



B.K. BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION

SARALA BIRLA GROUP OF SCHOOLS
A CBSE DAY-CUM-BOYS' RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL



TERM-1 EXAMINATION - 2026-27 SOCIAL SCIENCE - (SET-2)

Class: VIII
Date: 4.09.2026
Admission no:

Time: 3hrs
Max Marks: 80
Roll no:

General Instructions:

1. There are 38 questions in the Question paper. All questions are compulsory.
2. The question paper has three Sections – A-History, B-Geography and C-Political Science.
3. Each Section has MCQs, VSA, SA, LAs and CBQ.
4. Very Short Answer Type Questions (VSA), carry 2 marks each. Answers to each question should not exceed 40 words.
5. Short Answer Type Questions (SA), carry 3 marks each. Answers to each question should not exceed 60 words.
6. Long answer type questions (LA), carry 5 marks each. Answers to each question should not exceed 120 words.
7. There are case based questions (CBQ) with three sub questions and are of 4 marks each. Answers to each question should not exceed 100 words.
8. The map-based questions, carry 5 marks with two parts- Q14 in Section A-History (3 marks) and Q28. In Section B -Geography (2 marks).
9. There is no overall choice in the question paper. However, an internal choice has been provided in few questions. Only one of the choices in such questions must be attempted.

SECTION-A

HISTORY (36 marks)

1. **Assertion (A):** The mansabdari system enabled the Mughal rulers to assemble an army at short notice. [1]
Reason (R): Mansabdar were expected to maintain a specified number of soldiers and animals for the state.
(a) Both A and R are incorrect.
(b) A is incorrect, but R is correct.
(c) Both A and R are correct, but R does not correctly explain A.
(d) Both A and R are correct, and R correctly explains A.
2. Arrange the following events in the correct chronological order: [1]
I. Battle of Haldighati
II. Battle of Saraighat
III. Guru Tegh Bahadur's martyrdom
IV. Maharaja Ranjit Singh unified the Sikh confederacies
(a) II → I → III → IV (b) I → II → III → IV
(c) I → III → II → IV (d) III → I → II → IV
3. **Assertion (A):** Chhatrapati Shivaji gave importance to protecting forests and trees. [1]
Reason (R): He instructed his officials not to cut useful trees such as mango and jackfruit without permission.
(a) Both A and R are correct, and R correctly explains A.
(b) Both A and R are correct, but R does not correctly explain A.
(c) A is correct, but R is incorrect.
(d) A is incorrect, but R is correct.
4. The main script used by the Marathas for their correspondence was the _____ script. [1]
(a) Persian (b) Sanskrit
(c) Tamil (d) Modi

5. In 1858, the British took direct control of India from the East India Company. [1]
(a) Parliament (b) East India Company
(c) Governor-General (d) Crown

6(a). A coastal kingdom wants to protect its coastline and control access to resources from the sea. It decides to establish a permanent naval force. Why would establishing a navy be important for such a kingdom? [2]

OR

6(b). What were the two types of cavalry soldiers in the Maratha army?

7. How did the Bhakti movement contribute to the cultural foundation of the Marathas? [3]

8. How did Todar Mal improve the revenue system during Akbar's reign? [3]

9(a). What were the main features of the British education policy introduced through Macaulay's Minute? [3]

OR

9(b). Imagine that you are a farmer in Bengal during the colonial period. A European planter pressures you to grow indigo on your land even though you would prefer to grow food crops. Why might you oppose this arrangement? Explain any three reasons.

10. What were the main causes of the Santhal Rebellion? [3]

11(a). Explain the contribution of Ahilyabai Holkar to the Maratha legacy. [5]

OR

11(b). Explain the importance of forts in the rise and survival of the Maratha state.

12. Explain how the British transformed the traditional Indian economy to serve their colonial interests. [5]

13. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow: [1+1+2]

"Apart from textiles, craftspeople made a wide range of products, from weapons to utensils to ornaments and jewellery items. Ship-building, essential to river and overseas trade, developed considerably in those centuries. Indian goods were exported through coastal and riverside towns such as Calicut, Mangalore, Surat, Masulipatnam or Hooghly. India imported much less than it exported; import products included silk, horses, metals, and all kinds of luxury goods. Merchants from Arabia, Persia (now Iran), and Central Asia settled in Indian ports, contributing to the bustling trade activity."

(a) Name any one product made by craftspeople apart from textiles.

(b) Name any one coastal or riverside town through which Indian goods were exported.

(c) Explain any two factors that contributed to the growth of trade during this period.

MAP SKILL-BASED QUESTION

14. On the outline map of India locate and label any three of the following with suitable symbols: [3]

- (a) Pune
- (b) Gingee
- (c) Thanjavur
- (d) Bengal
- (e) Bombay

SECTION-B

GEOGRAPHY (25 Marks)

15. Which of the following statements is correct? [1]

- (a) Coal and petroleum are renewable resources.
- (b) Solar energy and wind energy can be renewable resources when managed sustainably.
- (c) Gold can be replenished at the rate at which humans use it.
- (d) Renewable resources can never be depleted.

16. Assertion (A): Timber can be a renewable resource. [1]

Reason (R): Timber remains renewable when trees are harvested at a rate that allows forests to regenerate.

- (a) Both A and R are correct, and R correctly explains A.
- (b) Both A and R are correct, but R does not explain A.

- (c) A is correct, but R is incorrect.
(d) Both A and R are incorrect.

17. The phenomenon in which having abundant natural resources does not automatically lead to economic prosperity is called the _____. [1]

- (a) Regeneration cycle (b) Sustainability gap
(c) Natural resource curse
(d) Resource renewal cycle

18. **Assertion (A):** Technology always replaces old technologies completely. [1]

Reason (R): Some older technologies, such as pulleys and wheelbarrows, are still in use today.

- (a) Both A and R are correct, and R correctly explains A.
(b) Both A and R are correct, but R does not correctly explain A.
(c) A is correct, but R is incorrect.
(d) A is incorrect, but R is correct.

19. Arrange the following stages of mobile phone production in the correct order: [1]

I. Mass production and packaging

II. Acquire raw materials

III. Test the phone

IV. Distribution to retail stores

- (a) I → II → III → IV (b) II → III → I → IV
(c) II → I → IV → III (d) III → II → I → IV

20. What does the Japanese concept 'kaizen' mean? [1]

- (a) Hard work (b) Continuous improvement
(c) Traditional knowledge (d) Economic growth

21. The benefit a country gets when it has a large number of young and working people is known as the _____. [1]

- (a) Human capital (b) Demographic dividend
(c) Supply chain (d) Physical capital

22. What are ecosystem services? Give one example. [2]

23. What is a startup? [2]

24. What is Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)? Mention one activity that comes under CSR. [2]

25. Mention any two responsibilities of businesses towards their workers. [2]

26. A school decides to reduce its use of chemical fertilisers and pesticides. The students start a compost pit using biodegradable waste and encourage farmers in the nearby village to use natural fertilisers and mulching. Why can excessive use of chemical fertilisers and pesticides be harmful to soil? Mention **two traditional practices** that can help in maintaining soil health. [3]

27(a). Explain any five features of India's ancient skill heritage mentioned in the chapter. [5]

OR

27(b). A factory provides employment to many people but releases untreated waste into a nearby river. The factory later installs a system to recycle its wastewater. Explain why producers have a responsibility to protect natural resources and the environment while carrying out production.

MAP SKILL-BASED QUESTION

28. On the outline map of India locate and label any two of the following with suitable symbols: [2]

- (i) Kalol
(ii) Goa
(iii) Bokaro

SECTION-C
POLITICAL SCIENCE (19 marks)

29. **Assertion (A):** The Rajya Sabha is called the Permanent House. [1]
Reason (R): One-third of its members retire every two years.
(a) Both A and R are correct, and R correctly explains A.
(b) Both A and R are correct, but R does not correctly explain A.
(c) A is correct, but R is incorrect.
(d) A is incorrect, but R is correct.
30. Arrange the following stages in the correct order during voting for the Lok Sabha or State Assembly: [1]
I. Voter presses the button on the EVM.
II. Polling officer checks the voter's name and ID.
III. Polling officer inks the voter's finger and takes signature.
IV. Another polling officer checks the finger and takes the voter's chit.
(a) I → II → III → IV (b) II → III → IV → I
(c) III → II → IV → I (d) IV → III → II → I
31. What is the main purpose of reserving certain constituencies for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs)? [1]
(a) To increase the number of constituencies
(b) To reduce the voting age
(c) To ensure that only SC and ST voters can vote
(d) To ensure adequate representation of SCs and STs in legislatures
32. Which of the following is an example of an electoral malpractice? [1]
(a) Offering money or gifts to voters in exchange for votes
(b) Voters checking their names on the electoral roll
(c) Candidates participating in an election debate
(d) Citizens exercising their right to vote
33. What is the significance of NOTA in an election? [2]
34. What is the role of the State Election Commission in India? [2]
35. Why is universal adult franchise considered the cornerstone of Indian democracy? Give any two reasons. [2]
36. Mention any two measures taken by the Election Commission of India (ECI) to make voting accessible to all citizens. [2]
- 37(a). What is the importance of election campaigns? Explain any three points. [3]
- OR**
- 37(b). A citizen notices that a political party is trying to influence voters by offering them gifts during an election campaign. Why is such an action problematic? What principle of elections does it violate? Explain.
38. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow: [1+1+2]
“The Vice President of India is elected by an electoral college consisting of the elected and nominated members of both Houses of Parliament; again, the system of single transferable vote is used. The Vice President is the chairperson of the Rajya Sabha. If there are situations when the President is not able to discharge their function, the Vice President steps in to play the role.”
(a) Who elects the Vice President of India?
(b) Which voting system is used for the election of the Vice President?
(c) State any two important roles of the Vice President of India.

*****ALL THE BEST*****

Map for Q14 and Q28

Name:-

Admn no :-

