



Competency Based Practice Questions

Political Science - XII

Co-created by
Board of School Education Haryana
and
Educational Initiatives

HOW TO USE THIS BOOKLET

Dear Teachers and Students,

The **Board of School Education Haryana** is pleased to present the **Competency-Based Practice Questions** booklet. This resource has been thoughtfully designed to help you deepen your understanding of key concepts and enhance your problem-solving skills. It includes **50 exemplar questions** carefully aligned with the curriculum to familiarize students with the format of **Competency-Based Questions**. These questions are intended to support targeted practice and develop the skills necessary to confidently approach a variety of question types in assessments.

Best Ways for Teachers to Utilise This Resource

1. Integrate into Classroom Teaching

- Use these questions to demonstrate how theoretical concepts translate into practical applications.
- Encourage group discussions to explore reasoning and understanding of concepts taught.

2. Scaffold Student Learning

- Start with simpler questions and guide students through the thought process.
- Gradually introduce more complex questions to build confidence and familiarity.

3. Incorporate into Assessments

- Use these questions in classroom quizzes or homework to help students adapt to the format.
- Provide feedback that emphasises reasoning over correctness, encouraging students to refine their understanding.

4. Focus on Skill Development

- Highlight how these questions nurture understanding, analysis and critical thinking.
- Use student responses to identify and address misconceptions effectively.

Best Ways for Students and Parents to Utilise This Resource

1. Focus on Conceptual Understanding

- Approach each question as a way to understand *why* and *how* a concept works, rather than simply finding the correct answer.

2. Practice Purposefully

- Don't rush—break down the question, identify the concept it addresses, and plan your approach before solving it.

3. Use Feedback to Improve

- Treat mistakes as learning opportunities. Review incorrect answers to understand *what went wrong* and *how to improve*.
- Revisit similar questions to build confidence and mastery over the topic.

Best Ways for Parents to Utilise This Resource

1. Encourage Critical Thinking

- Spend time discussing questions and concepts, asking “Why?” and “How?”.

2. Create a Positive Environment

- Celebrate effort and curiosity, not just grades.
- Help your child view mistakes as opportunities to learn and grow.

3. Collaborate with Teachers

- Stay informed about competency-based assessments through school communications.
- Share observations and work with teachers to address any concerns or challenges.

Final Message

These practice questions are an excellent opportunity to strengthen your conceptual understanding and boost your confidence in solving competency-based questions. For students, each question builds skills that will help you tackle similar challenges with ease. For teachers, this is a chance to mentor students in developing their thinking and problem-solving skills.

Start today—every effort you invest will prepare you not only for exams but for a lifetime of meaningful learning and success. Let’s make this journey toward competency-based education a meaningful and successful one!

Board of School Education, Haryana

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Political Science | Class XII

Nation Building and Its Challenges

Serial No.	Question	Marks
1	<p>Identify the primary reasons that became significant challenges in achieving national unity for independent India.</p> <p>P. India's diversity in language, religion, and culture made it difficult to unify its people under one national identity.</p> <p>Q. The trauma and divisions caused by Partition created deep mistrust and conflict, threatening the nation's stability.</p> <p>R. Unity was foundational because achieving democracy and development depended on a stable and integrated nation.</p> <p>S. Regional leaders resisted centralised efforts at integration, making unity harder to achieve.</p> <p>(A) P and Q (B) Q and R (C) R and S (D) S and P</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	1
2	<p>Read the following broadcast excerpt:</p> <p>His Exalted Highness, the Nizam of Hyderabad has surrendered. He ordered 'ceasefire' as from 5pm and the Hyderabad Army is carrying out the order. The fighting has stopped. Broadcasting from Hyderabad Radio on the evening of September 18, 1948, the Nizam announced that he had communicated his decision to HE C Rajagopalachari, Governor General of India. He added he had taken the political situation in his own hands and that he was sorry he had not done it earlier.</p> <p><i>Source: https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/htarchives</i></p> <p>What does the Nizam's statement in the broadcast show about his feelings and actions during Hyderabad's resistance to joining India?</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	2
3	<p>The Potti Sriramulu commemorative stamp was released by India Post on March 16, 2000. Here's the stamp.</p>	3



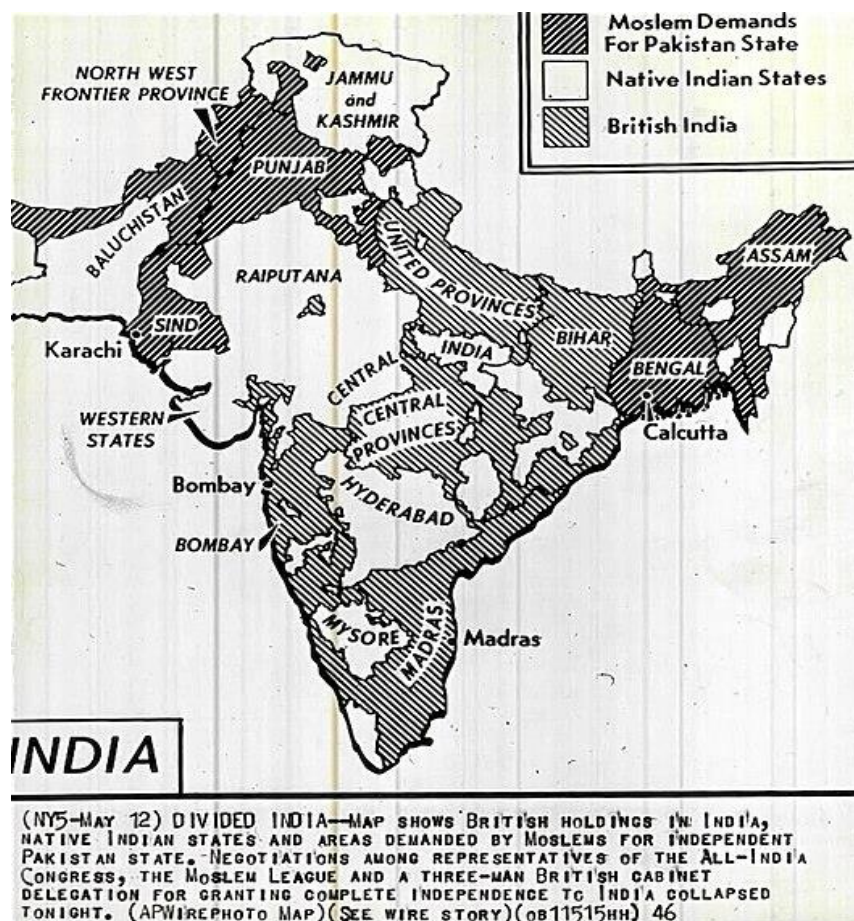
The stamp above commemorates Potti Sriramulu and features symbols of protests and struggle, including the Charkha, which is often associated with non-violent methods. How do the symbols on the Potti Sriramulu stamp show his role in creating the state of Andhra Pradesh?

[Skill: Understanding]

4

Study the map provided. It shows British India, Native Indian States, and areas demanded for the creation of Pakistan.

5



Using the map:

	<p>(a) Explain the principle used to demand Pakistan and how it affected regions like Punjab and Bengal. (2 marks)</p> <p>(b) Discuss two challenges this division created for the process of nation-building in India. (3 marks)</p> <p>[Skill: Application]</p>	
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Marking Scheme

Q No.	Rubric	Marks
1	<p>Correct Answer: A National unity was primarily challenged by India’s vast diversity, which made forging a shared identity difficult, and the immediate aftermath of Partition, which created deep divisions, violence, and mistrust. These factors directly threatened the nation’s stability and made unity a critical focus for the new government.</p>	1
	<p>B: Highlights the foundational role of unity but misses the root causes, such as diversity and Partition, that made unity challenging.</p>	
	<p>C: Overemphasises the role of governance challenges while neglecting the historical and societal factors like Partition and diversity.</p>	
	<p>D: Suggests regional resistance as a primary issue, which was less significant than the broader societal challenges posed by diversity and Partition.</p>	
2	<p>Evaluation Criteria: 1 Mark: Explains that the Nizam felt regret for delaying his decision, which led to violence.</p>	1
	<p>1 Mark: Mentions that he accepted India’s authority while trying to protect his dignity.</p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer: The Nizam’s statement shows he regretted delaying Hyderabad’s agreement to join India because it caused violence. By informing Governor General Rajagopalachari, he accepted India’s control and tried to protect his dignity during the transition.</p>	
3	<p>Evaluation Criteria: 1 Mark: Explains the raised arms of protesters as representing the Andhra Movement for a separate Telugu-speaking state.</p>	1
	<p>1 Mark: Describes how Potti Sriramulu’s non-violent fasting inspired protests and led to the creation of Andhra Pradesh.</p>	1
	<p>1 Mark: Connects the Charkha to peaceful protest and Sriramulu’s use of Gandhi’s methods.</p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer: The raised arms on the stamp show the protests of the Andhra Movement for a Telugu-speaking state. Potti Sriramulu’s non-violent fast inspired people and led to protests that convinced the government to create Andhra Pradesh. The Charkha symbolises his peaceful methods, inspired by Gandhi’s ideas.</p>	
4	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p>	2

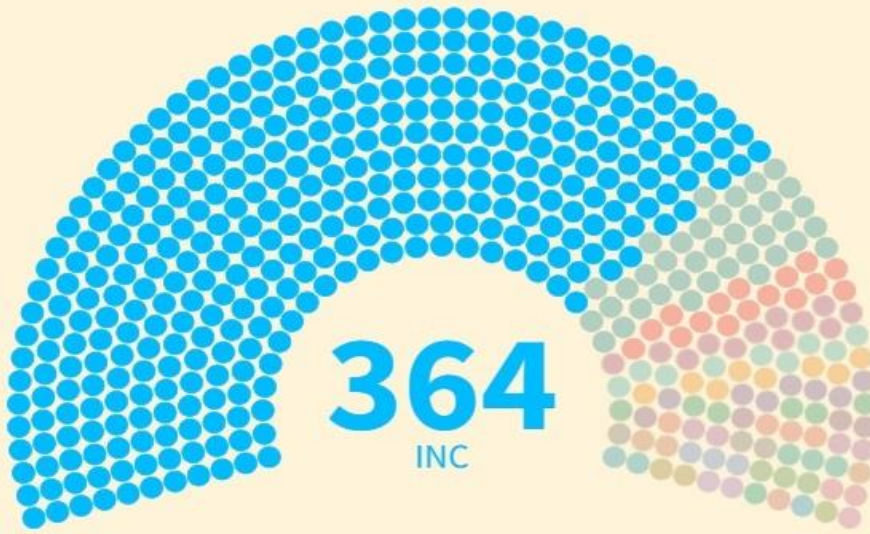
	<p>Part 1: Principle of Pakistan's demand (2 Marks)</p> <p>1 Mark: Identifies the principle of religious majorities as the basis for the demand.</p> <p>1 Mark: Mentions how this led to the division of provinces like Punjab and Bengal, where religious communities were intermingled.</p>	
	<p>Part 2: Challenges for India (3 Marks)</p> <p>1 Mark: Explains the issue of communal violence and mistrust caused by Partition.</p> <p>1 Mark: Highlights the displacement of millions across the borders and its impact on refugees.</p> <p>1 Mark: Discusses the difficulty of integrating regions left fragmented by communal and political divides.</p>	3
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>The demand for Pakistan was based on the principle of religious majorities, where Muslim-majority areas were sought for a separate nation. This caused divisions in regions like Punjab and Bengal, where populations of Hindus, Muslims, and Sikhs were mixed, leading to the painful process of drawing new boundaries.</p> <p>The division created challenges for India, including large-scale communal violence and the displacement of millions as refugees. This further complicated nation-building by leaving deep social and political divides. Additionally, integrating diverse regions while ensuring equality for all religious communities remained a key challenge for the new Indian government.</p>	

Era of One-Party Dominance

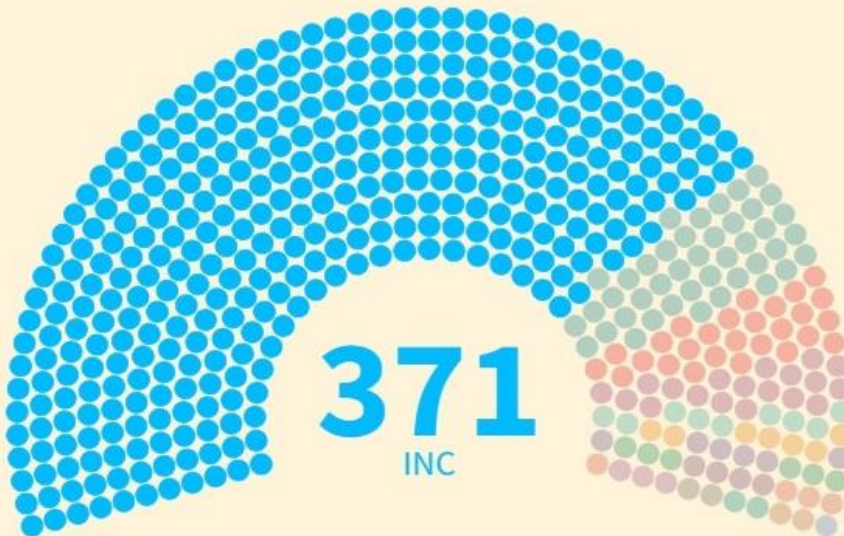
Serial No.	Question	Marks
5	<p>Read the following two statements marked as Assertion and Reason and choose the correct option.</p> <p>Assertion (A): Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) ensure faster and more accurate vote counting compared to manual ballot systems.</p> <p>Reason (R): EVMs replace the need for voters to physically go to polling stations, making elections more accessible.</p> <p>(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.</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	1
6	<p>How was the Congress Party's one-party dominance in India different from one-party regimes in undemocratic countries?</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	2

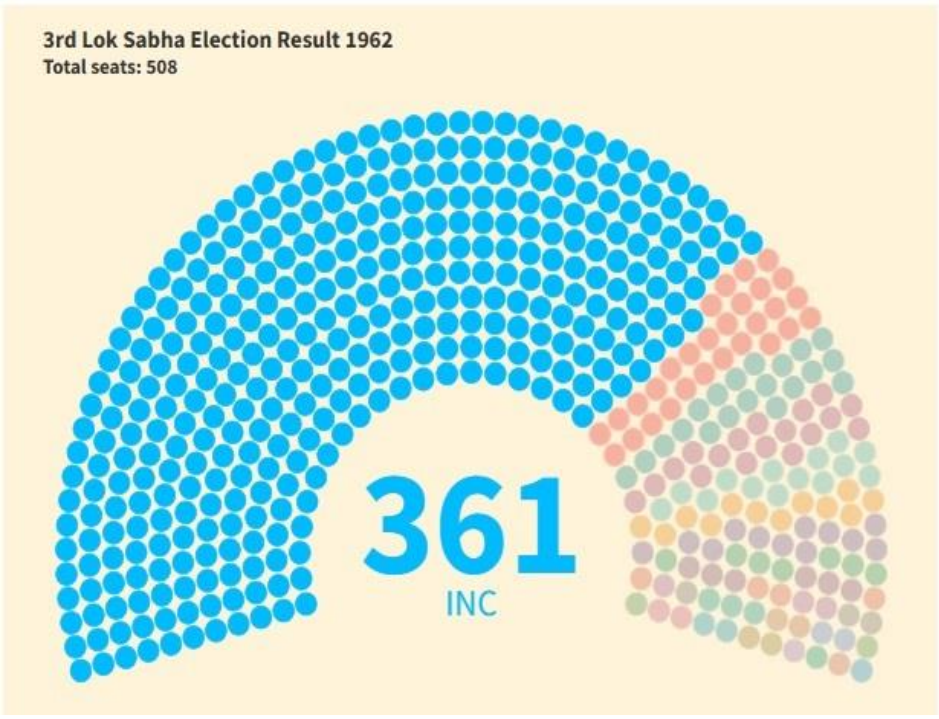
Observe the images given below.

1st Lok Sabha Election Result 1952
Total seats: 499



2nd Lok Sabha Election Result 1957
Total seats: 505



	<p>3rd Lok Sabha Election Result 1962 Total seats: 508</p>  <p>Analyse the images depicting the results of the first three Lok Sabha elections (1952, 1957, and 1962). Identify and describe the trends demonstrated in the electoral outcomes over these years.</p> <p>[Skill: Application]</p>	
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Marking Scheme

Q No.	Rubric	Marks
5	<p>Correct Answer: C The assertion is true because EVMs enable faster and more accurate counting of votes compared to manual ballot systems. However, the reason is false because EVMs do not eliminate the need for voters to go to polling stations; they are used at polling stations to cast votes electronically.</p>	1
6	<p>Evaluation Criteria: 1 Mark: Mentions that elections in India were free and fair, based on adult franchise.</p>	1
	<p>1 Mark: Explains that other parties were allowed to compete in India, unlike in undemocratic regimes where dissent was suppressed.</p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer: In India, the Congress Party's dominance was based on free and fair elections where people could vote. Unlike undemocratic regimes, other parties in India could compete, and dissent was not suppressed.</p>	
7	<p>Evaluation Criteria: Award 1 mark for recognizing that the Indian National Congress (INC) consistently secured a large majority in all three elections.</p>	1

	Award 1 mark for explaining how this trend indicated strong public support for the INC in post-independence India.	1
	Award 1 mark for observing the relatively stable number of seats won by the INC across the elections (364 in 1952, 371 in 1957, 361 in 1962).	1
	Award 1 mark for noting how this reflects political stability in early Indian democracy.	1
	Award 1 mark for identifying the gradual increase in representation of opposition parties and independents, evident in the smaller seat allocations outside INC.	1
	<p>Sample Answer: The images of the first three Lok Sabha elections reveal several key trends:</p> <p>Dominance of the INC: The Indian National Congress maintained a clear majority in all three elections, winning 364 seats in 1952, 371 in 1957, and 361 in 1962. This reflects strong public support for the INC, which was seen as the leader of India's independence movement and a stabilizing force in its early democratic years.</p> <p>Stability in Seat Share: The INC's seat share remained relatively stable over the three elections, indicating a consistent pattern of voter loyalty and faith in its governance. This trend highlights political stability during the formative years of India's democracy.</p> <p>Growth of Opposition Representation: While the INC dominated, the seat allocation to smaller parties and independents showed gradual growth. This indicates the emergence of a more diverse political landscape, with opposition voices beginning to gain ground in Indian politics.</p> <p>These trends demonstrate the early consolidation of democracy in India, with a strong ruling party ensuring governance continuity while allowing room for opposition to develop over time.</p>	

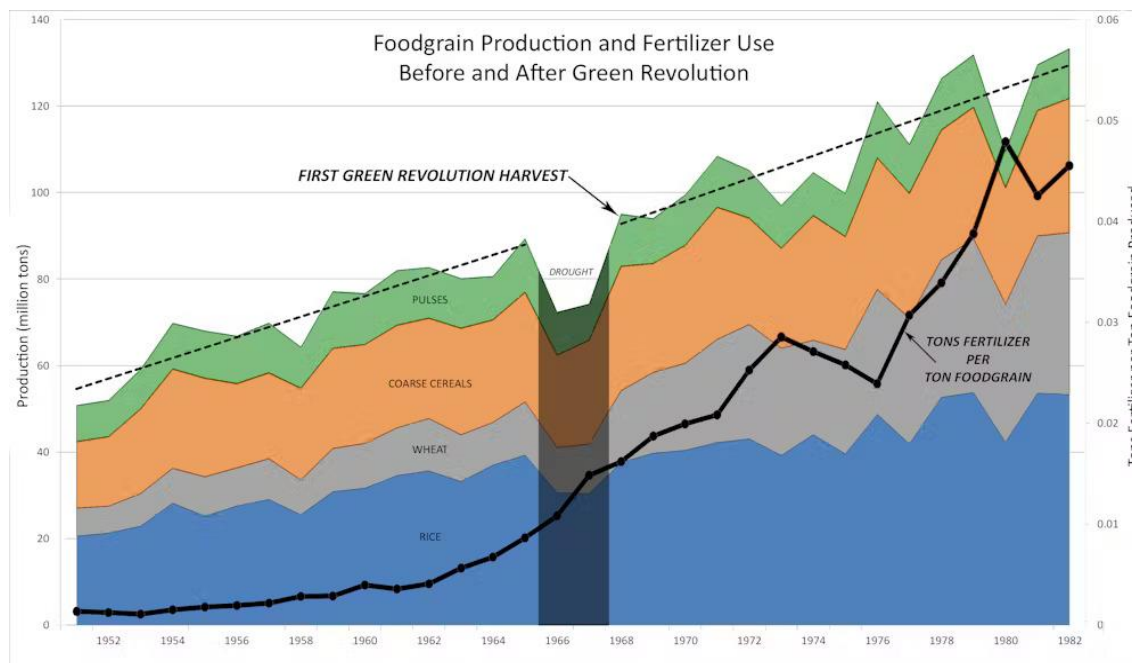
Politics of Planned Development

Serial No.	Question	Marks
8	<p>What does the National Development Council mainly do to help with resources?</p> <p>(A) bring together inputs for national economic growth (B) divide money among states based on population (C) take care of central government funds (D) raise money for state-level projects</p> <p>[Skill: Mechanical]</p>	1
9	<p>State two challenges India faced during the Second Five-Year Plan related to technology and agriculture.</p> <p>[Skill: Mechanical]</p>	2
10	<p>How does NITI Aayog support development in underdeveloped districts through the Aspirational Districts Programme?</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	3

11

Observe the image given above.

5



What changes in foodgrain production and fertiliser use are shown in the graph before and after the Green Revolution? Explain the impact of these changes.

[Skill: Understanding]

Marking Scheme

Q No.	Rubric	Marks
8	Correct Answer: A Correct. The National Development Council focuses on mobilising and coordinating resources to meet economic development goals at the national level.	1
	B: Incorrect because funds are not allocated solely based on population but on broader priorities.	
	C: Incorrect since managing central government funds is not the Council's role.	
	D: Incorrect as the Council's scope is broader than generating funds for state projects.	
9	Evaluation Criteria: Award 1 mark for mentioning the lack of indigenous technological capacity and its impact on foreign exchange reserves.	1
	Award 1 mark for explaining how prioritising capital-intensive industries over agriculture led to food shortages and rural hardships.	1
	Sample Answer: India lacked indigenous technological capacity and had to import expensive technology, straining its limited foreign exchange reserves. Focus on capital-intensive industries over agriculture caused food shortages, rising prices, and hardships for the rural poor.	

10	Evaluation Criteria: Award 1 mark for explaining how NITI Aayog uses data and digital tools to monitor progress, with an example like tracking health indicators or promoting solar panels.	1
	Award 1 mark for mentioning how it provides technical advice or resources to districts.	1
	Award 1 mark for an example, such as improving farming methods or enhancing education and infrastructure.	1
	Sample Answer: NITI Aayog uses data-driven tools to monitor development in health and education, like tracking malnutrition rates. It supports districts by offering technical advice and promoting projects, such as modernizing farming and building schools	
11	Evaluation Criteria: 1 mark for identifying stagnant food production before 1965.	1
	1 mark for noting the sharp increase in wheat and rice production after 1968.	1
	1 mark for linking these changes to the introduction of high-yield seeds, fertilizers, and irrigation.	1
	1 mark for observing the significant rise in fertiliser use after 1968 (black line).	1
	1 mark for explaining how increased production ensured food security but also caused environmental concerns like soil degradation and water pollution.	1
	Sample Answer: The graph shows that foodgrain production was stagnant before 1965, with minimal growth. After the Green Revolution in 1968, wheat and rice production rose sharply due to high-yield seeds, irrigation, and fertilizers. Fertilizer use also increased significantly (black line). These changes improved food security and reduced hunger, but overuse of fertilizers caused soil degradation and water pollution, raising concerns about long-term sustainability.	

India's External Relations

Serial No.	Question	Marks
12	<p>Read the following statements marked as Assertion and Reason and choose the correct option.</p> <p>Assertion (A): India refused to sign the NPT because it believes the treaty is biased in favour of nuclear-armed states.</p> <p>Reason (R): The NPT allows nuclear powers to keep their weapons while restricting others from developing them.</p> <p>(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.</p>	1

	[Skill: Understanding]	
	<p>India's Non-Alignment and the Korean War (1950-1953)</p> <p>During the Cold War, Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's non-alignment policy guided India's actions in global conflicts. In the Korean War (1950-1953), India condemned North Korea's attack but chose not to send combat troops. Instead, India sent a Gandhian ambulance unit and, after the ceasefire, sent troops to help supervise prisoners. Nehru focused on promoting peace, asking the United Nations to avoid escalating the war and crossing the 38th Parallel.</p> <p>India's neutral stance showed its commitment to peace, but opinions were divided. Some praised India for helping to reduce tensions, while others criticised it for avoiding military action, which they believed weakened its influence globally.</p> <p><i>Source: Adapted from Paul F. Power, "Indian Foreign Policy: The Age of Nehru," The Review of Politics, 1964.</i></p>	
13	<p>Why did India choose not to send combat troops during the Korean War, and what actions did it take instead?</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	1
14	<p>What were the criticisms of India's neutral stance in the Korean War?</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	1
15	<p>What action did India take during the Korean War to maintain its non-aligned stance?</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	1
16	<p>Analyse the key causes of the 1962 Chinese invasion of India and critically evaluate its impact on India's political leadership and foreign policy.</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	5

Marking Scheme

Q No.	Rubric	Marks
12	<p>Correct Answer: A</p> <p>India refused to sign the NPT as it considers the treaty unequal, allowing existing nuclear states to maintain weapons while preventing others from acquiring them. This belief is directly supported by the reason given.</p>	1
13	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p>1 mark: For mentioning India's non-aligned stance and refusal to send combat troops to maintain neutrality.</p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>India chose not to send combat troops to maintain its neutral, non-aligned stance. Instead, it sent a Gandhian ambulance unit to provide humanitarian aid and later supervised prisoners after the ceasefire.</p>	
14	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p>1 mark: For stating that critics believed India's decision weakened its global influence.</p>	0.5

	1 mark: For highlighting the lack of military action as a point of criticism.	0.5
	Sample Answer: Critics argued that India's neutral stance in the Korean War weakened its global influence since it avoided military action. However, others praised India for promoting peace and helping reduce tensions.	
15	Evaluation Criteria: Award 1 mark for mentioning Gandhian ambulance	1
	Sample Answer India sent a Gandhian ambulance unit and supervised prisoners of war to maintain its non-aligned stance, demonstrating humanitarian support without taking sides in the conflict.	
16	Evaluation Criteria: 1 mark: Mention China's annexation of Tibet, boundary disputes over Aksai Chin and NEFA, and the differing views on boundary settlements.	1
	1 mark: Note China's accusations against India, including granting asylum to the Dalai Lama and alleged anti-China activities.	1
	1 mark: Discuss the immediate political fallout, including Nehru's weakened leadership and Congress losing ground.	1
	1 mark: Highlight the rise in nationalism and shifts in India's defense and foreign policies.	1
	1 mark: Evaluate whether India's political and strategic responses adequately addressed the challenges posed by the invasion.	1
	Sample Answer: The 1962 Chinese invasion was driven by boundary disputes and political tensions. China annexed Tibet in 1950, straining ties, and disagreements over Aksai Chin and NEFA escalated. While China argued the boundary was unresolved, India insisted it was settled under colonial agreements. China's accusations of India supporting anti-China activities, including granting asylum to the Dalai Lama, worsened relations. The invasion had far-reaching consequences. Nehru's leadership was severely criticized for inadequate preparation, leading to political setbacks for Congress. However, it also ignited nationalism and led to a rethinking of defense policies, strengthening India's future preparedness. Despite these changes, the invasion exposed weaknesses in India's foreign and military strategies, raising questions about its readiness to confront geopolitical challenges.	

Challenge to and Restoration of the Congress System

Serial No.	Question	Marks
17	What challenges did Lal Bahadur Shastri face during his tenure as Prime Minister of India?	1

	<p>(A) Boundary disputes with China and the Dalai Lama’s asylum (B) Political instability and opposition from the Congress Party (C) Economic recovery, food crisis, and war with Pakistan (D) Negotiating with the USSR to end the Cold War</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	
18	<p>What were the key economic and political challenges faced by India in the late 1960s, and how did these affect the public's response to the government?</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	3
19	<p>Imagine a scenario where a state assembly election results in no single party securing a majority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Party A, Party B, and Party C decide to join forces despite having different ideologies to form a government. • A few months later, some elected representatives from Party B leave their party and join Party D, which is in opposition, causing the government to collapse. <p>Based on this scenario:</p> <p>(a) Explain the concept of a coalition using the example of Party A, Party B, and Party C. (2 marks)</p> <p>(b) Explain the concept of defection using the example of Party B representatives joining Party D. (2 marks)</p> <p>(c) Discuss one impact of defections on the stability of coalition governments. (1 mark)</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	5

Marking Scheme

Q No.	Rubric	Marks
17	<p>Correct Answer: C</p> <p>During Shastri’s tenure (1964–1966), India faced significant challenges, including economic recovery post-China war, droughts causing food shortages, and a war with Pakistan in 1965.</p>	1
	A: Incorrect as boundary disputes with China and the Dalai Lama’s asylum occurred during Nehru’s time.	
	B: Incorrect since Shastri was unanimously supported by the Congress Party.	
	D: Incorrect as negotiations with the USSR were unrelated to the Cold War but focused on ending the war with Pakistan.	
18	<p>Evaluation Criteria: Economic Challenges (1 mark):</p> <p>Mention issues like food scarcity, unemployment, price rise, and the decline in agricultural and industrial production.</p>	1

	<p>Political Challenges (1 mark):</p> <p>Include leadership instability with two Prime Ministers dying in succession and public unrest over the government's policies.</p>	1
	<p>Public Response (1 mark):</p> <p>Highlight protests, strikes (bandhs and hartals), and growing dissatisfaction with the government's handling of the situation.</p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>India faced severe economic challenges in the late 1960s, including food scarcity, unemployment, inflation, and reduced agricultural and industrial production. Politically, leadership instability and public unrest over price rises and economic policies worsened the situation. This led to frequent protests, strikes, and growing bitterness among the population toward the government's inability to address these issues.</p>	
19	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p>Part (a): Coalition (2 marks):</p> <p>1 mark for defining a coalition as multiple parties coming together to form a government due to no single party winning a majority.</p> <p>1 mark for applying this to the example of Party A, Party B, and Party C joining forces despite ideological differences.</p>	2
	<p>Part (b): Defection (2 marks):</p> <p>1 mark for defining defection as an elected representative leaving their party to join another.</p> <p>1 mark for explaining this in the context of Party B representatives leaving for Party D.</p>	2
	<p>Part (c): Impact of Defections (1 mark):</p> <p>1 mark for highlighting how defections cause instability, often leading to the collapse of coalition governments, as seen in the scenario.</p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>(a) A coalition is when multiple parties join hands to form a government because no single party has a majority. In this scenario, Party A, Party B, and Party C form a coalition government despite ideological differences.</p> <p>(b) Defection occurs when an elected representative leaves their party to join another. Here, members of Party B defected to Party D, causing instability in the government.</p> <p>(c) Defections weaken coalition governments by shifting loyalties, which can lead to the government's collapse, as seen when Party B's representatives joined the opposition.</p>	

The Crisis of Constitutional Order

Serial No.	Question	Marks
20	<p>Read the assertion and reason carefully, then select the correct option that explains their relationship.</p> <p>Assertion (A): The primary responsibility of civil servants in a democracy like India is to remain committed to constitutional values and public welfare.</p> <p>Reason (R): Civil servants are expected to function impartially, ensuring their actions uphold democratic principles and benefit the public.</p> <p>Options:</p> <p>(A) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.</p> <p>(B) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.</p> <p>(C) A is true, but R is false.</p> <p>(D) A is false, but R is true.</p>	1
21	<p>Read the following statements marked as Assertion and Reason and choose the correct option.</p> <p>Assertion (A): The 42nd Amendment Act, 1976, added Fundamental Duties to the Indian Constitution.</p> <p>Reason (R): The 42nd Amendment Act was aimed at strengthening the framework of the Constitution during the Emergency.</p> <p>(A) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.</p> <p>(B) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.</p> <p>(C) A is true, but R is false.</p> <p>(D) A is false, but R is true.</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	1
22	<p>Explain the key issues that caused conflicts between the Indian Parliament and the judiciary during the 1970s.</p> <p>[Skill: Mechanical]</p>	3
23	<p>The Emergency (1975-1977) revealed both the strengths and weaknesses of India's democracy.</p> <p>a) How did the Emergency demonstrate the strength of India's democracy? (2 marks)</p> <p>b) What were the long-term effects of the Emergency on civil rights and governance? (3 marks)</p> <p>[Skill: Application]</p>	3

Marking Scheme

Q No.	Rubric	Marks
20	<p>Correct Answer: A</p> <p>Explanation:</p>	1

	Civil servants are bound by constitutional values, ensuring public welfare and democracy are upheld. Their impartiality and commitment to democratic principles make them key to maintaining the integrity of governance.	
21	Correct Answer: A The 42nd Amendment added a chapter on Fundamental Duties to the Constitution. This amendment was introduced during the Emergency to reinforce the framework of the Constitution and ensure adherence to national objectives.	1
22	Evaluation Criteria: Constitutional Issues (2 marks): 1 mark for mentioning the Supreme Court's stance that Parliament cannot abridge Fundamental Rights, as seen in property rights cases. 1 mark for describing the Kesavananda Bharati case, where the Court ruled that Parliament cannot amend the basic structure of the Constitution.	2
	Executive-Judiciary Conflict (1 mark): 1 mark for explaining the controversy over Justice A. N. Ray's appointment as Chief Justice in 1973, superseding senior judges who ruled against the government.	1
	Sample Answer: Conflicts arose when the Supreme Court ruled that Parliament cannot abridge Fundamental Rights or amend the Constitution to curtail property rights. In the Kesavananda Bharati case, the Court declared that Parliament cannot alter the Constitution's basic structure. The conflict intensified when Justice A. N. Ray was controversially appointed Chief Justice in 1973, bypassing senior judges who opposed the government.	
23	Evaluation Criteria: Part 1: Strength of Democracy (2 marks): 1 mark: Explaining how democratic functioning resumed quickly after the Emergency. 1 mark: Mentioning the constitutional changes, such as limiting Emergency powers to 'armed rebellion' and requiring written advice from the Cabinet.	2
	Part 2: Effects on Civil Rights and Governance (3 marks): 1 mark: Explaining how the Emergency raised awareness about civil liberties. 1 mark: Mentioning the judiciary's more active role in protecting rights after the Emergency and the rise of civil liberties organizations. 1 mark: Highlighting how the Emergency exposed issues like the misuse of police and administration for political purposes, which remained a challenge.	1
	Sample Answer: The Emergency showed that India's democracy is strong because normal democratic rule returned quickly after it ended. Changes like limiting Emergency powers to 'armed rebellion' and requiring written advice from the Cabinet helped protect democracy in the future.	

	The Emergency raised awareness about civil rights and made courts more active in protecting them. Many new organizations were formed to defend freedoms. However, the Emergency also showed how police and administration could be misused for political purposes, a problem that continues even today.	
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Regional Aspirations

Serial No.	Question	Marks
24	<p>What was one of the main reasons behind the Mizo National Front's (MNF) demand for independence?</p> <p>(A) The Mizo Hills region was economically advanced but culturally isolated. (B) The Indian government supported the Mizo National Front's demand for a separate country. (C) The Mizo Hills were never a part of British India and felt excluded from the Indian Union. (D) The Assam government granted full autonomy to the Mizo Hills, but it was rejected by the people.</p> <p>[Skill: Mechanical]</p>	1
25	<p>Based on India's experience with regional aspirations and national integration:</p> <p>a. Why is it important to address regional aspirations through democratic methods instead of suppression? Provide an example to support your answer. (2 marks)</p> <p>b. How can power-sharing and addressing regional economic imbalances strengthen national integration? (2 marks)</p> <p>c. Reflect on how India's federal structure has contributed to managing diversity. (1 mark)</p> <p>[Skill: Application]</p>	5
26	<p>What are the key geographical features and socio-political challenges of the North-East region of India?</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	3

Marking Scheme

Q No.	Rubric	Marks
24	Correct Answer: C The MNF's demand for independence stemmed from the belief that the Mizo Hills were not part of British India and thus did not belong to the Indian Union.	1
	A: Incorrect because the region was not economically advanced.	
	B: Incorrect as the Indian government opposed the MNF's demands and took military action against them.	

	D: Incorrect as the Assam government made the area autonomous, but the issue was dissatisfaction, not outright rejection.	
25	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p>Part 1: Democratic Methods for Regional Aspirations (2 marks):</p> <p>1 mark: Mention why suppression leads to unrest and democratic negotiations foster reconciliation.</p> <p>1 mark: Provide examples like the settlement in Mizoram or agreements in Punjab and Assam to show successful outcomes.</p>	2
	<p>Part 2: Power-Sharing and Economic Balance (2 marks):</p> <p>1 mark: Explain how power-sharing at state and national levels reduces alienation and ensures representation.</p> <p>1 mark: Highlight the role of addressing regional economic imbalances in reducing feelings of discrimination and fostering equality.</p>	2
	<p>Part 3: India's Federal Structure (1 mark):</p> <p>1 mark: Reflect on how flexible provisions in India's federalism, like special autonomy under the Sixth Schedule for North-East tribes, have resolved regional issues and maintained unity.</p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>Addressing regional aspirations through democratic methods prevents unrest and builds trust in governance. For example, the Mizoram peace settlement successfully resolved separatist tensions through dialogue and political inclusion.</p> <p>Power-sharing ensures that regional groups have a voice in governance, reducing alienation. Addressing regional economic imbalances, such as focusing on backward areas, helps eliminate feelings of discrimination and promotes equality among regions.</p> <p>India's federal structure, with flexible provisions like the Sixth Schedule for North-East tribes, has effectively managed diversity and resolved complex regional issues, contributing to national integration.</p>	
26	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p>Geographical Features</p> <p>1 mark: Mention the connection to the rest of India via the Siliguri Corridor and its borders with countries like China, Myanmar, and Bangladesh.</p>	1
	<p>Socio-Political Challenges</p> <p>1 mark: Highlight the region's ethnic and cultural diversity, with the 'seven sisters' and Sikkim having unique identities.</p> <p>1 mark: Discuss how historical events like Partition, state reorganization, and migration led to political and social challenges.</p>	2
	Sample Answer:	

	<p>The North-East is connected to the rest of India by the narrow Siliguri Corridor and shares borders with China, Myanmar, and Bangladesh.</p> <p>The region has great ethnic and cultural diversity, with the 'seven sisters' and Sikkim having unique identities. Events like Partition, state reorganization, and migration created political and social challenges, shaping its special identity.</p>	
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Indian Politics: Recent Changes

Serial No.	Question	Marks
	<p>Challenges of Coalition Governments in Italy In Italy's Second Republic, coalition governments became common. Political parties worked together before elections to agree on shared goals, choose a leader (Prime Minister candidate), and set plans for the government. This was meant to make governing smoother and more organised.</p> <p>However, there were still problems:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Different parties in the coalition often disagreed about which policies to focus on. 2. Passing laws became slow and difficult because of disagreements. 3. Citizens expected more results from the government, adding pressure to keep promises. <p>Even with these problems, having coalitions allowed more political parties to participate in decision-making.</p> <p><i>Source: Adapted from the document titled The Challenge of Coalition Government: The Italian Case, edited by Nicolò Conti and Francesco Marangoni, Routledge, 2015.</i></p>	
27	<p>What is one key benefit of coalition governments in Italy's Second Republic?</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	1
28	<p>What was one challenge faced by coalition governments in Italy when passing laws?</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	1
29	<p>Why did citizens place more pressure on coalition governments in Italy?</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	1

Marking Scheme

Q No.	Rubric	Marks
27	<p>Evaluation Criteria: Award 1 mark for a correct rationale.</p>	1
	<p>The inclusion of more political parties in decision-making is a key benefit of coalition governments in Italy's Second Republic, as it allows for broader representation and diverse perspectives in governance.</p>	

28	Evaluation Criteria: Award 1 mark for the correct explanation	1
	Sample Answer: Passing laws was difficult because coalition parties often disagreed about policies, making it hard to reach a consensus and slowing down the legislative process.	
29	Evaluation Criteria: Award 1 mark for correct explanation	1
	Sample Answer: Citizens expected better results from coalition governments, pressuring them to fulfill promises and deliver efficient governance despite internal disagreements.	

Collapse of Bipolarity

Serial No.	Question	Marks
30	What was a key feature of the Soviet political system? (A) Primacy of the communist party with no opposition allowed (B) Decentralised economic planning by local governments (C) Multiparty democracy with free elections (D) Capitalist economy with private property [Skill: Understanding]	1
31	Why did the Baltic states join NATO after the Cold War? (A) To strengthen their economy (B) To assert independence from the EU (C) To protect themselves from Russian aggression (D) To avoid alliances with any powerful country [Skill: Understanding]	1
32	How do small states protect their interests in global politics after the Cold War? [Skill: Understanding]	1
33	What is one example of how Belarus navigated its foreign policy after the Cold War? [Skill: Understanding]	1

Marking Scheme

Q No.	Rubric	Marks
30	Correct Answer: A The Soviet political system centered around the communist party, with no other political party or opposition permitted.	1
	B: Incorrect since economic planning was centralized and controlled by the state, not local governments.	

	C: Incorrect because the Soviet Union did not allow multiparty democracy or free elections.	
	D: Incorrect as the Soviet economy was socialist, aimed at abolishing private property.	
31	Correct Answer: C After the Cold War, the Baltic states (Lithuania, Estonia, and Latvia) joined NATO to ensure their security against potential threats from Russia. Their decision reflects the strategic use of alliances by small states for protection and influence.	1
	A: Incorrect because NATO is a military alliance, not an economic organization, and joining NATO was primarily for security purposes.	
	B: Incorrect as joining NATO was about protecting independence from Russia, not asserting independence from the EU.	
	D: Incorrect because the Baltic states chose to align with NATO, a powerful military alliance, rather than avoiding alliances.	
32	Evaluation Criteria: Award 1 mark for correct explanation	1
	Sample Answer: Small states protect their interests by forming alliances and remaining flexible in their foreign policies. This allows them to stay independent and adapt to a world dominated by stronger nations.	
33	Evaluation Criteria: Award 1 mark for correct explanation	1
	Sample Answer: Belarus balanced its relations with Russia, the EU, and China to maintain independence while navigating a complex global political environment.	

Contemporary South Asia

Serial No.	Question	Marks
34	<p>Read the assertion and reason carefully, then select the correct option that explains the relationship between them.</p> <p>Assertion (A): South Asia's significance in global trade and politics lies in its ability to link Europe, Africa, and Asia through key routes in the Indian Ocean.</p> <p>Reason (R): The Indian Ocean serves as a crucial maritime route for international trade, connecting major economic regions of the world.</p> <p>Options:</p> <p>(A) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.</p> <p>(B) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.</p> <p>(C) A is true, but R is false.</p> <p>(D) A is false, but R is true.</p>	1

35	Describe how democracy was challenged in Pakistan through military rule between 1971-1988. [Skill: Understanding]	2
36	Explain how Bangladesh moved from military rule to democracy between 1975-1991. [Skill: Understanding]	2
37	Analyse the key areas of conflict and cooperation in India-Bangladesh relations. What factors have influenced their bilateral relationship? [Skill: Understanding]	5

Marking Scheme

Q No.	Rubric	Marks
34	Correct Answer: A South Asia's location near the Indian Ocean allows it to act as a key link between Europe, Africa, and Asia, enhancing its importance in global trade and politics. The Indian Ocean is vital for shipping routes, enabling the movement of goods and resources across continents, which underlines South Asia's strategic significance.	1
35	Evaluation Criteria: 2 marks: Mentions both military takeovers (Yahya Khan and Zia-ul-Haq) Explains impact on democratic governance Includes specific time periods	2
	Sample Answer: Pakistan faced two major challenges to democracy during this period. First, under General Yahya Khan's rule until 1971, which ended with the Bangladesh crisis. Second, General Zia-ul-Haq overthrew Bhutto's elected government in 1977 and ruled until 1988, facing pro-democracy protests from 1982 onwards. Democracy was finally restored with Benazir Bhutto's election in 1988.	
36	Evaluation Criteria: Mentions key military rulers (Ziaur Rahman, Ershad) Describes transition to democracy Includes specific dates	2
	Sample Answer: After Mujib's assassination in 1975, military rule began under Ziaur Rahman who formed BNP and won 1979 elections. After his assassination, Ershad took power. Public protests, especially by students, forced Ershad to step down in 1990. Multi-party democracy was established with 1991 elections.	
37	Evaluation Criteria:	1

	Award 1 mark for identifying key areas of conflict (water sharing, immigration, security issues)	
	Award 1 mark for analyzing how Bangladesh and India view each other's positions	1
	Award 1 mark for explaining areas of cooperation (economics, disaster management, enclave exchange)	1
	Award 1 mark for discussing how strategic interests influence bilateral relations	1
	Award 1 mark for drawing conclusions about regional power dynamics and mutual dependencies	1
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>India-Bangladesh relations are characterized by both tension and cooperation. Major conflicts arose from water sharing of the Ganga-Brahmaputra rivers, illegal immigration concerns, and security issues like Islamic fundamentalist groups and transit rights. Bangladesh views India as domineering in water disputes and trade relations, while India has concerns about border security and resource access.</p> <p>However, both nations have developed cooperative mechanisms, particularly in economics and disaster management. The 2015 enclave exchange demonstrates improving relations. India's Act East policy has created new opportunities for collaboration, showing how strategic interests can overcome historical tensions.</p> <p>This relationship illustrates how regional powers must balance sovereignty concerns with mutual benefits. While geographic and resource dependencies create friction, shared economic and security interests drive cooperation.</p>	

International Organisation

Serial No.	Question	Marks
38	<p>Read the following statements marked as Assertion and Reason and choose the correct option.</p> <p>While some argue the UN is a 'talking shop,' others consider it vital for international peace.</p> <p>Assertion (A): The primary role of the UN is to provide humanitarian aid and development assistance to member nations.</p> <p>Reason (R): The UN was established after World War II to prevent global conflicts and promote international cooperation.</p> <p>(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 false but R is true (D) A is false and R is false</p> <p>[Skill: Application]</p>	1

39	Using examples from movements like the Narmada Bachao Andolan or anti-mining campaigns, explain how environmental movements challenge harmful projects and highlight the importance of sustainable development. [Skill: Understanding]	5
40	Which of the following is TRUE regarding the cause of ethnic tensions in Sri Lanka? (A) The Tamils were denied Sri Lankan citizenship after independence. (B) The Sinhalese were declared the only national or official language. (C) Tamil families were given land under the newly enacted reform laws. (D) Both Sinhalese and Tamil languages were equally recognised by the state. [Skill: Mechanical]	1

Marking Scheme

Q No.	Rubric	Marks
38	Correct Answer: A The assertion is false because the UN's primary role is maintaining international peace and security, not just humanitarian aid. The reason is true as the UN was indeed established after WWII to prevent global conflicts and foster international cooperation. Therefore, A is false but R is true.	1
39	Evaluation Criteria: Role of Movements (2 marks): Explain how environmental movements organize protests, raise awareness, and use legal actions to challenge harmful projects. Provide an example, like the Narmada Bachao Andolan or campaigns in the Philippines.	2
	Environmental and Social Impact (2 marks): Highlight the importance of protecting indigenous communities, biodiversity, and ecosystems. Discuss how displacement and ecological damage lead to long-term consequences.	2
	Sustainable Development (1 mark): Connect the idea of balancing development with environmental conservation to ensure long-term benefits.	1
	Sample Answer: Environmental movements challenge harmful projects by organizing protests, raising public awareness, and pursuing legal action. For example, the Narmada Bachao Andolan opposed large dams for displacing communities and harming ecosystems. Such movements emphasize the importance of protecting indigenous communities and biodiversity. Indigenous peoples maintain unique cultures and depend on forests for survival. Ecosystems play a critical role in sustaining biodiversity, and their destruction causes irreversible damage, including loss of livelihoods and climate impacts. These challenges highlight the need for sustainable development, which balances economic growth with environmental conservation. Small-scale projects, renewable	

	energy, and better resource management can achieve progress without displacing communities or damaging the environment, ensuring benefits for future generations.	
40	Correct Answer: B Declaring Sinhalese as the only official language marginalized the Tamil population, creating a major cause for ethnic conflict.	1
	A: While Tamils were denied citizenship rights, the focus here is on the language policy as a more significant cause of conflict.	
	C: This is the opposite of what happened; the Tamils were dispossessed of their lands, not given land.	
	D: Equal recognition of languages would have reduced conflict, not caused it.	

Security in Contemporary World

Serial No.	Question	Marks
41	<p>Read the following two statements marked as Assertion and Reason and choose the correct option.</p> <p>Assertion (A): The concept of 'Balance of Power' suggests that peace is more likely when no single group of nations becomes too powerful.</p> <p>Reason (R): Peace is achieved when all nations disarm and eliminate their military forces entirely.</p> <p>(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.</p> <p>[Skill: Application]</p>	1
42	<p>What is the key idea behind the non-traditional notion of security, and how does it differ from traditional security concepts?</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	2
43	<p>A small coastal town is struck by a massive cyclone, destroying homes and leaving residents without food or shelter. Fearing for their lives, the majority of the population is forced to leave the area and seek safety in neighbouring regions.</p> <p>Question:</p> <p>Based on the scenario above, explain whether this is an example of forced migration or voluntary migration. What is a defining characteristic of forced migration that applies to this situation?</p> <p>[Skill: Application]</p>	3
44	<p>A farming community experiences severe drought, leading to crop failures and food shortages. As a result, many families leave their homes to seek resources and safety in nearby urban areas.</p>	3

	<p>Is this an example of forced migration or voluntary migration? What is the defining characteristic of forced migration that applies to this situation?</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	
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Marking Scheme

Q No.	Rubric	Marks
41	<p>Correct Answer: C</p> <p>The concept of 'Balance of Power' is based on maintaining an equilibrium where no nation or group of nations becomes too powerful, as this reduces the likelihood of domination and conflict. However, the reason (R) is false because peace through balance of power does not involve the complete disarmament of nations. Instead, it involves maintaining a relative equality of power between states or alliances.</p>	1
42	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p>1 mark: Identifies the key idea of non-traditional security (focus on human security over state security).</p>	1
	<p>1 mark: Explains how it differs from traditional security concepts by emphasising individual safety and broader concerns like health, environment, and human rights instead of only preventing wars or protecting states.</p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>The key idea behind the non-traditional notion of security is that human security is more important than state security. Unlike traditional security, which focuses on protecting state sovereignty and preventing wars, non-traditional security prioritises individual safety and addresses issues like poverty, health crises, and environmental threats that affect human lives directly.</p>	
43	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p>1 mark: Correctly identifies the type of migration as forced migration.</p>	1
	<p>1 mark: Explains that forced migration occurs when individuals are compelled to leave due to threats to their lives, safety, or survival, such as natural disasters, violence, or persecution.</p>	1
	<p>1 mark: Connects the concept to the scenario, highlighting that the cyclone created life-threatening conditions, leaving the residents with no choice but to leave.</p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>This is an example of forced migration. Forced migration occurs when people are compelled to leave their homes due to life-threatening situations such as natural disasters, violence, or persecution. In this scenario, the cyclone destroyed homes and created unsafe living conditions, leaving the residents with no choice but to migrate to neighbouring regions to ensure their survival.</p>	
44	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p>1 mark: Correctly identifies the type of migration as forced migration.</p>	1

	1 mark: Explains that forced migration happens when individuals must leave their homes due to life-threatening or survival-related challenges, such as food shortages or natural disasters.	1
	1 mark: Links the concept to the scenario, explaining that the drought caused food shortages, leaving the families with no choice but to migrate to survive.	1
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>This is an example of forced migration. Forced migration occurs when people are compelled to leave their homes due to life-threatening challenges, such as natural disasters or resource shortages. In this scenario, the drought caused severe food shortages, forcing families to migrate to urban areas in search of resources and safety to survive.</p>	

Environment and Natural Resources

Serial No.	Question	Marks
45	<p>Why are environmental issues considered political in nature? Provide a reason for your answer.</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	1
46	<p>Why is it difficult to manage global commons like outer space, the ocean floor, and the atmosphere, and what role do inequalities play in this challenge?</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	2
47	<p>How does the principle of "common but differentiated responsibilities" address the tension between developed and developing countries on environmental issues?</p> <p>[Skill: Understanding]</p>	2

Marking Scheme

Q No.	Rubric	Marks
45	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p>Award 2 mark for a correct rationale</p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>Environmental issues are considered political because they require global cooperation to address challenges like climate change, deforestation, and pollution. These issues also raise questions about responsibility and power, as countries must negotiate who takes action and bears the costs of solving them.</p>	
46	<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p>1 mark: Explain that achieving international consensus is challenging due to differing priorities, vague scientific evidence, and long time frames.</p>	1
	<p>1 mark: Highlight that North-South inequalities, particularly in technology and industrial development, create an unequal distribution of benefits from exploiting global commons.</p>	1
	<p>Sample Answer:</p>	

	Managing global commons is difficult because countries struggle to reach agreements due to vague scientific evidence and long time frames. North-South inequalities further complicate the issue, as developed countries with advanced technology gain more benefits from these resources than developing nations.	
47	Evaluation Criteria: 1 mark: Explain that this principle acknowledges shared responsibility for environmental conservation but recognizes the differing contributions to degradation by developed and developing nations.	1
	1 mark: Mention that developed countries are expected to take greater responsibility for ecological damage, while developing countries are allowed more flexibility due to their need for industrial growth.	1
	Sample Answer: The principle of "common but differentiated responsibilities" acknowledges that while all countries share responsibility for the environment, developed countries must take greater responsibility due to their historical contribution to degradation. It also allows developing countries flexibility to pursue industrial growth.	

Globalisation

Serial No.	Question	Marks
48	Rahul noticed that people in his neighbourhood are increasingly using smartphones to communicate with friends and family living abroad. He also observed that imported products, such as clothes and electronics, are easily available in local stores. a. Explain how technology has contributed to this phenomenon. b. Identify one key aspect of globalisation mentioned in the text that explains this trend. [Skill: Understanding]	5
49	A factory in India begins exporting its products worldwide, attracting foreign investment and creating new jobs in the local community. However, some workers protest, claiming that their wages remain low despite the factory's growing profits. How does this scenario reflect the contrasting perspectives on globalisation? Provide one advantage and one criticism of globalisation as seen in this example. [Skill: Understanding]	2
50	India has experienced resistance to globalisation from multiple groups for various reasons. Identify two key areas where resistance to globalisation has occurred in India, explaining the concerns associated with each. [Skill: Application]	2

Marking Scheme

Q No.	Rubric	Marks
48	<p>Evaluation Criteria: Award 1 mark for explaining how technology facilitates communication and trade (e.g., smartphones, internet, etc.).</p>	1
	Award 1 mark for identifying an aspect of globalisation (e.g., flow of goods, ideas, or communication).	1
	<p>Sample Answer: Technology, like smartphones and the internet, has made it easier to communicate instantly across countries and conduct trade.</p> <p>This trend is a result of globalisation, which enables the flow of goods, ideas, and communication across borders.</p>	
49	<p>Evaluation Criteria: 1 mark: Identifies an advantage of globalisation (e.g., foreign investment, job creation, or economic growth).</p>	1
	1 mark: Identifies a criticism of globalisation (e.g., low wages, inequality, or exploitation).	1
	<p>Sample Answer: This scenario shows the contrasting perspectives on globalisation. An advantage is that globalisation attracts foreign investment and creates jobs, benefiting the local economy. However, a criticism is that workers may not see fair benefits, such as higher wages, leading to inequality and exploitation concerns.</p>	
50	<p>Evaluation Criteria: 1 mark: Identifies one area of resistance (e.g., economic, cultural, or environmental) and explains the related concern.</p>	1
	1 mark: Identifies a second area of resistance and explains the concern.	1
	<p>Sample Answer: One key area of resistance to globalisation in India is economic, where trade unions and farmer groups have protested against the entry of multinationals, fearing loss of livelihoods and exploitation. Another area is cultural, where the political right has opposed influences like foreign TV channels, Valentine’s Day celebrations, and western dress styles, viewing them as threats to traditional Indian values.</p>	



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