



B.K. BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION

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

TERM-1 EXAMINATION, 2025-26

SOCIAL SCIENCE 087

MARKING SCHEME

Class: VII

Date: 12.09.2025

Admission no:

Time: 3 Hrs.

Max Marks: 80

Roll no:

SECTION A HISTORY (26 marks)

1. Match the following correctly and choose the correct option:

1

	COLUMN A		COLUMN B
A	Cartographer	i	Collection of old records and documents
B	Archives	ii	Regional assembly of elders managing jati rules
C	Jati Panchayat	iii	Scholar who wrote in Persian during the 13th century
D	Minhaj-i-Siraj	iv	Person who makes maps

- a) A-1, B-3, C-4, D-2
- b) A-4, B-2, C-1, D-3
- c) **A-4, B-1, C-2, D-3**
- d) A-2, B-4, C-3, D-1

2. **Assertion (A):** The term “Hindustan” always had the same meaning in history.

1

Reason (R): Its meaning changed over time depending on the person using it.

- a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A
- b) A is true, but R is false
- c) **A is false, but R is true**
- d) Both A and R are false

3. The given picture shows a medieval script with flowing, cursive letters. Identify the style.

1



- a) Shikaste
- b) **Nastaliq**
- c) Brahmi
- d) Devnagari

4A. Who defeated the Tomara Rajputs and when?

2

Answer: The Chauhans of Ajmer defeated the Tomara Rajputs in the middle of the 12th century.

OR

4A. Raziyya, the daughter of Sultan Iltutmish, became Sultan in 1236 and was described by chronicler Minhaj-i-Siraj as more capable than her brothers. Yet, she was removed from the throne in 1240. Based on this, explain why her rule was not accepted and what it reveals about women's status in that period.

Answer: Raziyya was talented and capable, but the nobles did not accept her because society at the time believed that only men should rule. Women were not allowed an independent identity and were expected to remain subordinate to men. This shows that gender discrimination prevented even skilled women from holding power in that period.

5. The Chola rulers are known for their efficient administration.

3

Based on this, name one important administrative division, explain its function, and describe how village affairs were managed.

Answer:

One important division was the *nadu*, a group of villages. It looked after irrigation, roads, and dispute settlement. Village affairs were managed by assemblies like the *sabha* (Brahmin villages) or *ur* (non-Brahmin villages).

6. What were Prashastis and Land Grants?

5

Answer: Prashastis were the certificates which contained details that might not be literally true. They told how rulers wanted to depict themselves—as valiant, victorious warriors. These were composed by learned Brahmanas, who occasionally helped in the administration.

7. Explain the changes in the use of the term “Hindustan” over time. Give examples from different historical sources.

5

Answer:

- In the 13th century, Minhaj-i-Siraj used “Hindustan” for areas around Punjab, Haryana, and parts of Uttar Pradesh.
- In the 16th century, Babur used it for the whole subcontinent's geography and culture.
- Later, in the 19th and 20th centuries, it came to mean the entire Indian subcontinent, and today it usually refers to the Republic of India.
- This shows that the meaning of historical terms changes over time depending on the context.

8. Read the given text and answer the following questions:

(1+1+2=4)

Vijayalaya, a Chola chief from the Kaveri delta, captured the city of Tanjavur in the mid-ninth century. The Cholas gradually expanded their territory by defeating neighbouring kingdoms like the

Pandyas and Pallavas. Under rulers like Rajaraja I and Rajendra I, the Cholas became powerful, with strong armies and navies.

8.1 Who was Vijayalaya and which city did he capture?

Answer: Vijayalaya was a Chola chief who captured Tanjavur.

8.2 Name any one neighbouring kingdom defeated by the Cholas.

Answer: The Pandyas or the Pallavas.

8.3 Mention two ways in which the Cholas expanded their territory.

Answer: By defeating neighbouring kingdoms like the Pandyas and Pallavas, and by using their strong navy to control coastal regions.

9. On the outline map of India, mark and label the following.

5

(i) Palas (ii) Cholas (iii) Delhi (iv) Rajasthan (v) Malwa

SECTION B **GEOGRAPHY (27 marks)**

10. If a pond dries up in a village, which components of the environment will be directly affected first?

1

a) Rocks and minerals

b) Aquatic plants and animals

c) Roads and bridges

d) Mountains

11. Which action would best protect a local ecosystem?

1

a) Expanding a factory near a river

b) Constructing roads through a forest

c) Planting trees and conserving water

d) Increasing hunting activities

12. **Assertion (A):** Human activities do not affect natural ecosystems.

1

Reason (R): Pollution, deforestation, and construction are human activities.

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.

13. Which of the following pairs is correct?

1

a) Igneous → Formed from sediments

b) Metamorphic → Formed under heat and pressure

c) Sedimentary → Formed from molten magma

d) Intrusive → Cooled rapidly on surface

14. Which of the following is an **endogenic sudden force**?

1

a) River erosion

b) Wind deposition

c) Earthquake

d) Sea wave erosion

15. Distinguish between biotic and abiotic environments.

2

Answer:

Biotic Environment

- The world of living organisms is called biotic environment.
- Examples: Plants and animals.

Abiotic Environment

- The world of non-living elements is called abiotic environment.

- **Example: Land.**

16. Name the constituents of the oceanic crust. 2

Answer: Silica and magnesium.

17. Which are the major components of the environment? 2

Answer: The major components of the environment include:

Natural environment – It comprises of land, water, air, plants and animals.

Human environment – It includes individual, family, community, religion, educational, economic and political situation.

Human made environment – It includes parks, buildings, bridges, roads, industries, monuments etc.

18. Ravi lives in an earthquake-prone area. His school is teaching students how to stay safe 3
during earthquakes. Based on what you have learnt, suggest **three safety steps** Ravi and his family should follow during an earthquake and explain **why** each step is important.

Answer:

1. **Safe Spot:** Hide under a strong table, kitchen counter, or stand near an inside wall – protects from falling objects.
2. **Stay Away From:** Keep away from chimneys, fireplaces, windows, mirrors – avoids injury from broken glass or falling debris.
3. **Be Prepared:** Teach and remind family and friends about earthquake safety – helps everyone react quickly and stay calm.

19. Draw a neatly labelled diagram and write a detailed note on the interior of the Earth. 3

Answer - The earth is made up of several concentric layers with one inside another.

Crust – The uppermost layer over the earth’s surface is called the crust. It is the thinnest of all the layers. It is about 35 km. on the continental masses and only 5 km. on the ocean floors.

Mantle – Just beneath the crust is the mantle which extends up to a depth of 2900 km. below the crust.

Core – The innermost layer is the core with a radius of about 3500 km. It is mainly made up of nickel and iron and is called nife. The central core has very high temperature and pressure.

20. Explain rock cycle with a neatly labelled diagram. 5

Answer:

- **The rock cycle is the process by which one type of rock changes into another in a continuous cycle.**
- **Magma cools to form igneous rocks → igneous rocks break into sediments → sediments form sedimentary rocks → sedimentary rocks change to metamorphic rocks under heat and pressure → metamorphic rocks melt to form magma again.**

21. Read the given text and answer the following questions: (1+1+2=4)

On 26 January 2001, an earthquake struck the Kutch region of Gujarat. It measured 6.9 on the Richter scale and caused massive destruction. Thousands of people lost their lives, and many buildings collapsed. The epicentre was near Bhuj. Rescue teams from all over the country helped in relief work. The government also spread awareness about earthquake preparedness in the affected areas.

21.1 Why do you think the loss of life was so high in the Gujarat earthquake of 2001?

Answer: Because it was a powerful earthquake, and many buildings were not earthquake-resistant.

21.2 Name the place near which the epicentre of this earthquake was located.

Answer: Near Bhuj.

21.3 Mention two impacts of the Gujarat earthquake as given in the case study.

Answer: Thousands of people lost their lives. Many buildings collapsed.

SECTION C
POLITICAL SCIENCE (27 marks)

22. In a classroom, the teacher allows only boys to answer questions. This violates the principle of: **1**

- a) Liberty
- b) Equality**
- c) Sovereignty
- d) None of the above

23. **Assertion (A):** All citizens are equal before the law. **1**

Reason (R): The Constitution of India grants equality as a Fundamental Right.

- 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

24. Match the following forms of equality with their examples: **1**

	Type of Equality		Example
A	Political equality	i	Equal pay for equal work
B	Social equality	ii	All citizens can vote
C	Economic equality	iii	No discrimination based on caste

- a) A-ii, B-iii, C-i**
- b) B-i, A-ii, C-iii
- c) B-iii, C-ii, A-i
- d) C-i, B-iii, A-ii

25. The term "universal adult franchise" means: **1**

- a) Only men can vote
- b) All adult citizens have the right to vote**
- c) Voting is compulsory for all
- d) Only literate people can vote

26. A company pays women workers less than men for the same work. This is a violation of: **1**

- a) Right to Freedom
- b) Right to Equality**
- c) Right to Constitutional Remedies
- d) None of the above

27. Which of the following is *not* a form of media? **1**

- a) Television
- b) Newspaper
- c) Radio
- d) Parliament**

28. Which is the cheapest and most widely accessible form of media in India? **1**

- a) Internet
- b) Television

c) Radio

d) Newspapers

29. The main role of media in a democracy is to: **1**

a) Entertain people

b) Promote only government policies

c) Inform people and create awareness

d) Keep people busy

30. A company pays a news channel to show positive reports about its product. This is called: **1**

a) Biased coverage

b) Paid news

c) Breaking news

d) Press freedom

31. Gender roles are: **1**

a) Fixed and natural

b) Created by society and culture

c) Decided by biological differences only

d) The same in all countries

32. The idea that girls should help with household work while boys play outside is an example of: **1**

a) Gender equality

b) Gender stereotype

c) Cultural exchange

d) Equal opportunity

33 **Assertion (A):** Gender equality means equal opportunities for both boys and girls. **1**

Reason (R): Both boys and girls have the same physical strength.

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

34. Write a note on equality in Indian democracy. **3**

Answer: The Indian constitution recognises all persons as equals. This means that every individual in the country irrespective of his/her caste, religion, educational and economic backgrounds is recognised as equal. Although, inequality still exists in the country, yet the principle of the equality of all persons is recognised. While earlier no law existed to protect people from discrimination and ill treatment now there are several that work to see that people are treated with dignity.

35. How does unequal distribution of household responsibilities affect girls' education and career opportunities? **3**

Answer:

When girls are expected to handle more domestic chores, they have less time for studies or leisure. In some cases, girls may drop out of school to help at home. This limits their educational achievements and career choices, reinforcing gender inequality, as seen in the chapter's example of the burden of child-care and housework affecting women's ability to work outside.

36. Explain how the media can 'set the agenda' in a democracy. Support your answer with two examples from the chapter. **5**

Answer:

The media 'sets the agenda' by deciding which issues to highlight and which to ignore. This influences public opinion and the importance given to different issues.

- **Example 1:** The media highlighted the issue of high pesticide levels in cola drinks, making the public aware and prompting discussions on safety standards.
- **Example 2:** At the same time, during Mumbai's slum demolitions, the media gave more coverage to Fashion Week, ignoring an issue affecting thousands of poor residents. By focusing on certain stories, the media shapes what people think about, which has a direct effect on democracy and citizen action.

OR

Discuss the importance of a balanced report in the media. Why is it difficult to achieve? Use examples from the chapter.

Answer:

A balanced report presents all sides of a story and allows the audience to form their own opinion. It is crucial in a democracy because citizens rely on accurate information to make decisions.

However, it is difficult to achieve because:

1. **Business influence:** Big business houses that own or fund media may discourage coverage against their interests.
2. **Advertising pressure:** Media avoids offending advertisers who provide revenue.
3. **Story selection for interest:** Media may focus on sensational or profitable aspects rather than full facts.

Example: The two reports on factory closures in the chapter presented only one-sided views—either focusing on pollution reduction or on job loss—making neither fully balanced.

37. Read the given text and answer the following questions:

(1+1+2=4)

Growing Up Male in Madhya Pradesh

In the 1960s, boys and girls in Madhya Pradesh attended separate schools. Girls' schools had enclosed courtyards for safety, while boys had open playgrounds. After school, girls walked home in groups without lingering in public spaces due to safety concerns. Boys, on the other hand, used streets for playing and cycling.

37.1. What type of playground did boys have in Madhya Pradesh in the 1960s?

Answer: An open space attached to the school.

37.2. Why did girls in Madhya Pradesh walk home in groups?

Answer: For safety and to avoid being teased or attacked.

37.3. Give two reasons why girls were more restricted in public spaces than boys.

Answer: Fear of teasing or harassment. Social norms restricting girls' movement.