

B. K. BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION, PUNE

(SENIOR SECONDARY CO-ED DAY CUM RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL, AFFILIATED TO CBSE NEW DELHI)



MID TERM EXAMINATION, 2023-24 POLITICAL SCIENCE - CODE 028

CLASS: XI

Time Allowed: 3Hours

Admission No: -----

ANSWER KEY

DATE: 16/10/2023

Maximum Marks: 80

Roll No: -----

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. The question paper consists of five sections (A, B, C, D and E) with 30 questions in total.
2. All questions are compulsory.
3. Question numbers 1-12 are multiple choice questions of one mark each.
4. Question numbers 13-18 are of 2 marks each. Answers to these questions should not exceed 50-60 words each.
5. Question numbers 19-23 are of 4 marks each. Answers to these questions should not exceed 100-120 words each. There is an internal choice in two of the 4 marks questions
6. Question numbers 24-26 are passage, cartoon and map-based questions. Answer accordingly.
7. Question numbers 27-30 are of 6 marks each. Answers to these questions should not exceed 170-180 words.
8. There is an internal choice in 6 marks questions.

SECTION-A

- Q1. The concept of “separation of powers” is given by- 1
- (a) Plato
(b) Rousseau
(c) Aristotle
(d) Montesquieu
Answer-(d) Montesquieu
- Q2. According to whom true freedom is “freedom not to be obstructed in leading a lawful life”? 1
- (a) Machiavelli
(b) Mandela
(c) JS mill
(d) Charles Thomas
Answer- (b) Mandela
- Q3. Which of the following violate the principles of equality? 1
- (a) Every child in class will read the text of the play by turn.
(b) The Government of Canada encouraged white Europeans to migrate to Canada from the end of the Second World War till 1960.
(c) There is a separate railway reservation counter for the senior citizens.
(d) Access to some forest areas is reserved for certain tribal communities.
ANSWER: (b) The Government of Canada encouraged white Europeans to migrate to Canada from the end of the Second World War till 1960.
- Q4. Which one of the following is not the fundamental postulate of Justice? 1
- (a) Truth
(b) Equality before law

(c) Freedom

(d) Property

Answer: (d) Property

Q5. How many members are part of the Constituent Assembly? 1

(a) 285

(b) 284

(c) 316

(d) 118

Answer: B) 284

Q6. Who is the final arbiter of the constitution? 1

(a) Democracy

(b) The legislature

(c) The judiciary

(d) Supreme court

Answer: C) The judiciary

Q7. How many fundamental duties are there in the Indian constitution? 1

(a) 5

(b) 45

(c) 5

(d) 11

Answer: D) 11

Q8. Which of the following is the best description of Fundamental Rights? 1

(a) All the rights an individual should have.

(b) All the rights given to citizens by law.

(c) The rights given and protected by the Constitution.

(d) The rights given by the Constitution that cannot ever be restricted.

Answer: (c) The rights given and protected by the Constitution.

Q9. Which country follows the PR electoral system? 1

(a) The UK

(b) India

(c) Israel

(d) France

Answer: C) Israel

Q10. Which of the following resembles most a direct democracy? 1

(a) Discussions in a family meeting.

(b) Election of the class monitor.

(c) Choice of a candidate by a political party.

(d) Decisions taken by the Gram Sabha.

Answer: (d) Decisions taken by the Gram Sabha.

Q11. Which one is the discretionary power of the president? 1

(a) Veto power

(b) Eliminative power

(c) Make law

(d) Can remove PM

Answer: a) Veto power

Q12. Which branch of government is responsible for the implementation of laws and policies? 1

(a) Cabinet branch

(b) Prudential branch

(c) Executive

(d) Legislature

Answer: c) Executive

SECTION-B

Q13. What do you mean by 'Council of Ministers'? 2

Answer: Council of Ministers is a constitutional body.

According to Article 74(1), there shall be a council of ministers to aid and advise the president, The President shall act on the advice of Prime Minister, the leader of ruling party.

The number of members of Council of Ministers shall not exceed 15% of the total numbers of members of the Lok Sabha determined by 91st Amendment Act of 2003.

Q14. What do you understand by Simple Majority Representation System? 2

Answer: The Simple Majority Representation System declares the candidate elected who secures votes more than others. In this system to secure absolute majority is not necessary. In this system in the case of multi-cornered contests, candidate even with less than 50% votes is elected.

Q15. Why Right to Freedom of Religion is an important right? 2

Answer: The Right to Freedom of Religion is important because:

Religion is a matter of faith, relates to conscience of a person.

Citizens are free to adopt any religion.

Citizens can opt any mode of worship as per choice.

Q16. What are the features of the Constitution? 2

Answer: It is the Supreme Law of Country.

It maintains a relationship between the government and the citizens of country.

It constitutes the structure of the government.

It tells who would play an important role in decision-making powers.

Q17. Do you agree that a majority of people are denied social justice in India? Discuss. 2

Answer: 1. Though the makers of the Indian Constitution have made a provision for social Justice through Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles of State Policy, yet majority of the people are being denied social justice in India.

2. The citizens enjoy right to equality, but in practice economic equality does not exist which is the pre-condition for social and political equality.

3. Though Article 17 had abolished untouchability, 'yet' in practice, untouchability is followed in many parts of the country.

Q18. Explain the Marxist View of Equality. 2

Answer: 1. Marxism has greatly emphasised on economic equality.

2. According to Marxism, economic inequality leads to class struggle.

3. They have greatly criticised the centralisation of money and power.

SECTION-C

Q19. "India is a secular state". Justify the statement. 4

Answer: The word 'Secular' was put in the Preamble to Constitution through the 42nd Amendment.

'Secular' refers that the state has no religion of its own but shows due respect to all religions.

The state observes complete neutrality in religious matters.

The 45th Amendment carries equal respect and recognition to all religions.

No discrimination in India has ever been made against any individual belonging to different communities, religions, castes, etc.

OR

What do you understand by the terms liberty, equality and fraternity in the Preamble to Constitution?

Answer:

Liberty: It is stated in the Preamble as a goal that the people should have liberty of thought, expression,

belief and faith, jfeftthe state should remove the obstacles for the individuals to enjoy freedom of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship.

Equality: The Preamble to the Constitution always emphasizes to remove any sort of discrimination on the basis of sex, religion, race, colour, caste, etc.

Fraternity: Fraternity refers to brotherhood means equality of all citizens and their integrity. Everybody in society should be provided with the basic right to food, housing and clothing without any discrimination. Every citizen of the state is to be regarded as the part of the decision-making process.

Q20. How does Rawls use the idea of a veil of ignorance to argue that fair and just distribution can be defended on rational grounds? 4

ANSWER: 1. Rawls says that if a person keeps herself/himself under the 'veil of ignorance' then s/he would come up with the just distribution, fair laws and policies that would affect the whole society.

2. A person under the 'veil of ignorance' is unaware of her/his possible position and status in the society therefore s/he would rationally decide from the point of view of the worst-off.

3. It would be sensible in this situation for everyone to ensure that all resources are available equally to all persons.

4. In this way Rawls, with his idea of 'veil of ignorance', is able to prove that fair and just distribution can be defended on rational grounds with the help of this idea.

OR

What measures have been taken in India to secure social justice to its citizens?

Answer:

1. Abolition of untouchability- Untouchability has been a bane to the Indian society in any form.

2. Equal access to public places- All the citizens of India, irrespective of their caste and creed, have an equal access to public places.

3. Reservation for SC, ST-

Indian Government has taken special steps to improve the economic conditions and social status of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. They have been given preferential treatment.

4. Abolition of Zamindari- Zamindari is abolished and many steps have been taken for the welfare of small farmers.

5. Free and compulsory education: The State provide free and compulsory education to children up to eighth standard.

Q21. Some people argue that inequality is natural while others maintain that it is equality which is natural and the inequalities which we notice around us are created by society. 4

Which view do you support? Give reasons.

ANSWER: 1. People are naturally equal because of the common humanity.

2. Inequality exists because of unequal opportunities and exploitation of one group from other groups in the society.

3. Natural inequalities are those that emerge between people as a result of their different capabilities and talents.

4. Social circumstances, situations and conditions help the individual to grow and develop her/his talents and capabilities.

5. Different status and roles are essential for smooth running of the society but these status and roles are decided by the society that shows inequality.

Q22. What is the difference between the negative and positive conception of liberty? 4

ANSWER:

	Negative liberty		Positive liberty
1.	It defines and defends the area of an individual's life where no external authority can interfere.	i.	It defines the area of society where an individual can be free with some constraints made by the society and the government.
2.	It is not concerned with the conditions of the society.	ii.	It is concerned with the enabling conditions of the society.

3.	It is concerned with explaining the idea of 'freedom from'.	iii.	It is concerned with explaining the idea of 'freedom to'.
4.	This area comes into personal domain of the individual.	iv.	This area comes into social domain of the individual.
5.	More negative liberty leads to more freedom.	v.	More positive liberty checks excess of freedom to an individual, which could be an obstruction for social stability.

Q23. In what ways is the study of political theory useful for us?

4

1. A political theory ensures analytical scheme which renders research meaningful.
2. The comparative study of various researchers verify the conclusions.
3. A relative consistent concepts make research more reliable.
4. It is an ideology of justified practices to make criticism and to determine policies.
5. It prepares goals and guidelines for aspirations and policies made at various levels of ideals.
6. It assumes the formation of society and conflicts to be arisen in the society as well as solutions to the particular conflicts.

SECTION-D

Q24. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Many of these issues relating to the pursuit of equality have been raised by the women's movement. In the nineteenth century women struggled for equal rights. They demanded, for instance, the right to vote, the right to receive degrees in colleges and universities and the right to work — that is, the same rights as the men in their society. However, as they entered the job market they realized that women required special facilities in order to exercise these rights. For instance, they required some provision for maternity leave and creches in the workplace. Without special considerations of this kind they could not seriously compete for jobs or enjoy a successful professional and personal life. They needed, in other words, sometimes to be treated differently if they are to enjoy the same rights as men.

Questions:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 24.1. Why have women's movements been raised? | 1 |
| 24.2. What were the main demands of women's movement? | 1 |
| 24.3. What can be done for women to compete for jobs? | 2 |

Answers:

1. To demand equality.
2. The right to vote, the right to work, the right to receive degrees in colleges and universities.
3. They should be given special consideration, i.e. provision for maternity leave and creches in workplace, etc.

Q25. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

At various times there have been demands to ban books, plays, films, or academic articles in research journals. Let us think about this demand to ban books in the light of our discussion so far which sees freedom as 'the making of choices', where a distinction is made between 'negative and positive liberty', where we recognise the need for 'justifiable constraints' but these have to be supported by proper procedures and important moral arguments. Freedom of expression is a fundamental value and for that society must be willing to bear some inconvenience to protect it from people who want to restrict it. Remember Voltaire's statement — 'I disapprove of what you say but I will defend to death your right to say it'. How deeply are we committed to this freedom of expression?

Questions:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 25.1. What are the two aspects of liberty? | 1 |
| 25.2. What is a fundamental value among rights? | 1 |
| 25.3. How can we support justifiable constraints? | 2 |

Answers:

1. Positive and Negative are the two aspects of liberty.
2. Freedom of speech and expression.
3. Voltaire's statement — 'I disapprove of what you say but I will defend to death your right to say it'. We support justifiable constraints by proper procedures and important moral arguments.

Q26. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Though freedom is guaranteed in our Constitution, we encounter new interpretations all the time. This is a bit like playing a game; as we play chess or cricket, we learn how to interpret the rules. In the process, we discover new and broader meanings of the game itself. Similarly, the fundamental rights guaranteed by our Constitution are continually being reinterpreted in response to new circumstances. For instance, the right to life has been interpreted by the Courts to include the right to livelihood. The right to information has been granted through a new law. Societies frequently encounter new challenges which generate new interpretations. The fundamental rights guaranteed by our Constitution have been amended and expanded over time through judicial interpretations and government policies which are designed to address new problems.

Questions:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 26.1. How the right to freedom has been designed to address new problems? | 2 |
| 26.2. Which right has been interpreted to include right to livelihood? | 1 |
| 26.3. Which right has been granted by a new law? | 1 |

Answers:

1. the fundamental rights guaranteed by our Constitution are continually being reinterpreted in response to new circumstances. Societies frequently encounter new challenges which generate new interpretations. The right to freedom has been designed to address new problems through judicial interpretations and government policies.
2. Right to life.
3. Right to information.

SECTION-E

Q27. Describe the powers and functions of the Prime Minister of India.6

Answer:

The Prime Minister forms the Council of Ministers according to the capability of the ministers, he assigns duty to them.

The Prime Minister allocates the department to the ministers and if he does not find the working satisfactory, can change the departments of the ministers.

The Prime Minister presides over the meetings of cabinet, he prepares an agenda for meetings and controls it.

The Prime Minister makes the appointments of state Governors, Ambassadors, members of UPSC by giving the advice to the President to appoint the same.

The Prime Minister works as a link between the President and the Council of Ministers. No minister can discuss the issues directly with the President without the permission of the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister leads the cabinet in the Parliament as he explains the policy and decisions of the cabinet to parliament and if the President requires any information regarding the functioning of Parliament, he would demand such information from the Prime Minister only.

OR

Describe the Executive and Judicial Powers of the President of India.

Executive Powers:

The President appoints the Prime Minister who is the leader of the majority party and the other members also on the advice of the Prime Minister.

The President appoints the high officials in India, i.e. Governors of the state, Lt. Governors of Union Territories, Attorney General, Controller and Auditor General, the Chairman and the members of UPSC, the Ambassadors or High Commissioners in other countries.

The President of India is the supreme commander of the Defense forces. The President can declare war and make peace.

Judicial Powers:

The President has the power to appoint the judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts.

The President of India has the power to pardon, reprieve or commute the punishment of any criminal for whom he thinks to deserve pardon.

Q28. Suggest some major suggestions for electoral reforms.6

Answer: The various committees have worked on electoral reforms, i.e. the Goswami Committee and Tarkunde Committee, but these have not brought substantial changes in electoral system and law. It seems that political parties are indifferent to electoral reforms because in some cases, political parties have neutralized the steps taken by the Election Commission to bring in some desired changes. It is now widely recognized to preserve and strengthen the democratic setup a comprehensive agenda of reforms is necessary in system, structure and processes:

Criminalization should be checked in politics.

Political parties' functions should be regulated.

Voters' participation and awareness should be ensured.

Make the election machinery effective and credible.

The use of money and muscle power should be stopped.

A proportionate share to every class, section and society should also be provided in the parliament.

OR

What is the electoral process in India?

Answer: The electoral process is performed into different stages under the provisions of Representation of People Act, 1950 and 1951:

First of all, constituencies are formed in a territorial area from where a candidate contest election.

The nomination papers are filled with the returning officer.

The scrutiny is made to check whether the information filled in nomination form, are correct.

After the scrutiny is over, the candidate is given a date for withdrawal.

Then Election campaign takes place by various techniques by holding rallies, meetings, processions, distributing handbills and door-to-door canvassing, etc.

The election campaign stops 48 hours earlier before polling is held on the due date. Presiding officers and polling officers supervise the whole polling process. The voters vote through the secret ballot.

After the voting is over, the counting made on a fixed date and time. The candidate getting highest number of votes, is declared elected

Q29. What is the importance of the Right to Constitutional Remedies? Explain.6

Answer: 'Right to Constitutional Remedies' is the 'Heart and Soul' of Indian Constitution to protect the rest of the Fundamental Rights of the Citizens under Article 32 and 226.

This right contains various writs to be issued by the Supreme Court and High Court from time to time:

The Court orders that the arrested person should be presented before it.

Court can order to set free an arrested person if the grounds of arrest are unlawful.

When the court finds that the particular office holder is not performing legal duty.

Thereby, he is infringing on the right of an individual.

It is issued by a higher court to a lower court on considering a case to go beyond its jurisdiction.

The Court orders a lower court or another authority to transfer a matter pending before it to the higher authority or court.

OR

Mention the Fundamental Duties of a Citizen in Constitution of India.

Answer:

By the 42nd Amendment in 1976, ten Fundamental Duties of Citizens of India were incorporated under Article 51A of the Constitution of India:

To abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, national flag, and national anthem.

To cherish and follow the noble ideals which inspired our national struggle for freedom.

To uphold and protect sovereignty, unity and integrity of India.

To defend the country and render national services whenever required.

To promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India and to renounce those practices which seem to be indignified towards women.

To value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture.

To protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wildlife as well as to have compassion towards all living creatures.

To safeguard public property.

To develop scientific temper and the spirit of inquiry and reform.

To strive towards excellence in all spheres of individual or collective activities to reach the nation to the higher levels of endeavours and achievements.

Q30. Mention the sources of the Indian Constitution along with the feature taken from these sources.

Answer: The Government of India Act, 1935:

About two-thirds of the Indian Constitution is derived from the Government of India Act, 1935

Provincial autonomy

Parliamentary system

Federal count

Federal system

British Constitution:

Parliamentary form of government

The idea of the rule of law

Institution of the speaker and his role

Law-making procedure

Single citizenship

Single integrated judiciary

United States Constitution:

Charter of Fundamental Rights

Power of judicial review and independence of the judiciary

Preamble to Constitution

Irish Constitution:

Provided for the guidelines to the state

Included directive principles of state policy

French Constitution:

Principles of liberty

Principles of equality and fraternity

Canadian Constitution:

A quasi-federal form of government (a federal system with a strong central government).

The idea of residual powers.

German Constitution:

Emergency provisions

Indian President's powers to impose external or internal emergencies.

OR

What was 'Objectives Resolution'? Explain.

Answer:

The best summary of the principles that the nationalist movement brought to the Constituent Assembly is the Objectives Resolution that defines the aims of the Assembly, moved by Nehru in 1946. It encapsulated the aspirations and values behind the Constitution:

India is an independent, sovereign, republic;

India shall be a Union of erstwhile British Indian territories, Indian States and other parts outside British India and Indian States as are willing to be a part of the Union.

Territories forming the Union shall be autonomous units and exercise all powers and functions of the Government and administration, except those assigned to or vested in the Union;

All people of India shall be guaranteed and secured social, economic and political justice. Equality of status and opportunities and equality before law and fundamental- freedom of speech, expression, belief, faith, worship, association and action-subject to law and public morality.

The minorities, backward and tribal areas, depressed and other backward classes shall be provided adequate safeguards.

The land would make full and willing contribution to the promotion of world peace and welfare of mankind;

All powers and authority of sovereign and independent India and its constitution shall flow from the people;

The territorial integrity of the Republic and its sovereign rights on land, sea and air shall be maintained according to justice and law of civilized nations.