



B.K. BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION

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



PRE MID TERM 2025-26 SOCIAL SCIENCE 087 (MS)

Class: VIII
Date: 01.08.25
Admission no:

Marking Scheme

Time: 1hr
Max Marks: 25
Roll no:

SECTION-A

1. Assertion (A): The British introduced the Permanent Settlement in 1793. 1
Reason (R): They wanted to ensure a regular revenue stream from land.
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.
Ans. a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
2. Under the Permanent Settlement, who was made responsible for collecting revenue from peasants? 1
a) Ryots
b) British officials
c) Zamindars
d) Village panchayats
Ans. c) Zamindars
3. The system where the Company directly collected taxes from the farmers is called: 1
a) Permanent Settlement
b) Ryotwari System
c) Mahalwari System
d) Zamindari System
Ans. b) Ryotwari System
4. When did the Indian Constitution come into effect? 1
a) 26 January 1947
b) 26 January 1950
c) 15 August 1947
d) 15 August 1950
Ans. 26 January 1950
5. Assertion(A)-The Constitution usually contains rules that ensure that minorities are not excluded from anything that is routinely available to the majority. 1
Reason(R)-Indian Constitution guarantees the right to equality to all persons
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 correct but R is wrong
d) A is wrong but R is correct
Ans. a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
6. The Constitution of India begins with a: 1
a) Preamble
b) Directive

- c) Schedule
d) Part
Ans. a) Preamble

SECTION –B

7. What is meant by secularism in the Indian Constitution? 2

Ans. Secularism in the Indian Constitution means that the State does not promote or favor any religion. It ensures that all religions are treated equally, and every citizen has the freedom to practice, profess, and propagate any religion of their choice.

8. Mention any two functions of the Constitution. 2

Ans. Two functions of the Constitution are:

1. It defines the structure and powers of the government.
2. It protects the rights and freedoms of citizens by guaranteeing Fundamental Rights.

9. Why did the British encourage the cultivation of cash crops in India? 2

Ans. The British encouraged the cultivation of cash crops like indigo, cotton, opium, and tea in India because:

1. To meet the raw material needs of British industries, especially after the Industrial Revolution.
2. To earn profits through export to European markets and China, thereby benefiting the British economy..

10. What was the Indigo Rebellion? 2

Ans. The Indigo Rebellion was a farmer's revolt in Bengal in 1859–60 against the forced cultivation of indigo by British planters. Farmers protested because they were exploited, paid very low prices, and forced into unfair contracts. The movement led to the setting up of the Indigo Commission by the British government.

SECTION C

11. Enumerate about the findings of the Indigo Commission? 3

Ans. The Indigo Commission, appointed in 1860 by the British government, investigated the grievances of indigo farmers in Bengal. Its key findings were:

1. Indigo planters had severely exploited ryots by forcing them into unfair contracts and paying extremely low prices.
2. Ryots were often threatened, beaten, or jailed if they refused to cultivate indigo.
3. The Commission declared that no ryot could be compelled to grow indigo, and they had the right to refuse cultivation without punishment.

12. Imagine you are living in a newly formed democratic country. Explain why having a Constitution would be essential for ensuring the rights and responsibilities of citizens. 3

Ans. In a newly formed democratic country, a Constitution is essential because:

1. It guarantees fundamental rights like freedom of speech, equality, and protection against discrimination, ensuring that citizens are treated fairly and justly.
2. It outlines the responsibilities of citizens, such as respecting the law, paying taxes, and upholding national unity, which helps maintain peace and order.
3. It limits the power of the government and sets clear rules for its functioning, protecting citizens from arbitrary rule and ensuring democratic governance.

SECTION D

13. Compare the Ryotwari and Mahalwari systems. What were their key differences? 5

Ans. Ryotwari System:

1. Introduced by Thomas Munro and Alexander Read.

2. Implemented mainly in Madras, Bombay, and parts of Assam.
3. Revenue was collected directly from the ryots (individual farmers).
4. There were no intermediaries like zamindars.
5. The land revenue was assessed based on individual landholding and productivity.

Mahalwari System:

1. Introduced by Holt Mackenzie and later revised by James Thomson.
2. Implemented in North-Western Provinces, Punjab, and parts of Central India.
3. Revenue was collected from an entire village or group of villages (mahal).
4. Village headmen or landowners acted as intermediaries.
5. Land revenue was assessed based on village records and collective output.