

Class 12 Political Science PYQ

The End of Bipolarity

Contemporary World Politics Chapter 1 practice pack for 2026-27

Source note

This file was prepared for the Political Science PYQ row where the local chwise PYQ sheet has no Class 12 Political Science worksheet. The prompts below are source-noted from public chapterwise previous-year archives and the official CBSE sample-paper pattern. Students should use them as chapter-wise board practice, not as a full reproduced board paper.

6-Mark Long Answer Practice

Causes, consequences and evaluation

- Q1.** Analyse three major reasons for the disintegration of the Soviet Union in 1991. [2026 and 2025 archives • 6 marks]
- Q2.** Examine three consequences of shock therapy in the post-Soviet states. [2026 and 2024 archives • 6 marks]
- Q3.** Why is shock therapy called a painful transition from authoritarian socialism to democratic capitalism? Explain with three reasons. [2026 archive • 6 marks]
- Q4.** Analyse three developments during Gorbachev's period that accelerated the disintegration of the Soviet Union. [2023 archive • 6 marks]
- Q5.** Explain three major consequences of the disintegration of the USSR for world politics. [2023 archive • 6 marks]
- Q6.** Examine three reasons for the friendly and cooperative relationship between India and Russia after the Soviet collapse. [2025 archive • 6 marks]

Short Answer and Concept Checks

2 to 4 marks

- Q1.** What was the Soviet system? Mention any three features of it. [previous-year archive • 4 marks]
- Q2.** Mention two political and two economic limitations of the Soviet Union before its collapse. [previous-year archive • 4 marks]
- Q3.** Explain why the Soviet economy became stagnant by the late 1970s. [previous-year archive • 3 marks]
- Q4.** Why did nationalist urges in Soviet republics become important in 1991? [previous-year archive • 3 marks]

- Q5.** Name two countries or republics that were required to shift from socialism to capitalism after the Soviet collapse. [passage-based archive • 2 marks]
- Q6.** The end of bipolarity in international politics increased which type of world order? Answer with one reason. [CBSE sample-paper pattern • 1 mark]

Answer Map

How to answer cause questions.

- Start with internal weakness: one-party rule, bureaucracy, lack of accountability and failure to meet people's aspirations.
- Add economic pressure: arms race, military spending, technology gap, consumer shortages and stagnation.
- End with nationalism and Gorbachev's reforms: openness released demands that the centre could not control.

How to answer consequence questions.

- For world politics, write Cold War end, ideological conflict decline, new republics and temporary US dominance.
- For shock therapy, write rapid privatisation, industrial collapse, high inflation, poverty, inequality and weak welfare.
- For India-Russia relations, write defence, energy, space cooperation, multipolar world view and long-term strategic trust.

Trend Grid for Fast Revision

Question type	Must include	Avoid
Reasons for collapse	Internal weakness, economic stagnation, nationalism, Gorbachev's reforms	Writing only that the USSR lost the Cold War
Shock therapy	Privatisation, market economy, welfare collapse, inflation, inequality	Treating it as a successful reform without consequences
World politics after 1991	End of Cold War, new republics, US dominance, capitalism's spread	Mixing it with India-Pakistan or UN reform answers
India and Russia	Defence, energy, space, technology, multipolar world view	Writing only friendship slogans without policy areas

Quick Answer Skeletons

If the question asks for three reasons for Soviet disintegration:

1. Political institutions became rigid, bureaucratic and unaccountable.
2. The economy slowed because military spending, shortages and technology gaps created pressure.
3. Nationalist aspirations in republics became stronger when reforms opened political space.

If the question asks for effects of shock therapy:

1. State assets were rapidly privatised and many industries collapsed.
2. Inflation and loss of savings weakened ordinary households.
3. Inequality, poverty and weak welfare made the transition socially painful.

If the question asks for consequences of USSR disintegration:

1. The Cold War and the old socialist-capitalist ideological rivalry declined.
2. New independent republics emerged with different political choices.
3. World politics moved towards temporary US dominance and a stronger capitalist order.

Revision focus for 2026-27. Learn the timeline around 1985 to 1991, the meaning of bipolarity, features of the Soviet system, causes of Soviet collapse, shock therapy and India-Russia relations. These are the repeat clusters students should practise before attempting full board papers.