

CUET-UG Political Science Sample Paper-18

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. In the first General Elections of 1952, which party emerged as the second-largest party in terms of seats in the Lok Sabha?

- (A) Bharatiya Jana Sangh
- (B) Communist Party of India
- (C) Socialist Party
- (D) Swatantra Party

Q2. The "Grand Alliance" of 1971 was formed by which of the following groups?

- (A) Regional parties of South India
- (B) Non-communist, non-Congress opposition parties
- (C) Pro-Indira Congress and CPI
- (D) Left Front and Bharatiya Jana Sangh

Q3. Which leader played a crucial role in the integration of Princely States and was known as the 'Iron Man of India'?

- (A) Jawaharlal Nehru
- (B) B.R. Ambedkar
- (C) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
- (D) C. Rajagopalachari



- Q4.** The State Reorganisation Commission (SRC) report was implemented in 1956. How many states and union territories were created initially?
- (A) 12 States and 5 Union Territories
 - (B) 14 States and 6 Union Territories
 - (C) 15 States and 7 Union Territories
 - (D) 16 States and 8 Union Territories
- Q5.** Who among the following was the primary architect of the Second Five Year Plan, which emphasized heavy industries?
- (A) K.N. Raj
 - (B) P.C. Mahalanobis
 - (C) John Mathai
 - (D) Lal Bahadur Shastri
- Q6.** The "Milkman of India," Verghese Kurien, is associated with which of the following?
- (A) Green Revolution
 - (B) Blue Revolution
 - (C) White Revolution
 - (D) Yellow Revolution
- Q7.** The Bandung Conference (1955) is considered the precursor to which international movement?
- (A) SAARC
 - (B) ASEAN
 - (C) Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)
 - (D) European Union
- Q8.** Which agreement was signed between India and Pakistan after the 1965 war?



- (A) Shimla Agreement
- (B) Tashkent Declaration
- (C) Indus Waters Treaty
- (D) Lahore Declaration

Q9. The term "Aaya Ram Gaya Ram" became popular in Indian politics after the 1967 elections to describe:

- (A) Electoral violence
- (B) Frequent floor-crossing/defections by legislators
- (C) The decline of the Congress
- (D) The rise of coalition governments

Q10. In 1969, the Congress Party split into two groups: Congress (O) and Congress (R). What did 'R' stand for?

- (A) Reformist
- (B) Requisitionists
- (C) Revolutionaries
- (D) Radical

Q11. The 'Total Revolution' (Sampoorna Kranti) call was given by which leader against the Indira Gandhi government?

- (A) Morarji Desai
- (B) Jayaprakash Narayan
- (C) Charan Singh
- (D) Jagjivan Ram

Q12. Which Constitutional Amendment is often referred to as the "Mini-Constitution" and was passed during the Emergency?

- (A) 4th Amendment



- (B) 24th Amendment
- (C) 42nd Amendment
- (D) 44th Amendment

Q13. The Anandpur Sahib Resolution of 1973 was primarily concerned with:

- (A) Educational reforms in Punjab
- (B) Redefining Center-State relations and seeking more autonomy for Punjab
- (C) The merger of Haryana and Punjab
- (D) The distribution of river waters

Q14. The Mizo National Front (MNF), which led an armed rebellion for two decades, was headed by:

- (A) Angami Zapu Phizo
- (B) Laldenga
- (C) P.S. Sangma
- (D) Muivah

Q15. The Mandal Commission was officially known as the:

- (A) Backward Classes Commission
- (B) Second Backward Classes Commission
- (C) Scheduled Castes Commission
- (D) Social and Economic Upliftment Commission

Q16. The United Progressive Alliance (UPA) was formed in 2004 under the leadership of which party?

- (A) BJP
- (B) CPI(M)
- (C) Indian National Congress
- (D) Bahujan Samaj Party



- Q17.** The New Economic Policy (NEP), involving Liberalization, Privatization, and Globalization (LPG), was introduced in India in:
- (A) 1989
 - (B) 1991
 - (C) 1996
 - (D) 1999
- Q18.** The 'Shah Bano Case' of 1985 became a focal point for debates on:
- (A) Federalism
 - (B) Secularism vs. Minority Rights
 - (C) Land Reforms
 - (D) Freedom of Press
- Q19.** The 'Shock Therapy' in the post-Soviet context referred to:
- (A) A military strategy to control civil war
 - (B) A painful process of transition from authoritarian socialist system to a democratic capitalist system
 - (C) A psychological treatment for war veterans
 - (D) Economic sanctions imposed by the UN
- Q20.** Who was the last leader of the Soviet Union who introduced 'Glasnost' and 'Perestroika'?
- (A) Boris Yeltsin
 - (B) Vladimir Putin
 - (C) Mikhail Gorbachev
 - (D) Leonid Brezhnev
- Q21.** The European Union was formally established by which treaty?
- (A) Treaty of Versailles



- (B) Maastricht Treaty
- (C) Treaty of Rome
- (D) Lisbon Treaty

Q22. Which of the following is NOT one of the founding members of ASEAN?

- (A) Indonesia
- (B) Malaysia
- (C) India
- (D) Thailand

Q23. The 'Open Door' policy was adopted by which country to accelerate its economic growth?

- (A) Japan
- (B) India
- (C) China
- (D) South Korea

Q24. In the context of South Asian politics, the 'IPKF' (Indian Peace Keeping Force) was sent to which country?

- (A) Nepal
- (B) Maldives
- (C) Sri Lanka
- (D) Bangladesh

Q25. The 'Seven Party Alliance' (SPA) is related to the democratic movement of which country?

- (A) Pakistan
- (B) Nepal
- (C) Bhutan



(D) Myanmar

Q26. The principal organ of the United Nations responsible for maintaining international peace and security is:

- (A) The General Assembly
- (B) The Trusteeship Council
- (C) The Security Council
- (D) The Secretariat

Q27. Which NGO focuses on the protection of human rights all over the world?

- (A) Red Cross
- (B) Amnesty International
- (C) Greenpeace
- (D) Oxfam

Q28. The Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) is an example of:

- (A) Human Security
- (B) Traditional Security (Arms Control)
- (C) Environmental Protection
- (D) Global Justice

Q29. Which of the following is considered a 'Non-Traditional' threat to security?

- (A) Border disputes
- (B) Terrorist attacks
- (C) Global Warming and Pandemics
- (D) Military buildup

Q30. The 'Earth Summit' held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 resulted in which set of principles?



- (A) Kyoto Protocol
- (B) Agenda 21
- (C) Montreal Protocol
- (D) Paris Agreement

Q31. The concept of 'Common but Differentiated Responsibilities' (CBDR) relates to:

- (A) Nuclear Disarmament
- (B) Global Environmental Protection
- (C) Trade Liberalization
- (D) Human Rights Enforcement

Q32. Globalisation leads to 'Cultural Heterogenization'. This means:

- (A) All cultures become identical
- (B) Each culture becomes more distinctive by absorbing external influences
- (C) Western culture dominates everyone
- (D) Regional cultures are destroyed

Q33. The World Social Forum (WSF) is a global platform that brings together:

- (A) Supporters of Free Trade
- (B) Opponents of neoliberal globalization
- (C) Military generals
- (D) IT professionals

Q34. In the first three general elections, why did the Congress party remain dominant?

- (A) Absence of other political parties
- (B) Legacy of the national movement and a broad-based social coalition
- (C) Use of military force
- (D) Support from the Soviet Union



- Q35.** The demand for a separate state of Andhra was led by the death of:
- (A) C. Rajagopalachari
 - (B) Potti Sreeramulu
 - (C) T. Prakasam
 - (D) K. Kamaraj
- Q36.** The 'Bombay Plan' of 1944 was a proposal for:
- (A) Political reforms in Maharashtra
 - (B) Setting up a planned economy in India
 - (C) Partition of India
 - (D) Defense collaboration with Britain
- Q37.** Which Indian Prime Minister visited China in 1988 to improve relations?
- (A) Indira Gandhi
 - (B) Rajiv Gandhi
 - (C) Atal Bihari Vajpayee
 - (D) V.P. Singh
- Q38.** The 1974 'Smiling Buddha' test was conducted at:
- (A) Thumba
 - (B) Pokhran
 - (C) Sriharikota
 - (D) Wheeler Island
- Q39.** The 'Syndicate' within the Congress party in the 1960s referred to:
- (A) A group of young socialist leaders
 - (B) A group of powerful and influential leaders from within the organization
 - (C) Pro-American lobbyists



(D) Defectors from the opposition

Q40. The 'Navnirman Movement' in Gujarat (1974) was primarily against:

- (A) Communal riots
- (B) Corruption and price rise
- (C) Reservation policy
- (D) Central government interference

Q41. Operation Blue Star was conducted in 1984 to:

- (A) Evict militants from the Golden Temple
- (B) Capture the Siachen Glacier
- (C) Integrate Goa into India
- (D) Liberate Bangladesh

Q42. The 'Mandal vs Mandir' politics of the 1990s refers to the conflict between:

- (A) Caste-based reservation politics and religion-based mobilization
- (B) Rural and Urban development
- (C) Secularism and Communism
- (D) Left and Right ideologies

Q43. The BRICS organization includes which of the following sets of countries?

- (A) Bhutan, Russia, India, Canada, Sweden
- (B) Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa
- (C) Belgium, Romania, Iceland, Cyprus, Spain
- (D) Brazil, Russia, Indonesia, Chile, Sudan

Q44. The downfall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 symbolized:

- (A) The beginning of World War II
- (B) The unification of the two blocs of the Cold War



- (C) The start of the Space Race
- (D) The collapse of the European Union

Q45. What is the 'Global Commons'?

- (A) Resources owned by the richest nations
- (B) Areas not under the sovereign jurisdiction of any one state (e.g., Antarctica, Outer Space)
- (C) Common markets like the EU
- (D) Public parks in cities

Q46. The 'Amnesty International' is an organization associated with:

- (A) Global Trade
- (B) Human Rights
- (C) Environmental Protection
- (D) Animal Welfare

Q47. The 'Vishwa Hindu Parishad' and 'Babri Masjid Action Committee' were central to which dispute?

- (A) Godhra riots
- (B) Ayodhya dispute
- (C) Shah Bano case
- (D) Anti-Sikh riots

Q48. Which of the following is a permanent member of the UN Security Council?

- (A) India
- (B) Germany
- (C) China
- (D) Japan

Q49. 'Kyoto Protocol' is an international treaty that sets targets for:



- (A) Reducing poverty
- (B) Reducing greenhouse gas emissions
- (C) Stopping nuclear tests
- (D) Increasing literacy

Q50. The 1971 'Garibi Hatao' slogan was given by:

- (A) Morarji Desai
- (B) Indira Gandhi
- (C) Lal Bahadur Shastri
- (D) Jagjivan Ram



Detailed Solutions**Q1.****Solution**

Concept: While the Indian National Congress (INC) dominated the 1952 elections by winning 364 of the 489 seats, the opposition was fragmented. Despite the Congress "wave," the second-largest group in the Lok Sabha was not a single party but "Independents." However, among the organized political parties, one specific ideological group managed to secure the most seats after the Congress.

Solution: In the first General Elections of 1952, the party that emerged as the second-largest party in terms of seats in the Lok Sabha was the Communist Party of India (CPI).

- **The Numbers:** The CPI won 16 seats. While this was a very distant second compared to the Congress's 364 seats, it established the CPI as the primary institutional opposition in Parliament at the time.
- **Regional Strength:** The party's performance was particularly strong in parts of Madras (now Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh), West Bengal, and Kerala.
- **Other Options:**
 - **Option A (Jana Sangh):** Won only 3 seats in 1952.
 - **Option C (Socialist Party):** Despite getting a significant share of the popular vote (about 10
 - **Option D (Swatantra Party):** This party was not formed until 1959; it did not exist during the 1952 elections.

Final Answer: Communist Party of India

Answer: (B)



Q2.

Solution

Concept: Following the split in the Congress party in 1969, Indira Gandhi led a minority government with support from the Left. For the 1971 mid-term elections, the opposition realized that to defeat Indira Gandhi's "Congress (R)," they needed to consolidate their votes and avoid multi-cornered contests that typically benefited the ruling party.

Solution: The "Grand Alliance" of 1971 was formed by **Non-communist, non-Congress opposition parties.**

- **Composition:** The alliance included major parties such as the SSP (Samyukta Socialist Party), PSP (Praja Socialist Party), Bharatiya Jana Sangh, Swatantra Party, and the Congress (O)—the faction of the Congress led by the "Syndicate" that had opposed Indira Gandhi.
- **The Slogan:** While the Grand Alliance focused on the slogan "Indira Hatao" (Remove Indira), Indira Gandhi countered with the famous and highly effective slogan "Garibi Hatao" (Remove Poverty).
- **The Outcome:** Despite the strength of the combined opposition on paper, the Grand Alliance was a massive failure at the polls. Indira Gandhi's Congress (R) won a landslide victory (352 seats), while the Grand Alliance parties were reduced to a very small number of seats.

Other Options:

- **Option C:** This refers to the alliance that actually *won* the election—the Congress (R) and the CPI.
- **Option D:** The Left Front was generally not part of this specific right-leaning/socialist alliance; in fact, the CPI supported Indira Gandhi.

Final Answer: Non-communist, non-Congress opposition parties.

Answer: (B)



Q3.

Solution

Concept: The British government declared that with the end of their paramountcy, the Princely States were free to join either India or Pakistan, or remain independent. This threatened the very "Balkanization" (fragmentation) of the country. The task of negotiating with these rulers fell to the Minister of Home Affairs and States.

Solution: The leader who played a crucial role in the integration of Princely States and was known as the 'Iron Man of India' was Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

- **Diplomatic Strategy:** Patel used a combination of persuasion, political pressure, and firm negotiation. He appealed to the rulers' patriotism and offered "Privy Purses" (government allowances) in exchange for their surrender of power.
- **The Instrument of Accession:** Most rulers signed this legal document, which ceded control of Defense, Foreign Affairs, and Communications to the Union of India.
- **Tough Cases:** For states like **Junagadh, Hyderabad, and Manipur**, Patel had to use more assertive means (including "Operation Polo" in Hyderabad) to ensure they joined India.
- **Legacy:** His nickname 'Iron Man' and 'Bismarck of India' stems from his uncompromising determination to achieve national unity.

Other Options:

- **Option A:** Nehru was the first Prime Minister, focusing more on foreign policy and industrialization.
- **Option B:** Ambedkar was the Chairman of the Drafting Committee of the Constitution.
- **Option D:** Rajagopalachari was the first Indian Governor-General.

Final Answer: Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

Answer: (C)



Q4.

Solution

Concept: The SRC, consisting of Fazal Ali, K.M. Panikkar, and H.N. Kunzru, recommended that the boundaries of states should reflect linguistic boundaries to ensure administrative convenience and cultural unity. This led to the **States Reorganisation Act of 1956**, which redrew the internal map of India, doing away with the older classification of Part A, B, C, and D states.

Solution: Initially, the implementation of the States Reorganisation Commission report in 1956 created **14 States and 6 Union Territories**.

- **The 14 States:** Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Bombay, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Madras, Mysore, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal.
- **The 6 Union Territories:** Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands (later Lakshadweep), Manipur, and Tripura.
- **Evolution:** Many of these original Union Territories (like Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, and Tripura) later gained full statehood as the political landscape of India continued to evolve.

Final Answer: 14 States and 6 Union Territories

Answer: (B)



Q5.

Solution

Concept: The Second Five Year Plan was based on a structural model of economic growth that prioritized the development of "public sector" heavy industries (like steel, chemicals, and machine building). The logic was that by producing capital goods domestically, India could achieve long-term self-reliance and accelerate economic growth.

Solution: The primary architect of the Second Five Year Plan was **P.C. Mahalanobis**.

- **The Mahalanobis Model:** Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis was a renowned statistician and the founder of the Indian Statistical Institute. His mathematical model argued for allocating significant investment to the heavy industry sector to create a foundation for the rest of the economy.
- **Key Achievements:** This period saw the establishment of major steel plants in **Bhilai, Durgapur, and Rourkela** with foreign collaboration, as well as the development of hydroelectric power projects.
- **Comparison:** While the First Plan (associated with economist **K.N. Raj**) urged India to "hasten slowly" to avoid damaging agriculture, the Mahalanobis plan advocated for "rapid industrialization" through state intervention and protectionist trade policies.

Other Options:

- **Option A (K.N. Raj):** A young economist who was a key figure in drafting the **First Five Year Plan**.
- **Option C (John Mathai):** India's first Railway Minister and later Finance Minister; he was not the architect of the Second Plan.
- **Option D (Lal Bahadur Shastri):** Served as the second Prime Minister of India (1964–1966); he was famous for the "Green Revolution" phase later on.

Final Answer: P.C. Mahalanobis

Answer: (B)



Q6.

Solution

Concept: The movement led by Kurien focused on the "cooperative" model, where small-scale farmers in villages pooled their resources to process and market milk. This eliminated middle-men and ensured that the producers received a fair share of the profit. This model was famously piloted in Anand, Gujarat, under the brand name **Amul**.

Solution: Verghese Kurien is associated with the **White Revolution**.

- **Operation Flood:** Launched in 1970 by the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), this was the name of the project that implemented the White Revolution across India.
- **Key Innovation:** One of Kurien's major technical contributions was the development of a process to produce **skim milk powder and condensed milk from buffalo milk**, which was previously thought to be impossible (as only cow milk was used globally for this purpose).

Other Revolutions:

- **Option A (Green Revolution):** Associated with **M.S. Swaminathan** and Norman Borlaug, focusing on high-yielding varieties of wheat and rice.
- **Option B (Blue Revolution):** Refers to the rapid growth in **fish and aquaculture** production.
- **Option D (Yellow Revolution):** Refers to the increase in the production of **oilseeds**, particularly mustard and sunflower.

Final Answer: White Revolution

Answer: (C)



Q7.

Solution

Concept: During the height of the Cold War, many newly independent countries were under pressure to join either the US-led Western bloc or the Soviet-led Eastern bloc. Leaders like Jawaharlal Nehru (India), Sukarno (Indonesia), Gamal Abdel Nasser (Egypt), Kwame Nkrumah (Ghana), and Josip Broz Tito (Yugoslavia) sought a "Third Way" that prioritized national sovereignty and anti-colonialism.

Solution: The Bandung Conference (1955) is considered the precursor to the **Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)**.

- **The Ten Principles of Bandung:** The conference concluded with a declaration on world peace and cooperation, which included principles like respect for human rights, sovereignty, and the settlement of all international disputes by peaceful means.
- **Birth of NAM:** These principles laid the foundation for the formal establishment of the Non-Aligned Movement at the **Belgrade Summit in 1961**.
- **Objective:** The movement aimed to maintain "strategic autonomy" by not becoming a formal part of any military alliance (like NATO or the Warsaw Pact).

Other Options:

- **Option A (SAARC):** Formed in 1985 specifically for South Asian regional cooperation.
- **Option B (ASEAN):** Formed in 1967 for Southeast Asian regional cooperation.
- **Option D (European Union):** An economic and political union of European states, unrelated to the Afro-Asian solidarity movement.

Final Answer: Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)

Answer: (C)



Q8.

Solution

Concept: After major conflicts, countries often sign peace agreements or declarations to restore diplomatic relations and ensure long-term stability. Such agreements typically outline terms for ceasefire, withdrawal, and future cooperation.

Solution: The Indo-Pak war of 1965 ended with the signing of the Tashkent Declaration in January 1966. This agreement was mediated by the Soviet Union and signed by Indian Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri and Pakistani President Ayub Khan in Tashkent (now in Uzbekistan). It aimed to restore peaceful relations, withdraw forces to pre-war positions, and promote diplomatic dialogue between the two nations.

Other options are incorrect because: - The Shimla Agreement was signed after the 1971 war. - The Indus Waters Treaty was signed in 1960 and relates to water sharing. - The Lahore Declaration was signed in 1999 to improve bilateral relations.

Final Answer: The agreement signed after the 1965 war was the Tashkent Declaration.

Answer: (B)

Q9.

Solution

Concept: The phrase "Aaya Ram Gaya Ram" is a well-known expression in Indian politics that emerged after the 1967 general elections. It highlights the issue of political instability caused by frequent switching of party allegiance by elected representatives.

Solution: After the 1967 elections, several legislators changed their political parties multiple times in a short period, leading to instability in governments. This phenomenon became popularly known as "Aaya Ram Gaya Ram," symbolizing frequent defections or floor-crossing by politicians. It eventually led to the need for anti-defection laws in India.

Final Answer: The term refers to frequent floor-crossing/defections by legislators.

Answer: (B)

Q10.

Solution

Concept: The split in the Indian National Congress in 1969 resulted in two factions—Congress (O) and Congress (R). The letters represented different ideological and organizational alignments within the party.

Solution: Congress (O) stood for "Organisation," representing the old guard of the party. Congress (R), led by Indira Gandhi, stood for "Requisitionists," referring to the group that requisitioned a special session of the Congress to assert control and push for progressive policies.

Final Answer: 'R' stood for Requisitionists.

Answer: (B)



Q11.

Solution

Concept: In 1974, student-led agitations in Gujarat and Bihar against corruption and economic hardship escalated into a national movement. A veteran socialist leader, who had remained out of active politics for years, was invited to lead the Bihar movement. He demanded the dismissal of the state government and proposed a radical transformation of the social, economic, and political order.

Solution: The 'Total Revolution' (Sampoorna Kranti) call was given by **Jayaprakash Narayan (JP)**.

- **The Movement:** JP argued that a change in leadership wasn't enough; India needed a revolution in all spheres—social, economic, political, and cultural.
- **Political Impact:** JP's leadership successfully united diverse opposition parties (Socialists, Jana Sangh, Bharatiya Lok Dal) against Indira Gandhi, which eventually culminated in the formation of the **Janata Party** after the Emergency.

Final Answer: Jayaprakash Narayan

Answer: (B)

Q12.

Solution

Concept: During the National Emergency (1975–1977), the Indira Gandhi government passed a massive amendment that sought to change the fundamental structure of the Constitution. It reduced the powers of the Judiciary, increased the authority of the Prime Minister and Parliament, and added new words to the Preamble.

Solution: The Constitutional Amendment often referred to as the "Mini-Constitution" is the **42nd Amendment**.

- **Key Changes:**
 - Added the words **"Socialist," "Secular,"** and **"Integrity"** to the Preamble.
 - Introduced the **Fundamental Duties** (Part IV-A) for citizens.
 - Curtailed the power of Judicial Review by courts.
 - Extended the tenure of the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies from 5 to 6 years.
- **Reversal:** Most of the controversial provisions of this amendment were later struck down or reversed by the **44th Amendment** passed by the Janata Party government in 1978 to restore democratic checks and balances.

Final Answer: 42nd Amendment

Answer: (C)



Q13.

Solution

Concept: The Anandpur Sahib Resolution (1973) was an important political document associated with the Akali Dal. It focused on the structure of Indian federalism and the distribution of powers between the central and state governments.

Solution: The resolution emphasized greater autonomy for states, particularly Punjab, within the Indian Union. It called for limiting the powers of the central government to specific areas like defense, foreign affairs, and communications, while giving states more control over their internal matters. Thus, its primary concern was redefining Center-State relations and demanding more autonomy.

Final Answer: The Anandpur Sahib Resolution was primarily concerned with redefining Center-State relations and seeking more autonomy for Punjab.

Answer: (B)

Q14.

Solution

Concept: The Mizo insurgency began in the late 1950s after the "Mautam" famine, when locals felt the Assam government and the Union ignored their plight. The **Mizo National Front (MNF)** turned into an armed secessionist movement in 1966. After two decades of conflict, a peace accord was signed in 1986, leading to the creation of the state of Mizoram.

Solution: The Mizo National Front (MNF) was headed by **Laldenga**.

- **Transition to Peace:** Laldenga led the MNF from the jungles and from exile in Pakistan and London. Following the 1986 Accord with the Rajiv Gandhi government, he gave up the demand for independence and became the first Chief Minister of the new state of Mizoram.
- **Other Leaders:**
 - **Option A (A.Z. Phizo):** The leader of the Naga National Council (NNC) who led the Naga insurgency.
 - **Option D (Muivah):** A key leader of the NSCN (Isak-Muivah), a prominent Naga insurgent group.

Final Answer: Laldenga

Answer: (B)

Q15.

Solution

Concept: The commission was appointed in 1979 by the Janata Party government under Morarji Desai. It was tasked with identifying "socially or educationally backward classes" and suggesting ways to end caste discrimination. Its recommendation of **27% reservation** for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in central government jobs led to massive protests when implemented in 1990 by the V.P. Singh government.

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

- **Historical Context:** It was called the "Second" because the **First** Backward Classes Commission had been set up much earlier (1953) under the chairmanship of **Kaka Kalelkar**.
- **The Chairman:** It is popularly known as the Mandal Commission after its chairman, **B.P. Mandal**.
- **Impact:** The implementation of its report marked the beginning of "Mandal Politics," which saw the rise of powerful regional parties representing the interests of the OBCs.

Final Answer: Second Backward Classes Commission

Answer: (B)



Q16.

Solution

Concept: Following the 2004 General Elections, no single party secured a majority. While the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) had been in power, the results led to the formation of a new center-left coalition. This group governed India for two consecutive terms (2004–2014) with Dr. Manmohan Singh as the Prime Minister.

Solution: The United Progressive Alliance (UPA) was formed in 2004 under the leadership of the ****Indian National Congress.****

- **The Core:** The Congress was the largest party within the alliance. Sonia Gandhi served as the Chairperson of the UPA.
- **Support:** The alliance was supported from the outside by the Left Front (including the CPI and CPI(M)) during its first term to ensure a stable majority in the Lok Sabha.
- **Other Options:**
 - **Option A (BJP):** Leads the rival coalition known as the National Democratic Alliance (NDA).
 - **Option B & D:** While these parties have participated in various fronts, they did not lead the UPA.

Final Answer: Indian National Congress

Answer: (C)



Q17.

Solution

Concept: In the early 1990s, India faced a severe Balance of Payments (BoP) crisis; its foreign exchange reserves had dropped so low that they could barely pay for two weeks of essential imports. To secure a bailout from the IMF and World Bank, the government introduced a set of radical reforms to move away from the "License Raj" toward a market-oriented economy.

Solution: The New Economic Policy (NEP), involving LPG, was introduced in India in **1991.**

- **The Architects:** The policy was launched under the government of Prime Minister **P.V. Narasimha Rao**, with **Dr. Manmohan Singh** serving as the Finance Minister.
- **The LPG Pillars:**
 - **Liberalization:** Removing government restrictions and "red tape" on trade and industry.
 - **Privatization:** Reducing the role of the public sector and selling shares of government-owned companies to private investors.
 - **Globalization:** Integrating the Indian economy with the global market through reduced tariffs and increased foreign investment.

Final Answer: 1991

Answer: (B)



Q18.

Solution

Concept: The **Shah Bano Case** (1985) involved a 62-year-old Muslim woman who filed a petition for maintenance from her divorced husband. The Supreme Court ruled in her favor, stating that Section 125 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (which applies to all citizens regardless of religion) entitles a woman to maintenance. However, this sparked a massive backlash from orthodox Muslim leaders who saw it as interference in Muslim Personal Law.

Solution: The 'Shah Bano Case' of 1985 became a focal point for debates on **Secularism vs. Minority Rights.**

- **The Conflict:** The debate centered on whether a "Uniform Civil Code" should prevail over religious personal laws. Advocates of secularism supported the court's decision, while others argued it violated the constitutional right of minorities to follow their own religious laws.
- **Political Result:** Under pressure, the Rajiv Gandhi government passed the **Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Act, 1986**, which effectively nullified the Supreme Court's judgment, leading to accusations of "minority appeasement" and further intensifying the communal debate in India.

Final Answer: Secularism vs. Minority Rights

Answer: (B)

Q19.

Solution

Concept: Following the disintegration of the USSR in 1991, the newly independent republics (like Russia, Central Asia, and East Europe) had to abandon their state-controlled socialist economies. The World Bank and the IMF influenced a model of transition known as "Shock Therapy."

Solution: The 'Shock Therapy' in the post-Soviet context referred to **A painful process of transition from authoritarian socialist system to a democratic capitalist system.**

- **The "Shock":** It involved the sudden privatization of state assets, the removal of government subsidies, and a shift to free trade and currency convertibility.
- **The Result:** Instead of a smooth transition, it led to economic collapse. In Russia, about 90% of industries were sold to private individuals at "throwaway prices" (the "largest garage sale in history"), the value of the Ruble plummeted, and social welfare systems were destroyed, leading to widespread poverty.

Final Answer: A painful process of transition from authoritarian socialist system to a democratic capitalist system

Answer: (B)



Q20.

Solution

Concept: By the mid-1980s, the Soviet Union was facing economic stagnation and political corruption. To save the system, the General Secretary of the Communist Party introduced two radical reform policies: **Glasnost** (Openness), which allowed for more freedom of speech and transparency, and **Perestroika** (Restructuring), which aimed to modernize the economy by introducing market elements.

Solution: The last leader of the Soviet Union who introduced 'Glasnost' and 'Perestroika' was **Mikhail Gorbachev**.

- **Unintended Consequences:** While Gorbachev intended to strengthen the USSR, these reforms unleashed forces of nationalism and democratic desire that he could not control. This ultimately led to the disintegration of the Soviet Union in 1991.
- **Other Options:**
 - **Option A (Yeltsin):** The first President of the Russian Federation after the USSR collapsed.
 - **Option B (Putin):** The current leader of Russia; he rose to power much later (1999).
 - **Option D (Brezhnev):** The leader before Gorbachev (1964–1982), associated with the "era of stagnation."

Final Answer: Mikhail Gorbachev

Answer: (C)



Q21.

Solution

Concept: While European integration began in the 1950s with the European Economic Community (EEC), it was primarily a trade-based organization. Following the end of the Cold War, European nations sought a deeper political and economic union. This resulted in the creation of a common foreign policy, cooperation in justice and home affairs, and the foundation for a single currency (the Euro).

Solution: The European Union was formally established by the **Maastricht Treaty (1992)**.

- **Evolution:** The treaty was signed in the Netherlands and went into effect in 1993. It officially transformed the "European Community" into the "European Union."
- **Other Options:**
 - **Option A:** Ended World War I (1919).
 - **Option C (Treaty of Rome):** Established the EEC in 1957; it was a precursor to the EU but not its formal founding document.
 - **Option D (Lisbon Treaty):** Signed in 2007 to modernize the EU's institutional structure.

Final Answer: Maastricht Treaty

Answer: (B)

Q22.

Solution

Concept: The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was established on August 8, 1967, with the signing of the **Bangkok Declaration**. The organization was formed to promote economic growth, social progress, and regional peace among Southeast Asian nations.

Solution: The country that was NOT one of the founding members of ASEAN is **India**.

- **The Founding Five:** The original five members were **Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand**.
- **India's Status:** India is geographically located in South Asia (not Southeast Asia). While India is now a major strategic partner of ASEAN and participates in the East Asia Summit, it is not a member of ASEAN itself.
- **ASEAN Way:** The organization is famous for the "ASEAN Way," a form of interaction that is informal, non-confrontational, and respects the national sovereignty of its members.

Final Answer: India

Answer: (C)



Q23.

Solution

Concept: After years of following a strict Soviet-style command economy that led to stagnation, a new leadership took over in the late 1970s. They decided to end the country's economic isolation and integrate with the global economy through a series of "market socialist" reforms.

Solution: The 'Open Door' policy was adopted by **China**.

- **Leadership:** The policy was introduced in 1978 by **Deng Xiaoping**.
- **Objectives:** The policy aimed to attract foreign investment and technology to modernize China's industry and agriculture.
- **Strategy:** Instead of "Shock Therapy" (which Russia used), China followed a gradualist approach. It created **Special Economic Zones (SEZs)** where foreign enterprises could operate with tax incentives and less regulation.
- **Outcome:** This policy transformed China into the "world's factory" and led to several decades of record-breaking economic growth.

Final Answer: China

Answer: (C)

Q24.

Solution

Concept: The **Indo-Sri Lanka Accord** was signed in 1987 between Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and Sri Lankan President J.R. Jayewardene. The goal was to resolve the ethnic conflict between the Sri Lankan government and the Tamil militants (primarily the LTTE). As part of this accord, India sent a military contingent to enforce the peace and disarm the militants.

Solution: The 'IPKF' (Indian Peace Keeping Force) was sent to **Sri Lanka**.

- **The Conflict:** Instead of keeping peace, the IPKF eventually found itself in a bloody direct conflict with the **LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam)**, the very group it was supposed to protect the interests of.
- **Outcome:** The intervention became unpopular both in India and Sri Lanka. Sri Lankans viewed it as an interference in their internal affairs. The IPKF was eventually withdrawn in 1990 without achieving its objective.

Final Answer: Sri Lanka

Answer: (C)



Q25.

Solution

Concept: In the early 2000s, Nepal faced a constitutional crisis when King Gyanendra dismissed the elected government and took over absolute power. This led to a massive pro-democracy protest known as the **Jana Andolan II** (People's Movement) in 2006.

Solution: The 'Seven Party Alliance' (SPA) is related to the democratic movement of **Nepal**.

- **The Alliance:** The SPA was a coalition of the major non-monarchist political parties. They joined hands with the **Maoist insurgents** to lead a massive non-violent protest in Kathmandu.
- **Result:** The movement was so powerful that the King was forced to restore the Parliament, which eventually led to the abolition of the monarchy and the transformation of Nepal into a **Federal Democratic Republic**.

Final Answer: Nepal

Answer: (B)



Q26.

Solution

Concept: The UN consists of six principal organs, but power is not distributed equally among them. While the General Assembly is like a global parliament where every nation has one vote, another body is designed to act quickly and decisively in the face of war or aggression. This body has the unique power to pass binding resolutions and even authorize the use of force.

Solution: The principal organ of the United Nations responsible for maintaining international peace and security is **The Security Council.**

- **Composition:** It consists of 15 members: **5 Permanent members (P5)**—the US, Russia, UK, France, and China—and 10 non-permanent members elected for two-year terms.
- **The Veto Power:** The P5 members hold the "veto power," meaning if any one of them votes 'no' on a substantive resolution, the resolution fails, regardless of how many other countries support it.
- **Functions:** It investigates disputes, recommends methods of settlement, and can impose economic sanctions or authorize military action through UN Peacekeeping forces.

Other Options:

- **Option A:** The General Assembly is the main deliberative organ but cannot enforce peace through military means.
- **Option B:** The Trusteeship Council is currently inactive, as its goal was to manage territories transitioning to independence.
- **Option D:** The Secretariat is the administrative arm, led by the Secretary-General.

Final Answer: The Security Council

Answer: (C)



Q27.

Solution

Concept: NGOs play a "watchdog" role in global politics. They are independent of governments and often lobby international organizations to take action on specific issues. Different NGOs specialize in different fields: some in environmental protection, some in poverty relief, and others in legal advocacy.

Solution: The NGO that focuses on the protection of human rights all over the world is **Amnesty International**.

- **Mission:** Amnesty International campaigns against the death penalty, works to free "prisoners of conscience" (those jailed for their beliefs), and documents human rights violations like torture or unlawful detention.
- **Impact:** Their annual reports are widely cited by the UN and the media to put pressure on governments to improve their human rights records.

Other Options:

- **Option A (Red Cross):** Primarily focuses on providing humanitarian aid during armed conflicts and natural disasters (International Committee of the Red Cross).
- **Option C (Greenpeace):** A global organization that focuses on **environmental issues** like climate change and deforestation.
- **Option D (Oxfam):** A confederation of organizations focused on the alleviation of **global poverty** and injustice.

Final Answer: Amnesty International

Answer: (B)



Q28.

Solution

Concept: Traditional security focuses on the state and its defense from external military threats. One of the main ways states manage these threats is through **Arms Control**, which regulates the acquisition or development of weapons. The NPT (1968) is the most famous example, designed to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and move toward disarmament.

Solution: The Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) is an example of **Traditional Security (Arms Control)**.

- **Traditional Logic:** It assumes that the primary threat is the military power of other states. By limiting the number of states with nuclear weapons, the treaty aims to reduce the risk of a catastrophic nuclear war.
- **The Core Pillars:** The treaty is based on three pillars: non-proliferation, disarmament, and the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Final Answer: Traditional Security (Arms Control)

Answer: (B)

Q29.

Solution

Concept: In the 21st century, the definition of security has expanded. **Non-Traditional Security** (often called Human Security or Global Security) argues that the "referent object" of security should be the individual human being or the entire planet, not just the state borders. These threats are often transnational, meaning they don't respect national boundaries.

Solution: The following is considered a 'Non-Traditional' threat to security: **Global Warming and Pandemics**.

- **Why it's Non-Traditional:** Unlike a military invasion (Traditional), you cannot stop a rising sea level or a virus with a tank or an airplane. These threats require global cooperation rather than national military defense.
- **Human Security:** This approach focuses on "freedom from fear" and "freedom from want."
- **Other Options:**
 - **Options A, B, and D:** These are generally classified under **Traditional Security** because they involve physical violence, territory, and state military capacity. (Note: While Terrorism is sometimes called "new" security, it is still a form of organized political violence, whereas Global Warming is an existential environmental threat).

Final Answer: Global Warming and Pandemics

Answer: (C)



Q30.

Solution

Concept: The Earth Summit was organized to address urgent problems of environmental protection and socio-economic development. It produced several major outcomes, including the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). However, its primary "action plan" for the 21st century remains its most cited result.

Solution: The 'Earth Summit' held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 resulted in Agenda 21.

- **What is Agenda 21?** It is a non-binding, voluntarily implemented action plan of the United Nations with regard to sustainable development. The "21" refers to the 21st century.
- **Focus:** It provides a comprehensive blueprint for global, national, and local actions to minimize the environmental impact of human activities.

Other Options:

- **Option A (Kyoto Protocol):** Adopted in 1997 to set binding targets for industrialized nations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Option C (Montreal Protocol):** A 1987 treaty designed to protect the ozone layer by phasing out CFCs.
- **Option D (Paris Agreement):** A 2015 agreement within the UNFCCC dealing with greenhouse gas emissions mitigation.

Final Answer: Agenda 21

Answer: (B)



Q31.

Solution

Concept: Developing countries argue that the current state of environmental degradation is largely the result of centuries of industrialization by the West. Therefore, while everyone is responsible for protecting the planet, the burden of cost and technology should not be shared equally between the rich and the poor.

Solution: The concept of 'Common but Differentiated Responsibilities' (CBDR) relates to **Global Environmental Protection.**

- **Common Responsibility:** Every country has a duty to protect the Earth's "global commons" (atmosphere, oceans, space).
- **Differentiated Responsibility:** Developed countries, having contributed more to historical pollution and possessing more financial resources, should take the lead in reducing emissions and providing financial aid to developing nations.
- **Official Status:** This principle was formally accepted at the 1992 Rio Earth Summit.

Final Answer: Global Environmental Protection

Answer: (B)

Q32.

Solution

Concept: The core idea here is that global influences do not simply "overwrite" local traditions. Instead, they interact with them to create something new. This is often referred to as 'Glocalization' (Global + Local). Rather than erasing differences, this process allows cultures to evolve by picking and choosing foreign elements and adapting them to their own context.

Solution: Globalisation leads to 'Cultural Heterogenization' because Each culture becomes more distinctive by absorbing external influences.

- **Unique Synthesis:** When a global brand or idea enters a local market, it is often modified. For example, the way "Hip-Hop" is performed in Mumbai is distinct from how it is performed in New York; the fusion creates a new sub-culture that didn't exist before.
- **Expanding Choices:** Proponents of this view argue that globalization expands our cultural "menu." We aren't forced to give up our traditional food, but we might add sushi or tacos to our diet, making our individual lifestyles more varied.
- **Identity Retention:** Unlike homogenization (Option C), heterogenization assumes that the core identity of the local culture remains intact but is enriched or "remixed" by external contact.

Final Answer: Each culture becomes more distinctive by absorbing external influences.

Answer: (B)



Q33.

Solution

Concept: The WSF was established as an alternative to the ****World Economic Forum (WEF)****, which meets annually in Davos, Switzerland. While the WEF is seen as a space for the champions of global capitalism, the WSF is a space for those who believe that the current model of globalization prioritizes corporate profits over human rights and environmental sustainability.

Solution: The World Social Forum (WSF) is a global platform that brings together ****Opponents of neoliberal globalization.****

- **The Participants:** It is a diverse coalition of environmentalists, labor union leaders, women's rights activists, human rights defenders, and indigenous groups.
- **The Slogan:** The famous motto of the WSF is "**Another World is Possible.**"
- **First Meeting:** The first WSF meeting was held in **Porto Alegre, Brazil**, in 2001.
- **The Objective:** It aims to discuss social justice, international solidarity, and alternative models of development that oppose the "neoliberal" policies of privatization, deregulation, and unfettered free trade.

Final Answer: Opponents of neoliberal globalization

Answer: (B)

Q34.

Solution

Concept: The dominance of the Congress party was not due to a lack of competition, as parties like the Socialist Party, Communist Party, and Bharatiya Jana Sangh did exist. Instead, its success was rooted in its history and its unique ability to represent almost all sections of Indian society—from the urban elite to the rural poor, and from conservatives to radicals.

Solution: The Congress party remained dominant because of the ****Legacy of the national movement and a broad-based social coalition.****

- **Nationalist Credentials:** Having led the freedom struggle under Mahatma Gandhi, the party was seen as the "rightful heir" to independent India.
- **The 'Umbrella' Party:** Congress functioned as a broad coalition that brought together diverse interest groups, ideologies, and castes. By accommodating various factions within itself, it left very little space for a strong opposition to grow outside.
- **Charismatic Leadership:** The presence of towering figures like Jawaharlal Nehru gave the party an immense electoral advantage.

Final Answer: Legacy of the national movement and a broad-based social coalition

Answer: (B)



Q35.

Solution

Concept: After Independence, there was a growing demand for the reorganization of states based on language. The "Vishalandhra" movement sought to separate Telugu-speaking areas from the Madras Presidency. While the central leadership, including Nehru, was initially hesitant fearing it would lead to disintegration, a massive popular protest changed the course of history.

Solution: The demand for a separate state of Andhra was led by the death of **Potti Sreeramulu**.

- **The Sacrifice:** Potti Sreeramulu, a dedicated Gandhian leader, went on an indefinite fast in October 1952. He demanded that the Telugu-speaking areas of the Madras Province be formed into a separate Andhra state.
- **The Impact:** After **56 days of fasting**, Potti Sreeramulu passed away on December 15, 1952. His death sparked massive unrest, riots, and violent protests across the Andhra region.
- **The Outcome:** Faced with an escalating crisis, Prime Minister Nehru announced the formation of a separate Andhra state in December 1952. It was formally inaugurated in October 1953, becoming the **first state in India to be created on a linguistic basis**.
- **Legacy:** This success forced the government to appoint the **States Reorganisation Commission (SRC)** in 1953, which eventually led to the redrawing of India's internal boundaries in 1956.

Final Answer: Potti Sreeramulu

Answer: (B)



Q36.

Solution

Concept: Even before independence, India's leading industrialists recognized that a laissez-faire approach would not suffice for a developing nation. They argued that the state must take an active role in directing the economy to ensure rapid industrialization and growth.

Solution: The 'Bombay Plan' was a proposal for ****Setting up a planned economy in India.****

- **The Architects:** It was drafted by eight leading industrialists, including ****J.R.D. Tata, G.D. Birla, and Ardeshir Dalal.****
- **State Intervention:** Remarkably, even these capitalists believed that the private sector could not raise the massive capital required for infrastructure. They called for the state to make major investments in heavy industry and public utilities.
- **Legacy:** This set the stage for the socialist-leaning "Five Year Plans" that were adopted after independence.

Final Answer: Setting up a planned economy in India

Answer: (B)

Q37.

Solution

Concept: Relations between India and China had been "frozen" since the 1962 border war. In the late 1980s, a new diplomatic effort was made to normalize ties and move past the boundary dispute to focus on economic and cultural cooperation.

Solution: The Indian Prime Minister who visited China in 1988 was ****Rajiv Gandhi.****

- **Historical Significance:** This was the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister to China in 34 years.
- **Outcome:** The visit led to the famous handshake with ****Deng Xiaoping**** and the establishment of a Joint Working Group to resolve the border issue. Both nations agreed to maintain peace on the border while expanding trade.
- **Other Options:**
 - **Option C (Vajpayee):** He visited as Foreign Minister in 1979 and as PM in 2003, but the 1988 ice-breaking visit was by Rajiv Gandhi.

Final Answer: Rajiv Gandhi

Answer: (B)



Q38.

Solution

Concept: Under the leadership of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, India conducted its first "Peaceful Nuclear Explosion" (PNE). The mission was codenamed "Smiling Buddha" because it was conducted on the day of Buddha Purnima. This event signaled India's refusal to be bound by the discriminatory Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and its desire for strategic autonomy.

Solution: The 'Smiling Buddha' test was conducted at **Pokhran**.

- **Location:** Pokhran is located in the Thar Desert of Rajasthan. It was chosen due to its remote location and suitable geological conditions for underground testing.
- **Other Options:**
 - **Option A (Thumba):** A rocket launching station in Kerala.
 - **Option C (Sriharikota):** India's primary satellite launch center in Andhra Pradesh.
 - **Option D (Wheeler Island):** Now known as Abdul Kalam Island, used for missile testing off the coast of Odisha.

Final Answer: Pokhran

Answer: (B)

Q39.

Solution

Concept: The Syndicate was an informal name given to a group of senior, powerful Congress leaders who controlled the party's organizational machinery during the 1960s. They were "kingmakers" who engineered the appointment of Lal Bahadur Shastri and later Indira Gandhi as Prime Minister, expecting them to be figureheads who would follow the group's guidance.

Solution: The 'Syndicate' within the Congress party referred to **A group of powerful and influential leaders from within the organization**.

- **Key Figures:** The group was led by **K. Kamaraj** (President of Congress) and included leaders like **S.K. Patil**, **N. Sanjiva Reddy**, **Atulya Ghosh**, and **S. Nijalingappa**.
- **The Power Struggle:** Indira Gandhi soon challenged their authority by adopting radical socialist policies (like bank nationalization) and bypassing the party hierarchy. This led to a clash of egos and ideologies.
- **The 1969 Split:** The tension culminated in 1969 when the party split into two: **Congress (O)** (Organization), led by the Syndicate, and **Congress (R)** (Requisitionists), led by Indira Gandhi.

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

Answer: (B)



Q40.

Solution

Concept: The Navnirman (Reconstruction) Movement began as a student protest at an engineering college in Ahmedabad over an increase in food bills but quickly snowballed into a massive middle-class uprising. It was the first time in independent India that a popular agitation forced the resignation of an elected state government.

Solution: The 'Navnirman Movement' in Gujarat was primarily against ****Corruption and price rise.****

- **The Target:** The movement targeted the state government led by Chimanbhai Patel, whom protestors nicknamed "Chiman-Chor" due to allegations of corruption.
- **The Outcome:** The agitation led to the imposition of President's Rule and eventually fresh elections in 1975, where the Congress party was defeated.
- **Connection:** This movement inspired Jayaprakash Narayan (JP) to lead a similar agitation in Bihar, eventually resulting in the "Total Revolution" call.

Final Answer: Corruption and price rise

Answer: (B)



Q41.

Solution

Concept: In the early 1980s, the state of Punjab was gripped by an insurgency demanding a separate Sikh state called "Khalistan." Militant leaders, led by Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, had turned the Golden Temple complex into an armed fortress.

Solution: Operation Blue Star was conducted in 1984 to **Evict militants from the Golden Temple.**

- **The Action:** Prime Minister Indira Gandhi ordered the Indian Army to enter the temple premises in June 1984. The operation succeeded in neutralizing the militants but caused significant damage to the Akal Takht (a sacred building within the complex).
- **Aftermath:** The operation deeply hurt the religious sentiments of the Sikh community. It directly led to the tragic assassination of Indira Gandhi by her Sikh bodyguards in October 1984, which was followed by large-scale anti-Sikh riots.

Other Options:

- **Option B (Siachen):** This was **Operation Meghdoot**.
- **Option C (Goa):** This was **Operation Vijay** (1961).
- **Option D (Bangladesh):** This was the **Indo-Pak War of 1971**.

Final Answer: Evict militants from the Golden Temple

Answer: (A)



Q42.

Solution

Concept: This phrase describes the two competing political narratives that dominated India after 1989. "Mandal" refers to the implementation of the Mandal Commission report (providing 27% reservation for OBCs), while "Mandir" refers to the mobilization for the construction of a Ram temple in Ayodhya.

Solution: The 'Mandal vs Mandir' politics refers to the conflict between **Caste-based reservation politics and religion-based mobilization.**

- **Mandal:** Represented the politics of "Social Justice." It mobilized the Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and led to the rise of regional parties that challenged the Congress party's traditional vote bank.
- **Mandir:** Represented the politics of "Hindutva" or religious identity. The BJP used the Rath Yatra to consolidate a pan-Hindu identity that aimed to cut across caste lines.
- **Political Shift:** These two forces fundamentally reshaped the Indian electorate, moving it away from a single-party dominant system to a complex era of coalitions.

Final Answer: Caste-based reservation politics and religion-based mobilization

Answer: (A)

Q43.

Solution

Concept: The term "BRIC" was originally coined by an economist to describe the world's fastest-growing emerging economies. It eventually formalized into an intergovernmental organization aimed at increasing cooperation among these nations to create a more "multipolar" world order.

Solution: The BRICS organization includes **Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa.**

- **Evolution:** The group was originally just BRIC. South Africa joined the group in 2010, turning the acronym into BRICS.
- **Significance:** These nations represent about 40% of the world's population and a significant share of global GDP. They often collaborate on issues like international trade, development finance (through the New Development Bank), and climate change.
- **Expansion Note:** As of 2024, the group has expanded further to include countries like Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, and the UAE, though the core identity remains rooted in the original BRICS members.

Final Answer: Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa

Answer: (B)



Q44.

Solution

Concept: Built in 1961, the Berlin Wall was a physical barrier that separated West Berlin (aligned with the democratic Western bloc) from East Berlin (aligned with the communist Eastern bloc). It was the ultimate symbol of the Cold War division between the United States and the Soviet Union. Its demolition in November 1989 followed a series of peaceful revolutions across Eastern Europe.

Solution: The downfall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 symbolized ****The unification of the two blocs of the Cold War.****

- **End of Division:** The fall of the wall represented the collapse of communist regimes in Eastern Europe and the subsequent end of the bipolar world order.
- **German Reunification:** It paved the way for the formal reunification of East and West Germany in October 1990.
- **Other Options:**
 - **Option A:** WWII began in 1939, exactly 50 years prior.
 - **Option C:** The Space Race primarily took place in the 1950s and 60s.
 - **Option D:** On the contrary, the end of the Cold War eventually led to the expansion and strengthening of the European Union through the Maastricht Treaty.

Final Answer: The unification of the two blocs of the Cold War

Answer: (B)



Q45.

Solution

Concept: In political science and geography, "Commons" refers to resources shared by a community. On a planetary scale, the ****Global Commons**** are those resource domains that do not fall under the legal jurisdiction of any individual nation-state. Because no single country owns them, their management requires international cooperation and treaties to prevent exploitation or "the tragedy of the commons."

Solution: The 'Global Commons' refers to ****Areas not under the sovereign jurisdiction of any one state (e.g., Antarctica, Outer Space).****

- **Examples:**

- **The Atmosphere:** Essential for all life; regulated by treaties like the Montreal Protocol and the Paris Agreement.
- **Outer Space:** Governed by the Outer Space Treaty to ensure it is used for peaceful purposes.
- **The High Seas:** Waters beyond national maritime boundaries, including the deep ocean floor.
- **Antarctica:** Managed by the Antarctic Treaty System, which prohibits military activity and mineral mining.

- **The Challenge:** Since these areas belong to everyone, individual nations often have little incentive to protect them, leading to pollution (e.g., space debris or ocean plastics) and resource depletion.

Final Answer: Areas not under the sovereign jurisdiction of any one state (e.g., Antarctica, Outer Space)

Answer: (B)



Q46.

Solution

Concept: Amnesty International is a worldwide movement of people who campaign for internationally recognized human rights to be respected and protected. It operates on the belief that human rights violations anywhere are a matter of concern for people everywhere.

Solution: Amnesty International is an organization associated with **Human Rights**.

- **Core Activities:** The organization focuses on several key areas, including:
 - Campaigning for the release of **prisoners of conscience** (people detained for their beliefs, lineage, or identity who have not used or advocated violence).
 - Working to abolish the **death penalty** and end **torture**.
 - Protecting the rights of refugees, migrants, and marginalized communities.
- **Methodology:** They publish detailed annual reports on the state of human rights in countries around the world. These reports are used to exert moral pressure on governments and to inform international bodies like the United Nations.
- **Recognition:** For its work in defense of human dignity, Amnesty International was awarded the **Nobel Peace Prize** in 1977.

Final Answer: Human Rights

Answer: (B)



Q47.

Solution

Concept: The dispute centered on a site in Ayodhya where the 16th-century Babri Masjid stood. Many Hindus, represented by organizations like the **Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP)**, believed the mosque was built on the exact birthplace of Lord Ram (*Ram Janmabhoomi*) after destroying a pre-existing temple. In response to the growing movement to claim the site, the **Babri Masjid Action Committee (BMAC)** was formed to defend the mosque and its legal status.

Solution: The 'Vishwa Hindu Parishad' and 'Babri Masjid Action Committee' were central to the **Ayodhya dispute.**

- **Political Mobilization:** In the late 1980s, the VHP led the *Shila Pujan* (consecration of bricks) movement. The BJP later joined the cause, with L.K. Advani leading the *Rath Yatra* in 1990 to consolidate support for the temple.
- **The Climax:** The dispute reached a boiling point on **December 6, 1992**, when a large crowd of *kar sevaks* demolished the mosque, leading to widespread communal violence across India.
- **Legal Resolution:** The long-standing legal battle was finally resolved by the Supreme Court of India in **November 2019**, which awarded the disputed land to a trust for the construction of a Ram temple and directed the government to provide an alternative site for a mosque.

Final Answer: Ayodhya dispute

Answer: (B)



Q48.

Solution

Concept: The Security Council is composed of 15 members, but it is divided into two categories: the **Permanent Members (P5)** and the **Non-permanent Members**. While the 10 non-permanent members are elected by the General Assembly for two-year terms, the P5 members have permanent seats and hold the "Veto Power," allowing any one of them to block a substantive resolution.

Solution: The permanent member of the UN Security Council among the options is **China**.

- **The P5 Members:** The five permanent members are the **United States, Russia (formerly the USSR), the United Kingdom, France, and China**.
- **Why China?** China was one of the victorious Allies of WWII and a founding member of the UN. Initially, the seat was held by the Republic of China (Taiwan), but in 1971, the seat was transferred to the People's Republic of China.
- **The G4 Nations:** Options A (India), B (Germany), and D (Japan), along with Brazil, form a group known as the **G4**. these countries support each other's bids for permanent seats as part of a proposed reform of the Security Council, but currently, they only serve as elected non-permanent members.

Final Answer: China

Answer: (C)



Q49.

Solution

Concept: Adopted in 1997 in Kyoto, Japan, and entering into force in 2005, the Kyoto Protocol is an extension of the 1992 **UNFCCC** (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change). It was based on the principle of **'Common but Differentiated Responsibilities'**, placing a heavier burden on developed nations because they are recognized as being principally responsible for the current high levels of GHG emissions in the atmosphere.

Solution: The 'Kyoto Protocol' is an international treaty that sets targets for **Reducing greenhouse gas emissions.**

- **The Targets:** The treaty focused on reducing six specific greenhouse gases, most notably **Carbon Dioxide (CO₂)**, Methane (CH₄), and Nitrous Oxide (N₂O).
- **Annex I Countries:** Industrialized nations (Annex I) were required to reduce their emissions by an average of 5% against 1990 levels during the first commitment period (2008–2012).
- **Mechanisms:** It introduced innovative market-based mechanisms such as **Emissions Trading** (the carbon market), the **Clean Development Mechanism (CDM)**, and Joint Implementation to help countries meet their targets cost-effectively.

Final Answer: Reducing greenhouse gas emissions

Answer: (B)

Q50.

Solution

Concept: Following the split in the Congress party in 1969, Indira Gandhi needed to build a new social base that bypassed the traditional party machinery controlled by the 'Syndicate'. She shifted her political strategy toward a direct appeal to the masses, particularly the poor, Dalits, Adivasis, and minorities.

Solution: The 1971 'Garibi Hatao' slogan was given by **Indira Gandhi.**

- **The Context:** In the 1971 General Elections, the opposition formed a "Grand Alliance" with the single-point program of **Indira Hatao** (Remove Indira).
- **The Masterstroke:** Indira Gandhi countered this with the slogan **'Garibi Hatao'**. She argued that while the opposition wanted to remove her, she wanted to remove the poverty that plagued the nation.
- **The Impact:** This positive and populist program resonated deeply with the rural and urban poor. It helped her faction, Congress (R), win a landslide victory with 352 seats, effectively proving that she was the "real" leader of the Congress and the nation.

Final Answer: Indira Gandhi

Answer: (B)



Answer Key

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

