

# Kerala Board 2026 SSLC Social Science Question Paper with Solutions(Memory Based)

Time Allowed :2 Hour 30 Mins	Maximum Marks :80	Total Questions :20
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## General Instructions

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

- The exam lasts 150 minutes (2 hours 30 minutes), including a 15-minute "cool-off time".
- Use the 15-minute "cool-off time" to read the question paper and plan your answers. You are not allowed to write during this period.
- The total score for the theory paper is 80 marks.
- There is no negative marking for incorrect answers; therefore, it is advisable to attempt all questions.
- The question paper is divided into multiple sections (A, B, C, and D) featuring very short, short, and long answer types.
- Internal choices are provided in most sections, such as "answer any 6 out of 8" or "any 3 out of 4".
- Question papers are available in both English and Malayalam versions.
- Calculators, mobile phones, and other electronic gadgets are strictly prohibited inside the examination hall.
- All rough work should be done on the space provided in the answer sheet itself.

### 1. Explain the main causes and consequences of the First World War.

**Solution:**

**Concept:** The First World War (1914–1918) was one of the largest global conflicts in history. It involved many major powers of Europe and eventually spread across the world. The war was caused by a combination of political, economic, and military factors that created tensions among nations. The consequences of the war reshaped global politics, economies, and societies.

**Main Causes of the First World War:**

**1. Militarism:** Militarism refers to the policy of building strong armed forces and preparing for war. Before 1914, many European countries significantly increased their military strength. Nations such as Germany, Britain, France, and Russia expanded their armies and navies, which created fear and competition among them.

**2. Alliances:** European countries formed military alliances to protect themselves. Two major alliance groups emerged:

- Triple Alliance: Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy

- Triple Entente: Britain, France, and Russia

These alliances meant that if one country was attacked, its allies would also join the conflict, which eventually turned a regional dispute into a global war.

**3. Imperialism:** Imperialism refers to the policy of expanding a country's power by acquiring colonies. European nations competed for colonies in Africa and Asia. This rivalry increased tensions between powerful nations such as Britain, France, and Germany.

**4. Nationalism:** Nationalism created strong feelings of pride and loyalty toward one's nation. In Europe, nationalist movements encouraged countries to pursue their own interests aggressively. In the Balkans, several ethnic groups wanted independence from Austria-Hungary, which created instability in the region.

**5. Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand:** The immediate cause of the war was the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary on June 28, 1914, in Sarajevo by a Serbian nationalist. Austria-Hungary blamed Serbia and declared war, which triggered the alliance system and led to a large-scale war.

### Consequences of the First World War:

**1. Massive Loss of Life and Destruction:** The war caused enormous human and material losses. Millions of soldiers and civilians were killed, and many cities, industries, and agricultural lands were destroyed.

**2. Political Changes:** Several major empires collapsed after the war, including the German Empire, Austro-Hungarian Empire, Ottoman Empire, and Russian Empire. Many new nations were formed in Europe.

**3. Treaty of Versailles:** In 1919, the Treaty of Versailles officially ended the war. Germany was forced to accept responsibility for the war, pay heavy reparations, reduce its military, and lose territory. These harsh conditions created resentment in Germany.

**4. Economic Problems:** The war severely damaged European economies. Countries faced inflation, unemployment, and financial instability.

**5. Formation of the League of Nations:** The League of Nations was established to maintain international peace and prevent future conflicts. Although it aimed to resolve disputes peacefully, it later proved ineffective.

**6. Seeds of the Second World War:** The harsh terms of the Treaty of Versailles and unresolved political tensions contributed to the rise of aggressive nationalism and eventually led to the Second World War.

#### Quick Tip

Remember the key causes of World War I using the acronym **M.A.I.N.:** Militarism, Alliances, Imperialism, and Nationalism. The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand acted as the immediate trigger for the war.

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## 2. Discuss the role of Mahatma Gandhi in the Non-Cooperation Movement.

**Solution:**

**Concept:** The Non-Cooperation Movement (1920–1922) was one of the first large-scale mass movements against British rule in India. It was led by Mahatma Gandhi and aimed to achieve self-rule (Swaraj) through peaceful and non-violent resistance. Gandhi encouraged Indians to withdraw their cooperation from British institutions and practices to weaken colonial authority.

**Role of Mahatma Gandhi in the Non-Cooperation Movement:**

**1. Leadership and Ideology:** Mahatma Gandhi provided strong leadership and introduced the principles of *Satyagraha* (truth and non-violence). He believed that peaceful resistance and refusal to cooperate with unjust laws could force the British government to grant political rights to Indians.

**2. Launch of the Movement:** In 1920, Gandhi formally launched the Non-Cooperation Movement during the session of the Indian National Congress. He called upon Indians to boycott British goods, educational institutions, courts, and government services as a form of protest against colonial rule.

**3. Promotion of Swadeshi and Boycott:** Gandhi encouraged people to use *Swadeshi* (locally produced goods) and boycott foreign goods, especially British textiles. People were urged to spin and wear *khadi* as a symbol of national unity and self-reliance.

**4. Mobilization of the Masses:** One of Gandhi's major contributions was transforming the freedom struggle into a mass movement. He inspired participation from students, peasants, workers, traders, and women across the country. Many students left government schools and colleges, and lawyers gave up their legal practices.

**5. Promotion of National Unity:** Gandhi also attempted to unite different communities in India. He supported the Khilafat Movement to strengthen Hindu–Muslim unity and bring Muslims into the broader national struggle.

**6. Suspension of the Movement:** In 1922, after the violent incident at Chauri Chaura where protesters set fire to a police station and killed several policemen, Gandhi decided to suspend the movement. He believed that the movement must remain strictly non-violent and that people were not yet fully prepared for disciplined mass struggle.

**Significance of Gandhi's Role:**

**1. Mass Awakening:** Gandhi's leadership awakened political consciousness among millions of Indians and encouraged them to actively participate in the freedom struggle.

**2. New Method of Protest:** He introduced non-violent resistance as a powerful political tool, which became a defining feature of India's independence movement.

**3. Strengthening the National Movement:** Although the movement was suspended, it significantly weakened British authority and strengthened the Indian National Congress as a national political organization.

**Quick Tip**

The Non-Cooperation Movement (1920–1922) marked the first nationwide mass movement led by Mahatma Gandhi based on the principles of **Satyagraha**, **non-violence**, and **Swadeshi**. It played a crucial role in mobilizing the masses against British rule.

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**3. Analyze the significance of the Quit India Movement in the Indian independence struggle.**

## Solution:

**Concept:** The Quit India Movement, launched in 1942, was one of the most decisive phases of the Indian freedom struggle. It was initiated by Mahatma Gandhi and the Indian National Congress during the Second World War with the aim of ending British rule in India immediately. The movement reflected the strong determination of Indians to achieve complete independence.

### Background of the Quit India Movement:

- 1. Failure of the Cripps Mission:** In 1942, the British government sent Sir Stafford Cripps to India with a proposal for constitutional reforms after the war. However, the proposal did not promise immediate independence and was rejected by Indian leaders.
- 2. Impact of the Second World War:** India was involved in the Second World War without the consent of Indian leaders. This created resentment among the Indian population and increased demands for self-government.
- 3. Growing Nationalist Sentiments:** By the early 1940s, Indians had become increasingly impatient with colonial rule and demanded complete independence rather than gradual reforms.

### Significance of the Quit India Movement:

- 1. Demand for Immediate Independence:** The movement marked a clear demand for the immediate end of British rule. Gandhi gave the famous slogan “*Do or Die*”, urging Indians to fight peacefully but firmly for freedom.
- 2. Mass Participation:** The movement witnessed widespread participation from people across the country, including students, workers, peasants, and women. Despite severe repression by the British authorities, protests and strikes continued in many regions.
- 3. Weakening of British Authority:** Although the movement was suppressed by arrests and strict measures, it significantly weakened British control over India. The administration found it increasingly difficult to maintain authority.
- 4. Emergence of Local Leadership:** With many national leaders imprisoned, local leaders and ordinary citizens took responsibility for organizing protests. This demonstrated the depth of nationalist sentiment among the people.
- 5. Strengthening the Freedom Struggle:** The movement intensified the struggle for independence and made it clear that British rule in India could not continue for long.
- 6. Path Toward Independence:** Although the Quit India Movement did not immediately achieve independence, it created political pressure on the British government. After the war, Britain realized that maintaining colonial rule in India was no longer feasible, eventually leading to independence in 1947.

#### Quick Tip

The Quit India Movement (1942) is remembered for Mahatma Gandhi’s slogan “**Do or Die**”. It marked the final mass uprising against British rule and significantly accelerated the process that led to India’s independence in 1947.

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## 4. List the major social reform movements in Kerala and their leaders.

### Solution:

**Concept:** During the 19th and early 20th centuries, Kerala witnessed several important social reform movements that aimed to eliminate social inequalities, caste discrimination, and oppressive social practices. These movements played a crucial role in promoting social justice, education, and equality among different communities in Kerala.

**Major Social Reform Movements in Kerala and Their Leaders:**

**1. Sree Narayana Movement:** This movement was led by **Sree Narayana Guru**. It aimed at uplifting the Ezhava community and other oppressed groups by promoting social equality and education. Narayana Guru preached the famous message: *“One Caste, One Religion, One God for mankind.”*

**2. Nair Service Society (NSS) Movement:** The Nair Service Society was founded by **Mannathu Padmanabhan**. The movement worked for the social and educational advancement of the Nair community and promoted unity and modernization within the community.

**3. Sadhu Jana Paripalana Movement:** This movement was led by **Ayyankali**. It focused on improving the conditions of the Dalit community in Kerala. Ayyankali fought for the rights of lower-caste people, including access to education and freedom to use public roads.

**4. Yogakshema Movement:** The Yogakshema Movement was led by **V. T. Bhattathiripad**. It aimed to reform the social practices of the Namboodiri Brahmin community, including promoting education and improving the status of women.

**5. Muslim Reform Movement:** The Muslim reform movement in Kerala was led by **Vakkom Moulavi**. He worked to modernize the Muslim community by promoting education, social reforms, and religious awareness.

**6. Temple Entry Movement:** The Temple Entry Movement sought to allow people from all castes to enter Hindu temples. Leaders such as **K. Kelappan** and other reformers played important roles in this struggle for social equality.

**Quick Tip**

Kerala’s social reform movements focused mainly on **abolishing caste discrimination, promoting education, and achieving social equality**. Leaders such as **Sree Narayana Guru, Ayyankali, Mannathu Padmanabhan, and Vakkom Moulavi** played crucial roles in transforming Kerala society.

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**5. Explain the features of the Northern Mountains and their impact on India’s climate.**

**Solution:**

**Concept:** The Northern Mountains of India mainly refer to the Himalayan mountain system. They form a vast and continuous mountain range in the northern part of the Indian subcontinent. These mountains play an important role in shaping the physical geography and climate of India.

**Features of the Northern Mountains:**

**1. Young Fold Mountains:** The Himalayas are young fold mountains formed due to the collision of the Indian Plate with the Eurasian Plate. Because of their relatively recent geological formation, they have high peaks, steep slopes, and deep valleys.

**2. Three Parallel Ranges:** The Himalayan mountain system consists of three main parallel ranges:

- **The Great Himalayas (Himadri):** The highest range with many of the world's highest peaks and permanent snow cover.
- **The Lesser Himalayas (Himachal):** Located south of the Himadri, consisting of rugged mountains and deep valleys.
- **The Outer Himalayas (Shiwalik):** The southernmost range made of loose sediments and relatively lower hills.

**3. High Peaks and Glaciers:** The Northern Mountains contain many high peaks and large glaciers. These glaciers are the source of several major rivers such as the Ganga, Yamuna, and Brahmaputra.

**4. Natural Barrier:** The Himalayan ranges form a natural barrier between the Indian subcontinent and Central Asia, protecting India from cold winds and invasions from the north.

#### **Impact of the Northern Mountains on India's Climate:**

**1. Blocking Cold Winds:** The Himalayas prevent the cold, dry winds from Central Asia from entering the Indian subcontinent. This helps maintain relatively warmer conditions in northern India during winter.

**2. Influencing Monsoon Rainfall:** The Himalayas play a crucial role in the Indian monsoon system. When the moisture-laden southwest monsoon winds reach the Himalayas, they are forced to rise, leading to heavy rainfall in the northern and northeastern parts of India.

**3. Formation of River Systems:** The glaciers in the Northern Mountains feed perennial rivers such as the Indus, Ganga, and Brahmaputra, which provide water for agriculture, drinking, and hydroelectric power.

**4. Creating Climatic Diversity:** The varying altitudes and landscapes of the Himalayas create different climatic zones, ranging from tropical conditions at the foothills to extremely cold conditions at higher altitudes.

#### **Quick Tip**

The Northern Mountains, especially the Himalayas, play a vital role in **protecting India from cold winds, influencing monsoon rainfall, and supplying water through major river systems**. They are one of the most important physical features shaping India's climate.

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**6. Differentiate between Himalayan rivers and Peninsular rivers with examples.**

**Solution:**

**Concept:** Rivers in India are broadly classified into two major groups based on their origin and characteristics: **Himalayan rivers** and **Peninsular rivers**. These two river systems differ in their source, flow pattern, water availability, and geographical features.

**Difference between Himalayan Rivers and Peninsular Rivers:**

Basis of Difference	Himalayan Rivers	Peninsular Rivers
<b>Origin</b>	Originate from the Himalayan glaciers and high mountain ranges.	Originate from the Peninsular Plateau and hills.
<b>Nature of Flow</b>	They are <b>perennial rivers</b> as they receive water from both glaciers and rainfall throughout the year.	They are mostly <b>seasonal rivers</b> and depend mainly on rainfall.
<b>Length and Basin</b>	Generally longer rivers with large drainage basins.	Comparatively shorter rivers with smaller drainage basins.
<b>Course of River</b>	Flow through deep gorges and valleys in mountainous regions and form wide plains in the lower course.	Flow over hard rock surfaces of the plateau and have a relatively straight course.
<b>Sediment Deposition</b>	Carry large amounts of silt and form fertile alluvial plains.	Carry less silt and form fewer depositional features.
<b>Examples</b>	Ganga, Yamuna, Brahmaputra, and Indus.	Godavari, Krishna, Narmada, and Kaveri.

### Explanation:

**Himalayan Rivers:** These rivers originate in the snow-covered Himalayan mountains. Since they are fed by both glaciers and rainfall, they flow throughout the year. They create fertile plains by depositing large quantities of alluvial soil, which supports agriculture.

**Peninsular Rivers:** These rivers originate from the Peninsular Plateau and are mainly dependent on monsoon rainfall. They flow through rocky terrain and have a relatively stable course. Many of them form waterfalls and are suitable for hydroelectric power generation.

### Quick Tip

A simple way to remember: **Himalayan rivers are perennial and glacier-fed**, while **Peninsular rivers are mainly rain-fed and seasonal**. Examples include **Ganga and Brahmaputra** for Himalayan rivers, and **Godavari and Krishna** for Peninsular rivers.

## 7. Describe the characteristics and distribution of Alluvial soil in India.

### Solution:

**Concept:** Alluvial soil is one of the most important and widespread soil types in India. It is formed by the deposition of sediments carried by rivers such as the Ganga, Brahmaputra, and Indus. Due to its fertility and rich mineral content, alluvial soil is highly suitable for agriculture and supports a large portion of India's farming activities.

### Characteristics of Alluvial Soil:

**1. High Fertility:** Alluvial soil is very fertile because it contains essential nutrients such as potash, phosphoric acid, and lime. This makes it highly productive for agriculture.

2. **Fine Texture:** The soil is generally composed of sand, silt, and clay in varying proportions. Its texture ranges from sandy loam to clayey soil, depending on the location.
3. **Good Moisture Retention:** Alluvial soil has good water retention capacity, which helps in the growth of many crops.
4. **Easily Cultivable:** The soil is soft and porous, making it easy to plough and cultivate.
5. **Two Main Types:**
  - **Khadar:** The newer alluvial soil deposited by rivers annually. It is very fertile.
  - **Bhangar:** The older alluvial soil found in slightly elevated areas and less fertile compared to Khadar.

#### **Distribution of Alluvial Soil in India:**

1. **Northern Plains:** Alluvial soil is widely found in the Indo-Gangetic plains covering states such as Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and West Bengal.
2. **River Valleys and Deltas:** It is also found in the valleys and deltas of major rivers like the Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, and Kaveri.
3. **Coastal Plains:** Alluvial deposits are present along the coastal plains where rivers meet the sea.
4. **Northern and Northeastern Regions:** Large deposits of alluvial soil are found in the Brahmaputra valley in Assam and surrounding northeastern areas.

**Agricultural Importance:** Alluvial soil supports the cultivation of a wide variety of crops such as rice, wheat, sugarcane, cotton, maize, and pulses. Because of its fertility and extensive distribution, it forms the backbone of agriculture in many parts of India.

#### **Quick Tip**

Alluvial soil is the **most fertile and widely distributed soil in India**. It is mainly found in the **Indo-Gangetic plains and river deltas** and is ideal for crops like **rice, wheat, and sugarcane**.

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8. Define the concept of "Public Administration" and its importance in a democracy.

**Solution:**

**Concept:** Public Administration refers to the implementation and management of government policies and programs. It involves the organization, planning, directing, and controlling of government activities to serve the public effectively. Public administration ensures that the decisions and laws made by the government are properly executed for the welfare of society.

#### **Definition of Public Administration:**

Public Administration can be defined as the process through which government policies and decisions are implemented by public officials and administrative institutions. It includes the management of public resources, delivery of public services, and regulation of activities in the interest of citizens.

### **Importance of Public Administration in a Democracy:**

- 1. Implementation of Government Policies:** Public administration plays a crucial role in implementing laws and policies formulated by the government. Without effective administration, policies cannot be translated into action.
- 2. Delivery of Public Services:** It ensures the efficient delivery of essential public services such as education, healthcare, transportation, sanitation, and security to the citizens.
- 3. Promoting Social Welfare:** Public administration helps in implementing welfare programs and schemes aimed at improving the living standards of people, especially the weaker sections of society.
- 4. Maintaining Law and Order:** Administrative institutions help maintain law and order in society by enforcing laws and regulations, thereby ensuring peace and stability.
- 5. Ensuring Accountability and Transparency:** In a democratic system, public administration is accountable to the people and their representatives. Administrative processes must be transparent and responsible to maintain public trust.
- 6. Supporting Development and Governance:** Public administration supports national development by managing resources efficiently, planning development programs, and coordinating government activities.

#### Quick Tip

Public Administration acts as the **link between government policies and citizens**. In a democracy, it ensures that policies are implemented effectively and that public services reach the people.

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### **9. Define Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and explain how it is calculated.**

#### **Solution:**

**Concept:** Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is one of the most important indicators used to measure the economic performance of a country. It represents the total monetary value of all final goods and services produced within a country's borders during a specific period, usually one year.

#### **Definition of Gross Domestic Product (GDP):**

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) can be defined as the total market value of all final goods and services produced within a country in a given period of time. It reflects the size and health of a country's economy and is widely used for economic analysis and policy making.

#### **Methods of Calculating GDP:**

GDP can be calculated using three main approaches:

- 1. Production (Value Added) Method:** In this method, GDP is calculated by adding the value added at each stage of production across different sectors of the economy such as agriculture, industry, and services. The value added refers to the difference between the value of output and the value of intermediate goods used in production.

$$\text{GDP} = \sum (\text{Value of Output} - \text{Value of Intermediate Consumption})$$

**2. Income Method:** Under the income method, GDP is calculated by summing all incomes earned by factors of production in an economy. These incomes include wages, rent, interest, and profits.

$$\text{GDP} = \text{Wages} + \text{Rent} + \text{Interest} + \text{Profits}$$

**3. Expenditure Method:** This method calculates GDP by adding all expenditures made on final goods and services in the economy.

$$\text{GDP} = C + I + G + (X - M)$$

Where:

- $C$  = Consumption expenditure
- $I$  = Investment expenditure
- $G$  = Government expenditure
- $X$  = Exports
- $M$  = Imports

#### **Importance of GDP:**

**1. Measure of Economic Growth:** GDP helps determine whether the economy of a country is growing or shrinking.

**2. Policy Making:** Governments use GDP data to design economic policies and development strategies.

**3. Comparison Between Countries:** GDP allows comparison of economic performance between different countries.

**4. Indicator of Living Standards:** Higher GDP generally indicates better economic conditions and improved living standards for people.

#### **Quick Tip**

GDP measures the **total value of final goods and services produced within a country**. It can be calculated using three approaches: **Production Method, Income Method, and Expenditure Method**.

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**10. What is the role of the Public Distribution System (PDS) in ensuring food security?**

**Solution:**

**Concept:** The Public Distribution System (PDS) is an important food security system implemented by the Government of India. It aims to provide essential food grains and commodities to the poor at subsidized prices through a network of fair price shops. The system helps ensure that vulnerable sections of society have access to adequate food.

**Definition of Public Distribution System (PDS):**

The Public Distribution System (PDS) is a government-managed system for distributing essential commodities such as rice, wheat, sugar, and kerosene to the public at affordable prices. It primarily targets economically weaker sections of society to ensure food availability and affordability.

#### **Role of PDS in Ensuring Food Security:**

- 1. Providing Food Grains at Subsidized Prices:** The PDS supplies essential food grains such as rice and wheat to eligible households at prices lower than the market rate. This helps poor families meet their basic food requirements.
- 2. Supporting the Poor and Vulnerable Sections:** The system mainly targets people living below the poverty line (BPL) and other vulnerable groups. By providing affordable food grains, it helps reduce hunger and malnutrition.
- 3. Stabilizing Food Prices:** The PDS helps regulate and stabilize food prices in the market by ensuring a steady supply of essential commodities.
- 4. Ensuring Food Availability During Shortages:** During times of drought, natural disasters, or economic crises, the PDS plays a crucial role in ensuring that people still have access to food.
- 5. Promoting Social Welfare:** The system supports government welfare policies aimed at improving the living conditions of disadvantaged sections of society.

#### **Challenges in the PDS:**

- 1. Leakage and Corruption:** In some cases, food grains meant for the poor are diverted or misused due to corruption.
- 2. Targeting Issues:** Sometimes eligible beneficiaries are excluded while non-eligible individuals receive benefits.
- 3. Storage and Distribution Problems:** Improper storage and transportation may lead to wastage of food grains.

#### **Quick Tip**

The Public Distribution System (PDS) is a key mechanism for **ensuring food security in India** by providing essential food grains to the poor at subsidized prices through a network of fair price shops.