

SOCIAL SCIENCE
Sample Question Paper – 4
(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)** In economics, which of the following is included under the factor ‘land’? **[1]**
- (A) Only agricultural fields
(B) Soil, forests, water and minerals
(C) Only buildings and machines
(D) Only money invested in business
- (ii)** The kingdom of Mewar was re-established in: **[1]**
- (A) 1206 (B) 1326
(C) 1347 (D) 1398
- (iii)** Which pair is correctly matched? **[1]**
- (A) Gajapati Kingdom – Odisha (B) Ahoms – Deccan
(C) Vijayanagara – Punjab (D) Sikhs – Bengal
- (iv)** Which ruler unified several Sikh confederacies and established a strong Sikh Empire around the turn of the 19th century? **[1]**
- (A) Krishnadevaraya (B) Maharaja Ranjit Singh
(C) Siraj-ud-daulah (D) Harihara
- (v)** The East India Company secured the right to collect revenue in Bengal, Bihar and Odisha a few years after its victory at: **[1]**
- (A) Panipat (B) Plassey
(C) Hampi (D) Raigad
- (vi)** Which colonial policy allowed the British to annex a princely state under specified succession conditions? **[1]**
- (A) Subsidiary ballot (B) Doctrine of Lapse
(C) Universal franchise (D) Question Hour

(vii) The first general elections in independent India were held in: [1]
(A) 1947–48 (B) 1950–51
(C) 1951–52 (D) 1955–56

(viii) Elections to gram panchayats and urban local bodies are managed by: [1]
(A) Election Commission of India (B) State Election Commissions
(C) Parliament (D) Supreme Court

(ix) Which House of Parliament is commonly called the Upper House? [1]
(A) Lok Sabha (B) Rajya Sabha
(C) Vidhan Sabha (D) Council of Ministers

(x) Civil servants mainly help the government by: [1]
(A) Contesting elections (B) Implementing laws and policies
(C) Electing the President (D) Passing judicial judgments

(xi) An amount paid by a company to shareholders out of profits is called: [1]
(A) Rent (B) Wage
(C) Dividend (D) Tax

(xii) Which of the following is primarily labour-intensive according to the textbook? [1]
(A) Semiconductor chips (B) Satellites
(C) Handicrafts (D) Advanced machinery

(xiii) Arrange the following in chronological order: [1]
1. Battle of Plassey
2. Great Famine of 1876–78
3. Queen Victoria's Proclamation
4. Bengal famine of 1770–72
(A) 1, 4, 3, 2 (B) 4, 1, 3, 2
(C) 1, 3, 4, 2 (D) 3, 1, 4, 2

(xiv) Assertion (A): Healthcare contributes to the development of human capital.
Reason (R): Healthy people can learn and work more effectively and may lose fewer working days to illness. [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: Parliament sanctions government-related expenditure. [1]
Statement II: The Executive prepares and implements the budget approved by Parliament.
(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 'land' as a factor of production? Mention any two natural resources included in it. [2]
3. Who was Maharaja Ranjit Singh? Mention one quality that helped him establish a strong Sikh Empire. [2]
4. What was the Doctrine of Lapse? State its purpose in British expansion. [2]
5. What is a dividend? How can selling shares help a large company raise financial capital? [2]

SECTION C

Short Answer Questions (2 × 3 = 6)

6. Explain any three consequences of the East India Company's harsh revenue policies in Bengal during the famine of 1770–72. [3]
7. How are elections to the Lok Sabha different from the election of the President of India? Explain any three differences. [3]

SECTION D

Long Answer Questions (2 × 5 = 10)

8. Explain how the British colonial presence affected India economically. Refer to revenue extraction, famines and the drain of wealth in your answer. [5]

OR

Describe the methods used by the East India Company to expand its political control in India, with special reference to exploiting rivalries, the Battle of Plassey and annexation policies.

9. Explain why an independent Judiciary is important in a democracy. Discuss its role in interpreting laws, resolving disputes and maintaining checks and balances. [5]

OR

Explain the responsibilities of businesses towards workers and the environment. Include fair working conditions, skill development, workplace rights and sustainable production practices.

SECTION E

Case-Based Questions (4 × 4 = 16)

10. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow: [4]

The word 'land' in economics includes not only geographical land but also natural resources such as soil, forests, water, air, sunlight, minerals, oil and natural gas. Businesses may purchase land or pay rent to use it. These resources are important inputs in the production of goods and services.

- (a) Name any one natural resource included under 'land'. [1]
- (b) How may a business obtain the right to use land without purchasing it? [1]
- (c) Explain why the economic meaning of 'land' is broader than its everyday meaning. Give two points. [2]

11. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow: [4]

After the Mughal Empire declined, several Sikh confederacies emerged in the Punjab region. They were eventually unified through the efforts of Maharaja Ranjit Singh around the turn of the 19th century. His military acumen, diplomatic skill and religious tolerance enabled him to establish a strong, centralised Sikh Empire.

(a) In which region did the Sikh confederacies emerge? [1]

(b) Name the ruler who unified them. [1]

(c) Mention any two qualities of this ruler that contributed to the establishment of a strong empire. [2]

12. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow: [4]

The Election Commission of India is an independent constitutional body established in 1950. It conducts elections to the Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, State Legislative Assemblies and the offices of the President and Vice President. Elections to gram panchayats and urban local bodies, however, are managed by State Election Commissions.

(a) In which year was the Election Commission of India established? [1]

(b) Name one office for which the ECI conducts elections. [1]

(c) Distinguish between the election responsibilities of the ECI and State Election Commissions. [2]

13. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow: [4]

Education and training improve the knowledge and skills of people, while good health enables them to attend school and work regularly and productively. Social attitudes such as hard work and continuous improvement can also influence human capital. The Japanese concept of kaizen, for example, means 'continuous improvement'.

(a) What does 'kaizen' mean? [1]

(b) Name one service or facility that supports good health and therefore human capital. [1]

(c) Explain any two ways in which education, training or health can raise a person's productivity. [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/regions associated with the chapters studied: [5]

(a) Punjab – region associated with the rise of the Sikh Empire.

(b) Bengal – region where the Battle of Plassey and the famine of 1770–72 are discussed.

(c) Bihar – one of the regions where the East India Company obtained revenue-collection rights.

(d) Odisha – one of the regions where the East India Company obtained revenue-collection rights.

(e) Tamil Nadu – state where Mettur Dam on the Kaveri is located.

(f) Puducherry – Union Territory whose elected MLAs participate in the Electoral College for the President.

