

# UP Board Class 12 Sociology Question Paper with Solutions

## General Instructions

1. The question paper consists of six sections — Section A to Section F.
2. Time allowed is **3 hours 15 minutes** and the maximum marks are **90**.
3. All questions are compulsory unless otherwise stated.
4. Section A contains Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs). Choose the correct answer from the given options.
5. Section B includes:
  - True/False questions
  - Fill in the blanks
  - Very short answer questions (one or two words)
6. Section C contains short answer type questions.
7. Section D contains long descriptive questions with internal choices.
8. Section E contains long answer questions. Attempt the required number as instructed.
9. Section F consists of Map Work. Mark and label the places correctly on the outline map of India.
10. Figures to the right indicate full marks for each question.
11. Write neatly and draw diagrams wherever necessary.
12. Write answers only in the space provided or as instructed.

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### 1. What are the reasons of higher birth rate in India?

**Solution:**

#### **Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

Birth rate refers to the number of live births per thousand population in a year.

India has experienced a relatively higher birth rate due to several social and economic factors.

#### **Step 2: Detailed Explanation:**

The main reasons for higher birth rate in India are:

1. **Early Marriage:** Marriage at a young age increases the reproductive period of women.
2. **Illiteracy and Lack of Education:** Lack of awareness about family planning methods leads to more children.

3. **Poverty:** Poor families consider children as earning members and economic support.
4. **Preference for Male Child:** Desire for a male child often leads to more births.
5. **Lack of Awareness about Contraception:** Limited knowledge and use of birth control methods increase birth rate.

**Step 3: Final Answer:**

Higher birth rate in India is mainly due to early marriage, illiteracy, poverty, preference for male child, and lack of awareness about family planning.

**Quick Tip**

Improvement in education, especially female education, helps in reducing birth rate.

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**2. Discuss the impact of liberalization on Indian society.**

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

Liberalization refers to the removal of government restrictions and controls on economic activities to promote free trade and private participation.

In India, liberalization was introduced in 1991 to reform the economy.

**Step 2: Detailed Explanation:**

The impact of liberalization on Indian society includes both positive and negative effects:

**Positive Impacts:**

1. **Economic Growth:** Increase in industrial production and expansion of service sector.
2. **Employment Opportunities:** Growth of private sector and multinational companies created new jobs.
3. **Improvement in Standard of Living:** Availability of better quality goods and services at competitive prices.
4. **Technological Advancement:** Adoption of modern technology and improved infrastructure.

**Negative Impacts:**

1. **Income Inequality:** Gap between rich and poor has widened.

2. **Job Insecurity:** Contractual employment and privatization increased uncertainty in jobs.
3. **Impact on Small Industries:** Small-scale industries faced tough competition from large companies.

**Step 3: Final Answer:**

Liberalization has led to economic growth, modernization, and better living standards, but it has also increased income inequality and created challenges for small industries and employment security.

**Quick Tip**

Liberalization, Privatization, and Globalization (LPG reforms) were introduced in India in 1991 to accelerate economic development.

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**3. What is meant by prejudices?**

**Solution:**

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

Prejudice means forming an opinion or judgment about a person or group without proper knowledge or facts. It is usually based on bias or stereotypes.

**Step 2: Detailed Explanation:**

Prejudices are generally negative attitudes towards individuals or groups based on caste, religion, race, gender, language, or social background.

Such opinions are formed without rational thinking or real experience.

Prejudice may lead to discrimination, social division, and lack of unity in society.

**Step 3: Final Answer:**

Prejudices are preconceived and biased opinions formed against individuals or groups without proper knowledge or evidence.

**Quick Tip**

Prejudice is an attitude, while discrimination is the action that may result from that attitude.

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**4. Why is it difficult to define a nation?**

## Solution:

### Step 1: The Concept of a Nation

A nation is often described as a large body of people united by common descent, history, culture, or language, inhabiting a particular country or territory. However, a strict objective definition is elusive.

### Step 2: Reasons for Difficulty

- **Lack of Common Objective Criteria:** Not all nations share a single common language (e.g., India, Switzerland), religion (e.g., USA, India), or ethnicity. Therefore, no single objective marker defines all nations.
- **Subjective Nature:** A nation is primarily a "psychological" or "political" community. It exists because its members *feel* a sense of belonging and solidarity. Benedict Anderson famously called nations "imagined communities" because members will never know most of their fellow-members, yet in the minds of each lives the image of their communion.
- **State vs. Nation:** A state is a political entity with sovereignty and borders, while a nation is a cultural/political identity. A nation can exist without a state (e.g., Kurds), and a state can contain multiple nations (multinational states). This overlap creates definitional complexity.

#### Quick Tip

A nation is best defined by the collective will and shared political aspirations of a people rather than just shared language or bloodline.

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## 5. Give two characteristics of modernization.

### Solution:

#### Step 1: Understanding Modernization

Modernization is a process of social change involving the transformation of traditional societies into modern ones, typically driven by industrialization and technological advancement.

#### Step 2: Two Key Characteristics

1. **Rationalism and Scientific Temper:** Modernization involves a shift from relying on tradition, superstition, and religious dogma to relying on reason, science, and logic for decision-making and understanding the world.
2. **Industrialization and Urbanization:** It is characterized by a shift from an agrarian economy to an industrial one, accompanied by the movement of population from rural villages to urban cities.

*(Other characteristics include: High social mobility, growth of democratic institutions, and secularization.)*

### Quick Tip

Modernization is not just about technology (cell phones, factories); it is fundamentally about a change in values (achievement orientation vs. ascription) and social structures.

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## 6. State the main features of Panchayati Raj System.

**Solution:**

### Step 1: Introduction

The Panchayati Raj System is a system of rural local self-government in India. It was constitutionalized through the **73rd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1992** to build democracy at the grass-root level.

### Step 2: Main Features

1. **Three-Tier Structure:** The system provides for a three-tier structure of local self-government:
  - **Gram Panchayat** at the village level.
  - **Panchayat Samiti** (Block Committee) at the intermediate/block level.
  - **Zila Parishad** at the district level.
2. **Direct Elections:** All members of the panchayats at the village, intermediate, and district levels are elected directly by the people. The elections are held every **5 years**.
3. **Reservation of Seats:**
  - Seats are reserved for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) in proportion to their population.
  - At least **one-third (33%)** of the total number of seats are reserved for women.
4. **Gram Sabha:** The Gram Sabha is the foundation of the Panchayati Raj system. It is a body consisting of all persons registered in the electoral rolls of a village comprised within the area of the Panchayat.
5. **State Election Commission:** The superintendence, direction, and control of the preparation of electoral rolls and the conduct of all elections to the Panchayats is vested in a State Election Commission.
6. **State Finance Commission:** The Governor of a State shall, after every five years, constitute a Finance Commission to review the financial position of the Panchayats.

### Quick Tip

Remember the 73rd Amendment Act, 1992. It came into force on **April 24, 1993**, which is now celebrated as National Panchayati Raj Day in India.

## 7. What is class system?

**Solution:**

**Definition:**

A class system is a form of social stratification in which people are grouped into hierarchical social categories based on their economic status, wealth, income, occupation, and education.

**Key Features:**

- **Economic Basis:** Unlike caste systems (based on birth/religion), class is primarily economic.
- **Open System:** It allows for social mobility. Individuals can move up or down the class ladder through achievement, education, or loss of wealth.
- **Impersonal Relations:** Relationships between classes are often contractual and less personal than in traditional systems.

### Quick Tip

Remember the trinity: Wealth, Power, and Prestige are the three dimensions usually used to define social class (Weberian perspective).

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## 8. Define Nation.

**Solution:**

**Definition:**

A nation is a large body of people united by common descent, history, culture, or language, inhabiting a particular country or territory. Ideally, it is a community of people who share a sense of solidarity, a common culture, and a political aspiration for self-determination.

**Core Element:**

It is often described as an "imagined community" because members do not know each other but share a deep sense of communion and belonging.

### Quick Tip

Nation (people/culture) is distinct from State (political entity/borders). A nation-state is where the cultural and political boundaries coincide.

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## 9. How did planters live?

**Solution:**

**Context:**

This likely refers to the colonial tea or indigo planters in India (like in Assam or Bengal) during British rule.

**Lifestyle:**

- **Luxury and Isolation:** Planters typically lived a lavish lifestyle in large bungalows (often called 'Chang Bungalows' in Assam), isolated from the local population and their workers.
- **Authority:** They exercised immense authority and power over the plantation laborers, often acting as local lords.
- **Social Clubs:** Their social life revolved around exclusive clubs where they engaged in sports (like polo, tennis), drinking, and socializing with other Europeans, maintaining strict racial segregation.
- **Exploitative Role:** While they lived in comfort, they were often responsible for harsh working conditions for the indentured laborers working on their estates.

**Quick Tip**

The planters' lifestyle was a stark contrast to the miserable conditions of the plantation workers, highlighting the deep inequality of the colonial economic structure.

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**10. Identify two negative social effects of Green Revolution.****Solution:****Two Negative Social Effects:**

1. **Increased Regional Inequality:** The Green Revolution was primarily focused on irrigated areas (like Punjab, Haryana, Western UP). This led to uneven development, where these regions prospered while dry/rain-fed areas lagged behind, creating regional disparities.
2. **Displacement of Small Farmers / Class Conflict:** The high cost of inputs (seeds, fertilizers, machinery) benefited rich farmers. Small and marginal farmers often couldn't compete, leading to debt and land loss. This widened the gap between rich landlords and poor peasants, sometimes resulting in social tension and class conflict.

**Quick Tip**

Other negative impacts include environmental degradation (soil salinity, water table depletion) and loss of biodiversity, but the question specifically asks for social effects.

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**11. What is rural society?**

**Solution:**

**Definition:**

Rural society refers to a society that is located in villages or non-urban areas, where the primary occupation is agriculture or related activities (like animal husbandry, cottage industries).

**Characteristics:**

- **Agrarian Economy:** Livelihood depends directly on nature (land).
- **Low Population Density:** Sparse population compared to cities.
- **Homogeneity:** Social life is relatively homogeneous with shared customs, traditions, and strong community bonds.
- **Traditional Values:** Social change is slower, and traditional institutions (like caste, family) play a dominant role.

**Quick Tip**

Mahatma Gandhi famously said, "India lives in her villages," highlighting the centrality of rural society to Indian identity.

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**12. What is alienation?**

**Solution:**

**Definition:**

Alienation is a state of feeling estranged or separated from one's environment, work, products of work, or self.

**Marxist Context:**

In Karl Marx's theory, it refers to the condition of workers in a capitalist society. Workers lose control over their work and the things they produce, becoming mere cogs in a machine. They become alienated from:

- The product of their labor.
- The process of labor (work becomes forced).
- Their fellow workers (competition replaces cooperation).
- Their own human potential (species-essence).

**Quick Tip**

Think of Charlie Chaplin in the movie "Modern Times" tightening bolts on an assembly line—that is a classic depiction of alienation.

13. Differentiate between a strike and a lockout.

Solution:

Difference between Strike and Lockout:

<b>Basis of Difference</b>	<b>Strike</b>	<b>Lockout</b>
<b>Meaning</b>	A strike is a collective refusal by workers to work in order to press their demands or protest against working conditions.	A lockout is the temporary closing of the workplace by the employer or refusal to give employment to workers.
<b>Initiator</b>	Initiated by workers, employees, or trade unions.	Initiated by the employer or management.
<b>Nature of Action</b>	Workers stop working or go on mass leave to express grievances.	Employer shuts down operations or prevents workers from entering the workplace.
<b>Objective</b>	To put pressure on management to accept workers' demands such as higher wages, better conditions, etc.	To compel workers to accept the employer's terms and conditions or to resist workers' demands.
<b>Control</b>	Control lies in the hands of employees.	Control lies in the hands of the employer.
<b>Impact on Production</b>	Production stops due to non-cooperation of workers.	Production stops due to closure of the workplace by management.

**Summary:**

A strike is a weapon of the workers, while a lockout is a weapon of the employers.

**Quick Tip**

Both are tools used in industrial disputes and collective bargaining, often leading to a halt in production.