CBSE Class 10 Social Science 2026-27

Sample Paper with Solutions

Conducted by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)

Time Allowed: 3 hours **Maximum Marks: 80**

General Instructions

(i) There are **38 questions** in the question paper. All questions are compulsory.

(ii) The question paper has the following **four Sections** and has MCQs, VSA, SA, LAs and CBQ: **Section A - History (20 marks)**, **Section B - Geography (20 marks)**, **Section C - Political Science (20 marks)**, **Section D - Economics (20 marks)**.

(iii) Very Short Answer Type Questions (VSA) carry **2 marks** each. Answers to each question should not exceed **40 words**.

(iv) Short Answer Type Questions (SA) carry **3 marks** each. Answers to each question should not exceed **60 words**.

(v) Long Answer Type Questions (LA) carry **5 marks** each. Answers to each question should not exceed **120 words**.

(vi) There are case based questions (CBQ) with **three sub-questions** and are of **4 marks** each. Answers to each question should not exceed **100 words**.

(vii) The map-based questions carry **5 marks** with two parts - Q9 in Section A (History) (**2 marks**) and Q19 in Section B (Geography) (**3 marks**).

(viii) There is **no overall choice** in the question paper. However, an **internal choice** has been provided in a few questions. Only one of the choices in such questions must be attempted.

(ix) There is no change in the Question Paper Design and Assessment Pattern for Academic Session 2026-27.

Section A: History (20 marks)

20 marks.

1. Most conservative regimes set up in 1815 introduced strict censorship laws. What was the primary purpose of these laws?
a. To regulate information written about the rulers and their policies.
b. To control the growing demand for modernising the army.
c. To restrict the spread of ideas of liberty and freedom expressed through newspapers and other publications.
d. To prevent the circulation of views suggesting that modernisation could strengthen traditional institutions. [1 mark]

(A) Only a and b

(B) Only a and c

(C) Only b and d

(D) Only c and d

Correct Answer: (B) Only a and c

Solution:

Step 1: Recall the background of 1815 In 1815 the European powers met at Vienna after Napoleon was defeated. They wanted to put back the old monarchies that the French Revolution and Napoleon had shaken.
The governments that came out of this settlement were called conservative regimes. They wanted to protect monarchy, the Church and the old social order.

Step 2: Find what the censorship laws were aimed at The French Revolution had spread the ideas of liberty, equality and freedom of the press. Conservative rulers feared that these ideas would make people demand rights and nations of their own.
So they brought in strict censorship. Newspapers, books, plays and songs were checked, and anything that showed the ideas of liberty and freedom was stopped. The main purpose was to keep these ideas from spreading.

Step 3: Check statement a Censorship laws controlled what newspapers and books could say about the rulers and their policies. Criticism of the government was not allowed to reach the public.
This is a real aim of the laws, so statement a is correct.

Step 4: Check statement b The laws were about printed and written material. They had nothing to do with the demand for modernising the army.
So statement b is wrong.

Step 5: Check statement c This is the central purpose. The laws were meant to restrict ideas of liberty and freedom that were being spread through newspapers and other publications.
So statement c is correct.

Step 6: Check statement d Conservatives of that time did not fear the idea that modernisation could strengthen traditional institutions. They actually believed it themselves, and many of them were happy to modernise the army and the administration to make the monarchy stronger.
A law cannot be aimed at stopping a view the rulers themselves held. So statement d is wrong.

Step 7: Choose the option Only a and c are correct. This is option B.

Step 8: Conclusion Strict censorship laws of 1815 were meant to control writing about the rulers and to stop ideas of liberty and freedom from spreading through the press. This is option B.

Quick Tip to Solve: Think about what conservative rulers feared after the French Revolution and which statements describe a press law.

2. The Picture shows a procession from which of the following movements? Choose the correct option:



(Source: India and Contemporary World-II) [1 mark]

(A) Non-Cooperation Movement

(B) Civil Disobedience Movement

(C) Khilafat Movement

(D) Quit India Movement

Correct Answer: (D) Quit India Movement

Solution:

Concept:

- The question shows a photograph of a very large crowd moving in a procession through a street. We have to name the movement this procession belonged to.
- The official marking scheme names this picture as a procession of the Quit India Movement, option D.

Step 1: Recall the Quit India Movement Gandhiji launched the Quit India Movement in August 1942, during the Second World War, after the failure of the Cripps Mission. He gave the call 'Do or Die'. It was a mass movement that spread across the country. Large processions, hartals and demonstrations were held in many cities, and leaders were arrested. The picture of a huge procession fits this mass character.

Step 2: Check option A, Non-Cooperation Movement The Non-Cooperation Movement began in 1920-21. Its main forms were boycott of foreign cloth, schools and courts and the giving up of titles. It is a different movement from the one in the picture, so A is wrong.

Step 3: Check option B, Civil Disobedience Movement The Civil Disobedience Movement began in 1930 with the Salt March to Dandi. It is mostly known for breaking the salt law and for refusing to pay taxes. So B is wrong.

Step 4: Check option C, Khilafat Movement The Khilafat Movement was a movement of Muslims about the Caliph of Turkey, and it joined hands with Non-Cooperation around 1920. So C is wrong.

Step 5: Choose the option The picture is from the Quit India Movement, which is option D.

Step 6: Conclusion The procession belongs to the Quit India Movement of 1942. This is option D.

Quick Tip to Solve: Think about which movement is shown in NCERT with a picture of a huge street procession; use the marking scheme to confirm.

3. Read the statements given below and choose the correct answer:
Statement I: A good example of thriving pre-modern commercial and cultural ties connecting far flung regions of the world are silk routes.
Statement II: The significance of Chinese silk cargoes traveling the silk route to the west is indicated by the term 'silk routes'. [1 mark]

(A) Statement (I) is correct and (II) is incorrect

(B) Statement (I) is incorrect and (II) is correct

(C) Both (I) and (II) are correct

(D) Both (I) and (II) are incorrect

Correct Answer: (C) Both (I) and (II) are correct

Solution:

Step 1: Recall what the silk routes were The silk routes were a network of land and sea trade routes that joined Asia with Europe and northern Africa. They were used long before the modern age.
Chinese silk was carried along these routes to the west, and this is how the routes got their name. Chinese pottery, textiles from India and spices from southeast Asia travelled on them too.

Step 2: Check Statement I The silk routes did not carry only goods. Along with traders, ideas, religions and customs also moved. Christian missionaries, Muslim preachers and Buddhist monks travelled on them.
This is why NCERT calls them a good example of pre-modern trade and cultural links between far apart regions. Statement I is correct.

Step 3: Check Statement II The name 'silk routes' comes from the large quantity of Chinese silk that was sent west along these paths. The name itself points to how important these silk cargoes were.
So Statement II is also correct.

Step 4: Check the options Option A says II is incorrect and option B says I is incorrect. Both are wrong because both statements are correct.
Option D says both are incorrect, which is also wrong. Only option C, both correct, fits.

Step 5: Conclusion Both statements are correct, so the answer is option C.

Quick Tip to Solve: Recall what the silk routes carried and why they got that name.

4. Arrange the following events in chronological order, from the earliest to the latest.
I. Print culture created the conditions for the French Revolution.
II. Martin Luther's writings led to the beginning of the Protestant Reformation.
III. Menocchio reinterpreted the message of the Bible.
IV. Johann Gutenberg invented the Printing press.
Choose the correct option- [1 mark]

(A) III, II, I, IV

(B) I, II, III, IV

(C) IV, III, II, I

(D) IV, II, III, I

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

Solution:

Step 1: Find the date or period of each event IV. Johann Gutenberg invented the printing press at Strasbourg in the 1430s.
II. Martin Luther wrote his Ninety Five Theses in 1517. His printed writings started the Protestant Reformation.
III. Menocchio, a miller in Italy, read printed books and gave his own meaning to the Bible. He was tried by the Church in the late sixteenth century, around the 1580s.
I. The ideas that helped the French Revolution spread through print in the eighteenth century. The Revolution began in 1789.

Step 2: Arrange from earliest to latest Order: IV (1430s), II (1517), III (about 1580s), I (1789).
So the sequence is IV, II, III, I.

Step 3: Check the options Option A (III, II, I, IV) starts with Menocchio, but the press was invented long before him. Wrong.
Option B (I, II, III, IV) starts with the French Revolution, which is the latest event. Wrong.
Option C (IV, III, II, I) puts Menocchio before Luther. Luther's Reformation came first. Wrong.
Option D (IV, II, III, I) matches our order.

Step 4: Conclusion The correct order is Gutenberg, Luther, Menocchio, French Revolution. This is option D.

Quick Tip to Solve: Start with the invention of the press and end with its political effect on the French Revolution.

5. 'Most powerful weapon of the Spanish conqueror was not a conventional military weapon at all.' Justify the statement by giving two reasons. [2 marks]

Solution:

Step 1: Set the background After Columbus reached the Americas in 1492, Europeans started to settle and conquer the land. By the mid sixteenth century the Portuguese and the Spanish had conquered and colonised large parts of the continent.
The Spanish conquerors had guns, horses and ships. Yet these were not what decided the conquest.

Step 2: Reason 1: the spread of germs The Europeans carried germs of diseases like smallpox to the Americas. The germs went ahead of the soldiers. They spread deep into the continent, even before any European could reach those places.
So the diseases did the work of an advancing army.

Step 3: Reason 2: no immunity The original inhabitants of America had been cut off from the rest of the world for millions of years. Their bodies had no immunity (resistance) against diseases that came from Europe.
Smallpox killed a very large number of people and erased whole communities. This left the local people too weak and too few to fight back.

Step 4: Link the reasons to the statement This kind of biological warfare made it easy for the Spanish to overpower the Americans in the mid sixteenth century. Germs, not guns, were the most powerful weapon.

Step 5: Conclusion The most powerful weapon was disease. Germs like smallpox spread ahead of the conquerors, and the native people had no immunity to them.

Quick Tip to Solve: Think about what travelled with the Europeans besides soldiers, and why it hurt the native people.

6(A). 'The female figures become an allegory of the nation during the 19th century in Europe.' Elaborate on the statement with examples. [3 marks]

Solution:

Concept:

- An allegory is when an abstract idea, such as freedom or a nation, is shown through a person or an object. A nation is an idea. It has no body that anyone can draw.
- So in the nineteenth century artists gave the nation a human form. They chose female figures for this.

Step 1: General point about female figures The female form did not stand for any real woman. It was an abstract idea given a concrete shape. People could see it in paintings, statues, coins and stamps and so connect with the idea of the nation.

Step 2: Example 1: Marianne, France In France the female figure was given the popular Christian name Marianne. She stood for the people's nation.
Her features were drawn from Liberty and the Republic. She wore a red cap, and the tricolour and the cockade were part of her image. Statues of Marianne were put up in public squares and her image was printed on coins and stamps.

Step 3: Example 2: Germania, Germany Germania became the allegory of the German nation. She is shown wearing a crown of oak leaves.
The German oak stands for heroism, so the crown showed the strength and courage of the nation.

Step 4: Sum up In both countries the female figure helped ordinary people feel one with their nation, and so it strengthened nationalist feeling.

Step 5: Conclusion Female figures made the abstract idea of the nation visible. Marianne for France and Germania for Germany are the main examples.

Quick Tip to Solve: Explain what an allegory is, then give Marianne and Germania with their symbols.

OR

6(B). Assess the role of the Greek War of Independence in shaping nationalist consciousness among educated Europeans in the nineteenth century. [3 marks]

Solution:

Step 1: Background of the war Greece had been a part of the Ottoman Empire since the fifteenth century. In the early nineteenth century revolutionary nationalism was growing in Europe.
This started a struggle for independence among the Greeks, which began in 1821.

Step 2: Support from within and outside Greece The Greek nationalists got support from other Greeks who lived in exile. They also got support from many West Europeans who loved ancient Greek culture. These people were not Greek, but they felt that the cause of Greece was the cause of European civilisation.

Step 3: Role of poets and artists Poets and artists praised Greece as the cradle of European civilisation. Through their works they mobilised public opinion in Europe to back the Greek struggle against a Muslim empire.
The English poet Lord Byron organised funds and later went to fight in the war. He died of fever in 1824.

Step 4: Result of the war In 1832 the Treaty of Constantinople recognised Greece as an independent nation.

Step 5: Assess the effect on nationalist consciousness The war made educated Europeans think about the rights of nations. It showed that a people under a large empire could fight and win a nation of its own.
It also joined the feeling of nationalism to a wider European cause. So it helped to shape nationalist consciousness among the educated classes.

Step 6: Conclusion The Greek War of Independence roused sympathy and nationalist feeling among educated Europeans and showed that a nation could win freedom from an empire.

Quick Tip to Solve: Cover the background, the support from poets like Byron, and the result in 1832.

7(A). Evaluate the economic consequences of the Non-Cooperation Movement for colonial rule in India. [5 marks]

Solution:

Concept:

- The Non-Cooperation Movement (1920-22) asked Indians to stop co-operating with the British government.
- It had political, social and economic parts.
- Here we look only at its economic effect on colonial rule.

Step 1: Boycott of foreign goods The effects of non-cooperation on the economic front were more dramatic. Foreign goods were boycotted, liquor shops were picketed and foreign cloth was burnt in huge bonfires.
Since colonial rule gained a lot from selling British goods in India, this hit the colonial economy.

Step 2: Fall in imports The import of foreign cloth halved between 1921 and 1922. Its value fell from Rs 102 crore to Rs 57 crore. This was a heavy loss for British traders and mills.

Step 3: Role of merchants and traders In many places merchants and traders refused to trade in foreign goods or to finance foreign trade. Without the Indian trading network, the foreign cloth trade

was badly affected.

Step 4: Change in the habits of people As the boycott spread, people began to discard imported clothes and wear only Indian ones.

Step 5: Gain for Indian industry The production of Indian textile mills and handlooms went up. The making and wearing of khadi became very popular.
This shows that the movement weakened the colonial economic hold and helped swadeshi industry.

Step 6: Conclusion The movement cut the sale of foreign goods, halved imports of foreign cloth, and boosted Indian mills, handlooms and khadi, so it hurt the economic base of colonial rule.

Quick Tip to Solve: Think of boycott, fall in import of foreign cloth, the role of traders and the rise of khadi.

OR

7(B). Analyse how Indian merchants and industrialists associated themselves with the Civil Disobedience Movement, highlighting the forms of support they extended and the reasons for their participation. [5 marks]

Solution:

Step 1: Reasons for their participation During the First World War Indian merchants and industrialists had made huge profits and had become powerful. They wanted to grow their business further.
They were against colonial policies that restricted business activity. They wanted protection against imports of foreign goods, and a rupee-sterling foreign exchange ratio that would discourage imports.

Step 2: Organising business interests To protect their interests they formed the Indian Industrial and Commercial Congress in 1920 and the Federation of the Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industries (FICCI) in 1927.
Prominent industrialists such as Purshottamdas Thakurdas and G. D. Birla led them. They attacked colonial control over the Indian economy.

Step 3: Forms of support These industrialists supported the Civil Disobedience Movement when it was first launched.
They gave financial help to the movement. They also refused to buy or sell imported goods.

Step 4: Their idea of swaraj Most businessmen began to see swaraj as a time when colonial restrictions on business would no longer exist. Trade and industry would then grow without constraints.

Step 5: Change of attitude later After the failure of the Round Table Conference, business groups were no longer uniformly enthusiastic.
They feared the spread of militant activities. They were worried about prolonged disruption of business, and about the growing influence of socialism among younger members of the Congress.

Step 6: Conclusion Indian business groups joined the movement to end colonial limits on trade, helped with money and boycott, but became cautious when the movement turned militant.

Quick Tip to Solve: Give reasons, then forms of support, then the later change in attitude.

8.1. Read the following text and answer the questions that follow:

Print comes to India

The printing press first came to Goa with Portuguese missionaries in the mid-sixteenth century. Jesuit priests learnt Konkani and printed several tracts. By 1674, about 50 books had been printed in the Konkani and Kanara languages. Catholic priests printed the first Tamil book in 1579 at Cochin, and in 1713 the first Malayalam book was printed by them. By 1710, Dutch Protestant missionaries had printed 32 Tamil texts, many of them translations of older works.

The English language press did not grow in India till quite late. From 1780, James Augustus Hickey edited the Bengal Gazette, a weekly magazine that claimed to be independent of colonial influence. This marked the beginning of English newspaper printing in India.

Source-India and the Contemporary World - II, NCERT. Class 10, Chapter 5

Identify the newspaper that marked the beginning of English newspaper printing in India. [1 mark]

Solution:

Concept:

- The second paragraph tells us that the English language press did not grow in India till quite late.
- It then says that from 1780 James Augustus Hickey edited a weekly magazine.

Step 1: Find the name The passage names this weekly magazine as the Bengal Gazette. It says this marked the beginning of English newspaper printing in India.

Step 2: Check The question asks for one newspaper only. The Bengal Gazette is the answer, and it was edited by Hickey from 1780.

Step 3: Conclusion The newspaper was the Bengal Gazette.

Quick Tip to Solve: Look at the second paragraph of the passage.

8.2. Explain how James Augustus Hickey demonstrated independence through his newspaper. [1 mark]

Solution:

Step 1: Find what the passage says about Hickey James Augustus Hickey edited the Bengal Gazette from 1780. The passage says it was a weekly magazine that claimed to be independent of colonial influence.

Step 2: Explain how he showed independence Hickey published a private weekly newspaper. It was not run by the government or under its control.
He said that his paper was open to all and not influenced by the colonial authorities. In this way he showed that the paper was free to print its own views.

Step 3: Conclusion Hickey published a private weekly newspaper that claimed to be open to all and not influenced by the colonial authorities.

Quick Tip to Solve: Use the words 'independent of colonial influence' from the passage.

8.3. Evaluate how the early printing activities contributed to the spread of knowledge in India before English newspapers became popular. [2 marks]

Solution:

Step 1: Collect facts from the passage The press first reached Goa with Portuguese missionaries in the mid sixteenth century. Jesuit priests learnt Konkani and printed several tracts.
By 1674 about 50 books had been printed in Konkani and Kanara. Catholic priests printed the first Tamil book in 1579 at Cochin and the first Malayalam book in 1713. By 1710 Dutch Protestant missionaries had printed 32 Tamil texts.

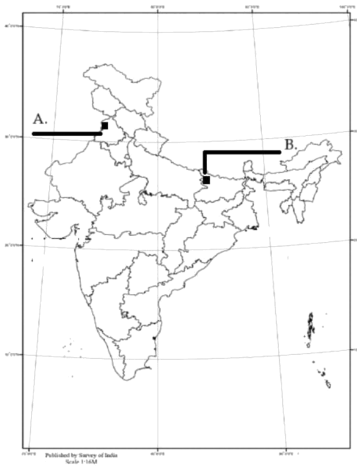
Step 2: Evaluate the effect on spread of knowledge Books and religious texts now came out in regional languages such as Konkani, Tamil and Malayalam. Local people could read them, so knowledge reached more people than before.
Many of the Tamil texts were translations of older works. This made older writings widely available.

Step 3: Link to the time before English newspapers All of this happened well before the English newspapers became popular. It means that written material and ideas were already moving in society through the early press, and the circulation of ideas had started much before the Bengal Gazette.

Step 4: Conclusion Early printing spread knowledge by putting books and religious texts in regional languages within reach of local people, long before English newspapers became popular.

Quick Tip to Solve: Use the examples of Konkani, Tamil and Malayalam printing from the passage.

9. MAP SKILL-BASED QUESTION (Map is given at page no 12)
Two places A and B have been marked on the given outline map of India. Identify them and write their correct names on the lines marked on the map.
A) The place where a violent massacre took place on 13th April, 1919.
B) The place where Gandhi ji led indigo peasants against the oppressive plantation system



[2 marks]

Solution:

Concept:

- We have to name two places marked on the outline map of India.
- Place A is the site of a massacre on 13 April 1919.
- Place B is where Gandhiji led indigo peasants against the plantation system.

Step 1: Identify A On 13 April 1919 a crowd gathered in the Jallianwala Bagh in Amritsar, Punjab.

General Dyer closed the exit and ordered his troops to fire on the unarmed people. Hundreds were killed.
On the map, A is marked in the Punjab region in the north west of India. So A is Amritsar.

Step 2: Identify B In 1917 Gandhiji went to Champaran in Bihar. The peasants there were forced by British planters to grow indigo on a part of their land under an oppressive system. Gandhiji led them against it.
This was his first Satyagraha in India. On the map B is marked in the north of Bihar, near the Nepal border. So B is Champaran.

Step 3: Write the names on the lines Write Amritsar on the line marked A and Champaran on the line marked B.

Step 4: Conclusion A is Amritsar (Jallianwala Bagh) and B is Champaran.

Quick Tip to Solve: Link 13 April 1919 with Jallianwala Bagh and the indigo peasants with Gandhiji's first Satyagraha in India.

Section B: Geography (20 marks)

20 marks.

10. A mineral deposit, that is known but cannot be used currently due to lack of technology, fits into which category of resources? [1 mark]

(A) Renewable resource

(B) Developed resource

(C) Potential resource

(D) Reserve

Correct Answer: (C) Potential resource

Solution:

Concept:

- Resources are grouped on the basis of their stage of development and use. The main groups are potential, developed, stock and reserves.
- The question describes a deposit that exists, is known, but cannot be used right now because the technology is missing.

Step 1: Key Idea A potential resource is a resource that is found in a region but has not been put to use so far. It can become useful in future when technology, money or demand is ready.

Step 2: Check each option Option A, renewable resource: this group is based on whether a resource can be replenished (like wind or water). It says nothing about use or technology, so it does not fit.
Option B, developed resource: these are resources already surveyed, their quantity and quality fixed, and they are being used now. Our deposit cannot be used now, so it is wrong.
Option C, potential resource: the deposit is present and known but unused because technology is lacking. It fits.
Option D, reserve: this is the part of a stock that can be used with the technology we already have, but is kept for the future. Our deposit cannot be used with present technology, so it is wrong.

Step 3: Conclusion The deposit is present but not used at present, so it is a potential resource. This is

option C.

Quick Tip to Solve: Think of the stage of use: which type of resource is present in an area but not yet used?

11. Which of the following options is the correct match?

Column I	Column II
1. Equitable distribution of resources	X. Ensures long-term survival of all life forms
2. Sustainable existence	Y. Prevents concentration of resources in a few hands
3. Resource planning	Z. Balances current development with conservation for the future

Choose the correct option- [1 mark]

(A) 1-Y, 2-X, 3-Z

(B) 1-Z, 2-Y, 3-X

(C) 1-X, 2-Z, 3-Y

(D) 1-Y, 2-Z, 3-X

Correct Answer: (A) 1-Y, 2-X, 3-Z

Solution:

Concept:

- The three items in Column I come from the chapter on Resources and Development. They deal with how we share, plan and use resources wisely.
- We match each item with the statement in Column II that explains its meaning.

Step 1: Match item 1: Equitable distribution of resources Equitable distribution means every person gets a fair share of resources. Gandhiji said that the earth has enough for everyone's need but not for one person's greed.
Greed leads to the pile-up of resources in a few hands. So equitable distribution prevents concentration of resources in a few hands. This is Y.

Step 2: Match item 2: Sustainable existence Sustainable existence means living in a way that does not destroy the resource base. Life continues for all living things, for now and for the future.
So it ensures long-term survival of all life forms. This is X.

Step 3: Match item 3: Resource planning Resource planning is the wise use of resources. A planner has to meet the needs of development today and also keep enough resources for coming generations. So it balances current development with conservation for the future. This is Z.

Step 4: Check the options We have 1-Y, 2-X, 3-Z. Only option A has this exact set.
Option B (1-Z, 2-Y, 3-X) gets all three wrong. Option C (1-X, 2-Z, 3-Y) also gets all three wrong.
Option D (1-Y, 2-Z, 3-X) gets item 1 right, but item 2 and item 3 are swapped, so it is wrong.

Step 5: Conclusion The correct match is 1-Y, 2-X, 3-Z, option A.

Quick Tip to Solve: Match the meaning of each term: fairness, survival of life, and planning for the future.

12. Which of the following statements about placer deposits are correct?
(a) They are commonly found in valley floors and at the base of hills
(b) They mainly contain minerals that easily dissolve in water
(c) Gold and platinum are typical minerals found in such deposits
(d) They are formed due to deposition by running water
Choose the correct option as answer- [1 mark]

(A) (a), (b), (d)

(B) (b), (c), (d)

(C) (a), (b), (c)

(D) (a), (c), (d)

Correct Answer: (D) (a), (c), (d)

Solution:

Step 1: Recall what placer deposits are Placer deposits are minerals that collect in the sands of valley floors and at the base of hills. Running water brings the mineral particles down and leaves them behind in these places.
Such minerals are not corroded (eaten away) by water. That is why they last long enough to settle and get collected.

Step 2: Check statement (a) Placer deposits occur in the sands of valley floors and at the base of hills. So (a) is TRUE.

Step 3: Check statement (b) Placer deposits mainly hold minerals that do NOT dissolve or corrode in water. Minerals that dissolve easily would be washed away and could not settle as deposits. So (b) is FALSE.

Step 4: Check statement (c) Gold, silver, tin and platinum are the most important minerals of placer deposits. Gold and platinum are therefore typical. So (c) is TRUE.

Step 5: Check statement (d) These deposits are laid down when running water deposits the mineral particles. So (d) is TRUE.

Step 6: Pick the option The true statements are (a), (c) and (d). This is the set in option D.
Options A, B and C each include statement (b), which is false, so they are wrong.

Step 7: Conclusion Statements (a), (c) and (d) are correct, so the answer is option D.

Quick Tip to Solve: Placer minerals are those that water does not corrode. Which statement says the opposite?

13. A steel company requires iron ore with the best physical properties for high-quality steel production. Which mining region would be the most suitable choice, based on the nature of iron ore found there? [1 mark]

(A) Maharashtra-Goa belt

(B) Odisha-Jharkhand belt

(C) Durg-Bastar-Chandrapur belt

(D) Ballari-Chitradurga belt

Correct Answer: (C) Durg-Bastar-Chandrapur belt

Solution:

Concept:

- We have to find the iron ore belt whose ore has the best physical properties.
- So we compare the nature of the ore in the four belts.

Step 1: Facts about the four belts Odisha-Jharkhand belt: it has very good hematite ore and many mines, such as Badampahar and Gorumahisani. It is rich, but it is not described as having the best physical properties.
Durg-Bastar-Chandrapur belt: it lies in Chhattisgarh and parts of Maharashtra. The Bailadila range has very high grade hematite. The ore here has the best physical properties, needed for steel making.
Ballari-Chitradurga belt: it lies in Karnataka. The Kudremukh deposits are magnetite, with good quality ore of high iron content, but it is not called the best in physical properties.
Maharashtra-Goa belt: the ore here is not of high quality and is worked mainly in Goa and Ratnagiri.

Step 2: Pick the option The Durg-Bastar-Chandrapur belt is known for ore with the best physical properties, which suits high-quality steel. So the answer is option C.
Options A, B and D are wrong because their ore is either of lesser quality or is valued for other reasons, like high iron content or ease of export.

Step 3: Conclusion Ore of the best physical properties is found in the Durg-Bastar-Chandrapur belt, option C.

Quick Tip to Solve: Recall the NCERT line about the belt whose ore has the best physical properties.

14. Despite India's strong capacity in spinning, the weaving sector continues to produce relatively lower-quality fabric. Which of the following is the most appropriate reason? [1 mark]

(A) Overdependence on imported cotton yarn

(B) Limited use of high-quality yarn due to decentralised weaving structure

(C) Excessive mechanisation of weaving mills

(D) Decline in traditional weaving skills

Correct Answer: (B) Limited use of high-quality yarn due to decentralised weaving structure

Solution:

Concept:

- In the cotton textile industry, spinning is done mostly in large mills.
- Weaving is done mostly by handloom, powerloom and small units that are spread out and run separately.
- This is called a decentralised weaving sector.

Step 1: The link between the two India's spinning mills make good quality yarn in large amounts. But the many small weaving units cannot use this high-quality yarn in full, because they work on old looms and in scattered units.
So the cloth woven is of lower quality even though the yarn is good.

Step 2: Check option A India grows cotton and makes cotton yarn at home. The weak point is not heavy dependence on imported yarn. So A is wrong.

Step 3: Check option B This matches the problem exactly: the decentralised weaving structure limits the use of high-quality yarn. So B is correct.

Step 4: Check option C Weaving in India is not over-mechanised. A large share is still handloom and powerloom in small units. So C is wrong.

Step 5: Check option D Traditional weaving skills are still strong in India, and handloom is famous for fine fabrics. The weakness is the structure of the sector, not a loss of skills. So D is wrong.

Step 6: Conclusion Because weaving is decentralised, good yarn is not fully used. The answer is option B.

Quick Tip to Solve: Compare the structure of spinning (large mills) with weaving (many small units).

---

15. In the following question, a statement of Assertion (A) is followed by a statement of Reason (R). Choose the appropriate answer from the options given below as the correct answer:
Assertion (A): Bengaluru has developed as one of the leading centres of the Information Technology and electronics industry in India.
Reason (R): The city is located close to major ports, which has been the primary factor encouraging the growth of electronics and IT industries there. [1 mark]

(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: (C) A is true, but R is false

Solution:

Concept:

- We have to decide if the Assertion is true, if the Reason is true, and, if both are true, whether the Reason explains the Assertion.

Step 1: Check the Assertion (A) Bengaluru is the electronics capital of India and is a leading centre of the IT industry. Many software parks and electronics units are located here. So A is TRUE.

Step 2: Check the Reason (R) Bengaluru is an inland city on the Deccan plateau. It is not close to any major port. So R is FALSE.
The real causes of its growth are skilled manpower, good educational and research institutes, pleasant weather, government support through software technology parks, and good infrastructure.

Step 3: Pick the option A is true and R is false. This is option C.
Option A and option B need R to be true, so they are wrong. Option D says A is false, which is also wrong.

Step 4: Conclusion The Assertion is true but the Reason is false. The answer is option C.

Quick Tip to Solve: Is Bengaluru a coastal city near a major port? What really helped IT grow there?

---

16. A drought-prone district wants to adopt a sustainable water conservation method using traditional knowledge. Suggest two suitable rainwater harvesting practices that could be implemented. [2 marks]

Solution:

Concept:

- The district faces drought, so water is scarce.
- We need traditional, sustainable methods that catch rainwater and keep it for later use.
- Two such methods are asked for.

Step 1: Practice 1: Rooftop rainwater harvesting Rain falling on the roof is led through pipes into a tank or an underground storage. This water is kept for household needs.
In dry months the family can use the stored water, so it relies less on surface water and groundwater. In Rajasthan, such water is stored in underground tanks called tankas, which is an old form of this method.

Step 2: Practice 2: Johads or khadins In dry regions people build small earthen check dams called johads, or khadins in Jaisalmer, to stop the flow of rainwater. The water is held behind the bund.
It then seeps into the ground. This raises the groundwater level, fills wells and supports irrigation in water-scarce areas.

Step 3: Why these suit a drought-prone district Both methods are cheap, use local knowledge, need little technology and are easy to maintain. They store water at the place where rain falls, and they restore groundwater for the future.

Step 4: Conclusion Rooftop rainwater harvesting and johads (khadins) are two suitable traditional practices.

Quick Tip to Solve: Think of the old Rajasthan methods and what a family can do on its own roof.

17(A). A farmer plans to shift from food crops to plantation crops and is to choose between tea and coffee. Highlight the difference in the conditions associated with their growth. [5 marks]

Solution:

Concept:

- Tea and coffee are both plantation crops.
- They need different climate, relief and labour conditions.
- We list the differences point by point.

Step 1: Difference 1: Rainfall Tea needs high rainfall that is spread through the year, with frequent showers. Coffee prefers seasonal rainfall.

Step 2: Difference 2: Temperature and frost Tea needs a warm, moist and frost-free climate, so it suits tropical and sub-tropical regions. Coffee (Arabica) grows well in moderate temperatures.

Step 3: Difference 3: Soil and relief Tea grows on deep, fertile, well-drained soil that is rich in humus, mostly on hill slopes. Coffee needs well-drained slopes, such as those of the Western Ghats.

Step 4: Difference 4: Labour Tea plantations need a large number of cheap and skilled workers, mainly for plucking leaves. Coffee needs comparatively less labour.

Step 5: Difference 5: Area of growth Tea can be grown in many regions of India, like Assam, the hills of Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri, Tamil Nadu and Kerala. Coffee is geographically more restricted, mostly Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

Step 6: What the farmer can decide A farmer in a heavy and even rainfall area with enough labour should choose tea. A farmer on well-drained hill slopes with seasonal rain and less labour should choose coffee.

Step 7: Conclusion Tea needs heavy, evenly spread rain, frost-free warmth and more labour. Coffee needs seasonal rain, moderate temperature, drained slopes and less labour.

Quick Tip to Solve: Compare rainfall pattern, frost, relief, labour and spread of the two crops.

OR

17(B). Farmers in a region experiencing moderate rainfall, cool winters, and assured irrigation plan to move from mixed cropping to the cultivation of a single cereal crop. Should they opt for rice or wheat? Support your answer with appropriate reasons based on crop requirements. [5 marks]

Solution:

Concept:

- The region has moderate rainfall, cool winters and assured irrigation.
- We must compare these conditions with what rice and wheat need, and then choose one crop.

Step 1: Requirements of rice Rice is a kharif crop. It needs high temperature (above 25 degrees Celsius), high humidity and heavy rainfall (above 100 cm). Where rain is less, it needs irrigation. Cool winters and moderate rain do not suit it.

Step 2: Requirements of wheat Wheat is a rabi crop. It needs a cool growing season and bright sunshine at the time of ripening. It needs about 50 to 75 cm of rainfall, evenly spread over the growing period.

Step 3: Reason 1: Temperature Cool winters match wheat, which grows well in cool temperatures during the growing season.

Step 4: Reason 2: Rainfall Moderate rainfall matches the wheat requirement of 50-75 cm. Rice needs much more.

Step 5: Reason 3: Sunshine Wheat needs bright sunshine when it ripens, which is common in winter months.

Step 6: Reason 4: Irrigation Assured irrigation helps wheat where rain is limited. It is also true that in the north and north-western plains, wheat is grown with irrigation.

Step 7: Reason 5: Region Wheat is traditionally grown in the north and north-western regions, where such conditions are found.

Step 8: Decision All conditions favour wheat. So the farmers should choose wheat.

Step 9: Conclusion The farmers should opt for wheat because its needs match the climate and water supply of the region.

Quick Tip to Solve: Match cool winters, 50-75 cm rain and ripening sunshine with the crop that needs them.

18.1. Read the given text and answer the following questions:

Role of Communities in Forest Conservation

In many parts of India, especially in tribal and mountainous regions, local communities depend on forests for fuel, fodder, and livelihood. Over time, people realised that uncontrolled exploitation by contractors and commercial interests was destroying forests and threatening their survival. This led to community-led conservation efforts where people actively protected forests through traditional practices and movements. One such movement began in the Himalayan region, where villagers protected trees by hugging them, highlighting the importance of people's participation in conservation.

Source- Contemporary India - II, NCERT, Chapter 2

State any one objective of community-based forest conservation. [1 mark]

Solution:

Concept:

- The passage says that local communities depend on forests and began protecting them.
- We are asked for one aim of such community-based conservation.

Step 1: Reasoning Villagers use forests for fuel, fodder and livelihood. If forests are cut recklessly, the villagers lose their source of living. So they want forests to be protected, and they also want to use them in a way that does not finish them.
Because they live close to the forest, their involvement makes protection stronger.

Step 2: Objective The objective is to ensure protection and sustainable use of forest resources by involving local communities.

Step 3: Conclusion One objective is the protection and sustainable use of forests with the help of local communities.

Quick Tip to Solve: Think of why villagers who depend on forests would want to guard them.

18.2. How does people's participation lead to more effective forest resource management? Elaborate with the help of two examples. [2 marks]

Solution:

Concept:

- We have to explain why involving people makes forest management more effective, and then support the answer with two examples.

Step 1: Reason 1: Traditional knowledge Local communities have lived in and with the forest for generations. They know which plants to protect, when to use them and how to keep the forest healthy. This knowledge helps in sustainable management.

Step 2: Reason 2: Sense of ownership When people feel the forest is theirs, they take responsibility to guard it. They stop others from over-exploiting it. This prevents misuse of forest resources.

Step 3: Example 1: Beej Bachao Andolan and Navdanya Farmers and citizens' groups in Tehri (Beej Bachao Andolan) and Navdanya have shown that adequate levels of diversified crop production are possible without synthetic chemicals, and that this is economically viable.
It shows that communities can protect biodiversity by themselves.

Step 4: Example 2: Joint Forest Management (JFM) In JFM, local communities and the forest department manage forests together. People protect the degraded forest and in return get benefits like non-timber produce. This has helped revive forests in many states.

Step 5: Conclusion So participation of people gives knowledge, responsibility and local control, and

the two examples show it in practice.

Step 6: Conclusion People's knowledge and sense of ownership make forest management effective, as seen in Beej Bachao Andolan and Joint Forest Management.

Quick Tip to Solve: Think of what local people know and feel about the forest, and name two community or joint efforts.

18.3. Name the forest conservation movement referred to in the given source. [1 mark]

Solution:

Step 1: Find the clue The passage says the movement began in the Himalayan region and that villagers protected trees by hugging them.

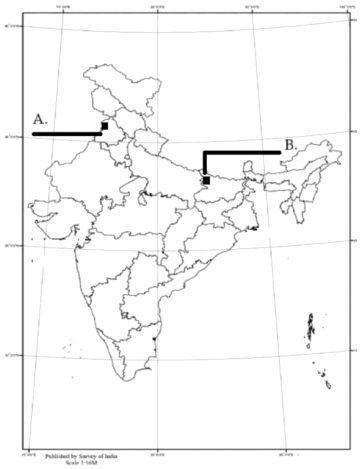
Step 2: Link to the chapter In the 1970s, villagers of the Garhwal Himalayas (Uttarakhand) hugged trees to stop contractors from cutting them. This is the well-known Chipko Movement. The word chipko means to stick or to hug.

Step 3: Why other names do not fit Beej Bachao Andolan is about saving seeds and crop diversity. Joint Forest Management is a government and community scheme, not a movement of hugging trees.

Step 4: Conclusion The movement is the Chipko Movement.

Quick Tip to Solve: Which Himalayan movement is known for villagers hugging trees?

19. On the outline map of India locate and label the following with suitable symbols
I (a) One of the largest water resource projects of India, built over the Narmada River in Gujarat. (1)
OR
(b) The dam in the Sutluj-Beas river basin being used both for hydel power production and irrigation.
II Any two of the following: (1 x 2 = 2)
i. An Iron and steel plant in Tamil Nadu
ii. A cotton textile industry in the capital city of Maharashtra
iii. Meenambakkam international airport



[3 marks]

Solution:

Concept:

- This is a map question on the outline map of India (page 12 of the paper).
- We must find each place and mark it with a suitable symbol and a label.
- Part I has a choice, and in part II any two of the three items are to be marked.

Step 1: Part I (a): Narmada river dam in Gujarat The Narmada flows west into the Arabian Sea. The big dam built on it in Gujarat is the Sardar Sarovar Dam, near Navagam. Mark it on the Narmada in Gujarat with the dam symbol and write its name.

Step 2: Part I (b): Dam in the Sutluj-Beas basin (alternative) The Bhakra Nangal Dam is built on the Satluj river in Himachal Pradesh, near the Punjab border. Its water is used for irrigation and for hydel power. Mark it in the northern part of the map and label it.

Step 3: Part II (i): Iron and steel plant in Tamil Nadu Salem has the iron and steel plant of Tamil Nadu. Mark it in the interior of southern Tamil Nadu with the symbol for an iron and steel plant, and label it Salem.

Step 4: Part II (ii): Cotton textile industry in the capital of Maharashtra The capital of Maharashtra is Mumbai. It is an old and famous centre of the cotton textile industry. Mark Mumbai on the west coast and label it with the cotton textile symbol.

Step 5: Part II (iii): Meenambakkam international airport Meenambakkam is in Chennai, on the east (Coromandel) coast of Tamil Nadu. Mark the airport at Chennai with the airport symbol.

Step 6: Tips for the exam Draw neat, small symbols and write the names clearly, so that the examiner can read them. Do not cover the map lines.

Step 7: Conclusion Sardar Sarovar (or Bhakra Nangal); Salem, Mumbai, Chennai airport (any two of the three in part II) are to be marked.

Quick Tip to Solve: Recall the dam on the Narmada, the Satluj-Beas dam, Salem, Mumbai and Chennai on your atlas.

Section C: Political Science (20 marks)

20 marks.

20. In the following question, a statement of Assertion (A) is followed by a statement of Reason(R). Choose the appropriate answer from the options given below as the correct answer:
Assertion (A): Power sharing arrangements can also be seen in the way political parties, pressure groups and movements control or influence those in power.
Reason (R): It ensures that power does not remain in one hand.

Choose the correct option- [1 mark]

(A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

(B) Both (A) and (R) are true and (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 true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

Solution:

Concept:

- The chapter on power sharing lists four forms of sharing power: between organs of government,

between governments at different levels, between social groups, and between political parties, pressure groups and movements.
- This question is about the fourth form.

Step 1: Check the Assertion (A) In a democracy, parties compete for power, so the party in power can lose it in the next election. This competition keeps a check on those who rule.
Pressure groups such as trade unions, farmers' associations and business bodies, and movements such as the Narmada Bachao Andolan, also influence decisions of those in power.
So Assertion (A) is TRUE.

Step 2: Check the Reason (R) The main idea of power sharing is that power should not stay with one person or one group. When many groups can control or influence the rulers, power is spread out.
So Reason (R) is TRUE.

Step 3: Link the Reason to the Assertion Control by parties, pressure groups and movements counts as power sharing exactly because it stops power from remaining in one hand.
So (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

Step 4: Why the other options are wrong Option B accepts both statements as true but says (R) does not explain (A). This is wrong, because the Reason states the very purpose of the arrangement in the Assertion.
Option C says (R) is false. This is wrong, because spreading power is the basic aim of power sharing.
Option D says (A) is false. This is wrong, because NCERT clearly lists this as a form of power sharing.

Step 5: Conclusion Both statements are true and the Reason explains the Assertion. The correct choice is option A.

Quick Tip to Solve: Recall the four forms of power sharing in Democratic Politics II. Ask whether the Reason is the purpose behind the Assertion.

21. From a prudential viewpoint, which of the following arguments best supports the idea of power sharing? [1 mark]

(A) It is morally correct

(B) It upholds democratic ideals

(C) It reduces the chances of social unrest

(D) It guarantees equal economic growth for all sections.

Correct Answer: (C) It reduces the chances of social unrest

Solution:

Concept:

- NCERT gives two kinds of arguments in favour of power sharing: prudential reasons and moral reasons.
- Prudential reasons are about practical gains and losses. They say power sharing is useful because it gives better results.
- Moral reasons say power sharing is valuable in itself, because it is the right thing to do and it matches the spirit of democracy.

Step 1: Recall the prudential argument The main prudential argument is that power sharing helps to reduce the possibility of conflict between social groups.
Social conflict often leads to violence and political instability. Sharing power with different groups

keeps the country stable and united. Belgium succeeded in this way, while Sri Lanka suffered a civil war.

Step 2: Check option A Saying that power sharing is morally correct is a moral argument, not a prudential one. So option A is wrong.

Step 3: Check option B Upholding democratic ideals is also a moral argument, because it talks about values and the spirit of democracy. So option B is wrong.

Step 4: Check option C Reducing the chances of social unrest is a practical benefit. It fits the prudential view exactly. So option C is correct.

Step 5: Check option D Power sharing does not promise equal economic growth for every section. It deals with political power, not income. So option D is wrong.

Step 6: Conclusion The prudential argument is the one that points to a practical gain, which is less social unrest. The correct choice is option C.

Quick Tip to Solve: Prudential means based on gains and practical results. Pick the option that talks about a practical benefit, not about values.

22. A political party conducts regular elections, yet the same leaders continue to hold power for decades and key decisions are made by a small group. This situation best reflects:

Choose the correct option- [1 mark]

(A) A federal party structure

(B) Lack of internal democracy

(C) Dynastic succession

(D) Strong ideological unity

Correct Answer: (B) Lack of internal democracy

Solution:

Concept:

- The party holds elections, but the same leaders stay in power for decades. Key decisions are taken by a small group.
- This tells us that the ordinary members of the party have little say in who leads it or what it decides.

Step 1: Recall the challenge from NCERT NCERT names four challenges to political parties: lack of internal democracy, dynastic succession, money and muscle power, and meaningful choice to voters. Under lack of internal democracy it says that all over the world there is a tendency in parties towards the concentration of power in one or a few leaders at the top. Parties do not keep membership registers, do not hold organisational meetings and do not hold regular internal elections.

Step 2: Check option A A federal party structure means a party has units at the national and state levels with some freedom for each. The situation does not talk about this. So option A is wrong.

Step 3: Check option B Power staying with the same few leaders and decisions taken by a small group is exactly the lack of internal democracy. So option B is correct.

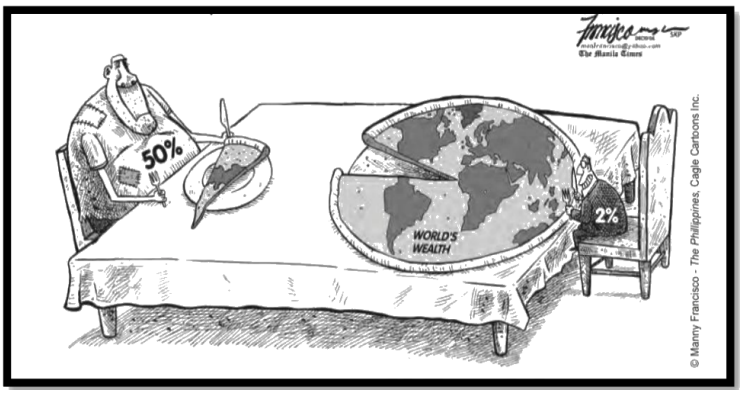
Step 4: Check option C Dynastic succession means top posts pass to family members. The passage does not mention any family link between the leaders. So option C does not fit as well.

Step 5: Check option D Strong ideological unity would mean members share the same ideas and take part in decisions. It does not describe a small group controlling everything. So option D is wrong.

Step 6: Conclusion The party fails to give its members a real say, so the situation shows lack of internal democracy. The correct choice is option B.

Quick Tip to Solve: Think of the challenges faced by political parties. Which one is about power being held by a few top leaders inside the party?

23. Which of the following options best signifies the cartoon given below-?



(Source-NCERT-Democratic Politics II) [1 mark]

(A) Most of the resources are utilised by the poor countries.

(B) Most of the resources are utilised by the developing countries.

(C) Most of the resources are utilised by the developed countries

(D) Most of the resources are utilised by the land owners.

Correct Answer: (C) Most of the resources are utilised by the developed countries

Solution:

Concept:

- The cartoon shows a dinner table. The big pie on the table is labelled "World's wealth". One diner is marked 50% and he is enjoying a very large share. The other diner is marked 2% and he gets a tiny share.
- So the picture is about how unequally the wealth and resources of the world are divided between countries.

Step 1: Link the picture with the chapter In Democratic Politics II, this cartoon is used to show economic inequality across the world. A small number of rich countries use a very large part of the world's wealth and resources, while the larger group of poor countries get only a small part.

Step 2: Check option A The countries that use most of the resources are not the poor ones. Poor countries are the diner with the 2% share. So option A is wrong.

Step 3: Check option B Developing countries are also in the group that gets the smaller share. They are not the ones who use most of the resources. So option B is wrong.

Step 4: Check option C The diner with the large share stands for the developed countries. They use most of the world's resources. So option C is correct.

Step 5: Check option D The cartoon is about the whole world's wealth and the countries that share it. It does not deal with land owners inside one country. So option D is wrong.

Step 6: Conclusion The cartoon signifies that most of the world's resources are used by the developed countries. The correct choice is option C.

Quick Tip to Solve: Read the labels on the cartoon: one diner is marked 50 percent and the other 2 percent of the world's wealth. Ask which group of countries each diner stands for.

24. How the powers were shared between the central and state government in Belgium to avoid the division of the country? Explain. [2 marks]

Solution:

Step 1: Background of the problem Belgium is a small country in Europe. Dutch speaking people live mostly in the Flemish region and form about 59 percent of the population. French speaking people form about 40 percent, and live mostly in the Wallonia region. In the capital Brussels, 80 percent speak French and 20 percent speak Dutch.
The French speakers were richer and more powerful in the past, so the Dutch speakers felt left out. This led to tension between the two communities, and Belgium could have been divided.

Step 2: Why power sharing was the solution Belgian leaders chose to share power between the two communities and between the central and regional governments. Between 1970 and 1993, they changed the Constitution four times to build a working arrangement.

Step 3: Point 1: Equal ministers in the central government The Constitution says that the number of Dutch speaking and French speaking ministers shall be equal in the central government.
Some special laws need the support of a majority of members from each linguistic group. So no single community can take decisions alone.

Step 4: Point 2: Powers given to the regional governments Many powers of the central government were given to the state governments of the two regions of the country.
The state governments are not subordinate to the central government. They are independent in the areas given to them.

Step 5: Point 3: A separate government in Brussels Brussels has a separate government in which both communities have equal representation. The French speaking people accepted equal representation in the central government. In return, the Dutch speaking community accepted equal representation in Brussels.

Step 6: Extra arrangement: community government A third kind of government, the community government, is elected by people of one language community, wherever they live. It looks after cultural, educational and language related issues.

Step 7: Conclusion Belgium avoided division by sharing power. It gave equal ministers to both communities in the central government, gave wide powers to independent regional governments, and set up a separate government for Brussels with equal representation (any two points are enough for full marks).

Quick Tip to Solve: Recall the 1993 changes in the Belgian Constitution: ministers in the central government, powers of the regional governments, and the status of Brussels.

25. Why is a democratic system of government regarded as the best form of governance in terms of involving the maximum number of citizens as stakeholders in political power? Explain with suitable arguments. [2 marks]

Solution:

Step 1: Idea behind the question A stakeholder is a person who has an interest in a decision and is affected by it. In a democracy, every adult citizen is a stakeholder in political power, because the government works for them and in their name.
In other forms of rule, such as monarchy or military rule, only a few people hold power. That is why democracy is regarded as a better form of government.

Step 2: Argument 1: People are the source of political power In a democracy, the people are the final source of all political power. Every adult has one vote and each vote has equal value.
The people have the right and the chance to take part in governing themselves through the institutions of self-government. So the ruling group cannot claim power on its own.

Step 3: Argument 2: Active participation and representation Democracy gives citizens many ways to take part. They elect their representatives, stand for election, join parties, and speak in public debates. So each section of society gets representation in government, and people get a chance to take part in decision making.

Step 4: Argument 3: Accountability, transparency and stability Democracy encourages public debate and free expression of opinion, and these influence how policies are made.
Citizens can hold the government accountable. Decisions are taken in the open, which brings transparency. Open discussion reduces conflicts between social groups, and the elected government gets legitimacy, which supports political stability.

Step 5: Conclusion Democracy treats people as the source of power, gives them a role through participation and representation, and keeps rulers accountable. So it involves the maximum number of citizens as stakeholders (any two arguments are enough for full marks).

Quick Tip to Solve: Think about who holds power in a democracy, how citizens take part, and how rulers can be held responsible.

26. The focus on caste in politics can sometimes give an impression that elections are all about caste and nothing else. However, that is far from true. Analyze this statement by giving three valid arguments. [3 marks]

Solution:

Concept:

- Caste does play a role in politics. Parties choose candidates keeping in mind the caste mix of a constituency, and some leaders appeal to caste feelings to get votes.
- But it is wrong to say elections are only about caste. Many other factors work, such as the performance of the government, the popularity of the leader and the party, and the issues of the day.

Step 1: Argument 1: No clear majority of one caste No parliamentary constituency in the country has a clear majority of one single caste. So every candidate and every party must win the confidence of more than one caste and community to win an election.

Step 2: Argument 2: No party gets all the votes of a caste No party wins the votes of all the voters of a caste or community. When people call a caste the vote bank of a party, it only means that a large part of the voters from that caste vote for that party. Many others of the same caste vote for other parties.

Step 3: Argument 3: Many candidates of the same caste Many parties may put up candidates from the same caste in a constituency, if that caste is believed to dominate the voters. So some voters have more than one candidate of their own caste, while many voters have none.

Step 4: Argument 4: Election results do not support the claim The ruling party and the sitting MP or MLA often lose elections in India. This could not happen if all castes and communities were frozen in their political choices.

Step 5: Conclusion Caste matters in elections, but it is not the only factor. The mix of castes in each constituency, the split of votes within a caste, and frequent defeat of ruling parties prove this. Any three arguments are enough for full marks.

Quick Tip to Solve: Recall the points in NCERT showing that caste is not the only factor in elections: caste mix of constituencies, vote banks, many candidates of one caste, and election results.

27(A). Explain any five provisions of the constitutional amendments of 1992 which strengthened the third tier of democracy in India? [5 marks]

Solution:

Step 1: Context of the 1992 amendments Local government is called the third tier of democracy, after the Union and the State governments. Before 1992, elections to local bodies were irregular and the bodies had few powers and little money.
In 1992, the 73rd Amendment (for rural panchayats) and the 74th Amendment (for urban municipalities) made local government more powerful and more effective.

Step 2: Provision 1: Regular elections It is now constitutionally compulsory to hold regular elections to local government bodies. Earlier, state governments could delay elections for years.

Step 3: Provision 2: Reservation for weaker sections Seats are reserved in the elected bodies, and in the executive heads of these institutions, for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes. This gives them a voice in local decisions.

Step 4: Provision 3: Reservation for women At least one-third of all positions are reserved for women. This brought lakhs of women into public life.

Step 5: Provision 4: State Election Commission An independent institution called the State Election Commission has been created in each State. It conducts panchayat and municipal elections, so these elections are no longer controlled by the state government of the day.

Step 6: Provision 5: Sharing of powers and revenue State governments are required to share some powers and revenue with local government bodies. The nature of sharing varies from State to State.

Step 7: Conclusion The 1992 amendments strengthened the third tier through regular elections, reservation for SC, ST, OBC, one-third seats for women, a State Election Commission, and sharing of powers and revenue by the states.

Quick Tip to Solve: The 73rd and 74th Amendments of 1992 made local government stronger. List the rules on elections, reservation, the State Election Commission and sharing of powers.

OR

27(B). 'The Constitution declared India as a Union of States. Although it did not use the word federation, the Indian Union is based on the principles of federalism.' What makes India a federal country? [5 marks]

Solution:

Step 1: Meaning of federalism In a federal system, power is divided between a central authority and the units of the country, and both work in their own areas. India fits this description even though the word federation does not appear in the Constitution.

Step 2: Feature 1: Division of powers The Constitution divides powers between the Union Government and the State Governments through three lists.
The Union List has subjects of national importance such as defence, foreign affairs, banking and currency. The State List has subjects of local importance such as police, trade, commerce, agriculture and irrigation. The Concurrent List has subjects of common interest such as education, forests, marriage and adoption.
Each level can work on its own within its field.

Step 3: Feature 2: Written and supreme Constitution India has a written Constitution, and all governments must work within its limits. The Constitution is the supreme authority, not the Parliament.

Step 4: Feature 3: Rigid Constitution The division of powers cannot be changed easily. Any change that affects the federal structure needs approval of both Parliament and at least half of the State legislatures.

Step 5: Feature 4: Independent judiciary The Supreme Court acts as an impartial umpire. It settles disputes between the Centre and the States and protects the Constitution.

Step 6: Feature 5: Dual government system There are two levels of government: the Central Government for the whole country and State Governments for the respective states.

Step 7: Feature 6: Financial autonomy States have their own sources of revenue, though some taxes are shared with the Centre.

Step 8: Conclusion India is federal because of the division of powers, a written and supreme Constitution, a rigid amendment process, an independent judiciary, two levels of government and financial autonomy of the states (any five points).

Quick Tip to Solve: Think of the key features of federalism: two levels of government, division of powers, a written supreme Constitution, a rigid amendment process and a court to settle disputes.

28.1. Need for political parties

Political parties are easily one of the most visible institutions in a democracy. For most ordinary citizens, democracy is equal to political parties. If you travel to remote parts of our country and speak to the less educated citizens, you could come across people who may not know anything about our Constitution or about the nature of our government. But chances are that they would know something about our political parties. At the same time, this visibility does not mean popularity. Most people tend to be very critical of political parties. They tend to blame parties for all that is wrong with our democracy and our political life. Parties have become identified with social and political divisions. Therefore, it is natural to ask if we need political parties at all? About a hundred years ago, there were few countries in the world that had any political party. Now there are few that do not have parties.

Source- NCERT, Democratic Politics-II, Class X

Modern democracies cannot exist without political parties. Analyse the given statement by giving one reason to support your answer. [1 mark]

Solution:

Concept:

- The statement says that a modern democracy cannot work without political parties. We have to support it with one reason.
- The passage already tells us that parties are among the most visible institutions of a democracy, so the idea is that they do some job that nothing else can do.

Step 1: Imagine an election with no parties Suppose there were no parties at all. Then every candidate in the election would stand as an independent.
Each independent candidate would be answerable only to the small area (constituency) that elected him or her.

Step 2: Reason 1: no one can promise a major policy change A single independent candidate cannot promise to change a big national policy, because one person cannot pass a law alone.
Voters would not get any clear programme to choose from. So the election would lose its meaning as a choice between different policies.

Step 3: Reason 2: a government may be formed but its usefulness stays uncertain Even if some elected members came together to form a government, nobody could be sure how long it would last or what it would do.
The elected members would answer only for the work in their own locality. No one would be accountable for the country as a whole.

Step 4: Link back to the statement Parties bring many candidates under one name and one programme. This gives voters a clear choice and makes a government accountable.
So the statement is correct.

Step 5: Conclusion A modern democracy needs parties because, without them, every candidate would be independent and no one could promise major policy changes or run a stable, accountable government.

Quick Tip to Solve: Imagine an election in which every candidate is independent. Can anyone promise a big policy change?

28.2. Highlight any two functions of a political party. [2 marks]

Solution:

Concept:

- We have to name any two functions of a political party and explain each one briefly.
- The question carries 2 marks, so each function gets one mark.

Step 1: Function 1: contesting elections In most democracies elections are fought mainly between parties. A party selects its candidates and puts them before the voters.
In this way the party gives voters different choices to pick from.

Step 2: Function 2: formulating policies and programmes Each party turns its ideology into policies and programmes and places them before the people. Voters then support the party whose plans they like.
Parties also shape the direction of the government's work in this way.

Step 3: Other functions you may use instead Parties play a decisive role in debating and passing laws in the legislature.
The majority party forms and runs the government. Defeated parties act as the opposition and criticise the government's failures.
Parties shape public opinion by raising issues, and they help citizens reach government schemes and offices.

Step 4: Choose two and write them Any two of these functions earn full marks. Here we write the first two.

Step 5: Conclusion Two functions of a political party are contesting elections and formulating policies and programmes.

Quick Tip to Solve: Think of what a party does before, during and after an election.

28.3. Why has India opted for a Multi-Party System? Give any one reason to support your answer. [1 mark]

Solution:

Concept:

- India has many parties that compete for power.
- A system with more than two serious parties is called a multi-party system.
- We need one reason why India chose it.

Step 1: Look at India's social make-up India is a very large country with many religions, cultures, languages and regions.
Such a variety of interests cannot be properly voiced by just one or two parties.

Step 2: Link the diversity to the party system When many parties exist, each region and social group can find a party that speaks for it. This gives a broader voice to all sections of society.

Step 3: Extra benefit Many parties also stop power from gathering in the hands of one single group. This strengthens democracy.

Step 4: Conclusion India opted for a multi-party system because its social and geographical diversity cannot be represented by one or two parties.

Quick Tip to Solve: Think of how many religions, languages and regions India has.

Section D: Economics (20 marks)

20 marks.

29. Why do citizens of a country often hold different opinions about the goals of national development? [1 mark]

(A) People living in different conditions may prioritise different needs and goals.

(B) Many citizens fail to understand how development plans are made.

(C) National development follows only one universally accepted definition.

(D) Everyone is expected to agree with a single idea of development.

Correct Answer: (A) People living in different conditions may prioritise different needs and goals.

Solution:

Concept:

- Development means different things to different people.
- What one person sees as progress may not matter to another person.

Step 1: Link it to real life A landless rural labourer may want more days of work and a fair wage. A prosperous farmer may want a better price for crops. A girl may want safety and equal chances in school and work.
Each person's life conditions decide what he or she wants from development.

Step 2: Check option A This says that people in different conditions give priority to different needs and goals. It matches the idea above. So A is correct.

Step 3: Check option B Disagreement about goals is not caused by people failing to understand development plans. Even well informed people want different things. So B is wrong.

Step 4: Check option C There is no single definition of development that everyone accepts. That is exactly why opinions differ. So C is wrong.

Step 5: Check option D In a democracy nobody can be expected to hold one single idea of development. So D is wrong.

Step 6: Conclusion Citizens hold different opinions on national development because people in different conditions have different needs and goals. This is option A.

Quick Tip to Solve: Different people live in different conditions, so what they want from development also differs.

30. Recognise and choose the correct entries to fill in the blanks in the table that show economic activities, examples, and interdependence.

Column A (Economic Activity)	Column B (Example)	Column C (Inter -dependence on Other Economic Activities)
Primary	1	Provides inputs for secondary activities
Secondary	Manufacturing of garments	2
Tertiary	Banking, transport, communication	Supports both primary and secondary sectors

Choose the correct option- [1 mark]

(A) 1: Manufacturing of furniture, 2: Supports tertiary sector

(B) 1: IT services, 2: Provides raw materials to secondary sector

(C) 1: Farming/mining, 2: Relies on raw materials from primary sector

(D) 1: Banking/transport, 2: Relies on outputs from tertiary sector

Correct Answer: (C) 1: Farming/mining, 2: Relies on raw materials from primary sector

Solution:

Concept:

- The primary sector grows or extracts natural products (farming, mining, fishing).
- The secondary sector turns these into other goods in factories.
- The tertiary sector gives services (banking, transport, communication).

Step 1: Fill blank 1 Blank 1 is an example of a primary activity. The row also says it provides inputs for secondary activities. Farming and mining do exactly this, because cotton and ores become inputs for factories.

Step 2: Fill blank 2 Blank 2 shows how the secondary sector depends on others. Garment making needs cotton or yarn, which comes from the primary sector. So blank 2 is: relies on raw materials from the primary sector.

Step 3: Check option A Furniture making is a secondary activity, so it cannot be the primary example. A is wrong.

Step 4: Check option B IT services are tertiary, not primary. Also providing raw materials is a job of the primary sector, not the secondary sector. B is wrong.

Step 5: Check option D Banking and transport are tertiary activities, so they do not belong in the primary row. D is wrong.

Step 6: Check option C Farming and mining are primary, and secondary activities rely on the raw materials they give. Both blanks fit. C is correct.

Step 7: Conclusion Blank 1 is farming or mining, and blank 2 is relies on raw materials from the primary sector. This is option C.

Quick Tip to Solve: Decide which sector farming and mining belong to, and which sector depends on their raw materials.

31. A country's GDP is Rs 900 crores. The primary sector contributes Rs 300 crores, and the tertiary sector contributes Rs 400 crores. What is the contribution of the secondary sector, and which sector contributes the most to GDP?

Choose the correct option- [1 mark]

(A) Rs 200 crore, tertiary sector

(B) Rs 200 crore, primary sector

(C) Rs 300 crore, tertiary sector

(D) Rs 200 crore, secondary sector

Correct Answer: (A) Rs 200 crore, tertiary sector

Solution:

Concept:

- GDP is the total value of all final goods and services produced in a country in a year.
- It is the sum of the contributions of the primary, secondary and tertiary sectors.

Step 1: Write the relation

$$\text{GDP} = \text{Primary} + \text{Secondary} + \text{Tertiary}$$

Step 2: Find the secondary sector Put the given values (in Rs. crore) into the relation.

$$900 = 300 + \text{Secondary} + 400$$

$$\text{Secondary} = 900 - 300 - 400 = 200$$

So the secondary sector contributes Rs. 200 crore.

Step 3: Find the largest sector Compare the three values: primary = 300, secondary = 200, tertiary = 400.
The largest figure is 400, which is the tertiary sector.

Step 4: Check the options B says primary is largest, but 300 is less than 400, so B is wrong. C gives the secondary value as 300, which is the primary value, so C is wrong. D says the secondary sector is largest, but it is actually the smallest at 200, so D is wrong. A matches both results.

Step 5: Conclusion The secondary sector contributes Rs. 200 crore and the tertiary sector contributes the most. This is option A.

Quick Tip to Solve: Secondary = GDP minus primary minus tertiary. Then compare the three values.

32. Why is *money* described as a medium of exchange? [1 mark]

(A) It is used to compare the value of different goods.

(B) People accept it in return for goods and services, making trade easier.

(C) Money helps individuals save their wealth safely for the future.

(D) It enables record-keeping of every transaction made in the economy.

Correct Answer: (B) People accept it in return for goods and services, making trade easier.

Solution:

Concept:

- A medium of exchange is something that everyone accepts in return for goods and services.
- It is the middle step in a trade.

Step 1: Barter versus money In barter a person must find someone who has what he or she wants and also wants what he or she has. This is called the double coincidence of wants, and it makes trade difficult.
Money removes this problem. A farmer sells wheat for money and then uses the money to buy cloth from anyone.

Step 2: Check option A Comparing the value of goods is the job of money as a unit of account. It is not what 'medium of exchange' means. A is wrong.

Step 3: Check option B This says people accept money in return for goods and services, which makes trade easier. That is exactly the medium of exchange function. B is correct.

Step 4: Check option C Saving wealth for the future is the store of value function. C is wrong.

Step 5: Check option D Keeping a record of every transaction is not a function of money at all. D is wrong.

Step 6: Conclusion Money is a medium of exchange because people accept it in return for goods and services, which makes trade easier. This is option B.

Quick Tip to Solve: A medium of exchange is what both buyer and seller accept in a trade.

33. Which of the following factors is NOT included in the *terms of credit*? [1 mark]

(A) Interest rate

(B) Mode of repayment

(C) Collateral

(D) Inflation rate

Correct Answer: (D) Inflation rate

Solution:

Concept:

- The terms of credit are the conditions on which a loan is given.
- The lender and the borrower agree on them before the loan is paid out.

Step 1: List the terms of credit The usual terms are the interest rate, collateral (the asset pledged as security), the documents required, and the mode of repayment.

Step 2: Check option A The interest rate is the extra amount paid on the loan. It is a main term of credit. So A is included.

Step 3: Check option B The mode of repayment says how and when the loan will be paid back. It is a term of credit. So B is included.

Step 4: Check option C Collateral is the asset a borrower pledges as a guarantee for the loan. It is a term of credit. So C is included.

Step 5: Check option D The inflation rate is the general rise in prices in the economy. It is not agreed between lender and borrower as a loan condition. So D is NOT a term of credit.

Step 6: Conclusion The inflation rate is not part of the terms of credit. This is option D.

Quick Tip to Solve: Terms of credit are the conditions fixed in the loan agreement between lender and borrower.

34. In the following question, a statement of Assertion (A) is followed by a statement of Reason (R). Choose the appropriate answer from the options given below as the correct answer:
Assertion (A): Multi-National Companies help in integrating production and markets across countries.
Reason (R): They set up production units in one country and export goods and components to other countries.
Choose the correct option- [1 mark]

(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: (A) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A

Solution:

Concept:

- The question gives an Assertion (A) and a Reason (R). We must decide if each one is true, and then if R explains A.
- A Multi-National Company (MNC) is a company that owns or controls production in more than one country.

Step 1: Check the Assertion (A) A says that MNCs help in integrating production and markets across countries.
Integration means linking. An MNC spreads its work across many countries, so the production of one country gets tied to the production and markets of others.
Earlier, countries were linked mainly through trade of finished goods. Now MNCs link them through production itself, and the goods they make are sold in many markets.
So the Assertion is TRUE.

Step 2: Check the Reason (R) R says that MNCs set up production units in one country and export goods and components to other countries.
This is how MNCs really work. They place a factory where land, labour and other costs are low, make the goods or parts there, and ship them to other countries where the goods are sold or assembled.
So the Reason is also TRUE.

Step 3: Check whether R explains A Ask: how do MNCs integrate production and markets? They do it by making goods in one country and sending goods and components to others.
The exports of goods and parts are exactly the link that joins the production of one country with the

markets of another.
So R is the correct explanation of A.

Step 4: Why the other options are wrong Option B is wrong because it says R is not the explanation of A. But R describes the very method by which integration happens.
Option C is wrong because it calls R false. MNCs do produce in one country and export to others.
Option D is wrong because it calls A false. MNCs are the main agents that link production and markets across countries today.

Step 5: Conclusion Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A. This is option (A), option number 1.

Quick Tip to Solve: Ask how MNCs link countries. Then check if the Reason describes that very method.

35. Ravi noticed that in many villages of India, more people are working on farms than actually needed, and yet many of them do not get proper wages or regular work. What could be the reason behind such a situation? Suggest any two ways to tackle this problem effectively. [3 marks]

Solution:

Step 1: Name the problem Ravi has seen On many Indian farms, more people work than the land really needs. If a few of them are taken off the field, the total farm output will not fall.
This situation is called **disguised unemployment**. The people look employed, but part of their labour adds nothing to production. It is also called hidden unemployment.
These workers also earn very little and do not get regular work, which is what Ravi noticed.

Step 2: Give the reasons behind it The first reason is excess labour in agriculture. A large share of our population depends on farming, and the land is limited, so many hands share the same work.
The second reason is the lack of other jobs. Villages have few industries or services, so family members stay on the family farm.
The third reason is poverty and population pressure. Poor families cannot afford to move or to study further, and the family keeps growing.
The fourth reason is the lack of skills and training needed for other kinds of work, so people cannot easily shift to non-farm jobs.
Any one of these reasons is enough, but the main one is too many workers on too little land with no other work nearby.

Step 3: Suggest way 1: diversify rural activities Start other jobs in the village itself, such as small-scale industries, dairy and poultry farming, food processing and handicrafts.
These give work to the surplus labour. The people leaving the field find paid work, so the farm is not overcrowded.

Step 4: Suggest way 2: improve the use of land and skills Land reforms and consolidation of small plots make farming more efficient. Bigger, well-managed plots use labour properly, so fewer workers are underemployed.
Skill development and education help too. If people are trained for work in towns or in industry, surplus farm labour can move to non-farm jobs.
Any other sensible remedy, such as better irrigation for a second crop, would also be accepted.

Step 5: Conclusion The situation is disguised unemployment, caused by excess labour on farms and a lack of other work. It can be tackled by creating non-farm rural jobs and by land consolidation with skill training.

Quick Tip to Solve: Name the type of unemployment where extra workers add nothing to output. Then think of non-farm jobs and skills.

36. Explain how Self-Help Groups (SHGs) help banks to minimize risk when providing loans to poor women, who do not have any collateral. [3 marks]

Solution:

Concept:

- Collateral is an asset, such as land or a building, that a borrower pledges as security. If the loan is not repaid, the bank can sell it to recover its money.
- Poor women usually have no such asset. So a bank thinks that lending to them is risky, because it has no security if the loan is not repaid.
- A Self-Help Group (SHG) is a small group of 15 to 20 neighbours, mostly women, who save money regularly and give small loans to each other. The group acts as a bridge between the bank and the poor woman.

Step 1: Point 1: joint responsibility for repayment The bank lends to the group, not just to one woman. The members share the duty of repaying.
If one member fails to pay, the group must still handle it. So the bank has the assurance of repayment even without collateral.

Step 2: Point 2: the group watches its own members Group members live close to each other and know how the loan is being used. They keep an eye on each member and make sure the money is used for the stated purpose.
If someone is late in paying, the group follows up and pressures her to repay. The bank does not have to chase each small borrower, which lowers its cost and its risk.

Step 3: Point 3: savings habit builds trust SHG members save regularly and hold regular meetings, where accounts are kept and discussed.
This shows discipline and reliability. The bank can see a record of savings and repayment inside the group, so it feels confident to lend.

Step 4: Conclusion SHGs reduce the bank's risk because the group shares the responsibility for repayment, monitors each borrower, and shows financial discipline through regular savings and meetings. So banks can lend even without collateral.

Quick Tip to Solve: Think about what replaces collateral: shared responsibility, peer monitoring and savings discipline.

37. Improvements in technology and liberalization together have accelerated globalization. Evaluate. [3 marks]

Solution:

Step 1: Meaning of the terms Globalisation is the process of rapid integration or interconnection between countries, mainly through foreign trade and foreign investment by MNCs.
Technology here means better transport, telecom and the Internet. Liberalisation means removing the barriers that the government had put on foreign trade and investment.
The question asks us to judge how the two together made globalisation faster.

Step 2: Role of technology Better transport, such as large container ships and cheaper air cargo, lets goods move to far markets quickly and at low cost.

Telecom services and the Internet allow information, orders, money and services to travel across the world within seconds.
Because of this, firms can spread production across many countries and still manage it from one place.

Step 3: Role of liberalisation Before 1991 India kept high taxes and quotas on imports. Liberalisation lowered such trade barriers, so goods could be bought and sold more freely.
It also made it easier for foreign companies to invest and set up units in India, and for Indian companies to operate abroad.
Businesses could now decide for themselves what to import or export.

Step 4: Evaluate the two together Technology made it physically easy and cheap to link countries, while liberalisation made it legally easy. One without the other would have achieved much less.
Together they increased the interconnection between countries, integrated markets, and expanded opportunities for trade and investment.
So the claim is correct: technology and liberalisation together have accelerated globalisation.

Step 5: Conclusion Technology made movement of goods, services and information fast and cheap, and liberalisation removed trade and investment barriers. Together they integrated markets and speeded up globalisation.

Quick Tip to Solve: Explain the role of technology and of liberalisation separately, then show how together they integrate markets.

38(A). While studying the table given below for their Social Science project, two classmates A and B, notice significant differences in the Literacy Rate and Infant Mortality Rate while comparing the development indicators of three states. Analyse how the development levels of these states differ and suggest the inferences A and B can draw. What areas should each state focus on to improve their overall development?

State	Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births) (2020)	Literacy Rate (%) (2017-18)	Net Attendance Ratio (Secondary Stage) (%) 2017-18
H	28	82	73
K	6	94	94
B	27	62	69

Table: Comparison of Development Indicators. Adapted from-Sources: Economic Survey 2023-24, National Sample Survey Organisation (Report No. 585), National Statistical Office, Government of India; National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) 2019-21 IIPS, Mumbai. [5 marks]

Solution:

Concept:

- The table shows three indicators for states H, K and B. The marking scheme reads these as Haryana (H), Kerala (K) and Bihar (B).
- Infant Mortality Rate (IMR): H 28, K 6, B 27 per 1,000 live births. A lower IMR is better.
- Literacy Rate: H 82 percent, K 94 percent, B 62 percent. Net Attendance Ratio at secondary stage: H 73, K 94, B 69. Higher is better for both.

Step 1: Compare the development levels (1 mark) State K (Kerala) does best on all three indicators. It has the highest literacy (94), the highest secondary attendance (94) and by far the lowest IMR (6).
State B (Bihar) is the weakest in education. Its literacy (62) and attendance (69) are the lowest, and its IMR (27) is more than four times that of Kerala.
State H (Haryana) lies in between with moderate literacy (82) and attendance (73), but its infant

mortality rate (28) is still high.

Step 2: Inferences A and B can draw (any 2, 2 marks) Inference 1: higher literacy goes with better health. Kerala's high literacy (94) comes with a very low IMR (6), while low literacy in Bihar (62) goes with a high IMR (27). This points to limited access to schools and health care.
Inference 2: long-term investment in education and public health pays off. Kerala's results show that consistent focus on both gives high literacy and very low infant mortality.
Inference 3: the wide gaps among the states show that development in India is uneven. States progress at different speeds depending on policies, quality of governance and use of resources.

Step 3: Areas each state should focus on (any 2, 2 marks) Haryana should improve maternal and child health care, such as safe delivery and immunisation, to bring its high IMR down. It should also keep improving the quality of education.
Bihar should first expand literacy and school attendance, and also improve basic health facilities such as primary health centres.
Kerala should maintain and further strengthen its existing education and health care systems.

Step 4: Conclusion Kerala has the highest development, Bihar the lowest in education, and Haryana is in between with a high IMR. Inferences: literacy and health are linked, long-term social investment pays off, and development is uneven. Each state must work on its weak indicator.

Quick Tip to Solve: Compare the three states indicator by indicator (lower IMR is better, higher literacy and attendance are better). Then link literacy with health.

OR

38(B). Study the table given above and answer:
Which of the three states is likely to have a better human development standard than the others? Justify explaining any two reasons for your answer. Why is it important to pay attention to indicators like Infant Mortality Rate (IMR), Literacy Rate, and Net Attendance Ratio to bring about an overall development of any state.

State	Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births) (2020)	Literacy Rate (%) (2017-18)	Net Attendance Ratio (Secondary Stage) (%) 2017-18
H	28	82	73
K	6	94	94
B	27	62	69

Table: Comparison of Development Indicators. Adapted from-Sources: Economic Survey 2023-24, National Sample Survey Organisation (Report No. 585), National Statistical Office, Government of India; National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) 2019-21 IIPS, Mumbai. [5 marks]

Solution:

Concept:

- The table gives IMR, literacy rate and secondary net attendance ratio for H, K and B (read as Haryana, Kerala and Bihar in the marking scheme).
- IMR: H 28, K 6, B 27. Literacy: H 82, K 94, B 62. NAR: H 73, K 94, B 69.
- Human development depends on health, education and standard of living. Here we have indicators for health (IMR) and education (literacy, NAR).

Step 1: Choose the state State K (Kerala) is likely to have the best human development, because it is ahead of H and B on all three indicators.

Step 2: Reason 1: low infant mortality (health) Kerala's IMR is 6, so very few children die before the age of one. For H and B it is 28 and 27, which is more than four times higher.
A low IMR shows good health care, safe motherhood, proper nutrition and a longer life expectancy.

Step 3: Reason 2: high literacy and attendance (education) Kerala has a literacy rate of 94 percent and a secondary net attendance ratio of 94 percent. Most people can read and write, and most children attend secondary school.
The same figures for H (82, 73) and B (62, 69) are lower. This reflects good education and social development in Kerala.

Step 4: Why these indicators matter for development (2 marks) IMR: when fewer infants die, children grow up healthier and the state gets a stronger and more productive population. It also shows how good the health services are.
Literacy rate and net attendance ratio: education empowers people. It raises awareness about health, helps them find better employment and makes them aware of civic responsibilities. This leads to overall development of the state.

Step 5: Conclusion State K (Kerala) is likely to have the best human development, because of its very low IMR and its very high literacy and attendance. These indicators matter because they measure the health and education of the people, which are the base of overall development.

Quick Tip to Solve: Find the state that is best on all three indicators, then say what each indicator tells about health and education.