

SOCIAL SCIENCE

Sample Question Paper – 1

(Class 8) (Session 2026-27)

(Exploring Society: India and Beyond – Part 1 Only)

Time: 2 Hours 30 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 60

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. The question paper contains 14 questions divided into six sections – A to F.
2. All questions are compulsory. Internal choices are provided in some questions.
3. Section A contains 15 objective-type questions of 1 mark each.
4. Section B contains 4 Very Short Answer questions of 2 marks each.
5. Section C contains 2 Short Answer questions of 3 marks each.
6. Section D contains 2 Long Answer questions of 5 marks each.
7. Section E contains 4 Case-Based questions of 4 marks each.
8. Section F contains one Map-Based question of 5 marks.
9. Answers should be written clearly and to the point.

SECTION A

Objective Type Questions (15 × 1 = 15)

- 1. (i)** Which of the following is a renewable resource when managed sustainably? [1]
(A) Coal (B) Petroleum
(C) Wind energy (D) Natural gas
- (ii)** The Vijayanagara Empire was established in: [1]
(A) 1206 (B) 1336
(C) 1398 (D) 1498
- (iii)** Hampi was the capital of the: [1]
(A) Bahmani Sultanate (B) Vijayanagara Empire
(C) Mughal Empire (D) Ahom Kingdom
- (iv)** Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj was formally crowned at: [1]
(A) Raigad Fort (B) Gwalior Fort
(C) Agra Fort (D) Golconda Fort
- (v)** Which Maratha leader became famous for naval victories in the 18th century? [1]
(A) Kanhoji Angre (B) Nana Saheb
(C) Tatia Tope (D) Ranjit Singh
- (vi)** Queen Victoria's proclamation ending East India Company rule in India was issued in: [1]
(A) 1757 (B) 1818
(C) 1858 (D) 1885
- (vii)** Universal adult franchise means: [1]
(A) Only taxpayers can vote
(B) All adult citizens have the right to vote subject to law
(C) Only educated adults can vote
(D) Only government employees can vote

(viii) The body that oversees elections in India is the: [1]

- (A) Parliament (B) Supreme Court
(C) Election Commission of India (D) Finance Commission

(ix) The Parliament of India consists of the President, Lok Sabha and: [1]

- (A) State Assemblies
(B) Rajya Sabha
(C) Supreme Court
(D) Council of States only at state level

(x) Which mechanism allows MPs to ask ministers about government policies and activities? [1]

- (A) Zero tax (B) Question Hour
(C) Secret ballot (D) Judicial review

(xi) In economics, money and human-made assets used to produce goods and services are called: [1]

- (A) Labour (B) Capital
(C) Land (D) Franchise

(xii) A person who starts an enterprise, takes risks and combines factors of production is called: [1]

- (A) Consumer (B) Entrepreneur
(C) Voter (D) Civil servant

(xiii) Arrange the following in chronological order: [1]

1. Establishment of Delhi Sultanate
2. Establishment of Vijayanagara Empire
3. Timur attacks Delhi
4. Arrival of Portuguese in India

- (A) 1, 2, 3, 4 (B) 2, 1, 4, 3
(C) 1, 3, 2, 4 (D) 3, 1, 2, 4

(xiv) Assertion (A): Forts were central to Maratha power. [1]

Reason (R): They helped control important routes and shelter the army during guerrilla warfare.

- (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.

(xv) Statement I: The Executive is responsible for implementing and enforcing laws. [1]

Statement II: The Legislature keeps a check on the Executive by asking questions and seeking explanations.

- (A) Both statements are correct
(B) Only Statement I is correct
(C) Only Statement II is correct
(D) Both statements are incorrect

SECTION B

Very Short Answer Questions (4 × 2 = 8)

2. Distinguish between renewable and non-renewable resources. Give one example of each. [2]
3. Why were forts important to the Maratha state? Give two reasons. [2]
4. What is meant by a 'secret ballot'? Why is it important in democracy? [2]
5. What is capital as a factor of production? Mention any two examples of capital used by an enterprise. [2]

SECTION C

Short Answer Questions (2 × 3 = 6)

6. Explain any three major features of Maratha power or governance that helped the Marathas resist stronger enemies. [3]
7. Explain how the Legislature holds the Executive accountable in India. Mention any three mechanisms or features. [3]

SECTION D

Long Answer Questions (2 × 5 = 10)

8. Explain how irresponsible use of natural resources can disturb Nature's cycles. Suggest measures for using renewable resources sustainably. [5]

OR

Explain the 'paradox of plenty' and why human knowledge, good governance and strategic planning are important for converting natural resources into lasting benefits.

9. Describe the role of the Indian Parliament in a democracy. In your answer, explain law-making, representation of people and executive accountability. [5]

OR

Explain the five factors of production - land, labour, capital, entrepreneurship and technology - and show how they are interconnected in the production process.

SECTION E

Case-Based Questions (4 × 4 = 16)

10. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow: [4]
Renewable resources such as solar energy, wind energy, flowing water and forests can renew themselves. However, their renewability depends on sustainable management. If timber is harvested faster than forests can regenerate, forests may eventually be depleted. Human activities such as fossil-fuel-driven industrialisation and cutting down forests have also disturbed natural cycles.
 - (a) Name any one renewable resource mentioned above. [1]
 - (b) What condition is necessary for a resource to remain renewable? [1]
 - (c) Explain any two ways in which human activities can disturb natural cycles. [2]

- 11.** Read the passage and answer the questions that follow: [4]
Forts were the mainstay of Maratha power. Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj controlled and built many forts because they helped in controlling important routes and sheltering the army during guerrilla warfare. The Marathas also developed a navy to secure the west coast. Under Kanhoji Angre, they won several naval battles by using geography and battle tactics effectively.
- (a) Who built and controlled a considerable number of Maratha forts? [1]
(b) Name the Maratha naval leader mentioned in the passage. [1]
(c) Explain two ways in which geography strengthened Maratha military power. [2]

- 12.** Read the passage and answer the questions that follow: [4]
Managing elections in India is a massive task. The Election Commission of India oversees elections in the country. In the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, there were about 968 million voters, 543 parliamentary constituencies and over one million polling stations. The electoral system is designed to conduct elections efficiently and fairly.
- (a) Which institution oversees elections in India? [1]
(b) How many parliamentary constituencies are mentioned in the passage? [1]
(c) Why are efficient election management and voter awareness important for a healthy democracy? Give two points. [2]

- 13.** Read the passage and answer the questions that follow: [4]
Production requires several inputs. Land, labour, capital, entrepreneurship and technology are combined to produce goods and services. Different products require these factors in different proportions. Agriculture and handicrafts may be more labor-intensive, while semiconductor chips and satellites require specialised machinery and more capital. If an important input is missing or misused, production may become inefficient or stop.
- (a) Name any one factor of production mentioned above. [1]
(b) Which type of production is described as more capital-intensive? Give an example. [1]
(c) Why are the factors of production said to be interconnected? Explain two points. [2]

SECTION F

Map-Based Question (1 × 5 = 5)

- 14.** On an outline political map of India, locate and label the following places connected with the chapters studied: [5]
- (a) Hampi (Vijayanagara) – present-day Karnataka. [1]
(b) Raigad – associated with the coronation of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. [1]
(c) Gwalior – fort captured by Rani Lakshmibai and her allies during the uprising of 1857–58. [1]
(d) Lucknow – associated with Begum Hazrat Mahal's resistance. [1]
(e) Delhi – associated with the Delhi Sultanate and later Maratha control. [1]

