

CUET-UG Political Science Sample Paper-13

Duration: 1 Hour

Maximum Marks: 250

Instructions

- This paper contains a total of 50 Multiple Choice Questions.
- Each correct answer carries **+5 marks**.
- Each incorrect answer carries **-1 mark**.
- No negative marking for unattempted questions.

Q1. Which of the following was a major reason for the dominance of the Congress Party in the first three general elections?

- (A) Absence of any other political parties in India.
- (B) The charisma of Jawaharlal Nehru and the legacy of the freedom struggle.
- (C) The support of the British government for the Congress.
- (D) Use of the military to influence the voting process.

Q2. The Swatantra Party (1959) was primarily critical of which economic policy of the Congress?

- (A) Liberalization of the economy.
- (B) Cooperative farming and state-led planned development.
- (C) Introduction of the Green Revolution.
- (D) The abolition of the Privy Purse.

Q3. In the 1957 elections, which state became the first to see a democratically elected Communist government?

- (A) West Bengal
- (B) Tripura
- (C) Kerala
- (D) Andhra Pradesh



- Q4.** The 'Instrument of Accession' was a legal document that meant:
- (A) The Princely State would become a part of the Union of India.
 - (B) The Princely State would remain independent.
 - (C) The Princely State would join Pakistan.
 - (D) The Princely State would become a colony of Britain.
- Q5.** Which leader is known as the "Iron Man of India" for his role in the integration of Princely States?
- (A) B.R. Ambedkar
 - (B) Jawaharlal Nehru
 - (C) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
 - (D) C. Rajagopalachari
- Q6.** The States Reorganisation Commission (SRC) report of 1956 led to the creation of:
- (A) 14 States and 6 Union Territories.
 - (B) 12 States and 5 Union Territories.
 - (C) 15 States and 7 Union Territories.
 - (D) 28 States and 8 Union Territories.
- Q7.** Who among the following was the architect of the Second Five Year Plan, which emphasized heavy industries?
- (A) K.N. Raj
 - (B) P.C. Mahalanobis
 - (C) Lal Bahadur Shastri
 - (D) Morarji Desai
- Q8.** The 'Milkman of India', Verghese Kurien, played a pivotal role in which of the following?



- (A) Green Revolution
- (B) Operation Flood
- (C) Blue Revolution
- (D) Yellow Revolution

Q9. What was the main objective of the First Five Year Plan (1951-1956)?

- (A) Rapid Industrialization
- (B) Development of the Agricultural Sector
- (C) Information Technology Growth
- (D) Promoting Foreign Direct Investment

Q10. Which Prime Minister of India is credited with the "Look East Policy," which was later upgraded to "Act East Policy"?

- (A) P.V. Narasimha Rao
- (B) Atal Bihari Vajpayee
- (C) Manmohan Singh
- (D) Narendra Modi

Q11. The 'Simla Agreement' (1972) was signed between which two leaders?

- (A) Lal Bahadur Shastri and Ayub Khan
- (B) Indira Gandhi and Zulfikar Ali Bhutto
- (C) Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Nawaz Sharif
- (D) Rajiv Gandhi and J.R. Jayewardene

Q12. India's first nuclear test in 1974 at Pokhran was characterized by the Indian government as:

- (A) A deterrent for self-defense.
- (B) A peaceful nuclear explosion.
- (C) A declaration of nuclear war.



(D) A response to the 1971 war.

Q13. In the 1967 General Elections, the Congress lost power in several states. This phenomenon was termed as:

- (A) Total Revolution
- (B) Political Earthquake
- (C) Democratic Upsurge
- (D) Coalition Era

Q14. The 'Syndicate' in the context of the Congress party in the 1960s referred to:

- (A) A group of young socialist leaders.
- (B) A group of powerful and influential leaders within the party organization.
- (C) A coalition of opposition parties.
- (D) The personal cabinet of Indira Gandhi.

Q15. What was the primary reason for the split in the Congress party in 1969?

- (A) Differences over the Green Revolution.
- (B) Disagreement over the choice of the Presidential candidate.
- (C) Conflict regarding the 1965 war.
- (D) The imposition of the Emergency.

Q16. Which amendment to the Constitution is known as the "Mini-Constitution" and was passed during the Emergency?

- (A) 42nd Amendment
- (B) 44th Amendment
- (C) 52nd Amendment
- (D) 73rd Amendment

Q17. The 'Navnirman Movement' started in which state against corruption and high prices of essential goods?



- (A) Bihar
- (B) Gujarat
- (C) Uttar Pradesh
- (D) Punjab

Q18. Who gave the call for 'Total Revolution' (Sampoorna Kranti) against the Indira Gandhi government?

- (A) Ram Manohar Lohia
- (B) Jayaprakash Narayan
- (C) Morarji Desai
- (D) Jagjivan Ram

Q19. The 'Anandpur Sahib Resolution' passed in 1973 was primarily related to the demands of:

- (A) The Mizo National Front
- (B) The Akali Dal in Punjab
- (C) The All Assam Students Union
- (D) The Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam

Q20. The 'Mizo Accord' of 1986 was signed between the Government of India and:

- (A) Laldenga
- (B) Angami Zapu Phizo
- (C) Sheikh Abdullah
- (D) Prafulla Kumar Mahanta

Q21. The Mandal Commission was officially known as:

- (A) The First Backward Classes Commission.
- (B) The Second Backward Classes Commission.
- (C) The National Commission for SC and ST.



(D) The Sarkaria Commission.

Q22. Which coalition government came to power at the Center in 1989 with the support of the BJP and the Left Front?

(A) United Front

(B) National Front

(C) NDA

(D) UPA

Q23. The 'Mandal vs Mandir' politics of the 1990s represented a tension between:

(A) Secularism and Communalism.

(B) Reservation-based politics and Religious mobilization.

(C) Rural development and Urbanization.

(D) Federalism and Centralization.

Q24. The New Economic Policy (NEP) of 1991 was introduced under the Prime Ministership of:

(A) V.P. Singh

(B) Chandra Shekhar

(C) P.V. Narasimha Rao

(D) I.K. Gujral

Q25. The Ayodhya dispute culminated in the demolition of the Babri Masjid on:

(A) 6th December 1992

(B) 15th August 1947

(C) 26th January 1950

(D) 31st October 1984

Q26. The fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 symbolized the collapse of:



- (A) Capitalism
- (B) The Cold War and the Bipolar world
- (C) The United Nations
- (D) The European Union

Q27. 'Shock Therapy' in the context of post-communist regimes involved:

- (A) A gradual shift to a market economy.
- (B) A painful and sudden transition from a socialist to a capitalist system.
- (C) Improvements in the healthcare system.
- (D) Strengthening the military power of Russia.

Q28. Who was the last leader of the Soviet Union who introduced the policies of Perestroika and Glasnost?

- (A) Joseph Stalin
- (B) Nikita Khrushchev
- (C) Mikhail Gorbachev
- (D) Boris Yeltsin

Q29. The 'CIS' (Commonwealth of Independent States) was formed after the dissolution of:

- (A) The European Union
- (B) The Warsaw Pact
- (C) The USSR
- (D) Yugoslavia

Q30. The 'Maastricht Treaty' (1992) paved the way for the creation of:

- (A) ASEAN
- (B) The European Union
- (C) BRICS



(D) NATO

Q31. Which of the following is NOT one of the founding members of ASEAN?

(A) Indonesia

(B) Malaysia

(C) India

(D) Thailand

Q32. The 'ASEAN Way' refers to:

(A) A military strategy to counter China.

(B) An informal and cooperative interaction among member states.

(C) A system of high tariffs on non-member states.

(D) A common currency for all Southeast Asian nations.

Q33. The New Development Bank (NDB) was established by which group of countries?

(A) G7

(B) EU

(C) BRICS

(D) SAARC

Q34. The ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka was primarily between the Sinhalese majority and the:

(A) Tamils

(B) Muslims

(C) Christians

(D) Buddhists

Q35. In 2006, Nepal witnessed a historic movement that transformed the country from a:



- (A) Monarchy to a Democracy.
- (B) Democracy to a Communist state.
- (C) Colony to an Independent nation.
- (D) Republic to a Monarchy.

Q36. The 'Farakka Barrage' issue is a point of contention between India and:

- (A) Pakistan
- (B) China
- (C) Bangladesh
- (D) Nepal

Q37. Which UN organ has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security?

- (A) General Assembly
- (B) Security Council
- (C) International Court of Justice
- (D) Secretariat

Q38. The 'Veto Power' in the UN Security Council is exercised by:

- (A) All members of the UN.
- (B) Only the five permanent members.
- (C) The Secretary-General.
- (D) The President of the General Assembly.

Q39. Which international organization deals with the global rules of trade between nations?

- (A) IMF
- (B) World Bank
- (C) WTO



(D) ILO

Q40. Amnesty International is a global NGO that campaigns for:

(A) Environmental protection.

(B) Human Rights.

(C) Nuclear disarmament.

(D) Global trade.

Q41. The SALT (Strategic Arms Limitation Talks) were signed between:

(A) India and Pakistan

(B) USA and USSR

(C) China and Japan

(D) UK and France

Q42. 'Human Security' in the global context emphasizes:

(A) The security of state borders.

(B) The protection of individuals from threats like hunger, disease, and repression.

(C) Increasing the number of nuclear warheads.

(D) Strengthening military alliances like NATO.

Q43. The NPT (Non-Proliferation Treaty) is considered discriminatory by India because:

(A) It bans all countries from having nuclear weapons.

(B) It divides the world into nuclear 'haves' and 'have-nots'.

(C) It allows only Asian countries to have nuclear weapons.

(D) It forces India to pay a fine for its tests.

Q44. The 1992 'Earth Summit' held in Rio de Janeiro produced a convention on:



- (A) Nuclear proliferation.
- (B) Biodiversity and Climate Change.
- (C) Global trade and tariffs.
- (D) Human trafficking.

Q45. 'Global Commons' refer to those areas of the world that are:

- (A) Private property of powerful nations.
- (B) Under the jurisdiction of a single state.
- (C) Not under the sovereign jurisdiction of any one state but belong to the international community.
- (D) Areas used only for military purposes.

Q46. The 'Kyoto Protocol' is an international agreement linked to:

- (A) Reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- (B) Protecting endangered species.
- (C) Limiting the use of chemical weapons.
- (D) Regulating international migration.

Q47. Indigenous people are often defined as those who:

- (A) Migrated recently to a new country.
- (B) Are the descendants of the original inhabitants of a territory.
- (C) Live only in urban metropolitan areas.
- (D) Do not follow any religious practices.

Q48. 'Cultural Heterogenization' as a result of globalization means:

- (A) All cultures becoming exactly like the Western culture.
- (B) The blending of external influences with local culture to create something unique.
- (C) The total destruction of local languages.



(D) A return to traditional isolationism.

Q49. The 'World Social Forum' (WSF) is a global platform that opposes:

- (A) Environmental laws.
- (B) Neo-liberal globalization.
- (C) Democratic elections.
- (D) The United Nations.

Q50. Which of the following is a negative impact of globalization on the state's capacity?

- (A) It increases the state's ability to tax citizens.
- (B) It may lead to a withdrawal of the state from many welfare functions.
- (C) It makes the state completely immune to international pressure.
- (D) It prevents the state from using modern technology.



Detailed Solutions

Q1.

Solution

Concept: The "One-party dominance" of the Congress was not due to a lack of democratic competition, but rather its unique historical and social positioning. As the primary vehicle of the national movement for independence, it possessed an organizational network that reached down to the village level, something no other party could claim at the time.

Solution: The major reasons for Congress's dominance included: 1. **Legacy of the Freedom Movement:** The party was seen as the inheritor of the national movement. Most of its candidates had been popular leaders in the struggle against British rule. 2. **Charismatic Leadership:** Jawaharlal Nehru's immense popularity and pan-India appeal provided the party with a significant advantage. He was a symbol of modern, secular, and democratic India. 3. **Inclusive Nature:** The Congress acted as an 'umbrella organization', accommodating diverse interests—from landlords to peasants, and from industrialists to workers. This prevented the rise of a consolidated opposition. While other parties did exist (such as the Communist Party and Socialist Party), they were too fragmented to challenge the Congress nationwide. Options C and D are historically incorrect as India was a sovereign democracy and the military remained strictly apolitical.

Final Answer: The charisma of Jawaharlal Nehru and the legacy of the freedom struggle

Answer: (B)

Q2.

Solution

Concept: Founded by C. Rajagopalachari in 1959, the Swatantra Party was formed in reaction to the Nagpur Resolution of the Congress, which advocated for land reforms and a greater state role in the economy. The party stood for individual liberty and was deeply suspicious of state intervention in economic affairs.

Solution: The Swatantra Party was primarily critical of **cooperative farming and state-led planned development**. It argued that the government's emphasis on centralized planning and heavy industry would lead to a "License-Permit Raj," stifling private initiative. Specifically, it opposed the "Nagpur Resolution," which proposed joint cooperative farming, fearing it would take away the land-owning rights of farmers. The party advocated for: 1. Free-market economy with minimal government interference. 2. Opposition to the expansion of the public sector. 3. Removal of heavy taxes and bureaucratic controls. While the abolition of the Privy Purse (Option D) was later opposed by many conservative elements, the Swatantra Party's foundational grievance was with the socialist economic model of the era.

Final Answer: Cooperative farming and state-led planned development

Answer: (B)



Q3.

Solution

Concept: While the Congress Party dominated the national landscape and most states during the second general elections, the regional political climate in Southern India provided a different result. The Communist Party of India (CPI) managed to mobilize the peasantry and the working class effectively in this region, focusing on land reforms and education.

Solution: In the 1957 Assembly elections, the Communist Party of India (CPI) won the largest number of seats in the **Kerala** Legislative Assembly. The party won 60 out of 126 seats and gained the support of five independents to form the government. **E.M.S. Namboodiripad** became the Chief Minister, leading the first non-Congress government in any Indian state. This government was significant for introducing radical land reforms and the Education Bill, though it was eventually dismissed by the Central Government in 1959 under Article 356 of the Constitution, a move that remains a subject of intense political debate.

Final Answer: Kerala

Answer: (C)

Q4.

Solution

Concept: Under the Indian Independence Act of 1947, British suzerainty over the Princely States lapsed. These states were technically free to join either India or Pakistan, or theoretically remain independent. To facilitate a smooth transition, the Government of India, led by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and V.P. Menon, drafted a legal document to formalize their integration.

Solution: The 'Instrument of Accession' was a legal document that meant **the Princely State would become a part of the Union of India**.
1. **Terms of Agreement:** By signing this document, the rulers of the Princely States agreed to accede to the Dominion of India.
2. **Scope of Authority:** In most cases, the rulers surrendered control over only three subjects to the central government: **Defense, External Affairs, and Communications**. For all other matters, they initially retained their internal autonomy.
3. **Historical Impact:** Most states signed the IoA before August 15, 1947. However, states like Junagadh, Hyderabad, and Jammu Kashmir became subjects of intense dispute. For example, Maharaja Hari Singh of Jammu Kashmir signed the Instrument of Accession on October 26, 1947, specifically to seek Indian military aid against an invasion.

Final Answer: The Princely State would become a part of the Union of India.

Answer: (A)



Q5.

Solution

Concept: At the time of independence, India was a patchwork of territories directly ruled by the British and 565 self-governing Princely States. The British left the choice of joining India, Pakistan, or staying independent to these rulers, which threatened the very existence of a unified Indian nation.

Solution: ****Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel****, as the first Home Minister and Deputy Prime Minister of India, took on the monumental task of unifying these states. 1. **Diplomacy and Firmness:** He used a combination of persuasion, political pressure, and, where necessary (as in the case of Hyderabad), military action to ensure the states joined the Indian Union. 2. **Integration Strategy:** He introduced the 'Privy Purse'—a grant given to the rulers in exchange for their surrender of power—to ease the transition. 3. **Legacy:** His success in preventing the "Balkanization" of India is why he is remembered as the "Iron Man." His birthday, October 31st, is now celebrated as *Rashtriya Ekta Diwas* (National Unity Day). While B.R. Ambedkar was the architect of the Constitution and Nehru the first PM, it was Patel who physically stitched the map of India together.

Final Answer: Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

Answer: (C)

Q6.

Solution

Concept: Following the creation of Andhra State in 1953, there was a nationwide demand for reorganizing other states on a linguistic basis. The Central Government appointed the SRC (consisting of Fazal Ali, H.N. Kunzru, and K.M. Panikkar) to recommend a framework for this. The commission accepted that language should be the primary basis for reorganization but rejected the "one language, one state" principle to maintain national unity.

Solution: Based on the commission's recommendations, the Parliament passed the ****States Reorganisation Act in 1956****. This Act abolished the previous classification of states (Part A, B, C, and D states) and instead organized the country into: 1. **14 States:** Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Bombay, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Madras, Mysore, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal. 2. **6 Union Territories:** Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands, Manipur, and Tripura. Option D reflects the current administrative divisions of India (as of 2024), but in 1956, the numbers were much smaller.

Final Answer: 14 States and 6 Union Territories.

Answer: (A)



Q7.

Solution

Concept: The Second Five Year Plan was based on the "Mahalanobis Model," which argued that to achieve long-term economic growth and self-reliance, India needed to invest heavily in the "capital goods" sector. This meant focusing on steel, chemicals, mining, and machine building, which would eventually provide the foundation for other industries.

Solution: The architect of this plan was **P.C. Mahalanobis**, a world-renowned statistician and the founder of the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI). 1. **The Mahalanobis Strategy:** He advocated for a dominant role for the public sector. Under his guidance, the government established massive steel plants (like Bhilai, Durgapur, and Rourkela) with international cooperation. 2. **Contrast with 1st Plan:** While K.N. Raj (Option A) was associated with the first plan's cautious agricultural approach, Mahalanobis represented the "big push" toward a socialist pattern of society and heavy industry. 3. **Impact:** This period saw the birth of India's industrial infrastructure but also led to challenges such as a shortage of foreign exchange and a relative neglect of the agricultural sector, which later necessitated the Green Revolution.

Final Answer: P.C. Mahalanobis

Answer: (B)

Q8.

Solution

Concept: The "White Revolution" in India was achieved through a massive dairy development program that linked milk producers directly with consumers through a cooperative network, eliminating middlemen and ensuring fair prices for farmers.

Solution: Verghese Kurien played a pivotal role in **Operation Flood**. 1. **The Amul Model:** As the chairman of the Milk Marketing Federation (Amul) in Anand, Gujarat, Kurien developed the "Anand Pattern" of dairy cooperatives. 2. **Operation Flood:** Launched in 1970 by the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), this was the world's largest dairy development program. It created a national milk grid, reduced seasonal price variations, and made dairy farming a viable subsidiary occupation for millions of rural Indians. 3. **Distinctions:** The Green Revolution (Option A) focused on grain production; the Blue Revolution (Option C) relates to fisheries; and the Yellow Revolution (Option D) focuses on oilseeds.

Final Answer: Operation Flood

Answer: (B)



Q9.

Solution

Concept: Following independence in 1947, the Indian economy was primarily agrarian and severely underdeveloped. The Planning Commission, led by the "Harrod-Domar model" logic, believed that the first step toward a modern economy was ensuring basic food security and building infrastructure for the rural population.

Solution: The main objective of the First Five Year Plan (1951–1956) was the ****Development of the Agricultural Sector****. 1. **Key Investments:** A massive portion of the budget was allocated to dams and irrigation. Huge projects like the Bhakra Nangal Dam received heavy funding during this period. 2. **Land Reform:** The plan also focused on land distribution and the abolition of the Zamindari system to empower actual tillers of the soil. 3. **Comparison:** Rapid Industrialization (Option A) became the centerpiece of the ***Second*** Five Year Plan. Information Technology (Option C) and FDI (Option D) didn't become primary policy drivers until the late 1980s and 1990s.

Final Answer: Development of the Agricultural Sector

Answer: (B)

Q10.

Solution

Concept: Launched in the early 1990s, the "Look East Policy" was born out of the necessity to find new economic partners following the collapse of the Soviet Union and the liberalization of the Indian economy in 1991. It aimed to reintegrate India with its eastern neighbors in the ASEAN region.

Solution: The "Look East Policy" is credited to Prime Minister ****P.V. Narasimha Rao**** (1991). He recognized that the rapidly growing "Tiger Economies" of Southeast Asia offered immense trade and investment opportunities. 1. **Evolution:** The policy was maintained and strengthened by subsequent Prime Ministers, including Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Manmohan Singh. 2. **Upgrade:** In 2014, Prime Minister ****Narendra Modi**** upgraded it to the ****"Act East Policy."**** The difference lies in the shift from purely economic ties to a more proactive role in security, institutional connectivity, and strategic partnerships across the wider Indo-Pacific region. 3. **Other Options:** While Modi (Option D) renamed and energized it, the "credit" for the original policy framework belongs to Rao.

Final Answer: P.V. Narasimha Rao

Answer: (A)



Q11.

Solution

Concept: Following India's decisive victory in December 1971 and the surrender of over 90,000 Pakistani prisoners of war (POWs), both nations met in Simla (now Shimla) to establish a framework for future relations and to resolve the consequences of the war.

Solution: The Simla Agreement was signed on July 2, 1972, by Indian Prime Minister **Indira Gandhi** and Pakistani President **Zulfikar Ali Bhutto**.

- **Key Principle:** The agreement's most vital feature was the commitment to **bilateralism**—the idea that all disputes between India and Pakistan, including the Kashmir issue, must be settled peacefully through bilateral negotiations without third-party intervention.
- **Line of Control:** It converted the 1971 ceasefire line into the "Line of Control" (LoC).
- **Other Options:** Option A refers to the 1966 Tashkent Declaration. Option C refers to the 1999 Lahore Declaration. Option D refers to the 1987 Indo-Sri Lanka Accord.

Final Answer: Indira Gandhi and Zulfikar Ali Bhutto

Answer: (B)

Q12.

Solution

Concept: Conducted on May 18, 1974, in the deserts of Pokhran, Rajasthan, the test was codenamed "**Smiling Buddha**" (Pokhran-I). At the time, the global political climate was highly sensitive to nuclear proliferation, and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) had recently come into force.

Solution: The Indian government, led by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, officially characterized the test as a "**Peaceful Nuclear Explosion**" (PNE).

- **Scientific Intent:** India argued that the explosion was intended to study the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, such as mining, earth-moving, or civil engineering, rather than for military weaponry.
- **Diplomatic Strategy:** This specific phrasing was used to maintain India's commitment to using nuclear energy for developmental needs while technically remaining a non-nuclear weapon state under international definitions of the time.
- **Global Reaction:** Despite the "peaceful" label, the test led to significant international backlash, including the formation of the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) to restrict nuclear exports to India. It was only in 1998 (Pokhran-II) that India explicitly declared itself a nuclear-weapon state.

Final Answer: A peaceful nuclear explosion

Answer: (B)



Q13.

Solution

Concept: The fourth General Elections (1967) were held in a context of grave economic crisis, monsoon failure, and leadership transition following the deaths of Nehru and Shastri. Indira Gandhi, then seen as an inexperienced leader, faced a united opposition for the first time. The results shifted the political landscape from a single-party dominant system to a more competitive one.

Solution: The phenomenon of the Congress losing power in nine states (including key states like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, and Kerala) was termed a **"Political Earthquake."**

- **Loss of Hegemony:** While the Congress managed to retain a slim majority in the Lok Sabha, its defeat in nearly half of the state assemblies was unprecedented.
- **Rise of SVDs:** This led to the formation of *Samyukta Vidhayak Dal* (SVD) governments—coalitions of diverse opposition parties.
- **Defections:** This era also gave birth to the "Aya Ram, Gaya Ram" culture of frequent floor-crossing and political defections.

The term "Total Revolution" (Option A) refers to Jayaprakash Narayan's movement in 1974, and "Democratic Upsurge" (Option C) is a term used by sociologists like Yogendra Yadav to describe broader shifts in political participation over decades.

Final Answer: Political Earthquake

Answer: (B)



Q14.

Solution

Concept: The Syndicate represented the old guard of the Congress. These were powerful leaders who held significant sway over the party apparatus at both the state and central levels. They were instrumental in the transition of power to Lal Bahadur Shastri in 1964 and later to Indira Gandhi in 1966, believing they could guide or control the leadership from behind the scenes.

Solution: The Syndicate was a group of powerful and influential leaders within the party organization.

- **Key Figures:** It included leaders like K. Kamaraj (Tamil Nadu), S.K. Patil (Mumbai), N. Sanjiva Reddy (Andhra Pradesh), and S. Nijalingappa (Mysore).
- **Conflict with Indira Gandhi:** While the Syndicate supported Indira Gandhi initially, she soon began to assert her independence. This led to a bitter power struggle between the organizational wing (Syndicate) and the governmental wing (Indira's faction).
- **The 1969 Split:** The tension culminated in the 1969 split of the Congress into two factions: the Congress (O) led by the Syndicate and the Congress (R) led by Indira Gandhi.

Option A (Young socialists) refers to the "Young Turks," while Option D (personal cabinet) refers to what was colloquially known as her "Kitchen Cabinet."

Final Answer: A group of powerful and influential leaders within the party organization.

Answer: (B)



Q15.

Solution

Concept: Following the 1967 elections, Indira Gandhi sought to assert her authority and move the party toward a more populist, left-leaning agenda (including bank nationalization and the abolition of the Privy Purse). The Syndicate, led by S. Nijalingappa, preferred a more conservative approach and resented her growing independent power base.

Solution: The primary reason for the formal split was the ****disagreement over the choice of the Presidential candidate**** in 1969.

- **The Conflict:** After the death of President Zakir Husain, the Syndicate nominated **Neelam Sanjiva Reddy** as the official Congress candidate. Indira Gandhi, feeling sidelined, encouraged Vice-President **V.V. Giri** to contest as an independent candidate.
- **The "Conscience Vote":** In a bold move, Indira Gandhi called upon party members to follow their "conscience" rather than the party whip. This was a thinly veiled instruction to vote for Giri over Reddy.
- **The Outcome:** V.V. Giri won the election. In retaliation, the Congress President expelled Indira Gandhi from the party for indiscipline.
- **The Factions:** This led to the creation of two parties: **Congress (O)**—the Organization faction led by the Syndicate, and **Congress (R)**—the Requisitionist faction led by Indira Gandhi.

While Option A, C, and D are part of Indian history, they were not the catalysts for this specific organizational fracture.

Final Answer: Disagreement over the choice of the Presidential candidate.

Answer: (B)



Q16.

Solution

Concept: Passed during the National Emergency (1975–1977) under the government of Indira Gandhi, this amendment was based on the recommendations of the **Swaran Singh Committee**. It was so comprehensive that it touched upon almost every part of the Constitution, earning it the nickname "Mini-Constitution."

Solution: The **42nd Amendment** introduced several landmark changes:

- **The Preamble:** It added three new words: "**Socialist**," "**Secular**," and "**Integrity**."
- **Fundamental Duties:** It inserted Part IV-A and Article 51A, listing the Fundamental Duties of citizens for the first time.
- **Judicial Review:** It attempted to curtail the power of the High Courts and Supreme Court to review the validity of constitutional amendments.
- **Parliamentary Terms:** It extended the term of the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies from 5 to 6 years.
- **Supremacy of Directive Principles:** It gave precedence to Directive Principles over Fundamental Rights in certain cases.

The **44th Amendment** (Option B) was later passed by the Janata Government to undo many of these changes. The **52nd Amendment** (Option C) dealt with Anti-Defection, and the **73rd Amendment** (Option D) established Panchayati Raj.

Final Answer: 42nd Amendment

Answer: (A)



Q17.

Solution

Concept: The movement originated in an engineering college in Ahmedabad over a hike in food bills, but it quickly escalated into a middle-class revolt against political corruption and the rising prices of essential commodities. It was the first time in independent India that a popular protest forced a democratically elected state government to resign.

Solution: The Navnirman Movement started in **Gujarat**.

- **Political Impact:** The protesters demanded the resignation of Chief Minister Chimanbhai Patel, accusing his government of corruption. The intensity of the movement forced the central government to impose President's Rule and eventually dissolve the State Assembly.
- **Connection to Jayaprakash Narayan (JP):** The success of the movement in Gujarat inspired student leaders in Bihar to start a similar agitation. Jayaprakash Narayan was invited to lead the Bihar movement, which later transformed into the "Total Revolution" against the Indira Gandhi government.
- **Other Options:** While Bihar (Option A) saw a very famous movement led by JP shortly after, the "Navnirman" (meaning "reconstruction") name specifically belongs to the Gujarat agitation.

Final Answer: Gujarat

Answer: (B)



Q18.

Solution

Concept: By 1974, India was facing severe economic distress, high inflation, and allegations of high-level corruption. The agitation, which began as a student movement in Bihar, eventually sought a complete transformation of the social, economic, and political fabric of the country.

Solution: The call for 'Total Revolution' was given by **Jayaprakash Narayan** (popularly known as **JP**).

- **The Goal:** JP argued that mere change of government was not enough; he envisioned a revolution that would affect seven spheres of life: social, economic, political, cultural, ideological/intellectual, educational, and spiritual.
- **Impact:** His leadership united a fragmented opposition—including the Socialists, the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, and the Congress (O)—under a single banner. This massive pressure eventually contributed to the imposition of the National Emergency by Indira Gandhi on June 25, 1975.
- **Other Leaders:** While Ram Manohar Lohia (Option A) was the pioneer of non-Congressism, he had passed away in 1967. Morarji Desai (Option C) and Jagjivan Ram (Option D) were key figures in the subsequent Janata Party government, but JP was the ideological soul of the movement.

Final Answer: Jayaprakash Narayan

Answer: (B)



Q19.

Solution

Concept: Following the reorganization of Punjab in 1966, the Akali Dal faced political challenges and sought to redefine the relationship between the state and the central government. In 1973, at a meeting in Anandpur Sahib, they adopted a resolution that outlined their political, religious, and economic goals.

Solution: The Anandpur Sahib Resolution was primarily related to the demands of ****The Akali Dal in Punjab****.

- **Autonomy:** The resolution demanded that the Central Government's jurisdiction be restricted only to Defense, Foreign Affairs, Communications, and Currency. It sought maximum autonomy for the states in all other matters.
- **Identity:** It also included religious demands, such as the recognition of the Sikh community as a distinct 'Kaum' (nation/entity) and the transfer of Chandigarh and other Punjabi-speaking areas to Punjab.
- **Historical Context:** While initially a demand for federal restructuring, the document was later misinterpreted by critics and extremists as a secessionist demand, which contributed to the rise of militancy in Punjab during the 1980s.

The Mizo National Front (Option A) sought independence for Mizoram, the AASU (Option C) led the anti-foreigner movement in Assam, and the DMK (Option D) focused on Dravidian identity and anti-Hindi agitations in Tamil Nadu.

Final Answer: The Akali Dal in Punjab

Answer: (B)



Q20.

Solution

Concept: Following a major famine in 1959 (the Mautam), the Mizo National Front (MNF) was formed to demand independence from India, leading to an armed rebellion starting in 1966. After years of conflict, both the central government and the rebels realized that a military solution was not feasible, leading to negotiations for a peaceful political settlement.

Solution: The Mizo Accord was signed on June 30, 1986, between the Government of India (represented by the Union Home Secretary) and **Laldenga**, the leader of the Mizo National Front (MNF).

- **Key Terms:** The MNF agreed to give up violence and surrender their arms. In return, the Government of India agreed to grant full statehood to Mizoram (which was then a Union Territory).
- **Political Transition:** In a rare gesture of democratic accommodation, the sitting Congress government in Mizoram resigned to allow Laldenga to become the Interim Chief Minister.
- **Other Leaders:** **Angami Zapu Phizo** (Option B) was the leader of the Naga insurgency; **Sheikh Abdullah** (Option C) was associated with the Kashmir Accord; and **Prafulla Kumar Mahanta** (Option D) was a leader of the Assam Movement and signatory of the Assam Accord.

Final Answer: Laldenga

Answer: (A)



Q21.

Solution

Concept: Under Article 340 of the Indian Constitution, the President can appoint a commission to investigate the conditions of backward classes. The first such commission was set up in 1953 under Kaka Kalelkar. However, its recommendations were not implemented. In 1979, the Janata Party government led by Morarji Desai appointed a new commission to revisit the issue.

Solution: The Mandal Commission was officially known as ****The Second Backward Classes Commission****.

- **Leadership:** It was headed by **B.P. Mandal**, a Member of Parliament and former Chief Minister of Bihar.
- **Key Recommendation:** The commission's most famous recommendation, submitted in 1980, was the reservation of **27%** of jobs in central government and public sector undertakings for Other Backward Classes (OBCs).
- **Implementation:** The report gathered dust for a decade until Prime Minister **V.P. Singh** decided to implement it in 1990, sparking nationwide protests and a permanent shift in Indian politics toward "Mandal politics" (empowerment of lower castes).
- **Other Options:** Option A refers to the Kaka Kalelkar Commission (1953). Option C is a constitutional body established for specific groups. Option D (Sarkaria Commission) dealt with Centre-State relations.

Final Answer: The Second Backward Classes Commission.

Answer: (B)



Q22.

Solution

Concept: After the 1989 elections, no single party secured a clear majority. The Congress, led by Rajiv Gandhi, emerged as the largest single party but declined to form a government. This opened the door for a non-Congress alternative. To keep the Congress out of power, two ideologically opposite poles—the Right-wing Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Left Front—decided to support a centrist coalition from the "outside."

Solution: The coalition government that came to power in 1989 was the **National Front**.

- **Leadership:** The National Front was led by **V.P. Singh**, who became the Prime Minister. The core of this coalition was the Janata Dal, supported by regional parties like the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and the DMK.
- **Unique Support Base:** This government was unique because it was supported by both the **BJP** and the **Left Front**, even though these two groups did not join the government or agree with each other on most issues.
- **Significant Actions:** It was this government that implemented the Mandal Commission recommendations and saw the rise of the Ram Janmabhoomi movement.
- **Comparison:** The **United Front** (Option A) came later in 1996. The **NDA** (Option C) and **UPA** (Option D) were the dominant coalitions of the late 1990s and 2000s, led by the BJP and Congress respectively.

Final Answer: National Front

Answer: (B)



Q23.

Solution

Concept: In the early 1990s, Indian politics was pulled in two opposite directions. One side focused on social justice through caste-based empowerment, while the other sought to unify the Hindu majority across caste lines through a religious symbol. This period is often described by historians as a battle for the "soul" of the Indian electorate.

Solution: The 'Mandal vs Mandir' politics represented a tension between **Reservation-based politics and Religious mobilization**.

- **Mandal (Caste Identity):** In 1990, Prime Minister V.P. Singh announced the implementation of the Mandal Commission report, granting 27% reservation to Other Backward Classes (OBCs). This mobilized the lower castes and led to the rise of regional, caste-based parties.
- **Mandir (Religious Identity):** Simultaneously, the BJP and the Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP) intensified the movement for a Ram temple in Ayodhya. The *Ram Rath Yatra* led by L.K. Advani sought to create a pan-Hindu identity that transcended the caste divisions highlighted by the Mandal report.
- **The Tension:** Critics often argue that 'Mandir' politics was a strategic response to 'Mandal' politics; while 'Mandal' divided the Hindu vote along caste lines, 'Mandir' sought to consolidate it under a common religious banner.

While these events touched upon Secularism (Option A), the specific political shorthand "Mandal vs Mandir" refers explicitly to the clash between caste-based reservations and religious mobilization.

Final Answer: Reservation-based politics and Religious mobilization.

Answer: (B)



Q24.

Solution

Concept: By early 1991, India faced a severe Balance of Payments (BoP) crisis. Foreign exchange reserves had dropped so low that they could only cover about two weeks of imports. To avoid defaulting on international debt, the government had to air-lift gold to London and Zurich as collateral. In exchange for a loan from the IMF and World Bank, India agreed to restructure its economy.

Solution: The New Economic Policy was introduced under the Prime Ministership of **P.V. Narasimha Rao**.

- **The Architect:** While Rao provided the political leadership and cover for these radical changes, the technical architect of the reforms was his Finance Minister, **Dr. Manmohan Singh**.
- **Key Reforms:** The policy dismantled the 'License Raj,' devalued the Rupee, reduced import tariffs, and opened several sectors (previously reserved for the government) to private and foreign investment.
- **Other Options:** V.P. Singh (Option A) and Chandra Shekhar (Option B) led governments immediately preceding the crisis. I.K. Gujral (Option D) served as PM later in 1997.

Final Answer: P.V. Narasimha Rao

Answer: (C)



Q25.

Solution

Concept: The dispute centered on a plot of land in Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh. Hindu groups claimed it was the birthplace of Lord Ram (*Ram Janmabhoomi*) and that a temple had been demolished to build the mosque in the 16th century. The movement reached its peak in the early 1990s following the *Ram Rath Yatra*.

Solution: The demolition of the Babri Masjid occurred on **6th December 1992**.

- **The Event:** On this day, a large crowd of *kar sevaks* (volunteers) gathered in Ayodhya for a symbolic rally. Despite assurances given to the Supreme Court by the state government, the situation escalated, and the structure was razed.
- **Political Consequences:** The Kalyan Singh-led BJP government in Uttar Pradesh was dismissed immediately. In the following months, the central government also dismissed BJP governments in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Himachal Pradesh.
- **Other Dates:** 15th August 1947 (Option B) is India's Independence Day; 26th January 1950 (Option C) is Republic Day; and 31st October 1984 (Option D) is the date of the assassination of Indira Gandhi.

Final Answer: 6th December 1992

Answer: (A)



Q26.

Solution

Concept: Since 1961, the Berlin Wall stood as a physical manifestation of the ideological struggle between the communist East (led by the Soviet Union) and the democratic West (led by the United States). Its opening on November 9, 1989, followed a series of peaceful revolutions across Eastern Europe and signaled that the Soviet Union was no longer willing or able to maintain its control over the Eastern Bloc.

Solution: The fall of the Berlin Wall symbolized the collapse of ****The Cold War and the Bipolar world****.

- **End of Bipolarity:** For decades, the world was "bipolar," meaning power was concentrated around two superpowers. The fall of the wall was the beginning of the end for this structure, leading directly to the reunification of Germany in 1990 and the formal dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991.
- **Victory of Liberal Democracy:** It is often cited as the symbolic victory of liberal democracy and capitalism over state-run communism (making Option A incorrect, as capitalism actually expanded after this event).
- **Impact on Global Politics:** It shifted the global order from a bipolar world toward a "unipolar" world dominated by the United States, and later, a multipolar world.
- **Other Options:** The United Nations (Option C) and the European Union (Option D) not only survived but played significant roles in the post-Cold War era.

Final Answer: The Cold War and the Bipolar world

Answer: (B)



Q27.

Solution

Concept: The term 'Shock Therapy' refers to a set of radical economic reforms advocated by the World Bank and the IMF. The idea was that a quick, "shocking" transition would be more effective than a slow, gradual one, as it would prevent the old communist elites from sabotaging the new system.

Solution: In the context of post-communist regimes, Shock Therapy involved ****a painful and sudden transition from a socialist to a capitalist system****.

- **Key Elements:** It involved the immediate privatization of state assets, the removal of price controls, the withdrawal of government subsidies, and the opening of the economy to foreign trade and investment.
- **Consequences:** For Russia and many Eastern European countries, the results were disastrous in the short term. It led to the "largest garage sale in history," where valuable state industries were sold at throwaway prices to a small group of individuals (the oligarchs).
- **Economic Impact:** The value of the Ruble plummeted, inflation soared, and the social safety net collapsed, causing immense hardship for the general population.

Option A is incorrect because the transition was explicitly designed ***not*** to be gradual. Options C and D were not the primary objectives; in fact, the healthcare system and military funding often suffered significantly during this period.

Final Answer: A painful and sudden transition from a socialist to a capitalist system.

Answer: (B)



Q28.

Solution

Concept: By the mid-1980s, the USSR faced severe economic stagnation and political corruption. The new leadership sought to save the communist system by introducing two main pillars of reform: **Glasnost** (Openness), which allowed for freedom of speech and press, and **Perestroika** (Restructuring), which introduced limited market-like reforms to the economy.

Solution: The last leader of the Soviet Union was **Mikhail Gorbachev**.

- **Legacy:** While Gorbachev intended to strengthen the Soviet Union, his reforms inadvertently unleashed long-suppressed nationalist movements and public criticism that led to the dissolution of the USSR in 1991.
- **End of the Cold War:** He is also credited with working alongside Western leaders like Ronald Reagan to bring an end to the nuclear arms race and the Cold War.
- **Other Leaders:** **Joseph Stalin** (Option A) was the leader during WWII; **Nikita Khrushchev** (Option B) led during the Cuban Missile Crisis; and **Boris Yeltsin** (Option D) became the first President of the independent Russian Federation after the Soviet Union collapsed.

Final Answer: Mikhail Gorbachev

Answer: (C)



Q29.

Solution

Concept: As the Soviet central government lost its grip on power in 1991, the leaders of the three Slavic republics—Russia, Belarus, and Ukraine—met at Belovezha Forest to declare that the Soviet Union had ceased to exist as a subject of international law. To maintain some level of economic, military, and diplomatic cooperation among the now-sovereign states, they established the CIS.

Solution: The 'CIS' was formed after the dissolution of **The USSR** (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics).

- **The Alma-Ata Protocol:** Shortly after the initial formation, eight other former Soviet republics (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan) joined the CIS through the Alma-Ata Protocol on December 21, 1991.
- **The Baltic Exception:** It is important to note that the three Baltic states (Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania) refused to join the CIS, choosing instead to integrate with Western Europe and the EU.
- **Purpose:** The CIS was intended to coordinate trade, finance, lawmaking, and security, though its influence has fluctuated over the decades as various members moved closer to or further away from Russia's orbit.

Option B (Warsaw Pact) was the military alliance of the Eastern Bloc which was dissolved months before the USSR. Option D (Yugoslavia) also dissolved during this era, but its successor states did not form the CIS.

Final Answer: The USSR

Answer: (C)



Q30.

Solution

Concept: Prior to 1992, the cooperation between European nations was primarily managed through the European Economic Community (EEC). The Maastricht Treaty, signed in the Netherlands, transformed this economic community into a much more integrated entity with shared policies on foreign affairs, security, and justice.

Solution: The Maastricht Treaty paved the way for the creation of **The European Union (EU)**.

- **The Euro:** One of the most famous outcomes of this treaty was the establishment of the criteria for a single common currency, the **Euro**.
- **The Three Pillars:** It established the "Three Pillars" of the EU: the European Communities, Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), and cooperation in the fields of Justice and Home Affairs (JHA).
- **Citizenship:** It introduced the concept of **European Union citizenship**, allowing citizens of member states to live and work freely across the union.

Other Options: ASEAN (Option A) was formed in 1967 in Southeast Asia. BRICS (Option C) is an association of emerging national economies (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) formed in the late 2000s. NATO (Option D) is a military alliance formed in 1949.

Final Answer: The European Union

Answer: (B)

Q31.

Solution

Concept: ASEAN was established on August 8, 1967, through the signing of the **Bangkok Declaration**. The primary objective was to promote economic growth, social progress, and cultural development in the region, as well as to ensure regional peace and stability amidst the tensions of the Cold War.

Solution: The country that is **NOT** a founding member of ASEAN is **India**.

- **The Five Founding Members:** The "founding fathers" of ASEAN were **Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore,** and **Thailand**.
- **India's Role:** India is located in South Asia, not Southeast Asia. While India is a key strategic partner and a member of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and the East Asia Summit, it is not a member of ASEAN itself.
- **Expansion:** ASEAN later expanded to include Brunei (1984), Vietnam (1995), Laos and Myanmar (1997), and Cambodia (1999).

Options A, B, and D were all signatories to the original Bangkok Declaration.

Final Answer: India

Answer: (C)



Q32.

Solution

Concept: Unlike the EU, which relies on supranational institutions and legally binding treaties, ASEAN operates on a different diplomatic culture. This culture is rooted in traditional Malay values of *musyawarah* (consultation) and *mufakat* (consensus). It prioritizes sovereignty and regional stability over rapid integration or interference in domestic affairs.

Solution: The 'ASEAN Way' refers to ****an informal and cooperative interaction among member states****.

- **Non-Interference:** A core pillar of this approach is the strict adherence to the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of member states.
- **Consensus:** Decisions are reached only when all members agree. If a consensus cannot be reached, the matter is usually deferred rather than forced through a majority vote.
- **Informality:** Diplomatic issues are often handled through quiet, behind-the-scenes discussions rather than formal, public confrontations. This helps leaders "save face" and maintains regional harmony.

Why other options are incorrect:

- **Option A:** ASEAN is not a military alliance and avoids taking sides in superpower rivalries.
- **Option C:** ASEAN actually promotes Free Trade Areas (FTAs) and lower tariffs.
- **Option D:** There is no common currency in Southeast Asia; each member retains its own.

Final Answer: An informal and cooperative interaction among member states.

Answer: (B)



Q33.

Solution

Concept: The idea for the bank was conceived during the 4th BRICS Summit in New Delhi (2012). It was formally established in 2014 during the 6th BRICS Summit in Fortaleza, Brazil. The primary objective of the NDB is to mobilize resources for infrastructure and sustainable development projects in BRICS and other emerging economies and developing countries.

Solution: The New Development Bank was established by the **BRICS** group of countries.

- **The Founders:** The founding members are **Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa**.
- **Equal Partnership:** Unlike the World Bank, where voting power is determined by capital share, the NDB was founded on the principle of equal voting rights for all its founding members—none of the founding members have veto power.
- **Headquarters:** The bank is headquartered in **Shanghai, China**, and its first President was the Indian banker **K.V. Kamath**.
- **Expansion:** Since its founding, the bank has expanded its membership to include other countries such as the UAE, Egypt, and Bangladesh.

Other Groups: The **G7** (Option A) consists of advanced industrialized economies; the **EU** (Option B) is a regional union in Europe; and **SAARC** (Option D) is a South Asian regional cooperation body.

Final Answer: BRICS

Answer: (C)

Q34.

Solution

Concept: Following independence in 1948, the Sri Lankan government adopted "majoritarian" policies to establish the supremacy of the Sinhalese community. The population was divided into the majority Sinhalese (approx. 74%), who were mostly Buddhists, and the minority Tamils (approx. 18%), who were mostly Hindus or Muslims. The 1956 Act recognized Sinhala as the only official language, disregarding Tamil and creating a deep ethnic divide.

Solution: The primary ethnic conflict was between the Sinhalese majority and the **Tamils**. The Tamils felt alienated due to lack of political rights and discrimination in university admissions and government jobs. This led to the formation of the LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam) in 1976, which demanded an independent Tamil state in the North and East. The ensuing civil war lasted nearly 26 years, concluding in 2009.

Final Answer: Tamils

Answer: (A)



Q35.

Solution

Concept: Nepal was a constitutional monarchy for much of its modern history, but the King often retained significant power. In 2002, King Gyanendra began dismissing elected governments, and in February 2005, he took full control of the state. This led to a pro-democracy movement known as *Jana Andolan II*, where citizens and political parties demanded the restoration of parliament and sovereignty.

Solution: The 2006 historic movement transformed Nepal from a ****Monarchy to a Democracy****. In April 2006, after weeks of massive protests, the King was forced to reinstate the House of Representatives. This process eventually led to the 2008 election of a Constituent Assembly, which officially abolished the 240-year-old monarchy and declared Nepal a Federal Democratic Republic.

Final Answer: Monarchy to a Democracy.

Answer: (A)

Q36.

Solution

Concept: The Farakka Barrage was constructed by India in 1975 across the Ganges River in West Bengal, approximately 18 kilometers from the border. Its primary purpose was to divert water into the Hooghly River to flush out silt and keep the Kolkata Port operational. However, this diversion significantly reduced the flow of water downstream, affecting irrigation, fisheries, and ecology in the neighboring country.

Solution: The Farakka Barrage issue is a point of contention between India and ****Bangladesh****.

- **The Conflict:** Bangladesh (lower riparian state) argued that the reduced flow caused increased salinity, affected agriculture, and led to environmental degradation in its south-western region.
- **Diplomatic Resolution:** After years of dispute, the two nations signed the **Ganges Water Sharing Treaty in 1996** (during the premiership of H.D. Deve Gowda and Sheikh Hasina), which established a 30-year formula for sharing the water during the dry season (January to May).
- **Other Options:** While India has water-related discussions with Pakistan (Indus Waters Treaty), China (Brahmaputra flow), and Nepal (Mahakali and Kosi projects), the specific Farakka Barrage dispute is unique to the India-Bangladesh relationship.

Final Answer: Bangladesh

Answer: (C)



Q37.

Solution

Concept: Under the UN Charter, different organs have distinct roles. While the General Assembly serves as a deliberative body where all member states have equal representation, it can only make recommendations. The authority to take binding action to maintain or restore peace is vested in a smaller, more powerful body.

Solution: The UN organ with the primary responsibility for international peace and security is the ****Security Council****.

- **Composition:** It consists of 15 members: 5 permanent members (P5) with veto power (USA, UK, France, Russia, and China) and 10 non-permanent members elected for two-year terms.
- **Powers:** It is the only UN body with the power to issue "resolutions" that are legally binding on all member states. It can authorize peacekeeping missions, impose economic sanctions, or order collective military action.
- **Other Organs:** The **General Assembly** (Option A) is a policy-making body; the **International Court of Justice** (Option C) settles legal disputes between states; and the **Secretariat** (Option D) handles the day-to-day administrative work of the UN.

Final Answer: Security Council

Answer: (B)

Q38.

Solution

Concept: The UN Security Council (UNSC) is composed of 15 members: 10 non-permanent members elected for two-year terms and 5 permanent members (P5). The "Veto Power" is a negative vote that allows any of the P5 members to block the adoption of a "substantive" resolution, regardless of how much international support the resolution may have.

Solution: The 'Veto Power' is exercised by ****Only the five permanent members****.

- **The P5 Members:** The five permanent members are the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Russia (formerly the USSR), and China.
- **Functioning:** For a resolution to pass on substantive matters, it needs 9 affirmative votes, including the concurring votes of all five permanent members. If even one permanent member votes "No," the resolution fails.
- **Purpose:** The veto was designed to ensure that the UN does not take military or diplomatic action against the vital interests of the world's major powers, which could lead to a global conflict.

Final Answer: Only the five permanent members.

Answer: (B)



Q39.

Solution

Concept: Global economic governance is managed by several specialized agencies. While some focus on financial stability or poverty reduction, one specific organization acts as a forum for negotiating trade agreements and a tribunal for settling trade disputes between member nations.

Solution: The international organization that deals with the global rules of trade is the ****WTO (World Trade Organization)****.

- **Origin:** Established on January 1, 1995, following the Uruguay Round of negotiations, it replaced the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), which had been in place since 1948.
- **Role:** Its main function is to ensure that trade flows as smoothly, predictably, and freely as possible. It handles trade disputes, monitors national trade policies, and provides technical assistance to developing countries.
- **Other Options:** The **IMF** (Option A) deals with global monetary cooperation and financial stability. The **World Bank** (Option B) provides loans and grants for development projects. The **ILO** (Option D) deals with international labor standards and workers' rights.

Final Answer: WTO

Answer: (C)



Q40.

Solution

Concept: Founded in London in 1961 by lawyer Peter Benenson, Amnesty International operates on the principle that the protection of fundamental freedoms is a collective global responsibility. It is a grassroots-based organization that remains independent of any government, political ideology, or religious interest.

Solution: Amnesty International is a global NGO that campaigns for **Human Rights**.

- **Core Activities:** The organization focuses on protecting people from denial of their rights to liberty, justice, and freedom of expression. Key campaigns include the abolition of the death penalty, ending torture, and the release of "prisoners of conscience" (people imprisoned for their beliefs or identity who have not used violence).
- **Impact:** It publishes annual reports on the state of human rights worldwide, which serve as a critical tool for holding governments accountable. In 1977, it was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for its campaign against torture.
- **Other Options:** **Environmental protection** (Option A) is the focus of groups like Greenpeace; **Nuclear disarmament** (Option C) is championed by organizations like ICAN; and **Global trade** (Option D) is the domain of the WTO.

Final Answer: Human Rights

Answer: (B)



Q41.

Solution

Concept: During the late 1960s and early 1970s, the nuclear arms race reached a point of "Mutually Assured Destruction" (MAD). To reduce the risk of nuclear war and the staggering costs of the arms race, the two superpowers initiated talks to limit the number of strategic ballistic missiles in their arsenals.

Solution: The SALT agreements were signed between the **USA and USSR**.

- **SALT I (1972):** Signed by U.S. President Richard Nixon and Soviet Leader Leonid Brezhnev, this included the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty and an interim agreement on offensive arms.
- **SALT II (1979):** A second round of talks sought to further limit long-range missiles and bombers. Although signed by Jimmy Carter and Brezhnev, the U.S. Senate never formally ratified it following the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, though both sides largely honored its terms.
- **Significance:** These talks paved the way for subsequent treaties like START (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty), shifting the focus from simply "limiting" growth to actually "reducing" the number of nuclear weapons.

Options A, C, and D are incorrect as these nations were not the primary protagonists of the strategic nuclear arms race that defined the bipolar Cold War era.

Final Answer: USA and USSR

Answer: (B)



Q42.

Solution

Concept: Traditional security (often called "National Security") focuses on protecting a state's borders and sovereignty from external military threats. However, the 1994 Human Development Report by the UNDP introduced "Human Security," arguing that for an ordinary person, security means safety from chronic threats such as hunger, disease, and repression, as well as protection from sudden and hurtful disruptions in the patterns of daily life.

Solution: 'Human Security' in the global context emphasizes ****The protection of individuals from threats like hunger, disease, and repression****.

- **Broadening the Scope:** It includes seven categories of security: Economic, Food, Health, Environmental, Personal, Community, and Political security.
- **Individual-Centric:** It shifts the referent object of security from the "State" to the "Human Being." It argues that even if a state is secure from foreign invasion, its people are not secure if they are dying of preventable diseases or facing systematic human rights abuses.
- **Other Options:** Option A refers to "Traditional/State Security." Options C and D refer to "Military Security" and "Balance of Power," which are often seen as contradictory to the goals of human security, as they divert resources away from social welfare.

Final Answer: The protection of individuals from threats like hunger, disease, and repression.

Answer: (B)



Q43.

Solution

Concept: The NPT was designed to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and move toward global disarmament. However, it set an arbitrary cutoff date: any country that had manufactured and exploded a nuclear device prior to January 1, 1967, was classified as a "Nuclear Weapon State" (NWS). Everyone else was classified as a "Non-Nuclear Weapon State" (NNWS).

Solution: The NPT is considered discriminatory by India because ****it divides the world into nuclear 'haves' and 'have-nots'**.**

- **Institutionalized Inequality:** The treaty allows the five permanent members of the UN Security Council (the "haves") to keep their nuclear arsenals, while legally prohibiting all other signatories (the "have-nots") from ever developing them.
- **Lack of Disarmament:** India argues that while the treaty restricts horizontal proliferation (the spread to new countries), it fails to enforce vertical disarmament (the reduction of existing stockpiles by the P5).
- **India's Position:** India advocates for universal, non-discriminatory, and verifiable nuclear disarmament rather than a regime that creates two different sets of rules for two different categories of states.

Other Options: Option A is incorrect because the treaty explicitly allows five countries to keep weapons. Option C is incorrect as the P5 includes non-Asian powers. Option D is incorrect as the treaty does not involve monetary fines.

Final Answer: It divides the world into nuclear 'haves' and 'have-nots'.

Answer: (B)



Q44.

Solution

Concept: The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), popularly known as the "Earth Summit," was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. It was the first major international gathering to address the fact that environmental protection and economic development must be tackled together as "Sustainable Development."

Solution: The 1992 'Earth Summit' produced a convention on **Biodiversity and Climate Change**.

- **Key Outcomes:** The summit led to the signing of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).
- **Agenda 21:** It also produced 'Agenda 21', a non-binding action plan for sustainable development in the 21st century.
- **Principles:** It established the principle of "Common but Differentiated Responsibilities" (CBDR), recognizing that while all nations are responsible for the environment, developed nations bear a greater historical burden.

Options A, C, and D are incorrect as they fall under the jurisdiction of different international treaties and organizations.

Final Answer: Biodiversity and Climate Change.

Answer: (B)

Q45.

Solution

Concept: In international law, most territory is divided among sovereign states. However, certain areas are recognized as being vital to the entire human race and cannot be claimed by any single country. These areas require collective management and protection.

Solution: 'Global Commons' refer to those areas of the world that are **Not under the sovereign jurisdiction of any one state but belong to the international community**.

- **Examples:** The four primary global commons are the **Earth's atmosphere, Antarctica, the Ocean floor (High Seas), and Outer Space.**
- **Challenges:** These areas face the "Tragedy of the Commons," where individual states may over-exploit or pollute these resources because no single authority has the power to exclude others.
- **Treaties:** Agreements like the Antarctic Treaty (1959) and the Outer Space Treaty (1967) were created specifically to manage these shared resources.

Final Answer: Not under the sovereign jurisdiction of any one state but belong to the international community.

Answer: (C)



Q46.

Solution

Concept: Adopted in Kyoto, Japan, in 1997 and entering into force in 2005, the Kyoto Protocol was the first major implementation of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). It operated on the principle of "**Common but Differentiated Responsibilities**" (CBDR), acknowledging that developed industrial nations were historically responsible for the current levels of atmospheric pollutants.

Solution: The 'Kyoto Protocol' is an international agreement linked to ****Reducing greenhouse gas emissions****.

- **Binding Targets:** It set mandatory emission reduction targets for 37 industrialized nations and the European Community. Developing countries, including India and China, were exempted from binding targets in the first phase to allow for their economic growth.
- **The Gases:** It specifically targeted six greenhouse gases: Carbon dioxide (CO_2), Methane (CH_4), Nitrous oxide (N_2O), Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), Perfluorocarbons (PFCs), and Sulphur hexafluoride (SF_6).
- **Market Mechanisms:** The protocol introduced innovative "flexible mechanisms" like **Carbon Trading** and the **Clean Development Mechanism (CDM)**, allowing countries to meet targets by investing in green projects abroad.

Other Options: **Endangered species** (Option B) are protected under CITES; **Chemical weapons** (Option C) are regulated by the CWC; and **Migration** (Option D) is addressed by various UN compacts.

Final Answer: Reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Answer: (A)



Q47.

Solution

Concept: According to the United Nations and the International Labour Organization (ILO), Indigenous peoples are those who inhabit a territory at the time of its conquest or colonization and who retain some or all of their own social, economic, cultural, and political institutions. They are the "first peoples" or original inhabitants of a land.

Solution: Indigenous people are often defined as those who ****Are the descendants of the original inhabitants of a territory****.

- **Historical Continuity:** They have a historical continuity with pre-invasion and pre-colonial societies that developed on their territories.
- **Land and Identity:** Their identity is deeply tied to their ancestral lands and natural resources. In many countries, such as India, they are referred to as **Adivasis** (original inhabitants).
- **Global Population:** There are approximately 476 million Indigenous people worldwide, living across 90 countries. Although they make up less than 6% of the global population, they speak the vast majority of the world's 7,000 languages.

Other Options: **Migration** (Option A) refers to immigrants or refugees. **Urban areas** (Option C) is incorrect as many Indigenous communities live in rural or ancestral forest lands to maintain their traditional lifestyle. **Religion** (Option D) is incorrect as Indigenous groups often have rich, distinct spiritual and religious traditions tied to nature.

Final Answer: Are the descendants of the original inhabitants of a territory.

Answer: (B)



Q48.

Solution

Concept: While some critics fear "Cultural Homogenization" (where everyone becomes the same, often through "McDonaldisation"), scholars of heterogenization argue that globalization actually leads to a more diverse cultural landscape. When global traits meet local traditions, they don't always replace them; instead, they often merge to create new, hybrid cultural forms.

Solution: 'Cultural Heterogenization' as a result of globalization means ****The blending of external influences with local culture to create something unique****.

- **Hybridization:** A classic example is "Indi-pop" music or the "Paneer Tikka Burger" at McDonald's in India. The global format (pop music or a fast-food burger) is modified by local tastes and ingredients.
- **Enrichment:** Rather than local culture shrinking, it expands by incorporating new elements, making the culture more complex and varied rather than uniform.
- **Identity:** This process allows local communities to maintain their identity while still participating in the global exchange of ideas, technology, and fashion.

Other Options: **Option A** describes "Cultural Homogenization." **Option C** is an extreme view of cultural imperialism. **Option D** is "Protectionism" or "Isolationism," which is the opposite of the globalized exchange.

Final Answer: The blending of external influences with local culture to create something unique.

Answer: (B)



Q49.

Solution

Concept: The World Social Forum was first held in Porto Alegre, Brazil, in 2001. It is a massive gathering of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), social movements, labor unions, and activists who are critical of the current model of globalization. Their guiding motto is "Another World Is Possible."

Solution: The 'World Social Forum' (WSF) is a global platform that opposes **Neo-liberal globalization**.

- **The Critique:** The WSF argues that neo-liberal globalization prioritizes corporate profits over social welfare, labor rights, and the environment. They oppose the privatization of public services and the dominance of organizations like the WTO and IMF.
- **Diverse Agenda:** The forum addresses a wide range of issues including human rights, environmental sustainability, gender equality, and fair trade, aiming to create a more "socially just" global order.
- **Global Reach:** Since its inception, WSF meetings have been held in various parts of the world, including Mumbai, India (2004), to emphasize that the movement is truly global and inclusive of the Global South.

Other Options: The WSF actually supports stronger **Environmental laws** (Option A) and **Democratic elections** (Option C), and it often works within the framework of **UN goals** (Option D) rather than opposing the institution itself.

Final Answer: Neo-liberal globalization.

Answer: (B)



Q50.

Solution

Concept: Globalization leads to a shift in the role of the state. As market forces become more dominant and international organizations (like the WTO or IMF) gain influence, the state's traditional role as a provider of social security and welfare often comes under pressure. This is frequently referred to as the shift from a "Welfare State" to a "Minimalist State."

Solution: A negative impact of globalization on the state's capacity is that ****it may lead to a withdrawal of the state from many welfare functions****.

- **Minimalist State:** Globalization often encourages states to focus on "core" functions such as the maintenance of law and order and the security of its citizens, while leaving social and economic priorities to the market.
- **Market Dominance:** The state withdraws from many of its earlier welfare functions directed at social and economic well-being, often leading to reduced spending on health, education, and subsidies.
- **Sovereignty:** While the state does not disappear, its ability to act independently in economic matters is restricted by the need to attract foreign investment and comply with global trade rules.

Other Options:

- **Option A:** Globalization often makes it harder to tax mobile capital and wealthy citizens (tax competition).
- **Option C:** Globalization makes states *more* vulnerable to international pressure, not immune.
- **Option D:** On the contrary, globalization actually provides the state with sophisticated modern technology to govern more effectively.

Final Answer: It may lead to a withdrawal of the state from many welfare functions.

Answer: (B)



Answer Key

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	B	2	B	3	C	4	A	5	C
6	A	7	B	8	B	9	B	10	A
11	B	12	B	13	B	14	B	15	B
16	A	17	B	18	B	19	B	20	A
21	B	22	B	23	B	24	C	25	A
26	B	27	B	28	C	29	C	30	B
31	C	32	B	33	C	34	A	35	A
36	C	37	B	38	B	39	C	40	B
41	B	42	B	43	B	44	B	45	C
46	A	47	B	48	B	49	B	50	B

