

CUET-UG Political science Sample Paper - 21

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. The First General Election in India was a landmark event. Arrange the following events related to the early democratic journey of India in correct chronological order:

- Formation of the First Elected Government.
- Appointment of Sukumar Sen as the first Chief Election Commissioner.
- The first meeting of the Lok Sabha.
- Conduct of the first polls across the country.

- (A) II, IV, I, III
(B) II, I, IV, III
(C) IV, II, I, III
(D) I, II, III, IV

Q2. Which of the following leaders was the primary architect of the 'Integration of Princely States' and is often referred to as the 'Bismarck of India'?

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

Q3. The States Reorganisation Act was passed in 1956 based on the recommendations of the States Reorganisation Commission. This led to the creation of:



- (A) 12 States and 5 Union Territories
- (B) 14 States and 6 Union Territories
- (C) 15 States and 7 Union Territories
- (D) 10 States and 4 Union Territories

Q4. Match List I (Founders/Leaders) with List II (Political Parties) and select the correct option:

| List I (Founders/Leaders) | | List II (Political Parties) | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| i. | C. Rajagopalachari | 1. | Communist Party of India |
| ii. | S.A. Dange | 2. | Swatantra Party |
| iii. | Deen Dayal Upadhyaya | 3. | Congress Socialist Party |
| iv. | Acharya Narendra Dev | 4. | Bharatiya Jana Sangh |

- (A) i-2, ii-1, iii-4, iv-3
- (B) i-1, ii-2, iii-3, iv-4
- (C) i-4, ii-3, iii-2, iv-1
- (D) i-2, ii-4, iii-1, iv-3

Q5. Identify the correct statement regarding the First Five Year Plan of India:

- (A) It focused primarily on heavy industrialization.
- (B) It was drafted by P.C. Mahalanobis.
- (C) It prioritized the agricultural sector, including investment in dams and irrigation.
- (D) It aimed at a sudden shift toward the "Socialist Pattern of Society."

Q6. The 'Milkman of India', Verghese Kurien, played a pivotal role in which of the following revolutions?

- (A) Green Revolution



- (B) Blue Revolution
- (C) White Revolution
- (D) Yellow Revolution

Q7. Consider the following statements regarding India's Foreign Policy and choose the correct one:

- (A) India signed the Friendship Treaty with the USSR in 1971 for a period of 10 years.
- (B) The Panchsheel Agreement was signed between India and China in 1954.
- (C) India conducted its first nuclear test, Operation Shakti, in 1974.
- (D) Nehru was the sole architect of the SEATO alliance.

Q8. The "Grand Alliance" of 1971 was formed by:

- (A) All major non-communist, non-Congress opposition parties.
- (B) The Congress (R) and the CPI.
- (C) The Congress (O) and the Congress (R).
- (D) All regional parties of South India.

Q9. The 1967 General Elections are often called a 'Political Earthquake' because:

- (A) The Congress party lost its majority in the Lok Sabha.
- (B) The Congress party lost power in many states for the first time.
- (C) A military coup took place in India.
- (D) The Election Commission declared the elections null and void.

Q10. Assertion (A): The Emergency of 1975 was declared on the grounds of 'Internal Disturbance'.

Reason (R): The Shah Commission was appointed to investigate the circumstances that led to the declaration of Emergency.

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



- (B) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- (C) (A) is true but (R) is false.
- (D) (A) is false but (R) is true.

Q11. The concept of 'Total Revolution' was given by:

- (A) Morarji Desai
- (B) Jayaprakash Narayan
- (C) Ram Manohar Lohia
- (D) Chaudhary Charan Singh

Q12. The 'Anandpur Sahib Resolution' of 1973 was primarily related to the demands of:

- (A) Greater autonomy for the state of Punjab.
- (B) Formation of a separate Tamil nation.
- (C) Integration of Sikkim into India.
- (D) The Bodoland movement.

Q13. Which Prime Minister of India signed the 'Punjab Accord' in 1985 with Harchand Singh Longowal?

- (A) Indira Gandhi
- (B) Rajiv Gandhi
- (C) V.P. Singh
- (D) P.V. Narasimha Rao

Q14. The Mandal Commission was officially known as the _____ and it recommended _____ reservation for OBCs in central government jobs.

- (A) Second Backward Classes Commission; 27%
- (B) First Backward Classes Commission; 33%
- (C) Socially and Educationally Backward Commission; 50%



(D) Minority Welfare Commission; 15%

Q15. Which era in Indian politics started in 1989 and lasted until 2014 at the central level?

- (A) Era of One-Party Dominance
- (B) Era of Coalition Governments
- (C) Era of Presidential Governance
- (D) Era of Judicial Activism

Q16. The 'New Economic Policy' involving Liberalisation, Privatisation, and Globalisation (LPG) was introduced in India in:

- (A) 1985
- (B) 1990
- (C) 1991
- (D) 1996

Q17. Mikhail Gorbachev introduced the policies of 'Perestroika' and 'Glasnost' to:

- (A) Strengthen the Warsaw Pact.
- (B) Democratize and reform the Soviet political and economic system.
- (C) Expand the Soviet influence in Afghanistan.
- (D) Compete with the US in the Space Race.

Q18. The 'Shock Therapy' in the post-communist regime involved:

- (A) A gradual transition to capitalism.
- (B) A sudden shift from a state-controlled economy to a market-based economy.
- (C) Re-establishment of the Soviet Union.
- (D) Strengthening the military alliance with China.



- Q19.** Arrange the following in chronological order:
- I. Integration of Germanies (Fall of Berlin Wall)
 - II. Soviet invasion of Afghanistan
 - III. Disintegration of the USSR
 - IV. Formation of the Warsaw Pact
- (A) IV, II, I, III
(B) II, IV, III, I
(C) IV, I, II, III
(D) I, II, III, IV
- Q20.** The 'Maastricht Treaty' signed in 1992 led to the formal establishment of the:
- (A) North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
(B) European Union (EU)
(C) Council of Europe
(D) League of Nations
- Q21.** ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) was established in 1967 through the signing of the:
- (A) Bandung Declaration
(B) Bangkok Declaration
(C) Delhi Declaration
(D) Jakarta Accord
- Q22.** In which year did the People's Republic of China take over Tibet, which later became a point of contention between India and China?
- (A) 1947
(B) 1950
(C) 1959
(D) 1962



- Q23.** The 'LTTE' (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam) was a militant organization that fought for a separate state for Tamils in:
- (A) India
 - (B) Sri Lanka
 - (C) Maldives
 - (D) Malaysia
- Q24.** The 'Seven Party Alliance' (SPA) was a coalition that played a crucial role in the movement for democracy in:
- (A) Pakistan
 - (B) Bhutan
 - (C) Nepal
 - (D) Bangladesh
- Q25.** Which organ of the United Nations has 15 members, out of which 5 are permanent and have 'Veto' power?
- (A) General Assembly
 - (B) International Court of Justice
 - (C) Security Council
 - (D) Economic and Social Council
- Q26.** The 'Amnesty International' is an international NGO that campaigns for:
- (A) Environmental protection
 - (B) Global trade regulations
 - (C) Protection of human rights
 - (D) Nuclear disarmament
- Q27.** The 'Kyoto Protocol' (1997) is an international treaty that set targets for industrialized countries to cut their emissions of:



- (A) Sulfur Dioxide
- (B) Greenhouse Gases
- (C) Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs)
- (D) Particulate Matter

Q28. The 'Rio Earth Summit' of 1992 resulted in which of the following documents that provided a blueprint for sustainable development?

- (A) Agenda 21
- (B) The Paris Agreement
- (C) The Montreal Protocol
- (D) The Common Minimum Programme

Q29. Which of the following is considered a 'Global Common'?

- (A) A country's national park.
- (B) The Outer Space.
- (C) An individual's private property.
- (D) The Parliament House of a country.

Q30. 'Globalisation' has led to 'Cultural Homogenization'. This refers to:

- (A) The rise of unique local cultures.
- (B) The spread of Western culture at the cost of local cultures.
- (C) The mixing of different cultures to create something new.
- (D) The complete end of international trade.

Q31. The World Social Forum (WSF) is a global platform that brings together activists opposed to:

- (A) Environmental conservation
- (B) Neo-liberal Globalisation
- (C) Human rights movements



(D) Information Technology

Q32. The 1974 Nuclear Test in India was conducted at which place?

(A) Kalpakkam

(B) Pokhran

(C) Trombay

(D) Sriharikota

Q33. Who among the following was the founder of the 'Bharatiya Jana Sangh'?

(A) Syama Prasad Mookerjee

(B) Bal Gangadhar Tilak

(C) V.D. Savarkar

(D) Deen Dayal Upadhyaya

Q34. The strategy of 'Non-Capitalist Path of Development' was associated with:

(A) The United States

(B) The Soviet Union

(C) The European Union

(D) The ASEAN

Q35. Which constitutional amendment is often called a 'Mini-Constitution' and was passed during the Emergency?

(A) 44th Amendment

(B) 42nd Amendment

(C) 24th Amendment

(D) 73rd Amendment

Q36. The "Navnirman Movement" started in which state, eventually leading to the demand for the resignation of the state government?



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

Q37. In the context of international relations, 'NPT' stands for:

- (A) Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty
- (B) National Peace Treaty
- (C) Non-Polarity Treaty
- (D) Nuclear Power Tactics

Q38. The 'Mizo National Front' (MNF) was led by which leader during its period of armed struggle?

- (A) Angami Zapu Phizo
- (B) Laldenga
- (C) P.A. Sangma
- (D) Kazi Lhendup Dorji

Q39. The 'Bolshevik Revolution' of 1917 took place in:

- (A) France
- (B) Germany
- (C) Russia
- (D) Britain

Q40. The 'Marshall Plan' was introduced by the USA to:

- (A) Support the communist regimes in Eastern Europe.
- (B) Rebuild the economies of Western Europe after WWII.
- (C) Establish a military base in Japan.



(D) Promote the Green Revolution in India.

Q41. The 'Operation Iraqi Freedom' was launched by the US-led coalition in 2003 primarily to:

(A) Prevent Iraq from developing weapons of mass destruction.

(B) Support Saddam Hussein.

(C) Control the global prices of gold.

(D) Liberate Kuwait from Iraq.

Q42. The 'BRICS' organization does NOT include which of the following countries?

(A) Brazil

(B) Russia

(C) Indonesia

(D) South Africa

Q43. The 'Indus Waters Treaty' (1960) was brokered by which international organization between India and Pakistan?

(A) International Monetary Fund (IMF)

(B) World Bank

(C) United Nations

(D) Asian Development Bank

Q44. The 'Simla Agreement' of 1972 was signed between:

(A) Lal Bahadur Shastri and Ayub Khan

(B) Indira Gandhi and Zulfikar Ali Bhutto

(C) Rajiv Gandhi and Benazir Bhutto

(D) Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Pervez Musharraf

Q45. The 'Sardar Sarovar Project' is associated with which social movement in India?



- (A) Chipko Movement
- (B) Narmada Bachao Andolan
- (C) Anti-Arrack Movement
- (D) Appiko Movement

Q46. Assertion (A): The 'Syndicate' played a decisive role in the installation of Indira Gandhi as Prime Minister.

Reason (R): The Syndicate expected Indira Gandhi to follow their advice and leadership.

- (A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- (B) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- (C) (A) is true but (R) is false.
- (D) (A) is false but (R) is true.

Q47. Who was the Prime Minister of India during the 1965 war with Pakistan?

- (A) Jawaharlal Nehru
- (B) Lal Bahadur Shastri
- (C) Indira Gandhi
- (D) Morarji Desai

Q48. The 'BAMCEF' (Backward and Minority Communities Employees Federation) was formed to support the politics of:

- (A) The Congress Party
- (B) The Dalit and Bahujan communities
- (C) The Swatantra Party
- (D) The Urban Middle Class

Q49. The 'SAARC' (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) headquarters is located in:



- (A) New Delhi
- (B) Islamabad
- (C) Kathmandu
- (D) Dhaka

Q50. Which of the following describes 'Human Security'?

- (A) Protection of the state borders from foreign invasion.
- (B) Security of the people from threats like hunger, disease, and repression.
- (C) Expansion of the military and nuclear arsenal.
- (D) Maintenance of the Balance of Power in the world.



Detailed Solutions**Q1.****Solution****Concept:**

The transition of India into a functional democracy involved complex logistical and constitutional steps. This process was overseen by the Election Commission of India, which had to navigate a largely illiterate electorate and the absence of established electoral rolls. Key milestones included the appointment of the administrative head of elections, the actual polling process, the formation of the executive branch (government), and the first legislative gathering of the people's representatives.

Solution:

1. Appointment of Sukumar Sen (II): The process began with the creation of the machinery for elections. Sukumar Sen, an ICS officer, was appointed as the first Chief Election Commissioner in March 1950. His first task was the Herculean effort of preparing the first electoral rolls.
2. Conduct of the first polls (IV): After nearly two years of preparation, the actual voting took place between October 1951 and February 1952. This was a massive exercise involving millions of voters and established the "Indian Model" of democracy.
3. Formation of the Government (I): Following the results, the first elected government was formed. Jawaharlal Nehru was sworn in as the Prime Minister, and the cabinet was constituted based on the majority mandate received by the Indian National Congress.
4. First meeting of the Lok Sabha (III): The democratic cycle was completed when the newly elected members of the lower house (Lok Sabha) met for the first time on May 13, 1952.
5. Therefore, the correct chronological sequence is the administrative appointment, followed by the actual voting, the resulting government formation, and finally the legislative session.

Final Answer: The correct chronological order is II, IV, I, III.

Answer: (A)



Q2.

Solution**Concept:**

At the time of independence, India was divided into British Indian Provinces and 565 Princely States. The integration of these states was critical to the territorial integrity of the newly independent nation. This required a leader with exceptional diplomatic skills, firm resolve, and political foresight to convince or coerce the rulers of these states to join the Indian Union.

Solution:

1. Role of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: As the first Home Minister and Deputy Prime Minister of India, Sardar Patel took on the monumental task of integrating the Princely States. He used a combination of "carrots and sticks"—offering 'Privy Purses' while maintaining a firm stance on national unity.
2. The "Bismarck of India" Title: Otto von Bismarck was the statesman who unified the various German states into a single Empire in the 19th century. Because Patel performed a similar feat for the Indian subcontinent, he is historically compared to Bismarck.
3. Methods of Integration: Most states signed the 'Instrument of Accession' before August 15, 1947. However, for difficult cases like Junagadh, Hyderabad, and Manipur, Patel used strategic political maneuvers and, in the case of Hyderabad (Operation Polo), police action to ensure they joined India.
4. Contrast with other leaders: While Nehru focused on foreign policy and Ambedkar on the Constitution, Patel's specific mandate was the internal consolidation of the map of India.
5. His contribution ensures that he is remembered as the 'Iron Man of India' and the primary architect of national integration.

Final Answer: Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel is known as the architect of integration and the 'Bismarck of India'.

Answer: (C)



Q3.

Solution**Concept:**

Post-independence, there was a growing demand for the reorganization of states on a linguistic basis. The government initially resisted this, fearing it might lead to further disintegration. However, following protests (notably the fast-unto-death by Potti Sreeramulu), the States Reorganisation Commission (SRC) was appointed in 1953 to look into the matter scientifically and administratively.

Solution:

1. The SRC Report: The Commission, consisting of Fazal Ali, K.M. Panikkar, and H.N. Kunzru, submitted its report in 1955. It accepted that the boundaries of the states should reflect the boundaries of different languages to ensure administrative efficiency and cultural preservation.
2. Legislative Action: Based on these recommendations, the Parliament passed the States Reorganisation Act in 1956. This act abolished the old classification of states (Part A, B, C, and D) and introduced a more uniform structure.
3. The Resulting Map: The Act led to the creation of 14 States and 6 Union Territories. This was a significant departure from the British-era provincial lines and recognized the linguistic diversity of India as a strength rather than a weakness.
4. Long-term Impact: This act set the precedent for future state creations, such as the division of Bombay into Gujarat and Maharashtra in 1960, and the Punjab Reorganisation in 1966.
5. Understanding the specific numbers (14 states and 6 UTs) is a common high-frequency requirement for CUET as it marks the first major redrawing of the Indian political map.

Final Answer: The 1956 Act led to the creation of 14 States and 6 Union Territories.

Answer: (B)



Q4.

Solution**Concept:**

The early years of Indian independence were characterized by the "Congress System," but several opposition parties with distinct ideologies also emerged. These parties laid the foundation for the multi-party democracy we see today. Each party had a specific ideological leaning—ranging from socialism and communism to right-wing nationalism and free-market liberalism.

Solution:

1. C. Rajagopalachari (Swatantra Party): "Rajaji" broke away from the Congress to form the Swatantra Party in 1959. This party was unique as it advocated for a free-market economy, less government control, and the abolition of the "Permit-Quota Raj."
2. S.A. Dange (CPI): Shripad Amrit Dange was one of the founding members of the Communist Party of India. He represented the far-left ideology that sought to mobilize the working class and peasantry, often following the Soviet or Chinese models of development.
3. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya (Bharatiya Jana Sangh): Upadhyaya was the leading light of the BJS (the predecessor of the BJP). His philosophy of 'Integral Humanism' sought to create a political system rooted in Indian culture and values.
4. Acharya Narendra Dev (Congress Socialist Party): Dev was a key leader of the CSP, which initially functioned within the Congress. He believed in democratic socialism and was deeply committed to the upliftment of the poor through socialist principles.
5. Correct matching reflects an understanding of the diverse ideological spectrum of post-independence India.

Final Answer: The correct match is i-2, ii-1, iii-4, iv-3.

Answer: (A)



Q5.

Solution**Concept:**

Economic planning in India began with the First Five Year Plan (1951–1956). The primary objective was to lift the country out of the cycle of poverty and food scarcity that had worsened during the final years of colonial rule and the partition. The strategy adopted during this plan was distinct from the heavy industrial focus of the later plans.

Solution:

1. **Agricultural Priority:** The First Plan focused mainly on the agricultural sector. The planners believed that without a stable and self-sufficient food supply, industrialization would be impossible. Therefore, large-scale investments were made in irrigation and dams.
2. **Key Projects:** This era saw the initiation of mega-projects like the Bhakra Nangal Dam. These were described by Nehru as the "Temples of Modern India."
3. **The K.N. Raj Factor:** Unlike the Second Plan (Mahalanobis model), the First Plan was largely associated with the ideas of young economists like K.N. Raj, who argued for a "slow and steady" growth rate to avoid high inflation.
4. **Land Reforms:** The plan also emphasized land reforms as a way to increase agricultural productivity and ensure social justice for the rural peasantry.
5. **Evaluating the options:** Option (A) and (B) refer to the Second Five Year Plan. Option (D) refers to the Avadi session of Congress (1955). Therefore, the emphasis on agriculture and irrigation is the defining characteristic of the First Plan.

Final Answer: The First Five Year Plan prioritized the agricultural sector, including investment in dams and irrigation.

Answer: (C)



Q6.

Solution**Concept:**

The White Revolution, also known as Operation Flood, was one of the world's largest dairy development programs. It was launched in 1970 by India's National Dairy Development Board (NDDB). The primary objective was to make India a self-sufficient milk-producing nation by linking rural producers directly with urban consumers through a cooperative network. This movement transformed India from a milk-deficient nation into the world's largest milk producer, significantly impacting rural incomes and nutrition.

Solution:

1. Role of Verghese Kurien: Known as the 'Milkman of India', Dr. Verghese Kurien was the social entrepreneur who led this revolution. He was the founder-chairman of the NDDB and the architect of the 'Anand Model' of dairy cooperatives.
2. The Anand Model (Amul): This model originated in Kaira, Gujarat. It involved a three-tier structure: village-level societies, district-level unions, and state-level federations. This ensured that the middleman was eliminated and the majority of the profit went to the farmers.
3. Comparison with other Revolutions: While the Green Revolution (led by M.S. Swaminathan) focused on high-yielding varieties of wheat and rice to ensure food grain security, the White Revolution focused on livestock and dairy products. The Blue Revolution pertains to aquaculture and fish production, while the Yellow Revolution focuses on oilseed production.
4. Impact on Social Structure: Operation Flood was not just about milk; it was about empowerment. It provided a steady source of income to millions of small and marginal farmers, particularly women, thereby promoting rural development and gender equality.
5. National Integration: By creating a national milk grid, it ensured that seasonal and regional surpluses were distributed to deficit areas, stabilizing prices across the country.

Final Answer: Dr. Verghese Kurien is associated with the White Revolution.

Answer: (C)



Q7.

Solution**Concept:**

India's foreign policy since independence has been shaped by the principles of Non-Alignment, anti-colonialism, and the pursuit of strategic autonomy. Jawaharlal Nehru, as India's first Prime Minister and External Affairs Minister, played a definitive role in setting these benchmarks. The policy was designed to protect India's national interests while maintaining peace and cooperation during the Cold War era between the US and USSR blocs.

Solution:

1. Panchsheel Agreement (Statement B): This is the correct statement. Signed on April 29, 1954, between India and China, it laid down five principles of peaceful coexistence: mutual respect for territorial integrity, non-aggression, non-interference in internal affairs, equality, and peaceful coexistence.
2. Indo-Soviet Treaty (Statement A): India signed the 'Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation' with the USSR in August 1971. However, it was for a period of 20 years, not 10 years. This treaty was crucial during the Bangladesh Liberation War.
3. First Nuclear Test (Statement C): While India did conduct its first nuclear test in 1974 at Pokhran, the code name was 'Smiling Buddha'. 'Operation Shakti' was the name given to the series of five nuclear tests conducted in May 1998 (Pokhran-II).
4. International Alliances (Statement D): Nehru was a staunch critic of military alliances like SEATO (Southeast Asia Treaty Organization) and CENTO. He believed these alliances brought the Cold War to India's doorstep and undermined the sovereignty of newly independent nations.
5. Conclusion: Therefore, only the mention of the Panchsheel Agreement in 1954 holds true in its historical and technical details as provided in the options.

Final Answer: The Panchsheel Agreement was signed between India and China in 1954.

Answer: (B)



Q8.

Solution**Concept:**

The 1971 General Elections in India were a turning point in political history. After the split of the Congress party in 1969 into Congress (O) and Congress (R), Indira Gandhi led a minority government with support from the CPI and DMK. The 1971 election was the first time an incumbent Prime Minister sought a direct mandate from the people based on a specific pro-poor agenda, bypassing traditional party bosses.

Solution:

1. Formation of the Grand Alliance: To counter Indira Gandhi's popularity and her 'Garibi Hatao' (Abolish Poverty) slogan, all major non-communist and non-Congress opposition parties came together. This coalition was known as the 'Grand Alliance'.
2. Composition: The alliance included the Congress (O), Bharatiya Jana Sangh, Swatantra Party, Samyukta Socialist Party, and the Praja Socialist Party. Their primary and singular objective was summarized in their counter-slogan: 'Indira Hatao' (Remove Indira).
3. Ideological Diversity: The alliance was ideologically heterogeneous. It brought together right-wing parties like Swatantra and Jana Sangh with socialist parties, unified only by their opposition to Indira Gandhi's perceived authoritarianism and populist policies.
4. Outcome: Despite the consolidation of opposition votes through this alliance, it failed miserably. Indira Gandhi's Congress (R) and its ally (CPI) won a landslide victory with 375 seats, proving that the voters prioritized her socialist platform over the opposition's personal attacks.
5. Strategic Failure: The Grand Alliance lacked a positive common program or a credible alternative leader, which led to its rejection by the electorate who saw it as an opportunistic coalition.

Final Answer: The Grand Alliance of 1971 was formed by all major non-communist, non-Congress opposition parties.

Answer: (A)



Q9.

Solution**Concept:**

The fourth General Elections held in 1967 marked a significant departure from the era of "One-Party Dominance." For the first time, the Congress party faced a serious challenge at both the national and state levels. The context included economic crisis, food shortages, devaluation of the rupee, and the recent leadership transition following the deaths of Nehru and Shastri.

Solution:

1. Electoral Setback: While the Congress managed to retain power in the Lok Sabha with a reduced majority, it suffered massive defeats in the state assembly elections. This led to the phrase 'Political Earthquake' used by political scientists to describe the results.
2. Loss of States: The Congress lost power in as many as nine states across India (such as Bihar, UP, Rajasthan, Punjab, West Bengal, and Madras). In many of these states, non-Congress coalitions known as 'Samyukta Vidhayak Dal' (SVD) governments were formed.
3. Emergence of Defections: The 1967 elections popularized the phenomenon of 'Aya Ram, Gaya Ram', referring to frequent floor-crossing by legislators, which led to political instability in many states.
4. Rise of Regionalism: The DMK won a clear majority in Madras (Tamil Nadu) by tapping into anti-Hindi sentiments, marking the first time a regional party won a state on its own.
5. Significance: These elections proved that the Congress was not invincible and that the Indian voter was willing to experiment with alternative political formations, effectively ending the period of total Congress hegemony.

Final Answer: The 1967 elections are called a 'Political Earthquake' because the Congress lost power in many states for the first time.

Answer: (B)



Q10.

Solution**Concept:**

The declaration of National Emergency on June 25, 1975, remains the most controversial period in Indian democratic history. The Constitution at that time allowed the President to declare an Emergency under Article 352 if the security of India was threatened by war, external aggression, or 'internal disturbance'. The aftermath of the Emergency led to significant legal and constitutional reforms to prevent future misuse of such powers.

Solution:

1. Analysis of Assertion (A): The assertion is true. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi recommended the declaration of Emergency to President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed citing 'internal disturbance'. This was triggered by the JP movement's call for a total revolution and the Allahabad High Court judgment setting aside her election.
2. Analysis of Reason (R): The reason is also true. After the Emergency was lifted and the Janata Party came to power in 1977, they appointed a Commission of Inquiry headed by Justice J.C. Shah. The Shah Commission was tasked with inquiring into several aspects of allegations of abuse of authority, excesses, and malpractices committed during the Emergency.
3. Relationship: While both statements are factually correct, the Reason (R) does not explain why the Emergency was declared (A). The Reason explains the post-Emergency investigation, whereas the Assertion describes the pretext for its imposition.
4. Historical Context: The term 'internal disturbance' was considered too vague. Consequently, the 44th Constitutional Amendment Act (1978) replaced it with the term 'armed rebellion' to ensure that a simple political protest could not be used as a ground for suspending democracy.
5. Final Conclusion: Since both statements are independent historical facts where the second does not provide a 'cause-and-effect' link to the first, the correct option is (B).

Final Answer: Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

Answer: (B)



Q11.

Solution**Concept:**

The concept of 'Total Revolution' (Sampoorna Kranti) emerged in the mid-1970s as a mass movement against perceived corruption, high inflation, and the authoritarian tendencies of the central government. It was not merely a political struggle for power but a call for a comprehensive transformation of the individual and society across seven dimensions: social, economic, political, cultural, ideological or intellectual, educational, and spiritual. This movement eventually became the primary catalyst for the opposition unity that led to the first non-Congress government in India.

Solution:

1. Role of Jayaprakash Narayan: Popularly known as JP or Lok Nayak, Jayaprakash Narayan was a veteran socialist leader who had retired from active politics but returned to lead the students' movement in Bihar in 1974.
2. The Bihar Movement: Students in Bihar started a protest against rising prices and corruption. They invited JP to lead them. He accepted on two conditions: the movement would remain non-violent and it would not limit itself to Bihar but spread across India.
3. Nature of the Revolution: JP argued that the existing democratic institutions had become hollow. Total Revolution aimed at 'True Democracy' where the people would have a direct say in governance through 'Jan Sangharsh Samitis'.
4. Impact on National Politics: The movement gained immense momentum and led to a massive rally at Delhi's Ramlila Maidan in 1975, where JP famously recited Ramdhari Singh Dinkar's poem: 'Sinhasan Khaali Karo Ke Janata Aati Hai' (Vacate the throne, for the people are coming).
5. Historical Legacy: The declaration of Emergency in 1975 was a direct response by the government to suppress this movement. Post-Emergency, JP was instrumental in uniting diverse opposition parties into the Janata Party.

Final Answer: The concept of 'Total Revolution' was given by Jayaprakash Narayan.

Answer: (B)



Q12.

Solution**Concept:**

Regional aspirations in India often manifest through demands for greater autonomy, cultural preservation, or economic development. The state of Punjab witnessed a significant period of unrest starting in the 1970s, driven by political, religious, and economic grievances. The Shiromani Akali Dal, the primary political representative of the Sikhs, sought to redefine the relationship between the state of Punjab and the Union of India to ensure the protection of Sikh interests.

Solution:

1. **The Resolution:** In 1973, at a meeting in Anandpur Sahib, the Akali Dal passed a resolution that became known as the 'Anandpur Sahib Resolution'. This document is a key text in the study of Indian federalism and regionalism.
2. **Demand for Autonomy:** The resolution demanded that the center's jurisdiction should be restricted only to defense, foreign affairs, communications, and currency. All other 'residuary powers' should be vested in the states, particularly Punjab.
3. **Religious and Cultural Identity:** Beyond political autonomy, the resolution sought to promote the Sikh religion and protect the Punjabi language and culture. It aimed at asserting the distinct identity of the Sikh 'Panth'.
4. **Controversy and Interpretation:** While the Akalis viewed it as a demand for genuine federalism, critics and the central government often viewed it as having secessionist overtones. It was misinterpreted by some as a demand for a separate state (Khalistan), though the original document focused on autonomy within India.
5. **Long-term Impact:** The failure to address these grievances through dialogue in the late 1970s eventually led to the rise of militancy in Punjab and the subsequent military intervention known as Operation Blue Star in 1984.

Final Answer: The 'Anandpur Sahib Resolution' was primarily related to the demands for greater autonomy for the state of Punjab.

Answer: (A)



Q13.

Solution**Concept:**

Following the tragic assassination of Indira Gandhi in 1984, the new Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi adopted a policy of 'reconciliation' to solve long-standing regional conflicts through dialogue rather than confrontation. This led to a series of 'accords' or peace agreements in various parts of the country, including Punjab, Assam, and Mizoram. The Punjab Accord was a critical attempt to bring peace to a state that had been ravaged by militancy and communal tension.

Solution:

1. **The Accord:** In July 1985, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi reached an agreement with Harchand Singh Longowal, the then President of the Shiromani Akali Dal. This historic agreement is formally known as the Rajiv Gandhi-Longowal Accord.
2. **Key Provisions:** The accord agreed to transfer the city of Chandigarh to Punjab (making it the exclusive capital instead of a shared one with Haryana). It also proposed the appointment of a commission to settle the border dispute between Punjab and Haryana and a tribunal to decide the sharing of Ravi-Beas river waters.
3. **Religious and Legal Redress:** The government agreed to provide compensation to those affected by the militancy and to consider the withdrawal of the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) from Punjab as conditions improved.
4. **Challenges to the Accord:** Unfortunately, peace did not return immediately. Sant Longowal was assassinated by militants who opposed the accord just a month after signing it. The implementation of many clauses, such as the transfer of Chandigarh, faced political hurdles and was delayed for decades.
5. **Significance for CUET:** This question tests the understanding of the transition from the era of 'confrontation' (Indira Gandhi) to the era of 'accords' (Rajiv Gandhi) in Indian political history.

Final Answer: Rajiv Gandhi signed the 'Punjab Accord' in 1985.

Answer: (B)



Q14.

Solution**Concept:**

The issue of reservations for 'Other Backward Classes' (OBCs) has been a central theme in Indian politics since the 1980s. While the Constitution provided for reservations for SCs and STs, the status of other socially and educationally backward groups remained unresolved for decades. The appointment of a commission to investigate these groups was a fulfillment of the constitutional mandate under Article 340.

Solution:

1. The Commission: In 1978, the Janata Party government appointed the 'Second Backward Classes Commission'. It was headed by Bindeshwari Prasad Mandal, and hence popularly known as the Mandal Commission. (The first such commission was the Kalelkar Commission in 1953).
2. The Mandate: The commission was asked to identify the criteria for defining 'socially and educationally backward classes' and to recommend steps for their advancement. The commission identified 3,743 castes as backward, making up roughly 523. Recommendations: The most significant recommendation, submitted in 1980, was the reservation of 27%. Implementation: The recommendations remained dormant until 1990, when Prime Minister V.P. Singh announced their implementation. This led to widespread 'anti-Mandal' protests across North India but permanently altered the social composition of the Indian bureaucracy.
5. Political Impact: This move led to the 'Mandalization' of politics, where political parties began to focus heavily on the identity and interests of OBC groups, leading to the rise of powerful regional parties based on these social bases.

Final Answer: The Mandal Commission was the Second Backward Classes Commission and recommended 27%

Answer: (A)



Q15.

Solution**Concept:**

The year 1989 is considered a watershed moment in Indian political history. The defeat of the Congress party in the 1989 General Elections ended the 'Congress System' or the era of one-party dominance at the center. What followed was a highly fragmented political landscape where no single party could secure a majority on its own in the Lok Sabha for several consecutive elections.

Solution:

1. Rise of Coalitions: Between 1989 and 2014, India saw the rise of coalition governments. This period was characterized by the necessity of national parties (like BJP and Congress) to align with multiple regional parties to form a 'National Front', 'United Front', 'NDA', or 'UPA'.
2. Key Features: This era saw the emergence of 'kingmakers'—regional leaders like Mulayam Singh Yadav, Lalu Prasad Yadav, and Jayalalithaa, whose support was crucial for the survival of the central government.
3. Political Stability: Although some governments were short-lived (like the V.P. Singh or Chandra Shekhar governments), the coalition era eventually stabilized with the NDA (1999-2004) and the UPA (2004-2014) completing full five-year terms.
4. Shift in Policy: Coalition politics often led to a 'politics of consensus' on certain issues like economic reforms, while also leading to 'compulsions of coalition' where national parties had to compromise on their core ideologies to keep partners happy.
5. End of the Era: The 2014 General Elections, where the BJP won a clear majority on its own (282 seats), marked the end of this 25-year-long era of mandatory coalition dependence, though coalition partners still remained part of the government (NDA-III).

Final Answer: The era of Coalition Governments started in 1989 and lasted until 2014.

Answer: (B)



Q16.

Solution**Concept:**

The New Economic Policy (NEP) of 1991 was a series of economic reforms initiated by the government of India to address a severe Balance of Payments (BoP) crisis. By the end of 1990, India's foreign exchange reserves had fallen to a level only sufficient to pay for two weeks of imports. This forced the government to airlift its gold reserves to the Bank of England and the Union Bank of Switzerland to secure loans. The reforms marked a fundamental shift from a socialist-inspired, state-controlled economy to a market-oriented one.

Solution:

1. **Political Leadership:** The reforms were introduced under the Prime Ministership of P.V. Narasimha Rao, with Dr. Manmohan Singh as the Finance Minister. This duo is often credited with "liberalizing" the Indian economy.
2. **The LPG Model:** The policy was centered on three pillars: Liberalization (removing industrial licensing and "Red Tape"), Privatization (disinvestment in public sector undertakings), and Globalization (integrating the Indian economy with the global market by reducing tariffs and encouraging foreign direct investment).
3. **Structural Adjustments:** These reforms were largely influenced by the conditions set by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank in exchange for the bailout package India received during the crisis.
4. **Impact:** The NEP led to a significant increase in the GDP growth rate, the rise of the IT and services sector, and a surge in the availability of consumer goods. However, it also sparked debates regarding increasing income inequality and the neglect of the agricultural sector.
5. **Historical Significance:** 1991 is seen as the "Year of Great Divide" in Indian economic history, transitioning the country from the "Hindu Rate of Growth" to becoming one of the fastest-growing economies in the world.

Final Answer: The New Economic Policy (LPG) was introduced in India in 1991.

Answer: (C)



Q17.

Solution**Concept:**

Mikhail Gorbachev, who became the General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in 1985, sought to reform a system that had become stagnant, corrupt, and technologically backward compared to the West. The USSR was struggling with a failing economy, a costly arms race with the USA, and a lack of political transparency. Gorbachev believed that for the Soviet Union to survive as a superpower, it needed internal modernization and a relaxation of Cold War tensions.

Solution:

1. **Perestroika:** This term translates to "restructuring." It referred to the economic reforms aimed at introducing some market-like features into the state-controlled economy. It allowed for some private ownership and sought to improve efficiency in the production of consumer goods.
2. **Glasnost:** This term translates to "openness." It was a political reform that allowed for greater freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and transparency in government activities. For the first time, Soviet citizens could openly criticize the government without fear of immediate state repression.
3. **Democratization:** Gorbachev also introduced multi-candidate elections for the first time in the Soviet Union, moving away from the "rubber-stamp" parliamentary system that had existed since the time of Stalin.
4. **Unintended Consequences:** While Gorbachev intended to strengthen the USSR, these reforms unleashed forces he could not control. Glasnost allowed nationalist movements in the various Soviet Republics (like the Baltics, Ukraine, and Georgia) to demand independence, which eventually led to the collapse of the Union.
5. **Foreign Policy:** Alongside internal reforms, Gorbachev ended the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan and signed nuclear disarmament treaties with the US, effectively ending the Cold War.

Final Answer: Gorbachev introduced these policies to democratize and reform the Soviet political and economic system.

Answer: (B)



Q18.

Solution**Concept:**

'Shock Therapy' refers to the painful and rapid transition from a socialist, command-based economy to a democratic, capitalist, market-based system. This model was encouraged and supervised by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank in the former Soviet republics and Eastern European countries after the disintegration of the USSR in 1991. The logic was that a gradual transition would allow the old communist elites to retain power, so a "sudden shock" was necessary to break the old system.

Solution:

1. Economic Measures: Shock Therapy involved the immediate removal of price controls, the privatization of state-owned industries, and the opening up of the economy to foreign trade and investment. It required the sudden end of state subsidies for basic necessities like bread and fuel.
2. The "Greatest Garage Sale in History": This term describes the privatization process where valuable state industries were sold to private individuals and companies at throwaway prices. Since the general public lacked the capital to buy these assets, they often fell into the hands of a new class of "oligarchs."
3. Social Impact: The transition was disastrous for the common people. The value of the Russian currency (Rouble) plummeted, inflation soared, and the social welfare system collapsed. Many people lost their life savings, and the middle class was pushed into poverty.
4. Political Consequence: The economic chaos led to a rise in organized crime and political instability. It also created a sense of resentment toward Western economic models, which influenced the later nationalist turn in Russian politics.
5. Comparison: Unlike China, which adopted a gradualist approach to economic reforms starting in 1978, the post-Soviet states underwent a total and sudden overhaul, leading to much higher levels of social dislocation.

Final Answer: Shock Therapy involved a sudden shift from a state-controlled economy to a market-based economy.

Answer: (B)



Q19.

Solution**Concept:**

The Cold War era was defined by the rivalry between the Two Superpowers (USA and USSR) and the subsequent collapse of the Eastern Bloc. Understanding the chronological order of these events is essential to grasping how the world moved from a bipolar system to a unipolar (and later multipolar) one. Each event listed marks a significant escalation or de-escalation in this global geopolitical struggle.

Solution:

1. Formation of the Warsaw Pact (IV - 1955): This was the military alliance created by the Soviet Union in response to the Western alliance (NATO). It included the USSR and its Eastern European satellite states.
2. Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan (II - 1979): This event marked the end of the period of 'Détente' (relaxation of tensions). The USSR intervened to support a pro-communist government, leading to a decade-long conflict that drained Soviet resources.
3. Fall of the Berlin Wall (I - 1989): This was the most iconic symbol of the end of the Cold War. It led to the reunification of East and West Germany and signaled the collapse of communist regimes across Eastern Europe.
4. Disintegration of the USSR (III - 1991): This was the final event, occurring in December 1991 when the leaders of Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus declared the end of the Soviet Union. Boris Yeltsin emerged as the leader of the now-independent Russian Federation.
5. Conclusion: The sequence begins with the consolidation of the Eastern Bloc (1955), moves to the peak of the late Cold War conflict (1979), then to the collapse of the satellite system (1989), and finally the end of the superpower itself (1991).

Final Answer: The correct chronological order is IV, II, I, III.

Answer: (A)



Q20.

Solution**Concept:**

The European Union (EU) did not emerge as a single entity overnight but evolved from a series of economic agreements designed to prevent another war in Europe after 1945. What began as the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) in 1951 gradually integrated into the European Economic Community (EEC). However, it was the transition from a purely economic association to a political and monetary union that defined the modern EU.

Solution:

1. **The Maastricht Treaty:** Formally known as the Treaty on European Union (TEU), it was signed in the Dutch city of Maastricht in 1992. This treaty laid the foundation for the European Union as we know it today.
2. **Three Pillars:** The treaty established the "three pillars" of the EU: the European Communities (economic), Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), and cooperation in the fields of Justice and Home Affairs (JHA).
3. **Monetary Union (The Euro):** The treaty set out the roadmap and strict criteria for the creation of a single currency. This eventually led to the introduction of the Euro in 1999/2002, creating one of the world's most powerful economic zones.
4. **Common Citizenship:** For the first time, it introduced the concept of "European Citizenship," allowing citizens of member states to live, work, and vote in municipal and European elections in any EU country.
5. **Significance:** The Maastricht Treaty transformed the group from a "Common Market" into a political superpower with its own flag, anthem, and increasingly coordinated foreign policy, making it a significant 'Alternative Center of Power' in a unipolar world.

Final Answer: The Maastricht Treaty led to the formal establishment of the European Union (EU).

Answer: (B)



Q21.

Solution**Concept:**

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was established as a regional organization to promote economic growth, social progress, and cultural development in Southeast Asia. Beyond economic goals, it aimed to promote regional peace and stability through abiding respect for justice and the rule of law in the relationship among countries in the region. Unlike the European Union, ASEAN was designed to be less supranational, emphasizing a style of interaction known as the 'ASEAN Way'—a process that is informal, non-confrontational, and cooperative.

Solution:

1. **Founding of ASEAN:** The organization was established on August 8, 1967. The five founding members were Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand. Over the decades, membership expanded to include five more nations (Brunei Darussalam, Vietnam, Laos, Myanmar, and Cambodia).
2. **The Bangkok Declaration:** The formal document that brought the organization into existence was the Bangkok Declaration (also known as the ASEAN Declaration). It was signed by the foreign ministers of the five founding nations.
3. **Comparison with other Declarations:** The Bandung Declaration (1955) was related to the Afro-Asian Conference which laid the seeds for the Non-Aligned Movement. The Delhi Declaration often refers to bilateral agreements between India and other nations or specific summits held in New Delhi.
4. **The ASEAN Way:** This refers to the core principle of the organization—respect for national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of member states. This has allowed countries with vastly different political systems (democracies, monarchies, and communist states) to coexist and cooperate.
5. **Evolution:** Since its founding, ASEAN has expanded its scope through the creation of the ASEAN Economic Community, Security Community, and Socio-Cultural Community, making it one of the most successful regional organizations in the world.

Final Answer: ASEAN was established through the signing of the Bangkok Declaration.

Answer: (B)



Q22.

Solution**Concept:**

The historical relationship between India and China has been deeply impacted by the status of Tibet. Tibet had historically served as a 'buffer zone' between the two Asian giants. However, the political landscape changed dramatically after the Chinese Revolution of 1949. The assertion of Chinese sovereignty over Tibet removed this buffer and brought the two countries into direct territorial contact, eventually leading to boundary disputes and the war of 1962.

Solution:

1. **Historical Timeline:** Shortly after the creation of the People's Republic of China, the Chinese government asserted its claim over Tibet. In 1950, Chinese forces entered Tibet to incorporate it into the PRC.
2. **The 1954 Agreement:** India initially recognized China's claim over Tibet through the 1954 "Panchsheel" agreement. India conceded its inherited rights in Tibet in exchange for the promise of peaceful coexistence.
3. **Escalation of Conflict:** In 1959, a massive uprising occurred in Tibet against Chinese rule. The spiritual leader of Tibet, the Dalai Lama, fled to India seeking political asylum. India's decision to grant him asylum was viewed by China as an act of interference in its internal affairs.
4. **Border Dispute:** The takeover of Tibet also meant that China and India now shared a long, undemarcated border. China began constructing a road through the Aksai Chin region (part of Ladakh), which India claimed as its own territory.
5. **Strategic Consequence:** The annexation of Tibet in 1950 was the root cause of the breakdown in trust between Nehru and the Chinese leadership, culminating in the 1962 Sino-Indian War.

Final Answer: The People's Republic of China took over Tibet in 1950.

Answer: (B)



Q23.

Solution**Concept:**

Ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka is a significant case study in South Asian politics, involving the majority Sinhala community and the minority Tamil community. The conflict was rooted in policies that favored the Sinhala language and religion (Buddhism), which led to the marginalization of the Tamils. This sense of alienation gave rise to a demand for a separate Tamil state, known as 'Tamil Eelam', in the northern and eastern parts of the island.

Solution:

1. Formation of the LTTE: The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) was formed in 1976 under the leadership of Velupillai Prabhakaran. It became one of the most disciplined and lethal insurgent groups in the world, maintaining its own army, navy, and air wing.
2. Nature of the Struggle: The LTTE engaged in a protracted civil war against the Sri Lankan government. They used a combination of conventional warfare and guerrilla tactics, including the pioneered use of suicide bombers.
3. Indian Intervention: Because of the close cultural and ethnic ties between the Tamils of India and Sri Lanka, the Indian government felt pressured to intervene. This led to the 1987 Indo-Sri Lanka Accord and the deployment of the Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF), which eventually ended in failure.
4. End of the Conflict: The civil war ended in May 2009 when the Sri Lankan military launched a final offensive that resulted in the total defeat of the LTTE and the death of its leadership.
5. Significance: The conflict highlighted the challenges of nation-building in multi-ethnic societies and the complexities of regional intervention by a neighboring power like India.

Final Answer: The LTTE was a militant organization that fought for a separate state for Tamils in Sri Lanka.

Answer: (B)



Q24.

Solution**Concept:**

Nepal's political history is a fascinating transition from an absolute monarchy to a constitutional monarchy and finally to a federal democratic republic. For much of the 20th century, the King of Nepal held absolute power, while various political parties and Maoist insurgents struggled to establish a democratic system. The Seven Party Alliance (SPA) was a critical coalition that unified the mainstream democratic opposition against the direct rule of the monarch.

Solution:

1. Crisis of 2005: In February 2005, King Gyanendra dismissed the government and assumed absolute power, citing the need to crush the Maoist insurgency. This move alienated the mainstream political parties and galvanized the democratic movement.
2. Formation of SPA: Seven major political parties formed an alliance to restore parliament and democracy. This alliance was unique because it eventually coordinated with the Maoist insurgents (who had been fighting the state since 1996) through a 12-point agreement.
3. The 2006 Movement: The SPA called for a massive non-violent protest movement (Jan Andolan II). For weeks, hundreds of thousands of people took to the streets of Kathmandu, defying curfews and state violence.
4. Outcome: The pressure was so immense that King Gyanendra was forced to restore the dissolved parliament and hand over power to the SPA. This paved the way for the abolition of the monarchy in 2008 and the declaration of Nepal as a secular republic.
5. Impact on South Asia: The success of the SPA showed how a coalition of diverse political interests could successfully challenge autocratic rule and transition a country toward modern democracy.

Final Answer: The Seven Party Alliance (SPA) played a crucial role in the movement for democracy in Nepal.

Answer: (C)



Q25.

Solution**Concept:**

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) is the most powerful organ of the UN, primarily responsible for the maintenance of international peace and security. Unlike the General Assembly, where all member nations have equal voting rights, the Security Council is structured around the geopolitical reality of the post-WWII world. Its decisions are binding on all member states, and it has the authority to authorize military action or impose economic sanctions.

Solution:

1. **Composition:** The Council consists of 15 members. This includes 5 Permanent Members (P5) and 10 Non-Permanent Members. The non-permanent members are elected by the General Assembly for a two-year term based on regional representation.
2. **The P5 Countries:** The permanent members are the United States, Russia (formerly the USSR), the United Kingdom, France, and China. These nations were the victors of World War II.
3. **The Veto Power:** The P5 members possess the "Veto Power," which means that if any one of these five countries votes against a substantive resolution, the resolution fails, even if all other 14 members vote in favor. This ensures that the UN cannot take major security actions against the interests of a superpower.
4. **Reform Debates:** Since the end of the Cold War, there have been intense debates about reforming the UNSC. Countries like India, Japan, Germany, and Brazil (the G4) argue that the Council should be expanded to reflect the current global realities and give more representation to the developing world.
5. **Voting Procedures:** For a resolution to pass on non-vetoed matters, it requires 9 affirmative votes out of the 15. This balance of power is a central theme in the CUET syllabus regarding International Organizations.

Final Answer: The UN Security Council has 15 members, with 5 having the 'Veto' power.

Answer: (C)



Q26.

Solution**Concept:**

Amnesty International is a non-governmental organization (NGO) focused on human rights, with its headquarters in the United Kingdom. The organization says it has more than seven million members and supporters around the world. The objective of the organization is to conduct research and generate action to prevent and end abuses of human rights, and to demand justice for those whose rights have been violated. It is independent of any political ideology, economic interest, or religion.

Solution:

1. **Nature of the NGO:** Founded in 1961 by Peter Benenson, Amnesty International operates on the principle that people around the world can unite to protect individuals whose fundamental rights are under threat. It is one of the most prominent international watchdogs.
2. **Core Activities:** The organization investigates and exposes facts, whenever and wherever abuses happen. It lobbies governments and other powerful groups to make sure they keep their promises and respect international law.
3. **Key Issues:** It focuses on issues such as the abolition of the death penalty, ending torture, protecting the rights of refugees, and ensuring the release of 'prisoners of conscience' (people imprisoned for their beliefs, provided they have not used or advocated violence).
4. **Reporting:** Amnesty publishes annual reports on the state of human rights worldwide. These reports are often used by international bodies like the UN to hold countries accountable, though some governments criticize the reports for being biased or intrusive.
5. **Significance:** In 1977, the organization was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for its "defense of human dignity against torture." In the context of CUET, it represents the role of non-state actors in global politics.

Final Answer: Amnesty International is an international NGO that campaigns for the protection of human rights.

Answer: (C)



Q27.

Solution**Concept:**

The Kyoto Protocol is an international treaty which extends the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) that commits state parties to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, based on the scientific consensus that global warming is occurring and that human-made CO₂ emissions are driving it. The Protocol was adopted in Kyoto, Japan, on December 11, 1997, and entered into force on February 16, 2005.

Solution:

1. The Principle of CBDR: A central feature of the Kyoto Protocol is the principle of "Common But Differentiated Responsibilities" (CBDR). It recognizes that while all nations must address climate change, developed countries have a greater historical responsibility for the accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.
2. Targets: The Protocol placed a heavier burden on developed nations (Annex I countries) by setting legally binding targets for them to reduce their emissions by an average of 5.2% below 1990 levels.
3. Greenhouse Gases (GHGs): The primary focus was on gases like Carbon Dioxide (CO₂), Methane (CH₄), Nitrous Oxide (N₂O), and various fluorinated gases. These are the main drivers of the greenhouse effect.
4. Mechanisms: To help countries meet their targets, the Protocol introduced flexible market-based mechanisms like Emissions Trading (carbon market), Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), and Joint Implementation.
5. India's Position: Developing countries like India and China were initially exempted from these binding targets under the first commitment period because their per-capita emissions were relatively low and they needed to focus on industrial development.

Final Answer: The Kyoto Protocol set targets for industrialized countries to cut emissions of Greenhouse Gases.

Answer: (B)



Q28.

Solution**Concept:**

The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), also known as the 'Rio Earth Summit', was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 1992. This summit was a response for Member States to cooperate together internationally on development issues after the Cold War. Due to its size and the scope of its concerns, the Rio Summit was a significant turning point in the history of international environmental negotiations.

Solution:

1. Agenda 21: One of the primary outcomes of the summit was 'Agenda 21', a comprehensive plan of action to be taken globally, nationally, and locally by organizations of the United Nations System, Governments, and Major Groups in every area in which humans impact the environment.
2. Sustainable Development: The summit popularized the concept of "Sustainable Development"—the idea that economic growth must take place without damaging the environment and without depleting resources for future generations.
3. Other Outcomes: The summit also led to the creation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and the Forest Principles.
4. North-South Divide: Rio highlighted the tension between the 'Global North' (developed countries) and 'Global South' (developing countries). The South argued that environmental protection should not come at the cost of their right to develop and reduce poverty.
5. Legacy: The Earth Summit set the stage for all future environmental agreements, including the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement. It established the environment as a central issue of international relations.

Final Answer: The Rio Earth Summit resulted in the document known as Agenda 21.

Answer: (A)



Q29.

Solution**Concept:**

'Global Commons' are resource domains or areas that do not fall under the sovereign jurisdiction of any single state. They are common heritage areas that require international cooperation for management and protection. Because no single country "owns" these areas, they are often susceptible to over-exploitation and pollution, a phenomenon often referred to as the 'Tragedy of the Commons'.

Solution:

1. Examples of Global Commons: The Earth's atmosphere, the deep ocean floor (the high seas), the Antarctica, and Outer Space are the primary examples. These areas are beyond the territorial limits of any nation.
2. Legal Frameworks: Several international treaties have been signed to protect these areas, such as the Antarctic Treaty (1959), the Montreal Protocol (1987) for the atmosphere, and the Outer Space Treaty (1967).
3. Challenges in Management: The main difficulty is getting all nations to agree on rules for usage. For example, the North and South often disagree on who should pay for the cleaning of the atmosphere or how deep-sea minerals should be shared.
4. Analysis of Options: A national park (Option A) or private property (Option C) is under clear jurisdiction. A Parliament house (Option D) is national property. Only Outer Space (Option B) represents an area that belongs to all of humanity and no one nation exclusively.
5. Environmental Impact: Damage to global commons, such as the ozone layer depletion or the accumulation of space debris, affects the entire planet, making their protection a matter of 'human security' rather than just 'state security'.

Final Answer: Outer Space is considered a 'Global Common'.

Answer: (B)



Q30.

Solution**Concept:**

Globalization is a multi-dimensional concept involving the flow of ideas, capital, commodities, and people across borders. While it has an economic and political dimension, its cultural dimension is often the most visible and controversial. Cultural globalization refers to the transmission of ideas, meanings, and values around the world in such a way as to extend and intensify social relations.

Solution:

1. **Cultural Homogenization:** This refers to the process where distinct local cultures are eroded and replaced by a standardized, global culture. Because the current phase of globalization is largely driven by Western (and specifically American) media and corporations, this is often called 'McDonaldization' or 'Westernization'.
2. **Impact:** Homogenization leads to a world that looks more uniform—people in different countries eating the same food, wearing the same clothes, and watching the same movies. Critics argue this leads to the loss of unique cultural identities and traditional knowledge.
3. **Cultural Heterogenization:** On the other hand, some argue globalization leads to 'heterogenization' or 'cultural glocalization', where global culture mixes with local culture to create something entirely new and unique (e.g., Bollywood movies or fusion food).
4. **Power Imbalance:** The fear of homogenization is rooted in the fact that it is a 'top-down' process where the cultures of economically powerful nations dominate the cultures of the developing world.
5. **Significance in CUET:** Students are expected to distinguish between these terms to understand the debates surrounding the "cultural consequences" of globalization.

Final Answer: Cultural Homogenization refers to the spread of Western culture at the cost of local cultures.

Answer: (B)



Q31.

Solution**Concept:**

The World Social Forum (WSF) is an annual meeting of civil society organizations, first held in Brazil in 2001, which offers a self-conscious effort to develop an alternative future through the championing of counter-hegemonic globalization. It stands in direct opposition to the World Economic Forum (WEF), which is often seen as the platform for the global elite and pro-market policies. The WSF is a space for "globalization from below" or "alter-globalization."

Solution:

1. Origins: The first WSF was held in Porto Alegre, Brazil. The slogan of the forum is "Another World is Possible," reflecting its belief that the current model of globalization is not inevitable and can be challenged.
2. Opposition to Neo-liberalism: The WSF is a coalition of activists, environmentalists, labor unions, and women's groups who are opposed to neo-liberal globalization. This specific form of globalization emphasizes deregulation, privatization, and the dominance of multinational corporations.
3. Diverse Agenda: The forum discusses various issues including human rights, environmental protection, labor rights, and the negative impacts of free trade agreements on the Global South. It provides a platform for those marginalized by the mainstream economic system.
4. Structure: The WSF is not a centralized organization with a single leadership; rather, it is an open meeting space for reflective thinking, democratic debate of ideas, and formulation of proposals by diverse groups.
5. Global Reach: Since its inception, WSF meetings have been held in various parts of the world, including India (Mumbai in 2004), highlighting the global nature of the resistance to traditional globalization.

Final Answer: The WSF is a global platform opposed to Neo-liberal Globalisation.

Answer: (B)



Q32.

Solution**Concept:**

India's nuclear program is a key aspect of its security and external relations policy. India has consistently maintained that its nuclear program is for peaceful purposes, though it has refused to sign international treaties like the NPT and CTBT, which it views as discriminatory. The 1974 test was a turning point that established India as a nuclear-capable nation, though it did not officially declare itself a nuclear-weapon state until 1998.

Solution:

1. **The Location:** The 1974 nuclear test was conducted in the Thar Desert of Rajasthan, at a remote location called Pokhran. This site was chosen due to its sparse population and geological suitability for underground testing.
2. **Code Name:** The 1974 test was famously code-named 'Smiling Buddha' (officially Pokhran-I). It took place on the day of Buddha Purnima, which influenced the code name.
3. **Purpose:** The Indian government characterized the test as a 'Peaceful Nuclear Explosion' (PNE). The goal was to demonstrate India's technological capability in nuclear energy for mining and earth-moving purposes.
4. **Global Reaction:** The test led to significant international backlash, particularly from the United States and Canada, leading to the formation of the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) to restrict the flow of nuclear technology to non-NPT states like India.
5. **Comparison with 1998:** The 1998 tests (Pokhran-II or Operation Shakti) were a series of five nuclear explosions conducted at the same site, after which Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee declared India as a full-fledged nuclear weapon state.

Final Answer: The 1974 Nuclear Test in India was conducted at Pokhran.

Answer: (B)



Q33.

Solution**Concept:**

The Bharatiya Jana Sangh (BJS) was an Indian right-wing political party that existed from 1951 to 1977. It was the political arm of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and was established to provide a political alternative to the Congress party, focusing on a nationalist and culturally rooted agenda. The BJS eventually merged with other parties to form the Janata Party in 1977, and its members later formed the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in 1980.

Solution:

1. **Founding:** The party was founded on October 21, 1951, in Delhi. The primary founder was Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, who had resigned from Jawaharlal Nehru's first cabinet due to differences over the handling of the refugee crisis and the relationship with Pakistan.
2. **Ideology:** The BJS advocated for 'One Country, One Culture, and One Nation'. It emphasized the concept of 'Akhand Bharat' (Undivided India) and was a strong supporter of the promotion of the Hindi language and the protection of Indian culture.
3. **Integral Humanism:** Later, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya developed the philosophy of 'Integral Humanism' as the official doctrine of the party, which sought an indigenous economic and political model that avoided both communism and capitalism.
4. **Key Demands:** The BJS was known for its demand for the replacement of English with Hindi as the sole official language of India and its opposition to the special status given to Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370.
5. **Distinguishing Leaders:** While Bal Gangadhar Tilak and V.D. Savarkar were ideological inspirations for the Hindu nationalist movement, the formal political party structure of the Jana Sangh was established specifically by Mookerjee.

Final Answer: Syama Prasad Mookerjee was the founder of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh.

Answer: (A)



Q34.

Solution**Concept:**

During the Cold War, the world was divided not only into two military blocs but also into two competing models of economic development. The capitalist path, led by the USA, emphasized private property and free markets. The socialist or "non-capitalist" path, led by the Soviet Union, emphasized state ownership of the means of production, central planning, and social equality. Many newly independent nations in Asia and Africa looked to these models to design their own development strategies.

Solution:

1. **The Soviet Model:** The USSR presented a model where the state controlled all major economic assets. It achieved rapid industrialization through a series of 'Five Year Plans' (a concept India adopted).
2. **Non-Capitalist Path:** This specific term was used by Soviet ideologues to describe a development strategy for newly independent Third World countries. It suggested that these nations could bypass the stage of advanced capitalism and move directly toward socialism with the help of the Soviet bloc.
3. **Characteristics:** This path involved large-scale land reforms, nationalization of industries and banks, and a heavy focus on the public sector. It aimed to reduce the influence of Western multinational corporations.
4. **Influence on India:** While India adopted a 'Mixed Economy', the heavy emphasis on the public sector and planning during the 1950s and 60s was deeply influenced by the Soviet experience and the 'non-capitalist' rhetoric of the time.
5. **Decline:** With the stagnation of the Soviet economy in the 1980s and the eventual disintegration of the USSR in 1991, this model lost its global appeal, leading most nations toward market-oriented reforms.

Final Answer: The 'Non-Capitalist Path of Development' was associated with the Soviet Union.

Answer: (B)



Q35.

Solution**Concept:**

The 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976, was enacted by the Congress government led by Indira Gandhi during the National Emergency. It is the most comprehensive amendment in the history of the Indian Constitution, affecting almost every part of the document. Because it sought to significantly alter the basic structure and balance of power in the country, it is often referred to as a 'Mini-Constitution'.

Solution:

1. Major Changes: The amendment added the words 'Socialist', 'Secular', and 'Integrity' to the Preamble. It also introduced a new chapter on 'Fundamental Duties' (Part IV-A) for citizens.
2. Strengthening the Executive: A primary goal was to make the President bound by the advice of the Council of Ministers and to limit the power of the Judiciary to review central laws. It extended the term of the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies from 5 to 6 years.
3. Directive Principles: It gave precedence to Directive Principles of State Policy over Fundamental Rights, ensuring that the government's developmental goals could not be easily challenged in court.
4. Controversy: Critics argued that the amendment was an attempt to centralize all power in the hands of the Prime Minister and to weaken the federal structure of the country.
5. Subsequent Reversal: After the Emergency, the 44th Amendment Act (1978) was passed by the Janata Government to undo many of the controversial changes brought about by the 42nd Amendment and to restore the democratic balance.

Final Answer: The 42nd Amendment is called a 'Mini-Constitution' and was passed during the Emergency.

Answer: (B)



Q36.

Solution**Concept:**

The Navnirman Movement (Reconstruction Movement) was a socio-political movement in 1974 that started as a student protest against corruption and economic crisis. It is historically significant because it was the first time in post-independent India that a popular protest successfully forced the dissolution of an elected state government. This movement served as a precursor and inspiration for the larger 'Total Revolution' led by Jayaprakash Narayan.

Solution:

1. **Origins:** The movement began in December 1973 in an engineering college in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, over a hike in food bills in the student hostel. This localized grievance quickly tapped into a broader public anger regarding the scarcity of essential commodities and high-level corruption in the state government.
2. **Target:** The protests were directed against the Congress government led by Chief Minister Chimanbhai Patel. Protesters nicknamed him 'Chiman Chor' (Chiman the thief) due to allegations of corruption in the distribution of food grains.
3. **Nature of Protest:** What started as a student agitation turned into a mass movement involving middle-class professionals, factory workers, and various opposition parties. It involved strikes, sit-ins, and public demonstrations.
4. **Impact:** The scale of the unrest was so immense that the central government was forced to ask the Chief Minister to resign. Subsequently, the State Assembly was dissolved, and fresh elections were held in June 1975, where the Congress was defeated by a coalition of opposition parties.
5. **Significance:** The success of the Navnirman movement proved that students could be a potent force for political change and encouraged similar movements in Bihar, eventually leading to the national political crisis of 1975.

Final Answer: The Navnirman Movement started in the state of Gujarat.

Answer: (B)



Q37.

Solution**Concept:**

Nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation have been central themes in international security since the start of the nuclear age. Treaties like the NPT are designed to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and technology, to promote cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and to further the goal of achieving nuclear disarmament and a general and complete disarmament treaty. The global nuclear order is built around these legal frameworks.

Solution:

1. Definition: NPT stands for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (commonly known as the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty). It was opened for signature in 1968 and entered into force in 1970.
2. The Three Pillars: The treaty is based on three main ideas: non-proliferation (preventing more countries from getting nukes), disarmament (nuclear-armed states reducing their stockpiles), and the peaceful use of nuclear technology (sharing civil nuclear energy tech).
3. The Divide: The NPT defines 'Nuclear Weapon States' (NWS) as those that had manufactured and exploded a nuclear weapon before January 1, 1967. These are the P5 countries (USA, USSR/Russia, UK, France, and China). All other states are 'Non-Nuclear Weapon States' (NNWS).
4. India's Critique: India has refused to sign the NPT, calling it "discriminatory" and "nuclear apartheid." India argues that the treaty creates a world of 'haves' and 'have-nots' without imposing a mandatory timeline for the P5 to disarm their own weapons.
5. Global Status: Despite India, Pakistan, Israel, and North Korea being outside the treaty, the NPT remains the most widely adhered-to arms control agreement in history, with 191 member states.

Final Answer: In the context of international relations, NPT stands for the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Answer: (A)



Q38.

Solution**Concept:**

The Northeast region of India has seen several movements based on ethnic identity and regional aspirations. In Mizoram, the transition from a district of Assam to a full-fledged state was a journey marked by a long period of armed insurgency and eventual peaceful settlement. This movement was deeply tied to the perception of neglect by the central and state governments during a period of famine in the late 1950s.

Solution:

1. The Mautam Famine: In 1959, the Mizo Hills suffered a severe famine caused by the flowering of bamboo, which led to a rat population explosion. The local people felt the Assam government failed to provide adequate relief, leading to the formation of the Mizo National Famine Front.
2. Role of Laldenga: The organization later dropped the word 'Famine' and became the Mizo National Front (MNF), a political and militant body led by Laldenga. In 1966, the MNF launched an armed rebellion for independence from India.
3. Insurgency: For nearly two decades, the MNF fought a guerrilla war from bases in East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) and the jungle. The Indian government responded with military action, including the controversial use of the air force.
4. The Peace Accord: After years of conflict, Rajiv Gandhi's government initiated peace talks. In 1986, the Mizo Accord was signed between Laldenga and the Government of India. Mizoram was granted full statehood with special protections for its culture and land.
5. Democratic Transition: Laldenga became the first Chief Minister of the state of Mizoram. The MNF movement is considered one of the most successful examples of an insurgent group being integrated back into the democratic mainstream.

Final Answer: The Mizo National Front (MNF) was led by Laldenga.

Answer: (B)



Q39.

Solution**Concept:**

The Russian Revolution of 1917 was a transformative event that led to the collapse of the Tsarist autocracy and the rise of the Soviet Union. It replaced a traditional monarchy with the world's first state dedicated to the principles of socialism and the rule of the working class. This revolution deeply influenced the course of 20th-century history, leading to the Cold War and the spread of communist ideology across the globe.

Solution:

1. Background: By 1917, Russia was suffering from the massive losses of World War I, economic collapse, and widespread hunger. The Tsar had lost the support of both the military and the common people.
2. Two Phases: The revolution occurred in two main stages. The February Revolution led to the abdication of the Tsar and the formation of a Provisional Government. The October Revolution (the Bolshevik Revolution) saw the Bolsheviks, led by Vladimir Lenin, seize power from the Provisional Government.
3. Bolshevik Ideology: The Bolsheviks were a radical faction of the Russian Social Democratic Labour Party. They promised "Peace, Land, and Bread" to the Russian people. They sought to abolish private property and establish a state-controlled economy based on the writings of Karl Marx.
4. Global Impact: The revolution inspired workers' movements worldwide and led to the formation of the Comintern (Communist International). In India, many national leaders, including Bhagat Singh and later Nehru, were influenced by the egalitarian ideals of the Russian Revolution.
5. Formation of the USSR: Following a brutal civil war (1918–1921), the Bolsheviks consolidated their power, leading to the official formation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) in 1922.

Final Answer: The Bolshevik Revolution of 1917 took place in Russia.

Answer: (C)



Q40.

Solution**Concept:**

After World War II, Europe was in ruins, with its infrastructure destroyed and its economies collapsed. The United States feared that economic desperation would make Western European nations vulnerable to the spread of communism from the Soviet Union. To prevent this and to create stable trading partners, the US launched a massive economic recovery program that played a key role in the early stages of the Cold War and the integration of Europe.

Solution:

1. **Origins:** Formally known as the European Recovery Program (ERP), it was proposed by US Secretary of State George Marshall in 1947. It provided over 13 billion (equivalent to over 100 billion today) in economic aid to Western European countries.
2. **Objectives:** The primary goals were to rebuild war-torn regions, remove trade barriers, modernize industry, and improve European prosperity to prevent the "contagion" of communism. It was a strategic move to bind Western Europe to the American-led democratic and capitalist bloc.
3. **OEEC:** To administer this aid, the Organization for European Economic Cooperation (OEEC) was established in 1948. This was one of the first steps toward the economic integration that eventually led to the formation of the European Union.
4. **The Iron Curtain:** The Soviet Union and its satellite states in Eastern Europe refused to participate in the Marshall Plan, viewing it as a form of "dollar imperialism." This deepened the divide between the East and the West, solidifying the 'Iron Curtain'.
5. **Success:** The plan was immensely successful; by the early 1950s, the economies of Western European nations had surpassed their pre-war levels, leading to a period of unprecedented economic growth known as the "Golden Age of Capitalism."

Final Answer: The Marshall Plan was introduced by the USA to rebuild the economies of Western Europe after WWII.

Answer: (B)



Q41.

Solution**Concept:**

The United States' foreign policy in the post-9/11 era was characterized by a doctrine of "pre-emptive strike," where the US claimed the right to attack any nation that it perceived as a potential threat to its security. This was a significant shift from the traditional international law of "self-defense" which required an actual or imminent attack. Operation Iraqi Freedom was the most significant and controversial manifestation of this doctrine, launched without the explicit authorization of the United Nations Security Council.

Solution:

1. **The Justification:** The US government, under President George W. Bush, argued that Iraq, under the dictatorship of Saddam Hussein, possessed "Weapons of Mass Destruction" (WMDs) and had links to terrorist organizations like Al-Qaeda. This was presented as the primary reason for the invasion.
2. **The Invasion:** On March 19, 2003, a "Coalition of the Willing" led by the US and the UK launched the military operation. Within weeks, the Iraqi government collapsed and Saddam Hussein was ousted from power.
3. **UN Controversy:** The UN Secretary-General at the time, Kofi Annan, declared the invasion illegal as it violated the UN Charter. Major powers like France, Germany, and Russia also opposed the war, leading to a significant rift within the Western alliance.
4. **Outcome of Search:** Following the invasion, comprehensive searches by the Iraq Survey Group concluded that Iraq did not possess active WMD programs at the time of the invasion. This led to massive global criticism regarding the intelligence and motives behind the war.
5. **Long-term Impact:** The war led to a prolonged insurgency, sectarian violence, and the eventual rise of extremist groups like ISIS in the region. It served as a reminder of the limits of superpower military intervention in achieving political stability.

Final Answer: Operation Iraqi Freedom was launched primarily to prevent Iraq from developing weapons of mass destruction.

Answer: (A)



Q42.

Solution**Concept:**

BRICS is an acronym for the powerful group of the world's leading emerging market economies. The group was initially known as BRIC before the induction of its fifth member. The purpose of the group is to promote peace, security, development, and cooperation among these nations, which represent about 40% of the world's population and 25% of the global GDP. It serves as an alternative center of power to the Western-dominated G7.

Solution:

1. **Original Members:** The term was coined by economist Jim O'Neill in 2001 to identify the four economies that were expected to dominate the global economy by 2050: Brazil, Russia, India, and China.
2. **Formation:** The first formal summit of the BRIC leaders took place in Yekaterinburg, Russia, in 2009. The group aimed to coordinate their economic policies and demand a greater say in international financial institutions like the IMF and World Bank.
3. **Expansion:** In 2010, South Africa was invited to join the group, and the acronym changed to BRICS. South Africa's inclusion was seen as vital to give the group a continental representation from Africa.
4. **New Development Bank:** One of the major achievements of BRICS was the establishment of the New Development Bank (NDB), headquartered in Shanghai, to provide funding for infrastructure and sustainable development projects in emerging economies.
5. **Analyzing the Options:** While Indonesia is a major emerging economy and often participates in "BRICS Plus" meetings, it is not an original or core member of the BRICS organization as defined by the acronym. Indonesia has expressed interest in joining, but it is not currently part of the five-letter acronym core.

Final Answer: The BRICS organization does NOT include Indonesia.

Answer: (C)



Q43.

Solution**Concept:**

Resource diplomacy is a critical part of South Asian relations. The Indus Waters Treaty is one of the most successful examples of transboundary water sharing in the world, having survived three major wars between India and Pakistan. The treaty provides a framework for the management of the six rivers of the Indus system, which are essential for the irrigation and energy needs of both nations. It remains a rare example of sustained cooperation between the two rivals.

Solution:

1. **The Rivers:** The treaty divides the six rivers into "Eastern Rivers" (Sutlej, Beas, and Ravi) and "Western Rivers" (Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab). India has unrestricted rights over the Eastern rivers, while Pakistan has rights over the Western rivers.
2. **Indian Rights:** India is allowed to use the Western rivers for "non-consumptive" purposes, which includes domestic use, navigation, and the generation of hydroelectricity (run-of-the-river projects) without significantly altering the flow of water to Pakistan.
3. **Mediation:** The negotiations for the treaty lasted nearly a decade (1951–1960). Due to the high level of mistrust, an external mediator was required. The World Bank (then known as the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development) played this role, providing both technical expertise and financial backing.
4. **Signing:** The treaty was signed in Karachi on September 19, 1960, by Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and Pakistani President Ayub Khan.
5. **Permanent Commission:** The treaty established a Permanent Indus Commission, consisting of experts from both countries, who meet regularly to resolve disputes and share technical data, ensuring the treaty's continued functionality despite political tensions.

Final Answer: The Indus Waters Treaty was brokered by the World Bank.

Answer: (B)



Q44.

Solution**Concept:**

The 1971 war between India and Pakistan resulted in the independence of East Pakistan as the new nation of Bangladesh. Following the war, there was a need to formalize the peace and resolve the humanitarian crisis involving nearly 90,000 Pakistani prisoners of war (POWs). The resulting agreement was a bilateral effort to establish a new framework for relations, emphasizing the principle of non-interference and the bilateral resolution of all disputes, including Kashmir.

Solution:

1. **The Location and Date:** The agreement was signed in the town of Simla (now Shimla), Himachal Pradesh, on July 2, 1972. It was the culmination of days of intense negotiations between the heads of the two states.
2. **The Leaders:** The treaty was signed by Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Pakistani President Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. Bhutto had recently taken over the leadership of Pakistan after the military defeat and the resignation of Yahya Khan.
3. **The Line of Control:** One of the most significant outcomes was the conversion of the 'Ceasefire Line' in Jammu and Kashmir into the 'Line of Control' (LoC). Both sides agreed to respect the LoC without prejudice to their respective legal positions.
4. **Bilateralism:** The "Simla Spirit" refers to the agreement that all future disputes between India and Pakistan must be settled through bilateral negotiations, effectively discouraging the involvement of third parties like the UN in the Kashmir issue.
5. **Return of POWs:** In exchange for Pakistan's recognition of Bangladesh and the commitment to peace, India agreed to return the Pakistani POWs and the territories it had captured in the western sector during the 1971 war.

Final Answer: The Simla Agreement of 1972 was signed between Indira Gandhi and Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

Answer: (B)



Q45.

Solution**Concept:**

Social movements in India often arise from the conflict between large-scale developmental projects and the rights of local communities. The Narmada Bachao Andolan (NBA) is perhaps the most iconic environmental movement in India, highlighting the debate over "Development vs. Displacement." It challenged the logic of big dams and argued that the social and environmental costs often outweigh the benefits, particularly for marginalized tribal communities.

Solution:

1. **The Project:** The Sardar Sarovar Project is a massive dam being built on the Narmada River in Gujarat. It was designed to provide irrigation and drinking water to drought-prone areas of Gujarat and Rajasthan and generate electricity for Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.
2. **The Movement:** The NBA was formed in the late 1980s as a coalition of NGOs, tribal people, farmers, and environmentalists. The movement was led by activists like Medha Patkar and Baba Amte.
3. **Key Demands:** The movement initially demanded the proper rehabilitation and resettlement of the hundreds of thousands of people (mostly Adivasis) who would be displaced by the dam's reservoir. Later, it challenged the very viability and sustainability of large dams.
4. **Methods of Protest:** The NBA used non-violent methods such as 'Jal Satyagraha' (standing in the rising waters of the river), hunger strikes, and legal battles in the Supreme Court of India.
5. **Global Impact:** The movement was so successful in its advocacy that it forced the World Bank to conduct an independent review of the project, which eventually led to the World Bank withdrawing its funding for the dam in 1993.

Final Answer: The Sardar Sarovar Project is associated with the Narmada Bachao Andolan.

Answer: (B)



Q46.

Solution**Concept:**

The internal dynamics of the Indian National Congress in the 1960s were marked by a power struggle between the old guard and the new leadership. The 'Syndicate' was the informal name given to a group of powerful and influential Congress leaders who had control over the party organization. This group was led by figures like K. Kamaraj, S.K. Patil, N. Sanjiva Reddy, and Atulya Ghosh. Their role was crucial in the transition of leadership after the deaths of Jawaharlal Nehru and Lal Bahadur Shastri.

Solution:

1. Installation of Indira Gandhi: After the sudden death of Lal Bahadur Shastri in 1966, there was a contest for the Prime Ministership between Indira Gandhi and Morarji Desai. The Syndicate decided to back Indira Gandhi, believing that she would be manageable and dependent on them for political guidance.
2. Logic of the Syndicate: The veteran leaders assumed that Indira Gandhi, being relatively new to the complexities of national administration and party politics, would act as a figurehead while they exercised the real power behind the scenes. This confirms both the Assertion and the Reason.
3. The Shift: Contrary to their expectations, Indira Gandhi quickly moved to assert her independent authority. she bypassed the Syndicate and reached out directly to the masses with her socialist "Ten-Point Programme," including the nationalization of banks and the abolition of the Privy Purse.
4. The 1969 Split: The tension culminated in the 1969 split of the Congress into Congress (O)—led by the Syndicate—and Congress (R)—led by Indira Gandhi. The 'R' stood for Requisitionists, and the 'O' for Organization.
5. Conclusion: Since the Syndicate's support for her (A) was explicitly driven by their expectation of her being a puppet leader (R), the Reason provides the direct psychological and strategic explanation for the Assertion.

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

Answer: (A)



Q47.

Solution**Concept:**

The mid-1960s was a period of intense crisis for India, often referred to as the 'Dangerous Decade'. During this time, India faced two major wars, severe droughts, and the loss of two towering Prime Ministers. Lal Bahadur Shastri's brief tenure (1964–1966) was defined by his humble leadership and his ability to galvanize the nation during the 1965 conflict with Pakistan.

Solution:

1. **Outbreak of War:** The 1965 war began with Pakistan's 'Operation Ablaze' and later 'Operation Grand Slam', attempting to infiltrate Jammu and Kashmir. Lal Bahadur Shastri showed great resolve by authorizing the Indian Army to cross the International Border toward Lahore to relieve pressure on the Kashmir front.
2. **Jai Jawan Jai Kisan:** To address the twin challenges of the war (military security) and the food shortage (economic security), Shastri gave the famous slogan 'Jai Jawan Jai Kisan' (Hail the Soldier, Hail the Farmer). This slogan became a symbol of national self-reliance.
3. **Role of the UN:** The war ended after a United Nations-mandated ceasefire. This led to the Tashkent Declaration in January 1966, brokered by the Soviet Union, where Shastri and Pakistani President Ayub Khan agreed to restore the pre-war boundaries.
4. **Sudden Demise:** Tragically, Lal Bahadur Shastri died in Tashkent (USSR) a day after signing the peace agreement, making him the only Indian Prime Minister to die abroad while in office.
5. **Legacy:** His leadership during the 1965 war is remembered for restoring the morale of the Indian military and the public after the setback of the 1962 war with China.

Final Answer: Lal Bahadur Shastri was the Prime Minister of India during the 1965 war.

Answer: (B)



Q48.

Solution**Concept:**

The 1980s saw a shift in the landscape of Indian social politics with the rise of organized movements representing the interests of the 'Bahujan' (the majority), which included Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, and religious minorities. This period marked the transition from these groups being seen as "vote banks" for the Congress to becoming independent political actors.

Solution:

1. Formation of BAMCEF: In 1978, Kanshi Ram founded the Backward and Minority Communities Employees Federation (BAMCEF). This was not a traditional political party or a trade union, but an organization of government employees from these marginalized backgrounds.
2. Philosophy: The core idea was that the educated and employed members of the Bahujan community had a "debt to society." They were encouraged to use their resources and intellectual skills to organize the community and challenge the "Manuwadi" or upper-caste hegemony in Indian politics.
3. Transition to Politics: BAMCEF provided the organizational and ideological base for the later formation of DS-4 (Dalit Shoshit Samaj Sangharsh Samiti) and eventually the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) in 1984.
4. Impact on North India: This brand of politics fundamentally changed the electoral map of Uttar Pradesh and Punjab, leading to the rise of Mayawati as a significant political leader and the consolidation of Dalit identity as a political force.
5. Significance for CUET: Understanding BAMCEF is essential for tracking the rise of 'identity politics' and the challenge to the established party systems in the late 20th century.

Final Answer: BAMCEF was formed to support the politics of the Dalit and Bahujan communities.

Answer: (B)



Q49.

Solution**Concept:**

The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) is a regional intergovernmental organization and geopolitical union of states in South Asia. Its member states are Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. SAARC comprises 3% of the world's area, 21% of the world's population and 4.21% of the global economy. It was established with the hope that regional cooperation could lead to peace and prosperity in a volatile region.

Solution:

1. Founding: SAARC was founded in Dhaka on December 8, 1985. The idea of regional cooperation in South Asia was first mooted by Ziaur Rahman, the then President of Bangladesh.
2. Objectives: The main objectives are to promote the welfare of the people of South Asia, accelerate economic growth, and strengthen collective self-reliance among the member countries.
3. The Secretariat: While the first summit was held in Dhaka, the Secretariat (headquarters) of the organization was established in Kathmandu, Nepal, on January 16, 1987. It serves as the central administrative hub for coordinating SAARC activities and summits.
4. Challenges: SAARC's progress has often been hampered by the bilateral tensions between India and Pakistan. This has led to the emergence of other sub-regional groups like BIMSTEC, which excludes Pakistan.
5. Achievements: Despite political hurdles, SAARC has made progress in areas like the SAARC Free Trade Area (SAFTA), the SAARC University in New Delhi, and various regional conventions on terrorism and narcotics.

Final Answer: The SAARC headquarters is located in Kathmandu.

Answer: (C)



Q50.

Solution**Concept:**

In the field of security studies, there has been a shift from a "State-Centric" view of security to a "Human-Centric" view. Traditional security focuses on the protection of the state from external military threats. However, 'Human Security' argues that the primary unit of security should be the individual person. If a state is militarily strong but its citizens are dying of hunger or disease, that state cannot be considered truly secure.

Solution:

1. Two Dimensions: Human security is often divided into two main categories: "Freedom from Fear" (protection from violence and conflict) and "Freedom from Want" (protection from poverty, disease, and environmental disasters).
2. Broadened Threats: Under this concept, the list of security threats includes global warming, international terrorism, epidemics like COVID-19 or HIV/AIDS, and extreme economic inequality.
3. UN Involvement: The concept was popularized by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in its 1994 Human Development Report. It argued that for most people in the world, insecurity arises more from worries about daily life than from the dread of a cataclysmic world war.
4. Responsibility to Protect (R2P): The idea of human security led to the international doctrine of R2P, which suggests that if a state fails to protect its own citizens from mass atrocities, the international community has a responsibility to intervene.
5. Evaluating Options: While Option A refers to 'National Security' and Option D refers to 'Realist Power Politics', only Option B captures the essence of protecting the individual's well-being and dignity, which is the core of Human Security.

Final Answer: Human Security refers to the security of the people from threats like hunger, disease, and repression.

Answer: (B)



Answer Key

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

