

Model Question Paper 2
Half-Yearly Examination 2026-27
SOCIAL SCIENCE

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. This question paper has 37 questions divided into 6 Sections: A, B, C, D, E and F.
2. Section A: Question numbers 1 to 20 are multiple choice questions of 1 mark each.
3. Section B: Question numbers 21 to 24 are very short answer questions of 2 marks each. Answers should not exceed 40 words.
4. Section C: Question numbers 25 to 29 are short answer questions of 3 marks each. Answers should not exceed 60 words.
5. Section D: Question numbers 30 to 33 are long answer questions of 5 marks each. Answers should not exceed 120 words.
6. Section E: Question numbers 34 to 36 are source-based/case-based questions with sub-parts, carrying 4 marks each.
7. Section F: Question number 37 is a map-based question of 5 marks, with two parts — (i) History and (ii) Geography.
8. There is no overall choice, but internal choices have been provided in a few questions. Attempt only one option wherever an internal choice is given.

SECTION A

Question numbers 1 to 20 carry 1 mark each.

1. Giuseppe Mazzini, who founded the secret society 'Young Italy', believed that a united Italian nation could be built through: [1]
 - (a) A centralised, democratic republic
 - (b) Continued rule by regional monarchies
 - (c) Alliance with Austria
 - (d) A return to city-states
2. Otto von Bismarck, the chief architect of German unification, achieved it mainly through: [1]
 - (a) A series of wars over seven years, led by Prussia and its army
 - (b) A popular referendum across all German states
 - (c) Peaceful negotiations with Austria alone
 - (d) Financial aid from Britain
3. The Non-Cooperation Movement, led by Mahatma Gandhi, was formally launched in the year: [1]
 - (a) 1920
 - (b) 1922
 - (c) 1930
 - (d) 1942
4. The Khilafat issue, which Gandhiji linked with the Non-Cooperation Movement, was related to: [1]
 - (a) A demand for a separate Muslim state
 - (b) Protecting the authority of the Ottoman Caliph after the First World War
 - (c) A campaign for cow protection
 - (d) Land revenue reforms
5. The Simon Commission, which arrived in India in 1928 to review constitutional reforms, was widely opposed by Indians mainly because: [1]
 - (a) It recommended full independence too soon

- (b) It did not have a single Indian member on it
- (c) It supported all Congress demands
- (d) It proposed the partition of the country

6. In a genuine federal system, the fundamental provisions relating to power sharing between different levels of government are usually: [1]

- (a) Easily changed by a simple majority vote in the national parliament alone
- (b) Protected by the Constitution and cannot be unilaterally altered by any one level of government
- (c) Decided afresh every year through a referendum
- (d) Determined solely by the judiciary without reference to the Constitution

7. Belgium adopted a federal model of power sharing mainly to accommodate its: [1]

- (a) Linguistic diversity between Dutch, French and German speaking communities
- (b) Religious diversity
- (c) Racial diversity
- (d) Diversity of caste groups

8. A federation formed when independent states come together and agree to pool sovereignty while retaining their separate identities is called a 'coming together' federation. Which of the following is a well-known example? [1]

- (a) India
- (b) United States of America
- (c) Belgium
- (d) Sri Lanka

9. Apart from the Union List and the State List, the Indian Constitution provides for a third list of subjects on which both the Union and States can legislate. This is called the: [1]

- (a) Concurrent List
- (b) Residuary List
- (c) Fundamental List
- (d) Emergency List

10. Local self-government bodies such as panchayats and municipalities in India derive their present-day powers mainly from: [1]

- (a) Direct orders of the Union government
- (b) State legislation enacted following the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments
- (c) Decisions of the judiciary alone
- (d) International treaties

11. Resources such as coal and petroleum, whose available stock is limited and which take millions of years to form, are called: [1]

- (a) Renewable resources
- (b) Non-renewable resources
- (c) Biotic resources
- (d) Human resources

12. Resources whose exact quantity is not fully known, which exist in a region but have not yet been surveyed or put to use, are called: [1]

- (a) Potential resources

- (b) Developed resources
- (c) Stock resources
- (d) Reserves

13. A single large dam project designed to simultaneously provide irrigation, generate hydroelectric power and control floods is an example of a: [1]

- (a) Single-purpose project
- (b) Multi-purpose river valley project
- (c) Minor irrigation project
- (d) Rainwater harvesting structure

14. Excessive extraction of groundwater for irrigation over many years in states like Punjab and Haryana has mainly resulted in: [1]

- (a) Rising water tables
- (b) Falling water tables and depletion of groundwater reserves
- (c) Increased annual rainfall
- (d) Reduced soil salinity

15. Displacement caused by the submergence of land behind large dam reservoirs tends to affect which group most severely? [1]

- (a) Urban middle-class populations
- (b) Tribal communities and poor farmers dependent on the submerged forest and agricultural land
- (c) Large industrialists
- (d) Government employees

16. A country is generally regarded as more 'developed' when it has: [1]

- (a) Only a high per capita income, regardless of any other factor
- (b) A high average income along with favourable indicators such as good health and education facilities
- (c) A very large population
- (d) A very large land area

17. Banking, transport, communication and tourism are all examples of activities included in the: [1]

- (a) Primary sector
- (b) Secondary sector
- (c) Tertiary sector
- (d) Informal sector, by definition

18. The total value of all final goods and services produced within a country's borders during a particular year is called its: [1]

- (a) Per capita income
- (b) Gross Domestic Product (GDP)
- (c) National debt
- (d) Trade balance

19. This question consists of two statements — Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Choose the correct option: [1]

Assertion (A): Comparing different countries or states only on the basis of per capita income can be misleading.
Reason (R): Per capita income is only an average figure and does not show how income is actually distributed among the people of a country or state.

- (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

20. *This question consists of two statements — Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Choose the correct option: [1]*

Assertion (A): Governments run public sector enterprises such as railways and postal services even though such enterprises may not always be highly profitable.

Reason (R): Such services provide essential infrastructure and welfare to the whole population, which private players may be unwilling to invest in due to high costs and comparatively low profitability.

- (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

SECTION B

Question numbers 21 to 24 carry 2 marks each.

- 21.** State any two provisions of the Rowlatt Act (1919) that made it so unpopular among Indians. [2]
- 22.** What is meant by 'majoritarianism'? Name one country where it created serious problems. [2]
- 23.** Distinguish between renewable and non-renewable resources, with one example each. [2]
- 24.** What is meant by 'disguised unemployment'? Give one example. [2]

SECTION C

Question numbers 25 to 29 carry 3 marks each.

- 25.** Explain any three features of the Khilafat Movement and how it came to be linked with the Non-Cooperation Movement. [3]
- 26.** Distinguish between horizontal and vertical distribution of power, giving one example of each as practised in India. [3]
- 27.** Explain any three causes of land degradation in India. [3]
- 28.** Explain any three ways in which the government can help generate more employment in rural areas. [3]
- 29.** Explain any three reasons for the growing scarcity of freshwater resources in India, despite the country having a large network of rivers. [3]

SECTION D

Question numbers 30 to 33 carry 5 marks each.

30. Discuss the role played by Indian business classes (industrialists and merchants) and their organisations in supporting the national movement during the 1920s and 1930s. [5]

OR

Read the following extract and answer the question that follows: 'When the tricolour was raised in villages and towns, huge crowds gathered to witness the moment. Peasants, students and women alike joined the ceremonies, and many broke the salt law openly.' Explain any five ways in which the Civil Disobedience Movement (1930) differed in character from the earlier Non-Cooperation Movement (1920-22).

31. Explain, with examples, why power sharing among different levels of government (federalism) is considered essential for a large and diverse country like India. [5]

32. Explain any five factors responsible for water scarcity in India, distinguishing between natural and human-made causes. [5]

33. Explain any five criteria, other than 'growth of GDP alone', that could be used to compare the level of development of different countries or states, and explain briefly why each is important. [5]

SECTION E

Question numbers 34 to 36 are source-based/case-based questions carrying 4 marks each.

Source-Based Question 1 — Question 34 [4 Marks]

In 1921, a college student named Rajendra gave up his studies at a government-run college and joined a 'national school' that Congress volunteers had set up in his town as part of the Non-Cooperation programme. He also began wearing only hand-spun cloth and took part in a public bonfire in the town square where imported foreign garments were burnt to promote the boycott of foreign goods.

(i) Name the coarse, hand-spun cloth that nationalists encouraged people to wear during the Non-Cooperation Movement. [1]

(ii) Why did the Non-Cooperation Movement encourage students to leave government schools and colleges? [1]

(iii) What was the purpose of publicly burning foreign cloth during the movement? [1]

(iv) Explain one limitation of relying on the boycott of foreign goods as a form of protest. [1]

OR Name one other activity, apart from boycotting schools and foreign cloth, that was part of the Non-Cooperation programme.

Case Study 2 — Question 35 [4 Marks]

Suresh, a farmer in a Punjab village, has had to deepen his tube well three times over the last fifteen years, each time at considerable expense, as water at earlier depths dried up. His neighbours face similar difficulties, yet most continue to grow water-intensive crops like paddy and sugarcane every season because these fetch a good market price.

(i) Name one water-intensive crop mentioned in the passage. [1]

(ii) Why has Suresh had to deepen his tube well repeatedly over the years? [1]

(iii) Explain how growing water-intensive crops in a region can affect the long-term availability of water for the whole community. [1]

(iv) Suggest one crop-related change that could help reduce groundwater depletion in such areas. [1]

OR Suggest one government policy that could help address this problem.

Case Study 3 — Question 36 [4 Marks]

Sunita runs a small tailoring unit from her home with two helpers, stitching garments to order for a local shop. Her business is not registered anywhere, she pays her helpers in cash with no written agreement, and there are no fixed

working hours. Nearby, a large garment factory employs 200 workers on fixed shifts, provides them with ESI health cards, and is registered under the Factories Act.

(i) Which of the two enterprises — Sunita's tailoring unit or the large factory — belongs to the organised sector? [1]

(ii) Give two reasons to justify classifying Sunita's tailoring unit as part of the unorganised sector. [1]

(iii) Explain one advantage that the factory's workers have which Sunita's helpers do not. [1]

(iv) Suggest one step Sunita could take to bring her business closer to the organised sector. [1]

OR Suggest one way the government could help workers like Sunita's helpers.

SECTION F

Question number 37 is a map-based question of 5 marks.

37. Map-Based Question [5 Marks]

(A) On the given outline political map of India, locate and label any TWO of the following places associated with the Indian National Movement: (i) Champaran, (ii) Bardoli, (iii) Chauri Chaura. [2 marks]

(B) On the same outline map of India, locate and label any THREE of the following places related to Water Resources: (i) Rana Pratap Sagar Dam, (ii) Nagarjuna Sagar Dam, (iii) Damodar Valley Project, (iv) Indira Gandhi Canal. [3 marks]

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