

KARNATAKA SCHOOL EXAMINATION AND ASSESSMENT BOARD
FIRST SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT (SA-1) / HALF-YEARLY EXAMINATION — 2026-27

Class: X (SSLC) Subject: Social Science

Time: 3 Hours 15 Minutes (including 15 minutes for reading the question paper)

Max. Marks: 80

ANSWER KEY / SCHEME OF VALUATION

Scheme of Valuation — Notes

- Award marks as per the value points listed. Equivalent correct points/expressions may be given full credit.
- Where a question carries an internal choice, evaluate only the part attempted by the candidate.
- For numerical problems, award part marks for correct method/steps even if the final answer is not reached, as indicated.

PART – A

Answer ALL the questions. Each question carries 1 mark.

1. Who discovered the sea route to India in 1498? [1]

- (a) Vasco da Gama
- (b) Christopher Columbus
- (c) Ferdinand Magellan
- (d) Captain Cook

Ans: (a) Vasco da Gama

2. The English East India Company was established in the year: [1]

- (a) 1600
- (b) 1700
- (c) 1757
- (d) 1857

Ans: (a) 1600

3. The Battle of Plassey was fought in the year: [1]

- (a) 1757
- (b) 1764
- (c) 1857
- (d) 1799

Ans: (a) 1757

4. Who founded the Brahmo Samaj? [1]

- (a) Raja Ram Mohan Roy
- (b) Dayananda Saraswati
- (c) Swami Vivekananda
- (d) Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar

Ans: (a) Raja Ram Mohan Roy

5. Kittur Chennamma led an armed revolt against the British in the year: [1]

- (a) 1799
- (b) 1824
- (c) 1857
- (d) 1900

Ans: (b) 1824

6. Kanyakumari, the southernmost point of mainland India, lies at approximately: [1]

- (a) 8°4' N latitude

(b) 37°6' N latitude

(c) 23°5' N latitude

(d) 0° latitude

Ans: (a) 8°4' N latitude

7. The season of the retreating/north-east monsoon in India occurs during: [1]

(a) June to September

(b) December to February

(c) March to May

(d) October to November

Ans: (d) October to November

8. The land revenue system in which the revenue was permanently fixed with the zamindars is called: [1]

(a) Permanent Settlement

(b) Ryotwari System

(c) Mahalwari System

(d) Doctrine of Lapse

Ans: (a) Permanent Settlement

PART – B

Answer ALL the questions. Each question carries 2 marks.

1. Name any two European powers, other than the British, who came to India for trade. [2]

Ans: The Portuguese and the Dutch (French are also acceptable).

2. What is meant by the 'Doctrine of Lapse'? [2]

Ans: A policy introduced by Lord Dalhousie under which any princely state without a natural heir would be annexed by the British (an adopted heir would not be recognised as the ruler).

3. Mention any two effects of British rule on Indian handicrafts and industries. [2]

Ans: Indian handicrafts declined due to competition from machine-made British goods.

Ans: India was turned into a supplier of raw materials and a market for British finished goods (deindustrialisation).

4. Who was Sangolli Rayanna? Write briefly about him. [2]

Ans: Sangolli Rayanna was a brave military commander of Kittur who continued the struggle against the British after Rani Chennamma's defeat, leading guerrilla resistance until he was captured and executed.

5. Name any two social reformers of the 19th century along with the organisations they founded. [2]

Ans: Raja Ram Mohan Roy — Brahmo Samaj; Swami Dayananda Saraswati — Arya Samaj.

6. What is meant by Public Administration? [2]

Ans: Public Administration refers to the organisation and management of government policies, programmes and services by government machinery for the welfare of the people.

7. Mention any two features of social stratification. [2]

Ans: It is a universal feature found in every society.

Ans: It is a hierarchical arrangement (ranking) of people into layers/strata based on factors like caste, class or gender, and it is largely social in nature (not just individual differences).

8. Name the four seasons experienced in India. [2]

Ans: Cold weather season (winter), Hot weather season (summer), South-west monsoon season (rainy), Season of retreating monsoon (post-monsoon/autumn).

PART – C

Answer ALL the questions. Each question carries 3 marks.

1. Explain any three reasons for the arrival of Europeans in India. [3]

Ans: Search for a direct sea route to India to trade in spices, silk and other goods without Arab/Ottoman middlemen.

Ans: The lucrative spice trade and demand for Indian goods (cotton, spices) in Europe.

Ans: The fall of Constantinople (1453) blocked the traditional land route, pushing European powers to find sea routes.

2. Explain the Subsidiary Alliance system introduced by Lord Wellesley. [3]

Ans: Under this system, an Indian ruler who accepted the alliance had to keep a British army within his territory and pay for its maintenance.

Ans: The ruler could not enter into an alliance with any other power or employ any European without British approval.

Ans: In return, the British promised to protect the ruler, but this made the Indian states dependent on and subordinate to the British.

3. Describe the role of Kittur Rani Chennamma in opposing British rule. [3]

Ans: When the British, applying the Doctrine of Lapse, refused to recognise her adopted son as heir and tried to annex Kittur, Rani Chennamma led an armed rebellion against them in 1824.

Ans: She initially defeated the British forces but was later captured after a renewed attack.

Ans: She is remembered as one of the earliest women freedom fighters against British rule in Karnataka.

4. Explain any three social reforms brought about by Raja Ram Mohan Roy. [3]

Ans: He campaigned against and helped abolish the practice of Sati (1829).

Ans: He worked for the spread of women's education and opposed child marriage.

Ans: He founded the Brahmo Samaj to fight idol worship and caste discrimination and to promote monotheism and rational thinking.

5. Explain any three features that show the importance of Public Administration. [3]

Ans: It ensures the implementation of government policies and welfare programmes for citizens.

Ans: It maintains law and order and provides essential public services (health, education, infrastructure).

Ans: It is continuous and universal — administration functions regardless of change in government, and every country needs it.

6. Explain the meaning of social stratification and mention its types. [3]

Ans: Social stratification is the division of society into different layers or strata based on wealth, power, prestige or status.

Ans: Types: Caste-based stratification, Class-based stratification, Gender-based stratification (also religion/ethnicity-based in some societies).

7. Describe the major physical divisions of India. [3]

Ans: The Himalayan Mountains in the north, formed of young fold mountains.

Ans: The Northern Plains, formed by the rivers Indus, Ganga and Brahmaputra — fertile and densely populated.

Ans: The Peninsular Plateau, an old and stable landmass with the Deccan Plateau, flanked by the Western and Eastern Ghats; also the Coastal Plains, Thar Desert and Islands.

8. Explain the characteristic features of the south-west monsoon season in India. [3]

Ans: It lasts roughly from June to September and brings most of India's annual rainfall.

Ans: Moisture-laden winds blow from the sea towards the land (from south-west to north-east), striking the Western Ghats and the Himalayas.

Ans: It has two branches — the Arabian Sea branch and the Bay of Bengal branch — and is vital for Indian agriculture.

PART – D

Answer ALL the questions. Each question carries 4 marks.

1. Explain any four effects of British rule on the economy and society of India. [4]

Ans: Economic drain: wealth from India was systematically transferred to Britain through unfair trade and administrative expenses.

Ans: Deindustrialisation: traditional Indian industries (textiles, handicrafts) declined due to competition from British machine-made goods and discriminatory tariff policies.

Ans: New land revenue systems (Permanent Settlement, Ryotwari, Mahalwari) increased the burden on peasants and led to frequent famines.

Ans: Introduction of railways, telegraph and English education, which — though meant to serve British interests — also modernised transport, communication and created a Western-educated middle class in India.

2. Describe the role of the Wodeyars of Mysore after the restoration of their kingdom in 1799, and the contribution of Diwan Purnaiah to its administration. [4]

Ans: After the death of Tipu Sultan in 1799, the British restored the Mysore kingdom to the Wodeyar dynasty, placing the young Krishnaraja Wodeyar III on the throne.

Ans: Diwan Purnaiah was appointed as the chief administrator (Diwan) and ably managed the affairs of the state on behalf of the young king.

Ans: He reorganised the revenue and judicial administration, encouraged agriculture and irrigation, and promoted trade, laying a strong administrative foundation for Mysore.

3. Explain the contributions of the Arya Samaj and the Aligarh Movement to social reform in India. [4]

Ans: Arya Samaj (founded by Swami Dayananda Saraswati) worked to reform Hindu society by opposing idol worship, caste rigidity and untouchability, and promoted the study of the Vedas and the 'Shuddhi' movement.

Ans: It also encouraged the education of women and inter-caste harmony.

Ans: The Aligarh Movement (led by Sir Syed Ahmed Khan) worked to modernise and reform the Muslim community through the establishment of the Mohammedan Anglo-Oriental College (later Aligarh Muslim University), promoting modern scientific education alongside religious values.

4. Discuss any four major challenges faced by India today and suggest one remedy for each. [4]

Ans: Poverty — remedy: employment generation schemes and skill development programmes.

Ans: Unemployment — remedy: promoting industries, small-scale enterprises and vocational training.

Ans: Illiteracy — remedy: universalisation of quality education and adult literacy programmes.

Ans: Population growth — remedy: spreading awareness on family planning and improving healthcare and female literacy.

5. Explain the formal and informal sectors of work in India with suitable examples, and mention one problem faced by workers in the informal sector. [4]

Ans: The formal sector consists of registered organisations that provide job security, fixed wages and other benefits, e.g., government employees, organised industries.

Ans: The informal sector consists of small, often unregistered units where employment is irregular and not protected by rules, e.g., street vendors, agricultural labourers, domestic workers.

Ans: Problem: workers in the informal sector generally lack job security, fixed working hours and social security benefits such as pension or health insurance.

6. Describe the physiographic divisions of India, mentioning one characteristic feature of each. [4]

Ans: The Himalayas — young fold mountains with the world's highest peaks, forming India's northern boundary.

Ans: The Northern Plains — vast, fertile, alluvial plains formed by the Indus, Ganga and Brahmaputra river systems.

Ans: The Peninsular Plateau — one of the oldest and most stable landmasses, rich in minerals, flanked by the Western and Eastern Ghats.

Ans: The Coastal Plains and Islands — narrow plains along the western and eastern coasts, along with island groups like the Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

PART – E

Answer the following question. It carries 8 marks.

1. Explain in detail the factors responsible for the advent of Europeans in India, and describe how the British East India Company gradually extended its political control over India through wars, treaties and policies such as the Subsidiary Alliance and the Doctrine of Lapse. [8]

Ans: Advent of Europeans: search for a direct sea route to India (blocked land routes after the fall of Constantinople in 1453), lure of the spice trade, and the desire of European powers (Portuguese, Dutch, French, English) to profit from trade with India — Vasco da Gama's arrival at Calicut in 1498 opened the sea route.

Ans: The English East India Company (established 1600) initially came for trade but gradually built forts and armies at trading posts like Surat, Madras, Bombay and Calcutta.

Ans: Wars and battles: victory at the Battle of Plassey (1757) against Siraj-ud-Daulah gave the Company control of Bengal; victory at the Battle of Buxar (1764) further strengthened British political power and gave them the Diwani (revenue rights) of Bengal, Bihar and Odisha.

Ans: Subsidiary Alliance (Lord Wellesley): Indian rulers accepting this had to maintain a British army at their own expense and give up independent foreign relations, effectively becoming subordinate allies of the British.

Ans: Doctrine of Lapse (Lord Dalhousie): any princely state without a natural heir was annexed by the British on the ruler's death, since adopted heirs were not recognised — states like Satara, Jhansi and Nagpur were annexed this way.

Ans: Through a combination of military conquest, diplomatic treaties and annexation policies, the British East India Company steadily expanded from a trading company into the paramount political power in India by the mid-19th century.