

General Instructions

- (i) This booklet contains 61 questions, each provided with a complete, step-by-step solution.
- (ii) It comprises 22 single-correct multiple-choice questions.
- (iii) Attempt each question on your own before reviewing the given solution.

1. The given painting is from the sixteenth century from Mughal India. Identify the work shown in this painting from the following options:



- (A) Minting of coins
- (B) Metal crafting
- (C) Pottery making
- (D) Book making

Correct Answer: (D) Book making

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- A picture question is easiest to settle by asking what tools and materials each option would need, and then checking whether those appear in the image.
- Three of the four options need fire or a wheel, and the painting shows neither.

Step 1: Ask what each craft requires.

Minting coins needs a furnace and dies. Metal crafting needs fire, hammers and an anvil. Pottery needs a wheel, clay and a kiln. Book making needs paper, pens, brushes, colours and a binding board.

Step 2: Look for fire or a wheel in the painting.

There is no furnace, no anvil, no kiln and no potter wheel anywhere in the scene. That single observation removes the first three options at once.

Step 3: Look for what is present instead.

Flat sheets, writing implements, colours and a finished bound volume are visible, and the workers sit in a group at different tasks rather than each doing the same job.

That division of labour is exactly how a manuscript workshop operated.

Step 4: Connect it to the chapter.

The Mughal court maintained workshops where calligraphers, painters, paper makers and binders produced handwritten and illustrated books. Such paintings are used to show how costly and

slow book production was before printing arrived.

Final Answer: (D) Book making

Quick Tip: Ask which craft would need a furnace, an anvil or a potter wheel, and check whether any of these appear in the picture. Then look at the flat sheets and the bound volume.

• • •

2. Which one of the following areas in Calcutta was devoted to the printing of popular books in the 19th century?

- (A) Baranagar
- (B) Jadavpur
- (C) Alipore
- (D) Batala

Correct Answer: (D) Batala

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- A locality becomes a printing centre only when cheap paper, presses, binders and a nearby market all come together in the same few streets.
- In nineteenth century Calcutta one central quarter answered to that description.

Step 1: Work out the kind of place needed.

Popular printing was a low-cost, high-volume business. It needed to

sit in the crowded central part of the city, close to the book bazaar and to the pedlars who carried the books to households.
An outlying residential suburb could not serve that purpose.

Step 2: Name the quarter.

That central quarter was **Battala**, written as Batala in the options, where a large number of presses were set up.

Step 3: Confirm from what came out of it.

Battala presses turned out cheap religious tracts, scriptures and popular literature, often with woodcut and coloured lithograph illustrations. Pedlars carried these into homes, and women read them in their spare time.

Step 4: Set the other options aside.

Baranagar, Jadavpur and Alipore are known as residential and institutional areas of Calcutta, not as the home of the cheap print trade.

Final Answer: (D) Batala

Quick Tip: Think of the crowded central quarter of Calcutta where cheap religious tracts and popular books were printed and then carried to homes by pedlars.



3. Which one of the following pairs is correctly matched?

Column – A (Writer)	Column – B (Contribution)
(A) Ram Chaddha	Bengal Gazette
(B) Gangadhar Bhattacharya	Kesari
(C) Jyotiba Phule	Gulamgiri
(D) Rashsundari Devi	Padmarg

- (A) Ram Chaddha – Bengal Gazette
(B) Gangadhar Bhattacharya – Kesari
(C) Jyotiba Phule – Gulamgiri
(D) Rashsundari Devi – Padmarg

Correct Answer: (C) Jyotiba Phule – Gulamgiri

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- The four items in Column B are of two different kinds, newspapers and books, so sorting them first shows which pairs have been deliberately crossed over.
- Once the crossovers are spotted, only one pair survives.

Step 1: Sort Column B by type.

Bengal Gazette and Kesari are newspapers. Gulamgiri and Padmarg are book titles. So two pairs deal with journalism and two with authorship.

Step 2: Deal with the two newspapers together.

The Bengal Gazette was brought out by Gangadhar Bhattacharya, and

Kesari was edited by Bal Gangadhar Tilak. The paper has given the Bengal Gazette to Ram Chaddha and Kesari to Gangadhar Bhattacharya.

Both newspaper pairs are therefore crossed over and wrong.

Step 3: Deal with the two books.

Jyotiba Phule wrote *Gulamgiri* in 1871 against the caste system, and that pairing stands. Rashsundari Devi wrote *Amar Jiban*, the first full length autobiography in Bengali, not a work called Padmarg.

Step 4: Confirm the single surviving pair.

Three pairs fail and only the pairing of Jyotiba Phule with *Gulamgiri* holds.

Final Answer: (C) Jyotiba Phule – *Gulamgiri*

Quick Tip: Separate the newspapers from the books first. Then recall who actually brought out the Bengal Gazette and who edited Kesari, and check what Rashsundari Devi really wrote.

• • •

4. Two statements are given below. They are Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read both the statements and choose the correct option.

Assertion (A): Silver from Peru and Mexico enhanced the wealth of Europe in the sixteenth century.

Reason (R): Europe used this silver to finance its trade with Asia.

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

Correct Answer: (B) Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is **not** the correct explanation of (A).

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- A simple direction test settles most assertion and reason questions: check whether the two sentences describe the same movement or opposite movements.
- Here one describes money coming in and the other money going out.

Step 1: Read the direction in the Assertion.

Silver from the mines of Peru and Mexico flowed *into* Europe and made it wealthier. This is an inflow.

Step 2: Read the direction in the Reason.

Europe then sent that silver *out* to Asia to pay for spices, textiles and porcelain, because Asian sellers wanted metal rather than European goods. This is an outflow.

Step 3: Apply the direction test.

Money leaving a country cannot be the reason the country became rich in the first place. The outflow is a *use* of the wealth, not its source.

So the Reason cannot explain the Assertion, even though both sentences are correct.

Step 4: Eliminate the remaining options.

Options (C) and (D) each call one statement false, but both are accurate. Option (A) claims an explanatory link that the direction test rules out. Option (B) is what is left.

Final Answer: (B) Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

Quick Tip: Check the direction of each sentence. One describes silver coming into Europe and the other describes it going out to Asia. Money going out cannot explain why wealth came in.

• • •

5. Arrange the following events in chronological order and choose the correct option:

I. Second Round Table Conference

II. Formation of Depressed Class Association

III. Lahore Session of Indian National Congress

IV. Formation of Awadh Kissan Sabha

(A) I, II, IV, III

(B) I, II, III, IV

(C) IV, III, II, I

(D) IV, III, I, II

Correct Answer: (C) IV, III, II, I

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- Two of the options begin with I and two begin with IV, so deciding only which event came first cuts the choices in half.
- The events can then be linked in a cause and effect chain rather than dated one by one.

Step 1: Decide what came first.

The Awadh Kisan Sabha belongs to the peasant mobilisation that grew alongside the Non-Cooperation Movement, at the very start of the 1920s. The Second Round Table Conference belongs to the early 1930s, after the Civil Disobedience Movement had already begun. So item IV comes first, and options (A) and (B) are out.

Step 2: Compare the two options still standing.

(C) reads IV, III, II, I and (D) reads IV, III, I, II. Both agree on IV first and III second, so only the order of I and II has to be settled.

Step 3: Build the chain from Lahore onwards.

Lahore in December 1929 declared Purna Swaraj. The Civil Disobedience Movement followed in 1930, and it was in that same year that Dr. B.R. Ambedkar organised the Depressed Classes Association.

The Gandhi Irwin Pact then came in March 1931, and only after that did Gandhiji travel to London for the Second Round Table Conference in December 1931.

Step 4: Read the order off the chain.

The Association of 1930 clearly comes before the Conference of 1931,

so II precedes I. Option (D) reverses them and fails, while option (C) fits.

Final Answer: (C) IV, III, II, I

Quick Tip: Fix the earliest event first. The Awadh peasant body belongs to the Non-Cooperation years, while the Round Table Conference came after the Gandhi Irwin Pact, so the list runs from 1920 to 1931.

• • •

6. “Food offered many examples of long distance cultural exchange during pre-modern times.” Explain the statement with any two examples.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- The claim can be tested by picking any everyday food and asking where it actually came from.
- In almost every case the answer lies in another continent, which is exactly the point the statement makes.

Step 1: Take a food that seems purely European.

Spaghetti is thought of as Italian, yet it is believed that noodles travelled west from China and became spaghetti, while another account says Arab traders carried pasta to Sicily in the fifth century. A dish treated as national turns out to have arrived from abroad.

Step 2: Take a food that seems purely Indian.

Chillies and potatoes are central to Indian cooking today, yet neither was known here five centuries ago. Both came from America after the voyages of Columbus, along with maize, tomatoes, groundnuts, soya and sweet potatoes.

Step 3: Note how deep the effect went.

This was not a matter of taste alone. The potato allowed the poor of Europe to eat better and live longer, and the peasants of Ireland came to depend on it so completely that the crop disease of the 1840s killed hundreds of thousands of them.

Final Answer: Everyday foods carry the record of long distance exchange. Noodles moved from China to Europe as spaghetti, and potatoes, chillies, maize and tomatoes moved from America to Europe and Asia, reshaping what ordinary people ate.

Quick Tip: Pick two foods whose origin is not where they are eaten today. The noodle and pasta story is one, and the crops brought from America after the voyages of Columbus is the other.

• • •

7. “Trade and cultural exchange went hand-in-hand during pre-modern times.” Explain the statement with any two examples.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- The statement is best proved by showing that the same physical route carried two very different kinds of cargo at the same time.

- One route, the silk routes, supplies the whole argument on its own.

Step 1: Establish what the route carried as trade.

The silk routes linked Asia with Europe and northern Africa and are known to have existed since before the Christian era. Chinese silk, Chinese pottery, and Indian and South East Asian textiles and spices moved west, while gold and silver moved east from Europe.

Step 2: Show that the same route carried belief.

Christian missionaries almost certainly used these routes to reach Asia, and Muslim preachers followed a few centuries later. Long before either, Buddhism had spread out of eastern India in several directions through the points where these routes crossed.

Faith moved on the roads that merchants had opened.

Step 3: Show that the same movement carried daily habits.

Traders and travellers introduced new crops to the lands they visited. Noodles are believed to have moved west from China and turned into spaghetti, and Arab traders carried pasta to Sicily in the fifth century.

Step 4: Draw the conclusion.

A merchant does not travel as goods alone. He carries his religion, his language and his cooking with him, and leaves some of each behind. That is why trade and cultural exchange cannot be separated in the pre-modern world.

Final Answer: The silk routes prove the point on their own, since the same roads that carried silk, spices and precious metals also

carried Buddhism, Christianity and Islam, and traders on them spread foods such as noodles and pasta from one continent to another.

Quick Tip: Use the silk routes as the main example. Show what goods moved along them, then show that missionaries, preachers and even foods travelled the very same roads.

• • •

8. Evaluate the role of print in the French Revolution.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- The contribution of print is clearest if we ask what a French reader of the 1780s could do that a reader a century earlier could not.
- Three new abilities appeared, and each of them weakened the old order.

Step 1: A reader could now judge authority by reason.

Cheap printed books carried the arguments of the enlightenment thinkers, who attacked tradition, superstition and despotism and insisted that everything be tested by reason. The works of Voltaire and Rousseau reached a wide public.

Once custom alone stopped being a good enough answer, the claims of an absolute monarch became open to challenge.

Step 2: A reader could now argue in public.

Printed matter created a culture of dialogue and debate in which values, norms and institutions were re-examined openly. Coffee houses, salons and street corners became places where the same books were discussed.

An opinion that once stayed private could now become a shared opinion, and a shared opinion can act.

Step 3: A reader could now see the rulers mocked.

From the 1780s a flood of cheap literature, cartoons and caricatures ridiculed the morality of the royal family and showed the monarchy lost in pleasures while ordinary people suffered. It circulated underground, beyond the reach of censors.

Respect for the crown, once taken for granted, could not survive this.

Step 4: State the limit of the argument.

Print did not hand people a ready made revolution. Readers met many kinds of writing and accepted, rejected or reinterpreted what they read. What print gave them was the chance to think differently, and that chance was enough.

Final Answer: Print let ordinary people judge authority by reason, argue about it in public, and see their rulers ridiculed. None of this forced a revolution, but it created the climate in which one became possible.

Quick Tip: Build the answer on three points, the spread of enlightenment ideas, the new culture of public debate, and the literature that mocked the monarchy. End by noting that print opened the possibility of thinking differently rather than dictating what to think.



9. Evaluate the role of Buddhist missionaries in printing culture.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- A new technology survives only if someone needs a great many identical copies of something.
- In East Asia that need came from religion, and the missionaries who carried the religion carried the technology with it.

Step 1: Identify who needed thousands of identical copies.

Buddhist practice held that reproducing and giving away scripture earned merit. A single monastery might therefore want copies of a sutra by the hundred, which no team of scribes could supply. Printing solved a problem that religion had created.

Step 2: Follow the technology as it moved with the faith.

Missionaries travelling from China into Japan carried hand-printing with them around AD 768 to 770. The technique crossed a sea not as trade goods but as part of religious work.

Step 3: Look at what came off those early presses.

The oldest Japanese book still surviving is the Buddhist Diamond Sutra of AD 868, made up of six sheets of text together with woodcut illustrations. The earliest printed books of the region are religious ones.

Step 4: Note the wider effect on reading.

Because scripture was meant for all believers and not for a narrow

class, printed matter circulated widely and cheaply. Printing therefore took root as a normal part of life, and in time books of poetry and prose were published in the same way.

Final Answer: Buddhist missionaries supplied early printing with its purpose, its market and its route. They needed scripture in bulk, they produced the oldest dated printed books such as the Diamond Sutra, and they carried the technique from China into Japan.

Quick Tip: Show three things: how missionaries carried the technology from China to Japan, which early printed book they produced, and why religious practice created a demand for thousands of identical copies.

• • •

10. Describe the role of Balkans in the outbreak of World War – I.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- The Balkans became dangerous because three conditions came together in one place: many peoples, a collapsing ruler, and powerful outsiders with an interest in the outcome.
- Taking the three conditions one at a time shows why war there could not stay local.

Step 1: The first condition, a crowded mix of peoples.

The region covered what are today Romania, Bulgaria, Albania, Greece, Macedonia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Slovenia, Serbia

and Montenegro, and its people were broadly called the Slavs. No single group could claim the whole area, and no boundary could satisfy everyone.

Step 2: The second condition, an empire losing its grip.

Much of the Balkans lay under the Ottoman Empire, which tried to save itself through modernisation and internal reform and largely failed. As its authority weakened, its European subjects broke away one after another and declared independence.

Every withdrawal of Ottoman power left a vacancy that somebody wanted to fill.

Step 3: How the newly free peoples treated each other.

Each nationality argued from history that it had once been independent and had later been subjugated, and used that argument to claim territory. The claims overlapped, so the groups grew fiercely jealous of one another, each hoping to gain at the cost of its neighbours.

Step 4: The third condition, watching great powers.

Russia, Germany, England and Austro-Hungary were already competing over trade, colonies, navies and armies. Each wanted to check the influence of the others in the Balkans and to extend its own. So no dispute in the region stayed between the two peoples involved. Each found a powerful backer.

Step 5: How the three conditions produced a world war.

Overlapping claims guaranteed a quarrel, the Ottoman collapse guaranteed an opening, and great power rivalry guaranteed that any quarrel would draw in armies from outside. A series of wars in the region followed, and the final crisis brought the whole of Europe into

the First World War.

Final Answer: The Balkans held too many rival nationalities, a ruler too weak to hold them, and great powers too eager to intervene. That combination made the region the starting point of the war of 1914.

Quick Tip: Explain what the Balkans was, why the decline of the Ottoman Empire made it unstable, how the rival nationalities justified overlapping claims, and how the competition among Russia, Germany, England and Austro-Hungary turned a regional dispute into a world war.

• • •

11. Describe the role of European artists in promoting nationalism during nineteenth century.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- Most people in nineteenth century Europe could not read political pamphlets, so nationalism had to reach them through pictures, statues, songs and dances.
- Artists were therefore not decorating the national movement, they were carrying it.

Step 1: The problem artists were solving.

A nation cannot be photographed. To make people feel loyalty towards something they cannot see, it had to be given a body, a face and a set of recognisable signs. That task fell to painters and sculptors.

Step 2: The solution, a person who stands for the country.

Artists represented nations as female figures, deliberately not modelled on any real woman, so that the figure stood for the whole people rather than for an individual.

France gave her the ordinary Christian name **Marianne**, which stressed that the nation belonged to the people, and the German states gave her the name **Germania**.

Step 3: A shared code of symbols that anyone could read.

Each idea was attached to an object. The red cap and the broken chain meant Liberty, the blindfold and the weighing scales meant Justice, and the crown of oak leaves worn by Germania meant heroism, since the German oak stood for it.

A villager who could not read a newspaper could still read these signs.

Step 4: Putting the symbols where people would meet them.

Statues of Marianne were raised in public squares, and her image was stamped on coins and on postage stamps. The nation thus entered daily life through objects passing from hand to hand.

Step 5: Music and folk culture as the final step.

The Romantic movement turned away from reason and science towards emotion, intuition and a sense of shared heritage. Where politics was banned, art continued the work: in Poland, Karol Kurpinski used operas and music to celebrate the national struggle, and made folk dances such as the polonaise and the mazurka into nationalist symbols.

Final Answer: Artists turned an idea into something people could see, hold and sing. Through Marianne and Germania, through a fixed

code of symbols on statues, coins and stamps, and through Romantic music and folk dance, they carried nationalism to people whom written politics could never have reached.

Quick Tip: Cover the female personification of nations, the fixed symbols for Liberty and Justice, the specific examples of Marianne and Germania, and the part played by Romantic music and folk culture such as the work of Karol Kurpinski in Poland.



12. Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Quit India Movement

The failure of the Cripps Mission and the effects of World War II created widespread discontentment in India. This led Gandhiji to launch a movement calling for complete withdrawal of the British from India. The Congress Working Committee, in its meeting in Wardha on 14 July 1942, passed the historic 'Quit India' resolution demanding the immediate transfer of power to Indians and quit India. On 8th August 1942 in Bombay, the All India Congress Committee endorsed the resolution which called for a non-violent mass struggle on the widest possible scale throughout the country. It was on this occasion that Gandhiji delivered the famous 'Do or Die' speech. The call for 'Quit India' almost brought the state machinery to a standstill in large parts of the country as people voluntarily threw themselves into the thick of the movement. People observed *hartals*, and demonstrations and processions were accompanied by national songs and slogans. The movement was truly a mass movement which brought into its ambit thousands of ordinary people, namely students, workers and peasants. It also saw the active participation of leaders, namely, Jayprakash Narayan, Aruna Asaf Ali and Ram Manohar Lohia and many women such as Matangini Hazra in Bengal, Kanaklata Barua in Assam and Rama Devi in Orissa. The British responded with much force, yet it took more than a year to suppress the movement.

Correct Answer: —

• • •

13. How did the failure of the Cripps Mission contribute to the launch of the Quit India Movement?

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- A mass movement is usually launched only when the peaceful route has closed, so the question is really asking what door the failed mission shut.
- The source gives the answer in its opening sentence.

Step 1: Note what the mission was expected to achieve.

It was meant to settle the political demands of Indian leaders in return for their support during the war. As long as it was under way, a negotiated outcome still looked possible.

Step 2: Note what its failure left behind.

When it failed, nothing was left on the table. The source says this failure, together with the effects of the Second World War, created widespread discontentment across the country.

Step 3: Note the change in demand that followed.

Gandhiji now called not for concessions but for the complete withdrawal of the British from India, and the Congress Working Committee turned that call into the Quit India resolution at Wardha on 14 July 1942.

Final Answer: The collapse of the Cripps Mission closed the door on a negotiated settlement and deepened public anger, which is what pushed Gandhiji to launch the Quit India Movement demanding immediate British withdrawal.

Quick Tip: The very first sentence of the source links the failed mission to something that spread across the country, and the next sentence tells you what that led Gandhiji to do.

• • •

14. Why was the call given by Gandhiji for ‘Quit India’ considered historic?

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- Comparing this call with the earlier ones shows exactly what made it stand apart.
- Three things were new: the demand, the method and the people who answered it.

Step 1: Compare the demand.

The Non-Cooperation Movement asked Indians to withdraw support from the government and the Civil Disobedience Movement asked them to break particular laws. Quit India asked the rulers to leave the country at once.

Nothing short of the end of colonial rule would satisfy it.

Step 2: Compare the intensity.

The famous words spoken on that occasion, *Do or Die*, set the tone. The state machinery was almost brought to a standstill in large parts of the country as people threw themselves into the movement of their own accord.

Step 3: Compare who took part.

Thousands of ordinary students, workers and peasants joined, and women such as Matangini Hazra in Bengal, Kanaklata Barua in Assam and Rama Devi in Orissa led from the front. The British used much force and still needed more than a year to suppress it.

Final Answer: The call was historic because for the first time the demand was for immediate freedom itself, the response paralysed the government across large parts of India, and people from every section of society joined in without waiting to be led.

Quick Tip: Look at three things in the source, what exactly was demanded, what happened to the state machinery afterwards, and which sections of society joined the movement.

• • •

15. Explain the role of women in making the Quit India Movement more inclusive.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- Inclusiveness can be measured on three counts, how many kinds of people joined, from how many places, and in what role.
- The part played by women improved the movement on all three counts.

Step 1: On the count of who joined.

Before this, public political activity in most parts of India was largely the work of men. When women entered it in numbers, half the population was brought inside the struggle for the first time on this scale.

Step 2: On the count of where they came from.

The source names Matangini Hazra in Bengal, Kanaklata Barua in Assam and Rama Devi in Orissa. These are three widely separated regions of eastern India alone, which indicates how far the participation of women had spread.

Step 3: On the count of the role they took.

They are described as taking *active* part, which means leading processions and demonstrations rather than merely attending them. Facing the force used by the British placed them on the same footing as any other participant.

Step 4: The combined effect.

With women in the front, the movement reached families, villages and towns that had stayed outside politics, and it could genuinely be described as a mass movement of students, workers and peasants rather than a campaign of professional politicians.

Final Answer: Women widened the movement by joining it in large numbers, by doing so in many different regions, and by taking leading roles and facing the same dangers as men, which together turned Quit India into a struggle of the whole people.

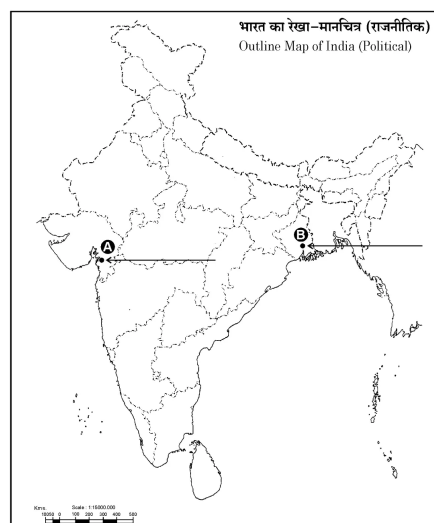
Quick Tip: Use the three women named in the source and note which regions they came from. Then explain what changes when women take an active, leading part rather than staying at home.

• • •

16. Two places 'A' and 'B' have been marked on the given political outline map of India. Identify them with the help of the following information and write their correct names on the lines drawn near them:

A. The place where Gandhiji broke the Salt Law.

B. The place where the session of Indian National Congress was held.



Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- With two markers on one map, the safest route is to fix each position on the map of India first and then read the clues against those positions.

- One marker is on the western coast and the other in the east, so they cannot be confused once located.

Step 1: Read the western marker by its geography.

It sits on the Gujarat shore near the Gulf of Khambhat. Ask which event of the freedom struggle had to take place at the seaside, and the answer is the breaking of the salt law, since salt can only be made where sea water meets the land.

Step 2: Name that place.

It is **Dandi**, reached on 6 April 1930 after a march of about 240 miles from Sabarmati. Salt, used by rich and poor alike yet taxed by the colonial state, made an ideal symbol of protest.

Step 3: Read the eastern marker.

It lies in West Bengal near the delta. The remaining clue is the Congress session, and the session held at **Calcutta** in September 1920 is the one associated with this region.

Step 4: Cross-check that the pairing is consistent.

The salt march started in Gujarat and ended there, so it cannot belong to the eastern marker. A Congress session needs a large city, which fits Calcutta and not a small coastal village. The pairing holds both ways.

Final Answer: The Gujarat coast marker is **Dandi** and the West Bengal marker is **Calcutta**, now called Kolkata.

Quick Tip: Place each marker on the map of India first. A coastal village of Gujarat can only be the place of the salt march, so the remaining clue about a



17. Name the place where Gandhiji broke the Salt Law.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- The place can be reasoned out instead of memorised, because the act itself decides what kind of place it must have been.
- Making salt without paying tax is possible only where sea water is available.

Step 1: Work out what kind of place was required.

Breaking the salt law meant producing salt outside the government monopoly. That can only be done at the sea shore, by boiling or evaporating sea water. So the place had to be on the coast.

Step 2: Work out which coast.

The march set out on foot from the Sabarmati ashram near Ahmedabad in Gujarat, so the destination had to be a coastal point of Gujarat within walking distance.

Step 3: Name the village.

That village was **Dandi**, about 240 miles from Sabarmati, reached on 6 April 1930 after twenty four days of walking.

Step 4: Note why the choice worked so well.

Salt was consumed by every household in the country, so a tax on it touched the poorest as directly as the richest. Breaking that particular law gave the movement a symbol the whole nation understood at once.

Final Answer: The salt law was broken at Dandi in Gujarat.

Quick Tip: The act needed sea water and the march began at Sabarmati in Gujarat, so name the coastal village of Gujarat reached on 6 April 1930.

• • •

18. Name the place where the session of Indian National Congress was held in 1920 in Eastern India.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- When a question adds a region to a year, it is warning that more than one answer exists for that year.
- Listing both sessions of 1920 and then applying the region settles it safely.

Step 1: List every Congress session of 1920.

There were two. A special session was held in September and the regular annual session in December. Any answer must be one of these.

Step 2: Locate each on the map.

The special session of September 1920 met at Calcutta in Bengal,

which is eastern India. The annual session of December 1920 met at Nagpur, which is in central India.

Step 3: Apply the clue given.

Only Calcutta lies in eastern India, so that is the session being asked about.

Step 4: Confirm from what happened at it.

It was at Calcutta that Gandhiji persuaded the other leaders to adopt a Non-Cooperation programme in support of Khilafat and for swaraj, a decision later confirmed at Nagpur.

The importance of the session matches the importance of the question.

Final Answer: The 1920 session in eastern India was held at Calcutta, now Kolkata.

Quick Tip: Two Congress sessions were held in 1920, one in September and one in December. Check which of the two cities lies in eastern India.

...

19. Which one of the following crops grows well in hot and humid climate?

- (A) Sugarcane
- (B) Peas
- (C) Wheat
- (D) Gram

Correct Answer: (A) Sugarcane

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- The three cropping seasons of India already sort the crops by climate, so placing each option in its season answers the question.
- Kharif crops need heat and moisture, rabi crops need cool and dry weather.

Step 1: Sort the four options by season.

Peas, wheat and gram are all rabi crops, sown between October and December and harvested between April and June. Sugarcane is grown in the hot months and takes almost a year in the field.

Step 2: Match the season with the climate in the question.

Hot and humid air describes the monsoon period, not the winter. Three of the four options therefore fall out at once, since they are winter crops.

Step 3: Confirm with the growing conditions of the surviving crop. Sugarcane needs a temperature of 21°C to 27°C and 75 cm to 100 cm of annual rainfall, which is exactly a hot and humid setting.

Step 4: Add a supporting fact.

It is the main source of sugar, gur, khandsari and molasses, and India stands second in the world in its production after Brazil, chiefly because so much of the country has the warm moist climate it needs.

Final Answer: (A) Sugarcane

Quick Tip: Sort the four crops into winter crops and monsoon crops. Hot and humid describes the monsoon, so the answer is the one that is not a rabi crop.

• • •

20. In which of the following categories of 'land-use' has India registered an increase?

- (A) Permanent pasture
- (B) Unsuitable for agriculture
- (C) Barren
- (D) Forest

Correct Answer: (D) Forest

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- Land is fixed in total, so if one category grows another must shrink. Asking which category the government has actively worked to expand gives the answer quickly.
- Only one of these four has a national policy behind it.

Step 1: Ask which category is a policy target.

The National Forest Policy sets a goal of about one third of the land area under forest and tree cover, and afforestation drives are run to reach it. No such national target exists for barren land, pasture or unusable land.

So forest is the category being deliberately increased.

Step 2: Ask what pressure the other categories face.

A growing population needs more houses, roads, factories and farms. That pressure eats into grazing land and reclaims barren land rather than adding to either.

Permanent pasture has therefore fallen, and barren and waste land has reduced as well.

Step 3: Check the consequence of the fall in pasture.

India has a very large cattle population, and the shrinking of permanent pasture makes feeding it harder. This confirms that pasture has been declining and not growing.

Step 4: Settle on the answer.

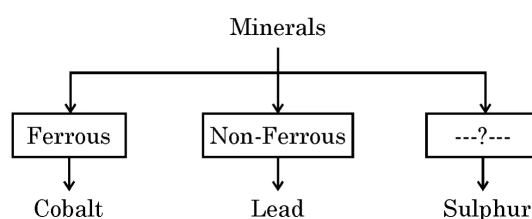
Forest is the only category among the four that has been rising, even though it still falls short of the one third target.

Final Answer: (D) Forest

Quick Tip: Ask which of the four categories the government actively tries to expand through a national policy, and which ones lose land as population and farming grow.

• • •

21. Choose the correct option to fill in the blank:



- (A) Non-metallic
- (B) Metallic
- (C) Precious
- (D) Energy

Correct Answer: (A) Non-metallic

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- In a classification chart, branches at the same level must be of the same kind and must not overlap.
- Testing each option against that rule rules out three of them without any factual recall.

Step 1: Apply the no-overlap rule to option (B).

Ferrous and non-ferrous are already two of the three branches, and both are kinds of metallic mineral. Putting metallic beside them as a third branch would repeat what the first two already cover.

Option (B) fails on logic alone.

Step 2: Apply the same rule to option (C).

Precious minerals such as gold, silver and platinum are also metals, so this branch too would sit inside the metallic group rather than beside it.

Step 3: Use the example to decide between the last two.

The example given is sulphur. Energy minerals are coal, petroleum and natural gas, and sulphur is not one of them, so option (D) does not fit.

Step 4: Confirm the surviving option.

Sulphur sits with mica, salt, potash, limestone, granite, marble and sandstone in the non-metallic group, and non-metallic is the one branch that does not overlap with ferrous and non-ferrous.

Final Answer: (A) Non-metallic

Quick Tip: Look at the example printed under the blank box. Ask whether that substance is a metal, and whether the option you pick would overlap with the two branches already shown.

• • •

22. Match Column – I with Column – II and choose the correct option:

Column – I (National Park) Column – II (States)

a. Corbett

i. Rajasthan

b. Sunderban

ii. Uttarakhand

c. Sariska

iii. Kerala

d. Periyar

iv. West Bengal

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

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

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

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

Correct Answer: (D) a-ii, b-iv, c-i, d-iii

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- These four parks lie in four clearly different parts of India, so placing each on a rough map of the country settles the matching without any memorised list.
- North, east, west and south each take one park.

Step 1: Place the park that is obviously coastal.

Sunderban means the mangrove delta where the Ganga meets the sea, which can only be **West Bengal** in the east. So b takes iv.

Options (A) and (C) pair b with i and ii, so both are out at once.

Step 2: Place the park in the far south.

Periyar is the name of a river of the Western Ghats in the deep south, which places it in **Kerala**. So d takes iii.

Option (B) pairs d with iv, so it fails as well.

Step 3: Check the only option still standing.

Option (D) reads a-ii, b-iv, c-i, d-iii. It has to be verified rather than simply accepted.

Step 4: Verify the remaining two pairs.

Corbett lies in the Himalayan foothills of **Uttarakhand** in the north, and Sariska lies in the Alwar district of **Rajasthan** in the dry west.

Both pairings in option (D) are correct.

Final Answer: (D) a-ii, b-iv, c-i, d-iii

Quick Tip: Use rough directions. One park is a mangrove delta in the east, one is in the deep south, one in the Himalayan foothills and one in the dry west. Match the park to the direction first.

23. In which of the following regions did the “Beej-Bachao Andolan” of farmers begin?

- (A) Kumaon
- (B) Tehri
- (C) Almora
- (D) Chamoli

Correct Answer: (B) Tehri

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- All four options lie in Uttarakhand, so the question is really testing whether two different Himalayan movements can be told apart.
- Pairing each movement with its own place makes the difference clear.

Step 1: Name the two movements of this region.

One is the Chipko movement, which resisted the felling of trees, and the other is the Beej Bachao Andolan, which set out to save traditional seeds and to farm without synthetic chemicals.

Step 2: Attach the Chipko movement to its place.

Chipko is associated with **Chamoli**, where villagers hugged trees to stop contractors from cutting them, and it also showed that community afforestation with indigenous species works.

That removes option (D).

Step 3: Attach the seed movement to its place.

The Beej Bachao Andolan, together with Navdanya, belongs to **Tehri**. It demonstrated that diversified crop production without chemicals is both possible and economically viable.

Step 4: Set aside the remaining options.

Kumaon and Almora are parts of Uttarakhand that are not linked with either of these two movements in the chapter.

Final Answer: (B) Tehri

Quick Tip: Two Himalayan movements appear in this chapter, one about hugging trees and one about saving seeds. Recall which district goes with which.

• • •

24. Read the given infographics carefully and choose the correct option that identifies the soil described:

(1)	(2)	(3)
Sandy in texture	Red to brown in colour	Soil lacks humus due to dry climate

- (A) Laterite soil
- (B) Forest soil
- (C) Arid soil
- (D) Black soil

Correct Answer: (C) Arid soil

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- When several clues are given, the fastest method is to pick the clue that eliminates the most options and apply it first.
- Here the words “dry climate” do most of the work.

Step 1: Apply the climate clue.

Clue (3) states plainly that the soil lacks humus because the climate is dry. Laterite soil forms under heavy rainfall and forest soil forms where forests grow, and forests need rain.

Options (A) and (B) are removed by this single clue.

Step 2: Apply the texture clue to the remaining two.

Clue (1) says the soil is sandy. Black soil is made of extremely fine clayey material and holds moisture well, which is the opposite of sandy.

Option (D) is removed.

Step 3: Confirm with the colour clue.

Clue (2) says red to brown. Arid soil is described exactly this way, while black soil would not be called red to brown at all.

Step 4: Add the region where it is found.

Arid soil occurs in the dry western parts of the country, chiefly in Rajasthan. Where it can be irrigated and the salt content reduced, as in western Rajasthan, it becomes cultivable.

Final Answer: (C) Arid soil

Quick Tip: Start with the clue about the dry climate, since it removes the soils that need heavy rain or forest cover. Then use the sandy texture to decide between the two that remain.

• • •

25. If every farmer in India follows modern farming practices, explain any two positive changes this could bring to villages.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- A change in farming reaches a village through three channels, what comes out of the field, what comes into the pocket, and what work becomes available.
- Following these channels keeps the answer about the village rather than about the crop alone.

Step 1: What comes out of the field.

High yielding seeds, chemical fertilisers, pesticides and assured irrigation together lift the yield of every acre, and irrigation allows a second or even a third crop in the same year.

The village stops depending entirely on the monsoon for its food.

Step 2: What comes into the pocket.

Whatever is grown beyond family needs is sold. Regular cash income allows the household to clear debt to the moneylender, to spend on health and schooling, and to invest again in the next season.

The hold of informal high-interest credit over the village weakens.

Step 3: What work becomes available.

Larger harvests need godowns, trucks, mechanics for pumps and tractors, and shops for seed and fertiliser. Each of these is a job for someone who may own no land at all.

Employment in the village therefore widens beyond farming itself.

Step 4: The condition attached to all of this.

The benefits hold only while the land and water last. Heavy chemical use and over-extraction of groundwater reduce soil fertility and lower the water table, so modern methods have to be used along with careful management.

Final Answer: The village would gain in two main ways, a much larger and more reliable harvest that ends dependence on the monsoon, and higher cash incomes that reduce debt and create new work in storage, transport and trade.

Quick Tip: Write about the village and not just the field. Cover the rise in output and food security, the rise in income, and the new kinds of work that a larger harvest creates.

• • •

26. Examine the importance of Bio-gas energy in rural areas.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- The value of biogas becomes clear when it is compared with what a village would otherwise burn.
- Comparing it against firewood, dung cakes and kerosene on cost, efficiency, environment and health shows why it is the better choice on every count.

Step 1: Compare on cost of fuel.

Kerosene has to be bought, and collecting firewood costs hours of labour every day. Biogas is made from shrubs, farm waste, animal waste and human waste that the village already produces and mostly throws away.

After the plant is built, the fuel itself is free.

Step 2: Compare on how much heat is obtained.

Biogas has higher thermal efficiency than kerosene, dung cake and charcoal. The same effort therefore yields more cooking heat, and a meal is ready faster.

Step 3: Compare on what is left behind.

Burning dung cakes destroys the dung completely. A biogas plant takes the gas and leaves a slurry that is a better manure than the original dung, so the farmer gets energy and fertiliser from one input. This is why the cattle dung plants are called Gobar gas plants and are described as giving twin benefits.

Step 4: Compare on damage to the environment.

Firewood collection strips the forest near a village, and burning dung takes nutrients away from the soil. Biogas prevents both losses at once, which is why it is called the most efficient use of cattle dung.

Step 5: Compare on health inside the house.

A smoky chulha harms the eyes and lungs of whoever cooks on it, usually the women of the household. A gas flame is smokeless, so the kitchen becomes safer and cleaner.

Final Answer: On every comparison with firewood, dung cakes and kerosene, biogas comes out ahead. It is cheaper, more efficient, leaves better manure, protects forests and soil, and gives rural families a smokeless kitchen.

Quick Tip: Build the answer around the raw material used, the higher thermal efficiency, the improved manure left behind, the trees and dung that are saved, and the health benefit of a smokeless kitchen.

• • •

27. Examine the significance of natural gas for industrial usage.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- Natural gas can be judged against coal, the fuel it usually replaces, on four counts: what it does, how clean it is, whether it is available, and whether it can be delivered.
- It scores on all four, which is why it is called the fuel of this century.

Step 1: What it does that coal cannot.

Coal is only a fuel. Natural gas is a fuel *and* a raw material for the

petrochemical industry, feeding the manufacture of fertilisers, plastics and chemicals.

One input therefore serves two purposes inside the same factory.

Step 2: How clean it is.

Natural gas is an environment friendly fuel because of its low carbon dioxide emissions. It leaves no ash and very little smoke, so plants using it face lower pollution control costs and less trouble with disposal.

Step 3: Whether India actually has it.

Large reserves exist in the Krishna Godavari basin. On the western side, Mumbai High and the allied fields are supplemented by finds in the Gulf of Khambhat, and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands hold further reserves.

The resource is therefore domestic and not wholly dependent on imports.

Step 4: Whether it can be delivered where industry needs it.

A gas field is useless without a pipeline. The 1700 km Hazira Vijaipur Jagdishpur pipeline connects Mumbai High and Bassein with the fertiliser, power and industrial complexes of western and northern India, so the gas reaches the plants that want it.

Step 5: Why demand keeps growing.

Beyond factories, compressed natural gas is replacing liquid fuels in vehicles across the country. A larger market makes further investment in exploration and pipelines worthwhile, which in turn secures supply for industry.

Final Answer: Natural gas is significant for industry because it

works as both fuel and feedstock, pollutes far less than coal, is available in large domestic reserves, and is carried to the industrial belt by a pipeline network, while rising use as CNG keeps the whole system growing.

Quick Tip: Cover its double role as fuel and as petrochemical raw material, its low carbon dioxide emissions, the Indian reserves in the Krishna Godavari basin and Mumbai High, and the Hazira Vijaipur Jagdishpur pipeline.

• • •

28. Read the given source and answer the questions that follow:

Sardar Sarovar Project

Sardar Sarovar Dam has been built over the Narmada river in Gujarat. This is one of the largest water resources projects of India covering four states – Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Rajasthan. The Sardar Sarovar Project would meet the requirement of water in drought prone and desert areas. Sardar Sarovar Project will provide irrigation facilities to 18.45 lakh hectare of land, covering 3112 villages in 15 districts of Gujarat. It will also irrigate 2,46,000 hectare of land in the strategic desert districts of Barmer and Jalore in Rajasthan and 37,500 hectare in the tribal hilly tract of Maharashtra through lift. About 75% of the command area in Gujarat is drought prone while entire command in Rajasthan is drought prone. Assured water supply will soon make this area drought proof.

Correct Answer: —

• • •

29. Why is Sardar Sarovar Project considered important for Gujarat?

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- The importance of a water project is measured by how much land it serves and how badly that land needs water.
- The passage supplies a figure for each.

Step 1: Measure how much land is served.

18.45 lakh hectare across 3112 villages in 15 districts is a very large share of the cultivable area of the state. A project of that reach touches a substantial part of the rural population.

Step 2: Measure how badly the land needs water.

About 75 per cent of that command area is drought prone. For three out of every four hectares, a failed monsoon has always meant a failed crop.

Step 3: Put the two together.

A large area plus a high level of need equals a high impact. Assured supply turns land that was at the mercy of the rains into land that can be cropped with confidence.

Final Answer: Its importance lies in the combination of reach and need. It waters 18.45 lakh hectare over 3112 villages in 15 districts, and because three quarters of that area is drought prone, assured supply will make the region drought proof.

Quick Tip: Pick out two figures from the source, the area and villages it will irrigate in Gujarat, and the share of that command area which is drought prone.

• • •

30. Why is Sardar Sarovar Project designed to cover four states?

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- A river does not stop at a state boundary, so a project built on one must be planned for the whole basin.
- Sharing the project also means sharing the cost, the water and the land that goes under the reservoir.

Step 1: Start with the river itself.

The Narmada rises in Madhya Pradesh and flows west through Maharashtra and Gujarat towards the sea. A dam on it affects the land and people of every state along its course, so none of them can be left out of the planning.

Step 2: Look at where the water is needed.

The source says the project would meet the requirement of water in drought prone and desert areas. Those areas are spread across the region and do not sit inside one state.

Rajasthan, though not on the river, has the desert districts of Barmer and Jalore that the project reaches.

Step 3: Look at how the benefit is divided.

Gujarat receives irrigation for 18.45 lakh hectare, Rajasthan for 2,46,000 hectare, and the tribal hilly tract of Maharashtra for 37,500 hectare through lift. Each state has a defined share.

Step 4: Note why a shared design is sensible.

One large dam serving four states is cheaper and uses less land than four separate schemes, and it lets water be moved from where it is plentiful to where it is scarce.

Final Answer: Because the Narmada basin and the dry areas needing its water both stretch across Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Rajasthan, a single project serving all four is the only workable design, and each state receives a fixed share of the irrigation.

Quick Tip: Think about where a river basin begins and ends, and about which states in the source are named as receiving water. Note that the drought prone and desert areas lie in more than one state.

• • •

31. In what ways does this project promote sustainability?

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- A project is sustainable if it still helps people many years from now, so the test is whether it removes a recurring problem rather than a one-time one.
- Drought is exactly such a recurring problem.

Step 1: Identify the recurring problem being removed.

About 75 per cent of the command area in Gujarat is drought prone and the entire command in Rajasthan is drought prone. Drought returns again and again, and each time it destroys a crop and a year of income.

Step 2: Show how storage breaks that cycle.

Rain that would have run off to the sea within weeks is held back and released when the fields need it. The source calls the result an assured water supply that will make the area drought proof.

The problem is removed permanently rather than relieved once.

Step 3: Show that the benefit reaches those with the fewest alternatives.

Water is lifted to the tribal hilly tract of Maharashtra and carried to the desert districts of Barmer and Jalore. These are places where people had no second source of income to fall back on.

Step 4: Show the efficiency of the design.

One project serves four states and several purposes at once, so the land submerged and the money spent produce far more benefit than several smaller separate schemes would.

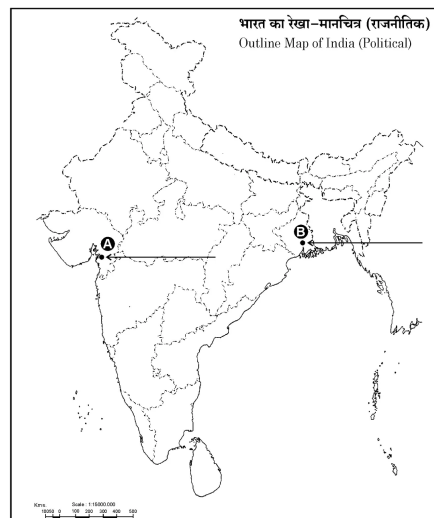
Final Answer: It is sustainable because it ends a problem that used to return every few years. Stored water gives assured supply, drought prone and desert districts are made cultivable, vulnerable communities gain a steady livelihood, and one structure serves four states together.

Quick Tip: Focus on what lasts. Assured supply replacing an uncertain monsoon, water reaching desert and tribal areas, and secure farming livelihoods are the points to build on.

• • •

32. On the same outline map of India given for Q. No. 9, locate and label any **three** of the following with suitable symbols:

- (i) The major dam constructed on the Chenab river
- (ii) Nuclear power plant in Maharashtra
- (iii) Software Technology Park in Tamil Nadu
- (iv) International Airport in Punjab



Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- Map work is safest when each item is fixed first by its state and then by a landmark within that state, such as a river or a coastline.

- Working state by state prevents a correct name from being written in the wrong place.

Step 1: Work from the river for the first item.

The Chenab is one of the five rivers of the Punjab system and flows through Jammu and Kashmir. The major dam on it is the **Salal Dam**, so the mark goes in the far north on the course of that river.

Step 2: Work from the coast for the second item.

Nuclear power stations need large volumes of cooling water, which is why so many of them stand on the coast. The Maharashtra plant is **Tarapur**, on the Arabian Sea coast north of Mumbai.

Step 3: Work from the city for the third item.

Software parks grow where engineers, power and communications already exist, which in Tamil Nadu means **Chennai**. Mark it on the eastern coast of the state.

Step 4: Work from the border for the fourth item.

Punjab lies in the north-west against the international border, and its international airport is at **Amritsar**, named Raja Sansi or Sri Guru Ram Dass Jee International Airport.

Step 5: Check before handing in.

Confirm that a dam symbol sits on a river, an airport symbol sits inland at a city, and each label lies within the boundary of the state named in its clue. Attempt only three.

Final Answer: Salal Dam in Jammu and Kashmir, Tarapur nuclear

power plant in Maharashtra, the Software Technology Park at Chennai, and the international airport at Amritsar in Punjab.

Quick Tip: Name each place from its clue first, then find the state on the map. A dam goes on a river, a nuclear plant sits on the coast for cooling water, and an airport is marked at its city.

• • •

33. Name the dam built on River Chenab in India.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- The river named in a question narrows the answer to a single region, and the region then narrows it to a single dam.
- The Chenab belongs to the Indus system in the far north.

Step 1: Locate the river.

The Chenab is one of the five rivers of the Punjab system, part of the wider Indus system, and it flows through Jammu and Kashmir before entering Pakistan.

Step 2: Work out what kind of dam suits that stretch.

In the mountains a river falls steeply over a short distance, which is ideal for generating electricity rather than for spreading irrigation. So the dam on the Chenab is a hydroelectric one.

Step 3: Name it.

That project is the **Salal Dam**.

Step 4: Cross-check against the dams of other rivers.

Bhakra Nangal belongs to the Satluj and Beas, Tehri to the Bhagirathi, Hirakud to the Mahanadi and Sardar Sarovar to the Narmada, so none of them can be the answer here.

Final Answer: The dam on the Chenab is the Salal Dam.

Quick Tip: Match the river to its dam. The Chenab flows through Jammu and Kashmir, so look for the hydroelectric project of that region rather than a dam of the plains.

• • •

34. Name the place where ‘nuclear power plant’ is located in Maharashtra.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- A nuclear station needs a very large and steady supply of cooling water, which is why most of them stand on a coast or beside a major river.
- Applying that rule to Maharashtra points to one stretch of coast.

Step 1: Work out where such a plant must stand.

The reactor produces great heat, and huge quantities of water are needed to carry that heat away. A coastal site solves the problem permanently, since the sea never runs dry.

Step 2: Apply it to Maharashtra.

Maharashtra faces the Arabian Sea on its western side, so the plant has to be somewhere along that coast rather than inland on the Deccan plateau.

Step 3: Name the site.

That site is **Tarapur**, on the coast north of Mumbai, the oldest nuclear power station in the country.

Step 4: Check it against the other states.

Kalpakkam is the coastal plant of Tamil Nadu, Kakrapar belongs to Gujarat, Kaiga to Karnataka, Narora to Uttar Pradesh and Rawatbhata to Rajasthan. Tarapur is the one in Maharashtra.

Final Answer: The nuclear power plant of Maharashtra is at Tarapur.

Quick Tip: A nuclear plant needs enormous amounts of cooling water, so look along the Arabian Sea coast of Maharashtra rather than inland. It is the oldest such station in India.

...

35. Name the place where software technology park is located in Tamil Nadu.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- Software needs people, power and connectivity rather than ore, coal or a port for heavy cargo.
- Applying that test to Tamil Nadu points to the one city that supplies all three in full measure.

Step 1: Work out what the industry requires.

It requires engineers in large numbers, an uninterrupted power supply, high speed data links and an airport for international travel. Raw materials play almost no part.

Step 2: Apply the test to the state.

Among the cities of Tamil Nadu, **Chennai** has the densest cluster of engineering and technical institutions, an international airport and the administrative weight of a state capital.

Step 3: Confirm the result.

The Software Technology Park of the state is therefore at Chennai, and the city ranks among the leading centres of the information technology industry in India.

Step 4: Fix the position for map work.

Chennai lies on the Coromandel coast, on the eastern side of Tamil Nadu, and that is where the symbol should be placed.

Final Answer: The Software Technology Park of Tamil Nadu is at Chennai.

Quick Tip: Software settles where engineers, power and fast communication already are. Name the capital city of Tamil Nadu on the

eastern coast.

• • •

36. Name the place where international airport is located in Punjab.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- An international airport is built where enough overseas passengers are generated, whether by trade, tourism, pilgrimage or a population settled abroad.
- Applying that test to Punjab gives the answer without needing a list.

Step 1: Set the test.

Ask which city in the state sends and receives the largest number of international travellers year after year.

Step 2: Apply it to Punjab.

Amritsar attracts visitors from across the world, and a very large number of families from the surrounding districts have relatives living overseas. No other city in the state produces comparable international traffic.

Step 3: Name the airport.

The airport there is the **Raja Sansi International Airport**, officially Sri Guru Ram Dass Jee International Airport.

Step 4: Fix its position on the map.

Amritsar lies in the north-western corner of Punjab, close to the border, which is where the airport symbol should be marked.

Final Answer: The international airport in Punjab is at Amritsar.

Quick Tip: Think of the city in Punjab that receives the most visitors from abroad and has the largest number of families settled overseas. The airport carries the name of a Sikh Guru.

...

37. Look at the given picture carefully and choose the most appropriate option:

Which of the following is a strength of democracy highlighted in the cartoon?



- (A) Avoidance of social conflicts.
- (B) Quick decision-making
- (C) Concentration of power with one
- (D) Thinking accommodation of various demands.

Correct Answer: (D) Thinking accommodation of various demands.

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- Two of the four options describe things a democracy is criticised for, and one describes a dictatorship. Sorting them this way isolates the answer.
- The cartoon then only has to confirm the survivor.

Step 1: Remove the option that belongs to a dictatorship.

Concentration of power with one person is the defining feature of authoritarian rule. It cannot be a strength of democracy, so option (C) goes.

Step 2: Remove the usual criticism of democracy.

Democracies are routinely criticised for being slow, because every decision has to pass through discussion, negotiation and often a compromise. Quick decision-making is therefore not the strength on display, so option (B) goes.

Step 3: Test the claim about conflict.

Option (A) says social conflicts are avoided. The cartoon shows stones flying in from all directions, each one a live dispute over language, borders, a separate state, pay or police conduct. Conflicts are plainly

present, not avoided.

Step 4: Confirm the remaining option against the drawing.

The figure of democracy stays on its rock and takes every demand, thinking rather than striking back. That is the ability to hear and accommodate many competing demands at the same time.

Step 5: Connect it to the chapter.

Democracy is valued precisely because it can handle social differences and divisions without allowing them to tear the country apart. The cartoon is a picture of that capacity.

Final Answer: (D) Thinking accommodation of various demands.

Quick Tip: Read the writing on each falling stone. They are all different demands from different groups. Then ask what democracy is doing about them in the picture.

• • •

38. In a democracy, the government is responsible:

- (A) Towards prosperous societies
- (B) Towards deprived societies
- (C) Towards communities
- (D) Towards citizens.

Correct Answer: (D) Towards citizens.

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- Three of the four options name only a part of the population, and one names all of it.
- Since a democratic government is chosen by everyone, it must answer to everyone.

Step 1: Sort the options by how much of the population each covers. Prosperous societies, deprived societies and communities each describe a section of the people. Citizens covers every adult in the country.

Step 2: Ask who actually elects the government. Every adult citizen votes, and each vote counts the same. A government that owes its office to all the voters cannot be answerable to only some of them.

Step 3: Check what happens if a section is favoured. If the government answered only to the rich, the poor would have no redress. If it answered only to the deprived, others would lose their rights. Either way the principle of equal citizenship would be broken.

Step 4: Confirm the answer. Only the option that names the whole body of citizens satisfies the principle that a democratic government is elected by the people and accountable to the people.

Final Answer: (D) Towards citizens.

Quick Tip: Ask who elects the government. If every adult votes, the government must answer to all of them, not to any one section of society.

39. Read the given statements regarding decentralisation in India and choose the correct option:

- i. Rural local government is known as Panchayati Raj.
- ii. Each village or group of villages have Gram Panchayat.
- iii. Panch and Sarpanch of villages are selected by Election Commission.
- iv. Panchayat works under the supervision of Gram Sabha.

- (A) only i, iii and iv are correct.
- (B) only i, ii and iv are correct.
- (C) only ii, iii and iv are correct.
- (D) only i, ii and iii are correct.

Correct Answer: (B) only i, ii and iv are correct.

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- Every option contains three statements, so finding the single false statement is enough to decide the answer.
- The false one will be the statement that contradicts the very idea of decentralisation.

Step 1: Recall what decentralisation is meant to achieve.

Power is moved downwards so that the people of a locality choose their own representatives and hold them answerable. Any statement that takes that choice away from the village cannot be true.

Step 2: Scan the four statements against that test.

Statement iii says the panch and sarpanch are *selected* by the Election

Commission. That would mean the village does not choose its own leaders, which defeats the purpose of local self-government. Statement iii is the false one.

Step 3: Note what the Election Commission actually does.

It conducts elections, prepares the voter list and enforces the rules of the campaign. It has never chosen candidates or appointed office holders. The panch and sarpanch are elected directly by the adult residents.

Step 4: Eliminate every option containing iii.

Options (A), (C) and (D) all include statement iii, so all three fail. Only option (B) leaves it out.

Step 5: Confirm the three that remain.

Rural local government is called Panchayati Raj, each village or group of villages has a Gram Panchayat, and the panchayat works under the supervision of the Gram Sabha, which is made up of all the voters of the village.

Final Answer: (B) only i, ii and iv are correct.

Quick Tip: Find the one statement that would take the power of choosing leaders away from the village itself. Remember what the Election Commission actually does and does not do.

• • •

40. Find the odd one out from the following:

- (A) Communist Party of India (M) & Bharatiya Janata Party
- (B) Rashtriya Janata Dal & Janata Dal
- (C) Nationalist Congress Party & Shiv Sena
- (D) United Democratic Party & National People's Party

Correct Answer: (C) Nationalist Congress Party & Shiv Sena

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- An odd-one-out question first requires the rule that the other options obey to be discovered, and only then the option that breaks it.
- Here the rule is about the level at which each party is recognised.

Step 1: Look for what three of the pairs have in common.

Reading down the list, pair (A) puts two all India parties together, while pairs (B) and (D) each put two regionally based parties together. The rule, therefore, is that both parties in a pair belong to the same level of recognition.

Step 2: Recall how the two levels are defined.

A party recognised in four or more states is called a national party, while one recognised in a single state is called a state party. Recognition depends on the share of votes and the seats won.

Step 3: Apply the rule to the remaining pair.

The Nationalist Congress Party held recognition as a national party, whereas the Shiv Sena has been a state party rooted in Maharashtra. The two sit at different levels.

Step 4: Confirm that no other pair breaks the rule.

CPI(M) and BJP are both national, RJD and Janata Dal are both state level, and the United Democratic Party and the National People Party are both state parties of the north-east. Only pair (C) is mixed.

Final Answer: (C) Nationalist Congress Party & Shiv Sena

Quick Tip: Work out what three of the four pairs have in common. Sort each party into national or state level and find the pair that mixes the two.

...

41. Two statements are given below. They are Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read both the statements carefully and choose the correct option:

Assertion (A): The civil war in Sri Lanka resulted due to failure of political accommodation of ethnicity.

Reason (R): The distrust between the Sinhala and Tamil communities turned into widespread conflict in Sri Lanka.

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

Correct Answer: (A) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- A Reason explains an Assertion when it fills in the step between the stated cause and the stated result.
- Laying the two sentences out as a sequence shows at once whether that step is present.

Step 1: Write the Assertion as cause and result.

Cause: political accommodation of ethnicity failed. Result: civil war. The sentence jumps straight from one to the other, leaving a gap in the middle.

Step 2: See whether the Reason fills that gap.

The Reason says distrust between the Sinhala and Tamil communities turned into widespread conflict. That is precisely the missing middle, how a policy failure became a war.

Step 3: Check the sequence against what happened.

Sinhala was made the sole official language in 1956, Sinhala applicants were favoured for government jobs and university places, and the constitution gave Buddhism a protected position. Tamils saw their language, culture and rights being set aside, distrust grew, and by the 1980s militant groups were demanding an independent Tamil Eelam.

Cause, distrust and war follow one another exactly as the two statements describe.

Step 4: Rule out the other options.

Neither statement is false, so options (C) and (D) fail. The Reason is not a separate unrelated fact but the very link in the chain, so option

(B) fails as well.

Final Answer: (A) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

Quick Tip: Write the Assertion as cause and result, then ask whether the Reason supplies the missing step between them. Recall the majoritarian measures taken in Sri Lanka from 1956 onwards.

• • •

42. Suggest two measures to ensure equal opportunities for women in all professions.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- A woman drops out of a profession at one of three points: before entry for want of qualification, at entry because of discrimination, or after entry because the workplace is unworkable.
- A useful answer supplies one measure for each point.

Step 1: Deal with the barrier before entry.

Fewer girls complete schooling and higher education than boys, so many professions are closed to them before they even apply. Free schooling, scholarships, hostels and vocational training remove this barrier at its source.

Step 2: Deal with the barrier at entry.

Even qualified women face preference given to men in hiring and promotion. Strict enforcement of the law on equal wages for equal work, transparent recruitment and penalties for discrimination make the selection fair.

Reservation, which has already increased the presence of women in local government, can serve the same purpose in other spheres.

Step 3: Deal with the barrier after entry.

Many women leave a job because of unsafe travel, harassment at work, or the impossibility of combining employment with the care of a small child. Safe transport, strong laws against harassment, maternity leave and creches at the workplace allow a career to continue.

Step 4: Deal with the attitude behind all three.

Underlying every barrier is the belief that certain work is unsuitable for women. Awareness campaigns, and the visible example of women already working in such professions, are what change that belief over time.

Final Answer: Open the door with education and training, keep the selection fair through equal wage laws and transparent hiring, and keep women in the job through safe workplaces, maternity benefits and childcare.

Quick Tip: Suggest practical steps rather than general wishes. Education and training, strict enforcement of equal wages, laws against harassment, maternity leave and childcare are the strongest points.



43. Differentiate between democracy and dictatorship.

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- The clearest way to separate the two is to imagine one ordinary citizen and ask what that person can do under each system.
- The answer differs at every step.

Step 1: Can the citizen choose the ruler.

In a democracy yes, through a vote of equal value cast at regular elections. In a dictatorship no, because the ruler takes and keeps power without an election.

Step 2: Can the citizen remove the ruler.

In a democracy yes, simply by voting differently at the next election, and the change of government happens peacefully. In a dictatorship there is no lawful way to replace the ruler at all.

Step 3: Can the citizen criticise the ruler.

In a democracy yes, since freedom of speech and expression is a guaranteed right and a free press exists. In a dictatorship criticism invites punishment and the press is controlled.

Step 4: Can the citizen get a wrong put right.

In a democracy yes, through independent courts, elected representatives and public opinion. In a dictatorship the same authority that caused the harm also decides the complaint, so redress is unlikely.

Final Answer: Judged from the position of an ordinary citizen, a democracy allows the ruler to be chosen, removed, criticised and held answerable, while a dictatorship permits none of these.

Quick Tip: Compare the two on a few clear counts, who chooses the ruler, whether the ruler can be removed, what rights citizens have, and how disagreement is handled.

• • •

44. How does the Indian Constitution define the distribution of powers between the centre and the states? Explain with examples.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- The division of powers can be understood by asking, for any given subject, how far its effects reach.
- Subjects whose effects cross the whole country go to the centre, those confined to one state go to the state, and those that touch both are shared.

Step 1: Subjects whose effects reach the whole country.

Defence, foreign affairs, banking, communications and currency cannot work differently in different states. One army, one currency and one foreign policy are the only workable arrangement, so these form the **Union List** and only the Union Government legislates on them.

Step 2: Subjects whose effects stay inside one state.

Police, trade, commerce, agriculture and irrigation depend on local soil, rainfall, crops and conditions. A single rule for the whole country would fit none of the states properly, so these form the **State List**.

Step 3: Subjects that touch both levels.

Education, forest, trade unions, marriage, adoption and succession matter to the state and to the nation together. These form the **Concurrent List**, on which both may legislate.

Because two laws on the same subject could clash, the Constitution settles the question in advance by giving the union law priority.

Step 4: Subjects nobody could have listed in advance.

Technology creates subjects that did not exist when the Constitution was written, such as computer software. These **residuary subjects** are given to the Union Government so that no area is left without a lawmaker.

Step 5: The protection around the whole scheme.

Neither level can take powers from the other at will. Changing the division requires a two thirds majority in both Houses of Parliament and ratification by at least half the state legislatures, which keeps the federal balance secure.

Final Answer: The Constitution sorts subjects by how far their effects reach, giving national matters to the Union List, local matters to the State List, shared matters to the Concurrent List with union law prevailing, and all unlisted subjects to the Union Government.

Quick Tip: Explain the three lists with examples from each, state what happens when a concurrent law conflicts, and mention who takes charge of residuary subjects such as computer software.

• • •

45. “Political parties are one of the most visible institutions in a democracy.” Examine the statement.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- Visibility can be tested by asking where an ordinary citizen actually meets the political system during a normal year.
- At almost every such meeting point, what the citizen meets is a political party.

Step 1: The meeting point at election time.

During an election the voter sees party symbols on the ballot, party manifestos, party rallies and party workers at the door. The choice offered is a choice between parties and their programmes rather than between unconnected individuals.

Step 2: The meeting point in the news.

Between elections, the government and the opposition dominate every report. One party runs the state and takes the decisions, another questions those decisions and mobilises opinion against them. Both sides carry party labels.

Step 3: The meeting point in the law.

Every law that reaches a citizen was passed in a legislature where members voted along party lines. The party therefore decides the shape of the rules people live under, even though the citizen never sees that process directly.

Step 4: The meeting point in the locality.

When a water connection fails, a pension is delayed or a scheme has to be applied for, most people approach the local party worker rather than a government office. Parties give people access to government machinery and welfare schemes.

This daily usefulness is why party workers are known in every neighbourhood.

Step 5: The proof in how people complain.

People blame parties for whatever goes wrong with democracy, and dissatisfaction with democratic working is usually expressed as dissatisfaction with parties. Nobody blames an institution they cannot see.

Final Answer: Wherever a citizen touches the political system, at the ballot, in the news, in the law and in the locality, a political party is standing there. That is why parties are the most visible institution of a democracy, and why democracy itself is judged by how they behave.

Quick Tip: Build the answer on the functions of parties, contesting elections, forming government and opposition, making laws, shaping opinion and giving access to welfare schemes. Add that people blame parties for whatever goes wrong, which itself shows their visibility.



46. “There are many challenges before the political parties.” Examine the statement.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- The problems of political parties are easier to grasp when sorted by where they arise, inside the party, in the way elections are fought, and in what parties offer the voter.
- Sorted this way, the four challenges turn out to be linked rather than separate.

Step 1: The problem inside the party.

Most parties keep power with one leader or a small group at the top. Membership registers are not maintained, organisational meetings are not held and internal elections are not conducted.

A member who disagrees finds it easier to leave and form a new party than to argue within the existing one.

Step 2: What that closed system produces.

Where there is no open contest for positions, leaders promote those closest to them, and family members are the closest of all. In several parties the top posts stay within one family.

The harm is twofold, since capable members are shut out and power passes to people who may have neither experience nor popular backing.

Step 3: The problem in how elections are fought.

Because winning is treated as the only goal, parties take short cuts.

They favour candidates who bring money or who can win by any means, including some facing criminal charges. Wealthy donors then gain influence over the policies of the parties they fund.

Step 4: The problem in what parties offer.

Meaningful choice requires meaningful difference, yet the economic and social policies of the major parties have grown steadily closer. A change of government may therefore bring little change of direction, and voters wanting a different policy find nobody to vote for.

Step 5: How the four are connected.

A party closed to its own members produces dynastic leaders. Leaders who owe nothing to members come to depend on money and winnability instead. With policy differences already narrow, the voter is left with very little real say.

Final Answer: Indian parties face four linked challenges, no internal democracy, dynastic succession, the growing weight of money and muscle power, and the shrinking of genuine policy choice. Each one feeds the next, which is why reform has to address them together.

Quick Tip: Organise the answer around four challenges, lack of internal democracy, dynastic succession, money and muscle power, and the absence of a meaningful choice for voters. Close with the reforms suggested.



47. Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Power Sharing

Power is shared among different organs of government, such as the legislature, executive and judiciary. Let us call this horizontal distribution of power because it allows different organs of government placed at the same level to exercise different powers. Such a separation ensures that none of the organs can exercise unlimited power. Each organ checks the others. This results in a balance of power among various institutions. Last year, we studied that in a democracy, even though ministers and government officials exercise power, they are responsible to the Parliament or State Assemblies. Similarly, although judges are appointed by the executive, they can check the functioning of executive or laws made by the legislatures. This arrangement is called a system of checks and balances.

Correct Answer: —

• • •

48. Explain the term ‘Balance of Power’.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- A term is best explained by showing the situation it prevents, because that makes its purpose clear.
- Balance of power exists to prevent one organ of government from dominating the rest.

Step 1: Picture what would happen without it.

If one organ held every power, it could make a law, carry it out and judge any dispute about it. There would be nobody left to correct a mistake or to stop a misuse.

Step 2: See how the arrangement avoids that.

Power is spread horizontally among the legislature, the executive and the judiciary, three organs at the same level with different powers. None of them can act beyond its own sphere.

Step 3: See how each organ restrains the others.

Ministers and officials exercise power but are responsible to Parliament or the State Assemblies, and judges, though appointed by the executive, can check the functioning of the executive and the laws made by the legislature.

Step 4: Name the result.

This mutual restraint is what the source calls a balance of power, and the whole arrangement is described as a system of checks and balances.

Final Answer: Balance of power is the state in which the three organs of government hold separate powers and restrain one another, so that none of them becomes strong enough to act without limit.

Quick Tip: The source uses the phrase right after explaining that each organ checks the others. Say which organs are involved and what the balance between them prevents.



49. Why is the judiciary considered independent in a democracy?

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- Independence is judged not by how someone is appointed but by whether that person can decide freely afterwards.
- The source draws exactly this distinction.

Step 1: Separate appointment from function.

Appointment is a single event and takes place through the executive.

The functioning of a judge continues for years afterwards and is governed by the Constitution and the law.

Independence belongs to the second of these, not the first.

Step 2: Look at what the judiciary is empowered to do.

It can check the functioning of the executive and can examine the laws made by the legislature. A court that can overturn a government order or strike down a statute is plainly not under the control of either.

Step 3: Place it within the wider arrangement.

This is one half of the system of checks and balances described in the source. Ministers and officials are answerable to Parliament and the State Assemblies, and both the executive and the legislature are answerable to the courts on questions of law.

Step 4: State the conclusion.

Because the courts can restrain the very authorities that appointed the judges, the judiciary counts as an independent organ of government.

Final Answer: Its independence lies in what it can do after appointment. The judiciary can check the executive and review the laws made by the legislature, which means it decides by the law rather than at the direction of the government.

Quick Tip: The source admits that judges are appointed by the executive and then says what they can still do. Build the answer on that contrast.

• • •

50. How is power shared among different organs of government? Explain.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- Sharing power among organs works only if two conditions are met, that the functions are separated and that each organ can restrain the others.
- Taking the two conditions in turn makes the arrangement clear.

Step 1: The first condition, separate functions.

The legislature makes the laws, the executive carries them out, and the judiciary interprets them and settles disputes. Three different bodies, three different tasks, none of them placed above another.

The source calls this a horizontal distribution of power.

Step 2: Why separation alone is not enough.

If each organ simply did its own work without any restraint, one of

them could still stretch its authority unchecked. Separation has to be backed by a power to intervene.

Step 3: The second condition, mutual restraint.

Ministers and officials exercise real power but remain responsible to Parliament or the State Assemblies. Judges, though appointed by the executive, can check the functioning of the executive and examine the laws made by the legislature.

Each organ can therefore call the others to account.

Step 4: The result of both conditions together.

No organ is able to exercise unlimited power, and a balance of power is maintained among the institutions. The source names this arrangement the system of checks and balances.

Final Answer: The legislature, the executive and the judiciary hold separate functions at the same level, and each can restrain the other two, the executive being answerable to the legislature and both being subject to review by the courts. That combination is what keeps power balanced.

Quick Tip: Name the three organs, say why the sharing is called horizontal, and then give the two examples in the source of one organ checking another. End with the term checks and balances.



51. Which of the following reports compare countries using health, education and per capita income?

- (A) Human Development Report
- (B) Global Trade Report
- (C) World Development Report
- (D) Economic Survey Report

Correct Answer: (A) Human Development Report

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- The name of a report usually tells you what it measures, so reading the four names carefully removes most of the options.
- The question asks for a report that goes beyond money.

Step 1: Remove the reports that deal with only one thing.

A Global Trade Report would deal with trade, and an Economic Survey Report reviews the economy of a single country before its budget. Neither is a comparison of many countries on three different measures.

Step 2: Separate the two remaining reports by who publishes them. The World Development Report is published by the World Bank, and the Human Development Report is published by the United Nations Development Programme.

Step 3: Separate them by what they measure.

The World Bank report classifies countries by per capita income, so it uses only one yardstick. The UNDP report deliberately adds **health status** and **educational levels** to income, because a country can be rich and still have unhealthy or poorly educated people.

Step 4: Match with the question.

The question names all three of health, education and per capita income together, which is exactly the combination used in the Human Development Report.

Final Answer: (A) Human Development Report

Quick Tip: Two of the options are real international reports. One classifies countries by income alone and the other adds health and education to income. Pick the one that uses all three.

...

52. The removal of barriers on foreign trade and investment by the Indian government has been called as:

- (A) Industrialisation
- (B) Nationalisation
- (C) Privatisation
- (D) Liberalisation

Correct Answer: (D) Liberalisation

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- All four options describe economic changes, but each answers a different question: who owns, how much industry, or how open the economy is.
- Sorting the options by the question each one answers isolates the right term.

Step 1: Sort the options by what each is about.

Nationalisation and privatisation are both about **ownership**, one moving firms to the government and the other to private hands.

Industrialisation is about the **growth of industry**. Liberalisation is about **how open** the economy is to the outside world.

Step 2: Read what the question is actually about.

It speaks of removing barriers on foreign trade and investment, which concerns the openness of the economy and not ownership or the number of factories.

Only one option belongs to that group.

Step 3: Confirm with what changed in India.

From 1991 onwards barriers on foreign trade and investment were largely removed. Imports and exports became easy, and foreign companies could set up offices and factories in the country.

Step 4: Note the reason behind the decision.

It was felt that competition would improve the performance of Indian producers, since they would now have to match the quality and price of goods from abroad.

Final Answer: (D) Liberalisation

Quick Tip: Sort the four terms by what each is about, ownership, growth of industry, or openness to the outside world. Trade barriers belong to the last group.



53. Read the given case and choose the correct option:

Swapna, a small farmer grows groundnut on her three acres of land. She takes a loan from the moneylender to meet the expenses of cultivation but midway due to flood, crop fails and her debt increased. Again she has to take loan to manage crops.

Suggest Swapna, which of the following sources of loan would be suitable for her.

- (A) Friends
- (B) Relatives
- (C) Moneylenders
- (D) Banks

Correct Answer: (D) Banks

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- Three of the four options belong to the informal sector and only one belongs to the formal sector, so the question really asks which sector suits a vulnerable borrower.
- The answer follows from what supervision does to the cost of a loan.

Step 1: Sort the four options into the two sectors.

Friends, relatives and moneylenders are all informal sources, lending without supervision. Banks are a formal source, supervised by the Reserve Bank of India.

Three of the options are therefore variations of the same thing.

Step 2: Ask what supervision changes.

The Reserve Bank of India monitors how much banks lend, to whom and at what rate, and requires them to give loans not just to profit making businesses but also to small cultivators and small borrowers. Nobody performs this role for the informal lenders, who are free to charge what they please.

Step 3: Apply it to the situation of Swapna.

Her problem is not a shortage of lenders but the cost of borrowing. Her debt rose after one failed crop, which means the interest is eating into whatever she earns. Only a lower rate can break that cycle.

Step 4: Draw the conclusion.

A bank loan at a low supervised rate, with written terms and a repayment schedule matched to the harvest, is the only option among the four that can stop her sliding deeper into debt.

Final Answer: (D) Banks

Quick Tip: Sort the four options into supervised and unsupervised lenders. Swapna is already caught in a debt trap, so she needs the source that charges the lowest interest and is answerable to the Reserve Bank of India.



54. Identify the sector of the economy on the basis of ownership with the help of following information:

- The government owns most of the assets.
- Delivery of services in the hands of government.
- Fair price shops is an example of it.

- (A) Private Sector
- (B) Public Sector
- (C) Joint Sector
- (D) Cooperative Sector

Correct Answer: (B) Public Sector

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- The example given in a clue-based question is usually the fastest route to the answer, because an example belongs to only one category.
- Here the example is the fair price shop.

Step 1: Start from the example.

Fair price shops sell foodgrains, sugar and kerosene at prices fixed by the government to families holding ration cards. They are run to make essentials affordable, not to earn a profit.

No private business would sell below market price by choice.

Step 2: Ask what kind of body behaves like that.

Only the government undertakes activities where the purpose is service rather than profit, such as schools, hospitals, roads, water

supply and the public distribution system. That is the **public sector**.

Step 3: Confirm with the other two clues.

The government owning most of the assets and delivering the services is precisely the definition of the public sector, so all three clues agree.

Step 4: Eliminate the near misses.

A joint sector unit is shared between the government and private owners, and a cooperative is owned by its members. Neither matches a clue that says the government owns most of the assets.

Final Answer: (B) Public Sector

Quick Tip: Start from the example given. Ask who would run a shop that sells essentials below the market price, and whether a business working for profit could do so.

• • •

55. Study the given data carefully and answer the question that follows:

Country	Monthly income of citizens in ₹				
	I	II	III	IV	V
A	9,500	10,500	9,800	1,000	10,200
B	500	500	500	500	4,800

Identify the average monthly income of citizens in country A.

- (A) 8,200
- (B) 9,000
- (C) 1,000
- (D) 9,020

Correct Answer: (A) 8,200

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- An average can be checked quickly by estimating first and calculating afterwards, which catches a wrong option before any arithmetic is done.
- The estimate also shows why this particular average behaves the way it does.

Step 1: Estimate before calculating.

Four incomes lie close to 10,000 and one is only 1,000. A rough sum is about 40,000, so the average should be a little above 8,000.

Option (C), 1,000, is the income of one citizen and not an average, and options (B) and (D) are both far above the estimate.

Step 2: Do the exact calculation.

$$9,500 + 10,500 + 9,800 + 1,000 + 10,200 = 41,000$$

$$\frac{41,000}{5} = 8,200$$

This agrees with the estimate.

Step 3: Note what the figure hides.

An average income of 8,200 suggests that everyone earns about that much, yet no citizen of country A actually earns 8,200. One person earns only 1,000 while the rest earn about ten times as much.

Step 4: Draw the lesson from the table.

Country B has a very different spread, with four citizens on 500 and one on 4,800. This is exactly why average income alone is not a reliable measure of development, since it says nothing about how the income is distributed.

Final Answer: (A) 8,200

Quick Tip: Add the five incomes of country A and divide by five. Estimate first, since four incomes are near ten thousand and one is very low, so the average must be a little above eight thousand.

• • •

56. Choose the correct option to fill in the blank:

Net attendance ratio is expressed as a _____ of total children in the age group of 6 – 10 years attending school.

- (A) Ratio
- (B) Percentage
- (C) Fraction
- (D) Index

Correct Answer: (B) Percentage

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- The blank asks for the form in which a figure is reported, and the form is chosen so that different places can be compared fairly.
- Asking which form makes comparison easiest gives the answer directly.

Step 1: State the comparison problem.

One state may have ten lakh children of school age and another only one lakh. Raw numbers of children attending school would say nothing useful, because the larger state would always appear to be doing better.

Step 2: Ask which form solves it.

Expressing the figure out of a hundred puts every state on the same scale. A **percentage** immediately tells us how many children out of every hundred are in school.

Step 3: Test the alternatives against that need.

A fraction carries the same information but is awkward to compare when the denominators differ. A ratio such as 4 to 5 is harder to read at a glance. An index is a combined figure built from several measures and is not what a single attendance figure is called.

Step 4: Confirm with the definition.

Net Attendance Ratio is defined as the number of children aged 6 to 10 attending school as a percentage of the total number of children in that age group, which settles the answer.

Final Answer: (B) Percentage

Quick Tip: Ask which form lets a small state and a large state be compared fairly. A figure out of a hundred does that, whatever the size of the population.

• • •

57. “New technology has helped to connect the world.” Justify the statement with suitable arguments.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- Distance used to impose three separate costs, the cost of moving goods, the cost of sending a message, and the delay before either arrived.
- New technology cut all three, and that is what connected the world.

Step 1: The cost of moving goods fell.

Improvements in transportation technology over the past fifty years made delivery over long distances both faster and cheaper. Goods that once could not survive the journey, or could not bear the freight charge, now travel easily.

Step 2: The cost of sending a message fell to almost nothing.

Electronic mail and voice mail cross the world at negligible cost, and the internet supplies information on almost anything within seconds. A firm no longer has to be near its supplier or its customer to deal with either.

Step 3: The delay disappeared.

Telecommunication facilities, supported by satellite communication devices, allow instant contact even from remote areas. An instruction given in one country can be acted upon the same day in another.

Step 4: What became possible once all three costs fell.

Production itself could be split between countries, with each stage carried out wherever it is cheapest. A news magazine for London readers is designed in Delhi, sent over the internet and printed in London, because design work costs less in India.

The same logic brought call centres, accounting work and software services to India.

Final Answer: Technology removed the cost of distance, the cost of communication and the delay between them. Once those three barriers fell, companies could spread a single job across continents, which is precisely what connecting the world means.

Quick Tip: Cover transport technology, telecommunication with satellites, and computers with the internet. Then give one concrete example such as a magazine designed in Delhi and printed in London.

• • •

58. Why is credit important for economic development? Explain.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- Credit helps development only when it is used for a productive purpose, because then the loan generates the income out of which it is repaid.
- Following the money through different kinds of borrower shows how the effect spreads across the economy.

Step 1: Follow the money in the hands of a manufacturer.

A small producer takes a large order but has no cash to buy materials or pay wages. Credit fills the gap, the order is delivered on time and the payment received covers the loan and leaves a bigger profit than he would otherwise have had.

Here credit turned an opportunity into income.

Step 2: Follow it in the hands of a farmer.

Farming has a long gap between spending and earning. Seeds, fertiliser and irrigation must be paid for months before the crop is sold, and a crop loan carries the farmer across that gap.

Step 3: Follow it in the hands of a small business.

A weaver who buys a better loom or a shopkeeper who stocks more goods can serve more customers than before. The extra earning repays the loan, and the enlarged business gives work to others in the locality.

Step 4: Note the condition on which all of this depends.

The rate of interest decides whether credit helps or harms. At a low rate the borrower keeps most of the gain, but at the very high rates charged by informal lenders the repayment can exceed the income and pull the family into a debt trap.

Cheap and affordable credit is therefore crucial for the development of

the country.

Final Answer: Wherever credit is used productively it raises the earning of the borrower and repays itself out of that gain.

Manufacturers, farmers and small businesses all produce more with it, which is why cheap credit drives economic development.

Quick Tip: Show how credit meets the working capital needs of production, helps complete work on time, carries farmers through the season, and why the rate of interest decides whether it helps or harms.

• • •

59. Analyse the issues that necessitate sustainable development for the future.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- The need for sustainability appears when the way we develop today takes something away from tomorrow.
- That loss shows up in three places, in the stock of resources, in the state of the environment, and in the prospects of the next generation.

Step 1: The loss in the stock of resources.

Crude oil, coal and minerals are non-renewable, so every barrel burnt is one that will never exist again. The known reserves of crude oil would last only a few decades at present rates, yet industry, transport

and electricity all depend on such fuels.

Growth built on a shrinking stock cannot be maintained.

Step 2: The loss even in renewable resources.

Groundwater can renew itself through rain, but only if withdrawal stays within what the rain replaces. In India that limit has been crossed in about one third of the country, and 300 districts have reported the water table falling by more than four metres in twenty years.

A renewable resource, used carelessly, behaves like a non-renewable one.

Step 3: The loss in the environment.

Industrial and agricultural growth has polluted the air and the rivers, cleared forests and damaged the soil. These are not things that can be bought back later with money, however large the income of the country becomes.

Step 4: The loss to those who come after us.

Each of the losses above is passed on. The next generation inherits less water, less fuel, poorer soil and a dirtier environment, and therefore fewer chances than we had.

Sustainable development simply means refusing to hand on that bill.

Final Answer: The issues are the exhaustion of non-renewable resources, the overuse of groundwater beyond what rainfall can replace, and serious environmental damage, all of which reduce what the coming generation will have. That is why development has to be made sustainable.

Quick Tip: Build the answer on the overuse of groundwater, the exhaustion of non-renewable resources such as crude oil, and environmental damage, and connect each to what the next generation will be left with.

• • •

60. Explain the role of secondary sector in an economy.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- The place of the secondary sector is best seen by following one raw material from the field to the shop.
- At each step the sector adds value, creates work and pulls another part of the economy into action.

Step 1: Start in the field.

A farmer grows cotton. Sold as raw cotton it fetches the lowest price in the whole chain, and if the country stopped here it would earn only that price.

The primary sector by itself cannot make a country prosperous.

Step 2: Follow the cotton into the mill.

Spinning turns it into yarn and weaving turns yarn into cloth. This is the work of the secondary sector, where natural products are changed into other forms through manufacturing.

The same cotton is now worth several times what it was, and that gain stays in the country.

Step 3: Count who is employed along the way.

The mill needs spinners, weavers, dyers, supervisors, engineers and mechanics, all working the year round rather than by season.

Employment of this kind is what draws people out of the overcrowded agricultural sector.

Step 4: Count what else the mill sets in motion.

It needs power, machinery, transport to bring cotton in and take cloth out, banks to finance it, insurance to cover it and warehouses to store the output. Each of these is another job in the tertiary sector.

Meanwhile the same industrial base supplies the farmer with pumps, tractors, fertilisers and pesticides, so agriculture improves as well.

Step 5: Follow the cloth out of the country.

Finished garments exported abroad earn foreign exchange, which pays for the crude oil, machinery and technology India must import. Selling a finished product earns many times what selling raw cotton would have earned.

Final Answer: Following one crop through the chain shows the whole role of the secondary sector. It multiplies the value of raw material, employs people steadily, equips agriculture, sets transport, banking and trade in motion, and earns the foreign exchange the country needs.

Quick Tip: Explain what the secondary sector does, then cover value addition to raw materials, employment, support to agriculture, export earnings, and the growth it creates in transport, banking and trade.



61. Explain the role of tertiary sector in an economy.

Correct Answer: —

SOLUTION:

Concept:

- The role of the tertiary sector becomes clear if we imagine removing it and asking whether anything else could still work.
- Nothing could, which is why it is called the sector that supports all the others.

Step 1: Remove transport, storage and trade.

A harvested crop would rot in the field, and a factory would fill up with goods nobody could take away. Production would stop not for want of capacity but for want of a way to move and sell the output. Transport, warehousing and shops are therefore not extras but conditions of production.

Step 2: Remove banking and communication.

Payments could not be made, loans could not be taken, and a trader could not learn what a buyer in another city wanted. Both farming and industry depend on credit and on information reaching them in time.

Step 3: Remove the basic public services.

Hospitals, schools, courts, police, post offices, municipal bodies and defence are all tertiary activities. Without them there would be no healthy or educated workforce and no security in which to invest. This is why the availability of these services is used to judge how developed a country is.

Step 4: Note how the sector grows as a country grows.

As incomes rise, people spend more on eating out, tourism, private schooling, private health care and professional services. Newer services built on information and communication technology have also expanded quickly and earn foreign exchange.

Step 5: Note the one caution.

In India the tertiary sector has become the largest producing sector, having grown the most between 1973 and 2013. Yet it holds two very different kinds of work, highly skilled well paid services on one side and small shopkeepers, repair workers and casual labour earning very little on the other.

Growth in this sector therefore has to be judged along with the quality of the jobs it creates.

Final Answer: Nothing in an economy works without the tertiary sector. It moves, stores, finances and sells whatever the other sectors produce, supplies health, education, security and administration, and expands as incomes rise, though much of the employment within it remains poorly paid.

Quick Tip: Explain that tertiary activities support the other two sectors rather than producing goods. Cover transport, storage, trade, communication and banking, the basic services, the growth of demand with income, and note that it is now the largest producing sector in India.