assent; (iii) return the bill for reconsideration. If Parliament passes the bill again (with or without amendment), the President must give assent — the veto is not absolute.

Step 2 — Why Option D is correct: Option D accurately describes this power — the President can send a non-Money Bill back once, but must sign if Parliament passes it again. This ensures parliamentary sovereignty while giving the President a limited check.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: The President cannot dissolve the Rajya Sabha — it is a permanent body (Article 83). Only the Lok Sabha can be dissolved by the President (on the advice of the Cabinet).
- Option B: A Money Bill can only be introduced in the Lok Sabha (Article 110), and only on the recommendation of the President, acting on Cabinet advice — but the President does not personally introduce bills.
- Option C: Ministers are appointed by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister (Article 75). The President cannot dismiss ministers independently.

Final Answer: The President can return a non-Money Bill once; if Parliament passes it again, assent is mandatory. ⇒ **D**

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q19](#)



Q20.

Solution

Concept — Rights of an Accused Person: The Indian Constitution (Article 22) and the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) guarantee certain fundamental rights to persons who are arrested, to protect them from arbitrary detention and to ensure a fair trial.

Step 1 — Article 22(1): “No person who is arrested shall be detained in custody without being informed, as soon as may be, of the grounds of such arrest nor shall he be denied the right to consult, and to be defended by, a legal practitioner of his choice.” This is the clear constitutional basis for Option A.

Step 2 — Right to lawyer: Every arrested person has the right to contact a lawyer of their choice and seek legal advice before being questioned. If they cannot afford a lawyer, legal aid is available under Article 39A (DPSP) and the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: There is no automatic release if a charge sheet is not filed within 24 hours; the CrPC requires production before a magistrate within 24 hours, but the case continues.
- Option C: There is no legal requirement for evidence disclosure before an arrest; police can arrest on reasonable suspicion and investigate thereafter.
- Option D: An accused person cannot refuse to appear in court; they must be produced before a magistrate. A government-appointed lawyer is provided at trial, not before court appearance.

Final Answer: An arrested person has the right to know the grounds of arrest and to consult a lawyer. ⇒

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q20](#)

Q21.

Solution

Concept — Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005: This landmark Act was passed to provide more effective protection to women who are victims of violence within the home (domestic violence). It is a civil law and covers women in various domestic relationships.

Step 1 — Broad definition of domestic violence: The Act defines domestic vio-



lence to include physical abuse (beatings, assault), emotional abuse (insults, humiliation, threats), verbal abuse, sexual abuse (marital rape is a covered ground under civil relief), and economic abuse (denying money, preventing from accessing financial resources or property).

Step 2 — Coverage of relationships: The Act covers not only married women but also women in live-in (domestic) relationships, daughters, mothers, sisters, and other female relatives living in a shared household. This broader coverage made it a significant advance over earlier laws.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: The Act explicitly covers emotional, verbal, sexual, and economic abuse — not just physical violence.
- Option C: The Act protects women in live-in relationships and other domestic relationships, not just registered marriages.
- Option D: The Act does not require hospitalization or serious physical injury; emotional harm and economic deprivation alone are grounds for relief.

Final Answer: The 2005 Act covers physical, emotional, verbal, sexual, and economic abuse. ⇒ B

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q21](#)

Q22.

Solution

Concept — Writ of Habeas Corpus: The Indian Constitution (Article 32 and Article 226) empowers the Supreme Court and High Courts to issue writs for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights. The five writs are: Habeas Corpus, Mandamus, Prohibition, Certiorari, and Quo Warranto.

Step 1 — Meaning of Habeas Corpus: The Latin phrase *habeas corpus* means “you shall have the body” (or “produce the body”). It is a writ that can be filed by any person on behalf of a detained individual. It requires the detaining authority to produce the detained person before the court and provide legal justification for the detention.

Step 2 — Purpose: If the court finds the detention unlawful, it orders the immediate release of the detained person. Habeas Corpus is a powerful safeguard against arbitrary arrest and illegal detention.

Why other options are wrong:



- Option A: Commanding a public official to perform a legal duty is the writ of Mandamus (meaning “we command”).
- Option B: Transferring a case from a lower to a higher court for review is the writ of Certiorari (meaning “to be informed” or “to be certified”).
- Option D: Prohibiting a lower court or tribunal from exceeding its jurisdiction is the writ of Prohibition.

Final Answer: Habeas Corpus requires the detaining authority to produce the person and justify the detention. $\Rightarrow$

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q22](#)

Q23.

Solution

Concept — Organised vs Unorganised Sector: Economic activities in India are also classified by the nature of employment. The organised (formal) sector comprises enterprises registered with the government that follow official rules and regulations. The unorganised (informal) sector consists of small, often unregistered units that operate outside formal legal protections.

Step 1 — Organised sector features: Workers in the organised sector enjoy fixed working hours (typically 8 hours per day), paid annual and sick leave, provident fund (retirement savings), gratuity, job security (protection against arbitrary dismissal), and access to social security benefits.

Step 2 — Unorganised sector reality: Workers in the unorganised sector (which employs over 90% of India’s workforce) typically have no fixed hours, no paid leave, no provident fund, and no job security. They may be hired and dismissed without notice or legal recourse.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: The organised/unorganised distinction is NOT about rural vs urban location. Both sectors exist in cities and villages.
- Option B: Workers in the unorganised sector have LESS job security, not more. The absence of formal contracts means they can be let go at any time.
- Option C: This is the opposite of reality — the unorganised sector employs the vast majority (over 90%) of India’s workforce; the organised sector is smaller.

Final Answer: Organised sector workers have fixed hours, PF, paid leave, and job security; unorganised sector workers lack these. $\Rightarrow$



Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q23](#)

Q24.

Solution

Concept — Poverty Line in India: The poverty line is a threshold used to identify people who cannot meet a minimum standard of living. In India, it has been traditionally defined in terms of the minimum per capita consumption expenditure needed to meet basic calorie requirements.

Step 1 — Calorie-based definition: India's poverty line is based on the minimum daily caloric intake: 2,400 kcal per person per day in rural areas and 2,100 kcal per person per day in urban areas (as established by the Planning Commission). The money needed to purchase food providing these calories (plus a basic allowance for non-food items) determines the monthly expenditure threshold.

Step 2 — Different committees: Over the years, expert committees (Lakdawala Committee, Tendulkar Committee, Rangarajan Committee) have refined the poverty line methodology, but all base it on minimum consumption expenditure for meeting caloric and basic needs.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: The poverty line is not based on the number of family members below minimum wage; it is based on household consumption expenditure.
- Option C: Land ownership is not the basis for the poverty line, though landlessness may correlate with poverty.
- Option D: Days of work per month is not the criterion used to define the poverty line in India.

Final Answer: India's poverty line is based on the minimum monthly expenditure needed to meet calorie and basic needs. ⇒ **A**

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q24](#)



Q25.

Solution

Concept — Globalisation and its Effects: Globalisation refers to the integration of a country's economy with the global economy through trade, foreign investment, technology sharing, and migration of people. India embraced economic globalisation through liberalisation in 1991 (the LPG reforms: Liberalisation, Privatisation, Globalisation).

Step 1 — Positive and negative effects: Globalisation brought foreign direct investment (FDI), technology, and expanded export markets. However, it also exposed Indian small-scale industries to intense competition from cheaper imports, particularly from countries like China where production costs are lower.

Step 2 — Impact on small-scale workers: Sectors such as toys, candles, textiles, footwear, and consumer electronics in India were hit hard when import barriers (tariffs) were reduced. Small Indian manufacturers could not match the low prices of mass-produced foreign goods and were forced to shut down or drastically reduce their workforce, causing job losses for lakhs of workers.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Indian manufacturing has not disappeared; many industries (pharmaceuticals, IT, automobiles) expanded. Large-scale factory relocation did not occur.
- Option C: Indian workers did not become the highest-paid in Asia; wage levels in India remain lower than in many developed Asian economies, and globalisation also created pressure to keep wages low to remain competitive.
- Option D: India did not ban foreign goods; it reduced trade barriers, which is the opposite of a ban.

Final Answer: Small Indian industries lost workers due to competition from cheaper imported goods after trade barriers fell. ⇒ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q25](#)



Answer Key

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	B	2	C	3	D	4	A	5	B
6	C	7	D	8	A	9	B	10	C
11	D	12	A	13	B	14	C	15	D
16	A	17	B	18	C	19	D	20	A
21	B	22	C	23	D	24	A	25	B

