

# CUET PG 2026 Sociology Question Paper with Solutions(Memory Based)

Time Allowed :1 Hours 30 min	Maximum Marks :300	Total Questions :75
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## General Instructions

1. The exam lasts 90 minutes (1 hour 30 minutes).
2. There are 75 Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs) to be answered.
3. +4 marks for every correct answer. -1 mark (negative marking) for every incorrect answer. 0 marks for unanswered or un-attempted questions.
4. For any discrepancy in questions, the English version is considered final (except for language-specific papers).
5. Click one of the four options to choose an answer.
6. You must click "Save & Next" to confirm your response. Only saved answers are considered for evaluation.
7. Use "Mark for Review & Next" to flag a question for later. You can unselect or change your answer using the "Clear Response" button.
8. All calculations must be done on the Rough Sheets provided at the centre. These must be returned to the invigilator after the exam.

1. Who coined the term "Sanskritisation" to describe social change in India?

- (A) Louis Dumont
- (B) M. N. Srinivas
- (C) G. S. Ghurye
- (D) Max Weber

**Correct Answer:** (2) M. N. Srinivas

**Solution:**

**Concept:** "Sanskritisation" is a sociological concept used to describe the process by which lower castes or tribal groups in India adopt the rituals, customs, and practices of higher castes (especially the Brahmins) to elevate their social status. This concept is important in understanding social mobility within the caste system.

**Step 1: Understanding the term "Sanskritisation".**

The term refers to a cultural process where lower social groups imitate the lifestyle, rituals, and values of upper castes to gain higher social recognition.

**Step 2: Identifying the scholar who introduced the concept.**

The term "Sanskritisation" was coined by the eminent Indian sociologist **M. N. Srinivas**, who used it extensively in his study of Indian society, particularly in his work on caste dynamics.

**Step 3: Eliminating incorrect options.**

- Louis Dumont focused on hierarchy and purity in caste but did not coin this term.
- G. S. Ghurye contributed to caste studies but did not introduce Sanskritisation.
- Max Weber studied religion and society broadly, not this specific concept.

**Conclusion:**

Thus, the correct answer is **M. N. Srinivas**.

**Quick Tip**

”Sanskritisation” = Social mobility through imitation of upper-caste practices. Always associate this concept with **M. N. Srinivas**.

**2. Which amendment to the Indian Constitution provided 33% reservation for women in Panchayati Raj institutions?**

- (A) 42nd Amendment
- (B) 44th Amendment
- (C) 73rd Amendment
- (D) 86th Amendment

**Correct Answer:** (3) 73rd Amendment

**Solution:**

**Concept:** The Panchayati Raj system was constitutionally recognized to promote decentralized governance and strengthen democracy at the grassroots level. Reservation for women was introduced to ensure their participation in local self-government.

**Step 1: Understanding the purpose of the amendment.**

The amendment aimed to institutionalize Panchayati Raj and enhance democratic participation, especially for marginalized groups including women.

**Step 2: Identifying the relevant amendment.**

The **73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992** provided constitutional status to Panchayati Raj institutions and mandated that **not less than one-third (33%) of seats** be reserved for women, including positions of chairpersons.

**Step 3: Eliminating incorrect options.**

- 42nd Amendment dealt with fundamental duties and other changes during Emergency.
- 44th Amendment restored civil liberties after Emergency.
- 86th Amendment relates to the Right to Education.

**Conclusion:**

Thus, the correct answer is the **73rd Amendment**.

### Quick Tip

**73rd Amendment** = Panchayati Raj + 33% reservation for women.

**74th Amendment** = Urban local bodies (Municipalities).

**3. According to Robert Merton, what is the term for individuals who accept societal goals but use illegal means to achieve them?**

- (A) Conformity
- (B) Innovation
- (C) Ritualism
- (D) Retreatism

**Correct Answer:** (2) Innovation

**Solution:**

**Concept:** Robert Merton's **Strain Theory** explains deviant behavior as a result of the gap between culturally approved goals and the socially accepted means to achieve them. Individuals adapt to this strain in different ways.

**Step 1: Understanding Merton's modes of adaptation.**

Merton identified five modes:

- Conformity: Accept goals and means
- Innovation: Accept goals but reject legitimate means
- Ritualism: Reject goals but accept means
- Retreatism: Reject both goals and means
- Rebellion: Replace both goals and means

**Step 2: Matching the given condition.**

The question states that individuals **accept societal goals but use illegal (illegitimate) means**. This directly corresponds to **Innovation**.

**Step 3: Eliminating incorrect options.**

- Conformity follows both legitimate goals and means.
- Ritualism abandons goals but follows rules.
- Retreatism rejects both goals and means.

**Conclusion:**

Thus, the correct answer is **Innovation**.

### Quick Tip

**Innovation** = Goal accepted + Illegal means used.

Think: Desire for success but shortcuts taken.

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**4. What is the correct chronological sequence of steps in the social research process?**

- (A) Data collection → Hypothesis formulation → Analysis → Conclusion
- (B) Problem identification → Hypothesis formulation → Data collection → Analysis → Conclusion
- (C) Hypothesis formulation → Problem identification → Data collection → Conclusion
- (D) Analysis → Data collection → Hypothesis formulation → Conclusion

**Correct Answer:** (2) Problem identification → Hypothesis formulation → Data collection → Analysis → Conclusion

**Solution:**

**Concept:** Social research follows a systematic and logical sequence of steps to ensure accuracy, reliability, and validity of findings. Each stage builds upon the previous one.

**Step 1: Identifying the research problem.**

The process begins with clearly defining the research problem or question that needs investigation.

**Step 2: Formulating a hypothesis.**

A hypothesis is a tentative explanation or prediction that can be tested through research.

**Step 3: Collecting data.**

Relevant data is gathered using various methods such as surveys, interviews, or observations.

**Step 4: Analyzing the data.**

The collected data is systematically analyzed to test the hypothesis.

**Step 5: Drawing conclusions.**

Finally, conclusions are drawn based on the analysis, confirming or rejecting the hypothesis.

**Conclusion:**

Thus, the correct chronological sequence is:

Problem identification → Hypothesis formulation → Data collection → Analysis → Conclusion

**Quick Tip**

Always remember: **Problem → Hypothesis → Data → Analysis → Conclusion.**  
Think of it as a logical flow from question to answer.

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**5. In which year was the Dowry Prohibition Act passed in India?**

- (A) 1955
- (B) 1961
- (C) 1976
- (D) 1984

**Correct Answer:** (2) 1961

**Solution:**

**Concept:** The Dowry Prohibition Act was enacted to eliminate the practice of dowry in India, which involves giving or receiving property or valuable security in connection with marriage. It is a key social legislation aimed at protecting women's rights and preventing exploitation.

**Step 1: Understanding the purpose of the Act.**

The Act was introduced to make the giving and taking of dowry a punishable offense and to discourage this social evil.

**Step 2: Identifying the year of enactment.**

The **Dowry Prohibition Act** was passed in the year **1961** by the Indian Parliament.

**Step 3: Eliminating incorrect options.**

- 1955 is associated with Hindu Marriage Act.
- 1976 and 1984 relate to later amendments and other legal developments.

**Conclusion:**

Thus, the correct answer is **1961**.

Quick Tip

**Dowry Prohibition Act = 1961.**

Remember: Early post-independence social reform law to protect women.

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**6. The concept of the "Power Elite" is most closely associated with which sociological thinker?**

- (A) Karl Marx
- (B) Max Weber
- (C) C. Wright Mills
- (D) Talcott Parsons

**Correct Answer:** (3) C. Wright Mills

**Solution:**

**Concept:** The "Power Elite" refers to a small group of individuals who hold a disproportionate amount of power in society, particularly in political, economic, and military spheres.

**Step 1: Understanding the concept.**

The idea suggests that major decisions in society are made by a select group of elites rather than through democratic processes.

**Step 2: Identifying the thinker.**

The concept of the "**Power Elite**" was developed by **C. Wright Mills** in his famous work *The Power Elite* (1956), where he analyzed the concentration of power in American society.

**Step 3: Eliminating incorrect options.**

- Karl Marx focused on class struggle and capitalism.
- Max Weber analyzed authority and bureaucracy.
- Talcott Parsons emphasized structural functionalism.

**Conclusion:**

Thus, the correct answer is **C. Wright Mills**.

**Quick Tip**

”**Power Elite**” = C. Wright Mills (1956).

Think: Power concentrated among political, military, and corporate leaders.

**7. Which term describes the number of deaths of children under one year of age per 1,000 live births?**

- (A) Birth Rate
- (B) Mortality Rate
- (C) Infant Mortality Rate
- (D) Life Expectancy

**Correct Answer:** (3) Infant Mortality Rate

**Solution:**

**Concept:** Different demographic indicators are used to measure population health and trends. One important indicator focuses specifically on deaths among infants.

**Step 1: Understanding the definition.**

The question refers to the number of deaths of children **under one year of age per 1,000 live births**.

**Step 2: Identifying the correct term.**

This definition exactly matches the **Infant Mortality Rate (IMR)**, which is a key indicator of a country’s healthcare system and overall development.

**Step 3: Eliminating incorrect options.**

- Birth Rate refers to number of births per 1,000 population.
- Mortality Rate is a general term for deaths in a population.
- Life Expectancy indicates average years a person is expected to live.

**Conclusion:**

Thus, the correct answer is **Infant Mortality Rate**.

**Quick Tip**

**IMR = Deaths of infants (below 1 year) per 1000 live births.**

Higher IMR indicates poorer health conditions.

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8. Who authored the famous book *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*?

- (A) Karl Marx
- (B) Emile Durkheim
- (C) Max Weber
- (D) Herbert Spencer

**Correct Answer:** (3) Max Weber

**Solution:**

**Concept:** *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism* is a foundational work in sociology that explores the relationship between religion and economic behavior.

**Step 1: Understanding the theme of the book.**

The book examines how Protestant values, especially those of Calvinism, contributed to the development of capitalism in Western societies.

**Step 2: Identifying the author.**

The book was written by the German sociologist **Max Weber**, one of the founding figures of sociology.

**Step 3: Eliminating incorrect options.**

- Karl Marx focused on capitalism from a materialist perspective.
- Emile Durkheim studied social facts and division of labor.
- Herbert Spencer is known for social Darwinism.

**Conclusion:**

Thus, the correct answer is **Max Weber**.

Quick Tip

**Religion + Capitalism link** = Max Weber.

Always associate this book with Weber's interpretive sociology.

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9. What type of sampling ensures that every member of the population has an equal chance of being selected?

- (A) Stratified Sampling
- (B) Systematic Sampling
- (C) Random Sampling
- (D) Purposive Sampling

**Correct Answer:** (3) Random Sampling

**Solution:**

**Concept:** Sampling methods are used in research to select a subset of a population. The goal is to obtain a representative sample while minimizing bias.

**Step 1: Understanding the key condition.**

The question specifies that **every member of the population has an equal chance of selection.**

**Step 2: Identifying the correct sampling method.**

This condition is the defining feature of **Random Sampling** (also called Simple Random Sampling), where each individual has an equal probability of being chosen.

**Step 3: Eliminating incorrect options.**

- Stratified Sampling divides the population into subgroups before sampling.
- Systematic Sampling selects every  $n^{th}$  unit.
- Purposive Sampling is based on the researcher's judgment.

**Conclusion:**

Thus, the correct answer is **Random Sampling.**

Quick Tip

**Equal chance for all = Random Sampling.**

Think: Lottery method.

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**10. Which movement in India was specifically aimed at protecting trees in the Himalayan region?**

- (A) Narmada Bachao Andolan
- (B) Chipko Movement
- (C) Silent Valley Movement
- (D) Bishnoi Movement

**Correct Answer:** (2) Chipko Movement

**Solution:**

**Concept:** Environmental movements in India have played a crucial role in conserving forests and natural resources. Some movements specifically focused on protecting trees and preventing deforestation.

**Step 1: Understanding the objective of the movement.**

The question refers to a movement aimed at **protecting trees in the Himalayan region.**

**Step 2: Identifying the correct movement.**

The **Chipko Movement** originated in the Himalayan region (especially Uttarakhand) in the 1970s. People, particularly women, hugged trees ("*chipko*" means "to stick") to prevent them from being cut down.

**Step 3: Eliminating incorrect options.**

- Narmada Bachao Andolan focused on displacement due to dams.
- Silent Valley Movement aimed to protect a rainforest in Kerala.
- Bishnoi Movement is an earlier conservation effort but not specific to the Himalayan context.

**Conclusion:**

Thus, the correct answer is **Chipko Movement**.

Quick Tip

**Chipko = Hugging trees to save forests (Himalayas, 1970s).**

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