

SOCIAL SCIENCE
Sample Question Paper – 3
(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.

SECTION A

Objective Type Questions (15 × 1 = 15)

- 1. (i)** Which term describes the situation in which resource-rich regions may still experience slow economic growth? **[1]**
(A) Human capital (B) Paradox of plenty
(C) Universal franchise (D) Supply chain
- (ii)** The Bahmani Sultanate was established in: **[1]**
(A) 1206 (B) 1326
(C) 1347 (D) 1498
- (iii)** Which of the following was NOT one of the five Deccan Sultanates that emerged after the Bahmani Sultanate fragmented? **[1]**
(A) Bijapur (B) Golconda
(C) Bidar (D) Mewar
- (iv)** The Portuguese traveller who left a detailed account of Vijayanagara was: **[1]**
(A) Domingo Paes (B) Robert Clive
(C) William Digby (D) W.W. Hunter
- (v)** The Battle of Plassey was fought in: **[1]**
(A) 1498 (B) 1674
(C) 1757 (D) 1858
- (vi)** At Plassey, Robert Clive conspired with which military commander of the Nawab of Bengal? **[1]**
(A) Mir Jafar (B) Kanhoji Angre
(C) Harihara (D) Ranjit Singh
- (vii)** The Election Commission of India was established in: **[1]**
(A) 1947 (B) 1950
(C) 1952 (D) 1971

- (viii)** Which of the following is an example of an indirect election? **[1]**
- (A) Election of Lok Sabha MPs by citizens
 (B) Election of MLAs by citizens
 (C) Election of the President of India by an Electoral College
 (D) Election to a gram panchayat by villagers
- (ix)** The Prime Minister of India must enjoy the support of the majority in the: **[1]**
- (A) Rajya Sabha (B) Lok Sabha
 (C) Supreme Court (D) Election Commission
- (x)** Which branch of government interprets and applies the laws of the land? **[1]**
- (A) Legislature (B) Executive
 (C) Judiciary (D) Election Commission
- (xi)** Which of the following best describes human capital? **[1]**
- (A) Only money invested in a factory
 (B) Knowledge, skills, experience and abilities of people
 (C) Only land and minerals used in production
 (D) Machines used in manufacturing
- (xii)** Which concept means 'continuous improvement' and is associated with Japan? **[1]**
- (A) Kaizen (B) Dividend
 (C) Franchise (D) Bicameralism
- (xiii)** Fill in the blank: A network of individuals, organisations, resources, activities and technology involved in the production and sale of goods is called a _____. **[1]**
- (A) constituency (B) supply chain
 (C) secret ballot (D) legislature
- (xiv)** Assertion (A): The Election Commission of India is an independent constitutional body.
 Reason (R): It is responsible for conducting free and fair elections to several important offices and legislatures. **[1]**
- (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: Labour includes both physical and mental effort used in production.
 Statement II: Technology can enable enterprises to produce more goods with the same or fewer inputs. **[1]**
- (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. What is meant by the 'paradox of plenty'? Why does abundance of natural resources not automatically make a country prosperous? [2]
3. Name any two Deccan Sultanates that emerged after the fragmentation of the Bahmani Sultanate. [2]
4. What is an indirect election? Give one example from the Indian political system. [2]
5. What is human capital? Mention any one factor that helps in developing it. [2]

SECTION C

Short Answer Questions (2 × 3 = 6)

6. Explain how the East India Company used the 'divide and rule' approach at the Battle of Plassey to gain political advantage. [3]
7. Differentiate between the Legislature, Executive and Judiciary on the basis of their main functions. [3]

SECTION D

Long Answer Questions (2 × 5 = 10)

8. Describe Vijayanagara as an important political and urban centre. Refer to its location, rivalry with neighbouring powers, trade and the observations of foreign travellers. [5]

OR

Explain how the political map of India changed between the 13th and 16th centuries with reference to the Delhi Sultanate, Mewar, Vijayanagara and the Bahmani Sultanate.

9. Explain the role of human capital in production. Discuss how education, training, healthcare and social or cultural attitudes can influence productivity. [5]

OR

Why should businesses act responsibly towards natural resources and workers? Explain with suitable examples from the textbook.

SECTION E

Case-Based Questions (4 × 4 = 16)

10. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow: [4]
Having abundant natural resources does not guarantee economic prosperity. Some regions rich in natural resources can experience slower economic growth and development. Converting natural resources into lasting benefits requires human knowledge, good governance and strategic planning. At the same time, resource extraction must be balanced with sustainability.
 - (a) What is another name for the 'paradox of plenty'? [1]
 - (b) Mention one factor, other than natural resources, needed to create lasting benefits. [1]
 - (c) Why is it necessary to balance resource extraction with sustainability? Explain two points. [2]

11. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow: [4]
Vijayanagara's capital at Hampi attracted foreign travellers and traders. Portuguese visitors came to sell horses, and the rulers treated them well because horses were valuable for warfare. Domingo Paes described the city as large, beautiful and well supplied, with gardens, water channels, lakes, busy streets and markets.

- (a) In which present-day state is Hampi located? [1]
- (b) Why were Portuguese horse traders welcomed by the Vijayanagara rulers? [1]
- (c) What do Domingo Paes's observations tell us about the prosperity and urban life of Vijayanagara? Give two points. [2]

12. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow: [4]
The President of India is not directly elected by the common people. An Electoral College elects the President. It includes elected Members of Parliament from both Houses and elected Members of Legislative Assemblies from the states and the union territories of Delhi and Puducherry. This method gives representation to both the Union and the states.

- (a) Is the President of India directly elected by all citizens? [1]
- (b) Name one category of elected representatives included in the Electoral College. [1]
- (c) Why does this method of election give the President democratic legitimacy? Explain in two points. [2]

13. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow: [4]
Producers use land, water, minerals and other natural resources. If industrial waste is not managed properly, it can pollute rivers and soil. Businesses also have responsibilities towards workers, such as fair compensation, safe working conditions, skill development and respect for workplace rights. Corporate Social Responsibility encourages companies to address social and environmental concerns.

- (a) Mention one environmental responsibility of producers. [1]
- (b) Mention one responsibility of employers towards workers. [1]
- (c) Explain any two ways in which responsible business practices can benefit society or the environment. [2]

SECTION F

Map-Based Question (1 × 5 = 5)

14. On an outline political map of India, locate and label any five of the following six places connected with the chapters studied: [5]

- (a) Vijayanagara (Hampi) – capital of the Vijayanagara Empire.
- (b) Bijapur (Vijayapura) – one of the Deccan Sultanates.
- (c) Golconda – one of the Deccan Sultanates.
- (d) Bidar – one of the Deccan Sultanates.
- (e) Ahmednagar – one of the Deccan Sultanates.
- (f) Calicut (Kozhikode) – an important city shown on the textbook map of the Deccan and Vijayanagara region.

