

SOCIAL SCIENCE
Sample Question Paper – 5
(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 x 1 = 15)

- 1. (i)** Which of the following is a non-renewable natural resource? **[1]**
- (A) Sunlight (B) Wind
(C) Petroleum (D) Flowing water
- (ii)** Which city was enclosed by fortifications and shown with grid planning in a 1764 plan in the textbook? **[1]**
- (A) Pondicherry (B) Delhi
(C) Hampi (D) Raigad
- (iii)** The Gajapati rulers, who were rivals of Vijayanagara, were associated mainly with: **[1]**
- (A) Odisha (B) Punjab
(C) Rajasthan (D) Bengal
- (iv)** Which title was used by the Vijayanagara kings according to the textbook discussion of royal titles? **[1]**
- (A) Chhatrapati (B) Narapati
(C) Ashwapati (D) Sultan
- (v)** The British policy of exploiting conflicts among Indian rulers and communities is commonly described as: **[1]**
- (A) Direct franchise (B) Divide and rule
(C) Kaizen (D) Bicameralism
- (vi)** Siraj-ud-daulah was the Nawab of: **[1]**
- (A) Bengal (B) Awadh
(C) Mysore (D) Hyderabad
- (vii)** Which of the following elections is directly conducted by citizens voting for representatives? **[1]**
- (A) Election of the President of India (B) Election of Lok Sabha members
(C) Election of the Vice President (D) Election of nominated members

- (viii)** Seats are reserved in the Lok Sabha for members of: **[1]**
(A) Only government employees
(B) Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes
(C) Only business owners
(D) Civil servants
- (ix)** Which institution is the supreme legislative body of India? **[1]**
(A) Parliament
(B) Election Commission
(C) Supreme Court
(D) Cabinet Secretariat
- (x)** The Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to the: **[1]**
(A) President alone
(B) Lok Sabha
(C) Judiciary
(D) Election Commission
- (xi)** Which factor of production refers to physical and mental effort used to produce goods and services? **[1]**
(A) Labour
(B) Capital
(C) Land
(D) Technology
- (xii)** Which of the following best represents physical capital? **[1]**
(A) A worker's training
(B) A factory machine
(C) Sunlight
(D) Entrepreneurial skill
- (xiii)** Choose the correctly matched pair: **[1]**
(A) Interest - payment made to shareholders from profits
(B) Dividend - payment to a lender for borrowing money
(C) Startup - entrepreneurial venture aiming at growth, often using technology
(D) Labour - only geographical land used in production
- (xiv)** Assertion (A): Recycling industrial wastewater is a responsible production practice. **[1]**
Reason (R): Untreated industrial waste can pollute water and soil.
(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: Nominated members of the Rajya Sabha do not take part in electing the President of India. **[1]**
Statement II: The presidential Electoral College is designed to include directly elected representatives.
(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 x 2 = 8)

2. What is meant by sustainable use of natural resources? State one reason why it is necessary. [2]
3. Why were horses important to the Vijayanagara rulers? How did this influence their treatment of Portuguese traders? [2]
4. Why are some seats in the Lok Sabha reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes? [2]
5. Differentiate between physical capital and human capital with one example of each. [2]

SECTION C

Short Answer Questions (2 x 3 = 6)

6. Explain any three ways in which foreign trade and travellers help us understand the prosperity and connections of Vijayanagara. [3]
7. Why is voter vigilance and awareness important in a democracy? Explain any three points. [3]

SECTION D

Long Answer Questions (2 x 5 = 10)

8. Explain the causes and consequences of the Bengal famine of 1770-72 as described in the textbook. How did the East India Company's revenue policy worsen the crisis? [5]

OR

What is meant by the 'drain of India's wealth'? Explain how colonial economic exploitation affected India and benefited Britain.

9. Explain how a bill and government policy relate to the Legislature and the Executive in India's parliamentary system. Also explain how Parliament checks the Executive. [5]

OR

Describe the role of entrepreneurship in production. Explain how an entrepreneur identifies problems, takes risks, combines resources, makes decisions and contributes to society.

SECTION E

Case-Based Questions (4 x 4 = 16)

10. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow: [4]
Natural resources support economic activity, but their availability alone does not ensure development. Resources must be used with knowledge, planning and appropriate technology. At the same time, excessive extraction can damage ecosystems and reduce what remains available for future generations.
 - (a) What type of planning is needed to turn resources into lasting benefits? [1]
 - (b) Who may suffer if resources are exhausted through excessive extraction? [1]
 - (c) Explain two reasons why responsible resource management is necessary for development. [2]

- 11. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow:** [4]
The Bahmani Sultanate eventually broke into five independent Deccan Sultanates - Bijapur, Golconda, Berar, Ahmednagar and Bidar. These states occupied an important position to the north of Vijayanagara. Vijayanagara frequently fought with some of these powers as well as with the Gajapati rulers of Odisha.
- (a) Name any one Deccan Sultanate mentioned above. [1]
(b) Which major empire lay to their south? [1]
(c) What does this passage indicate about political relations in the Deccan? Explain in two points. [2]

- 12. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow:** [4]
India's electoral system includes both direct and indirect elections. Citizens directly elect members of the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies. The President, however, is elected indirectly by an Electoral College made up of elected representatives. The Election Commission of India oversees major national and state elections.
- (a) Give one example of a direct election. [1]
(b) Who oversees major national elections in India? [1]
(c) Explain two differences between direct and indirect elections using the examples in the passage. [2]

- 13. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow:** [4]
A business needs different inputs to operate. Workers contribute physical and mental effort, machines and money provide capital, natural resources are included under land, and entrepreneurs organise these inputs. Technology can improve the way these resources are combined and can allow more output with the same or fewer inputs.
- (a) Which factor contributes to physical and mental effort? [1]
(b) What role does technology play in production? [1]
(c) Explain why production may become inefficient if one important factor is missing or misused. Give two points. [2]

SECTION F

Map-Based Question (1 x 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) Pondicherry (Puducherry) - a major French colonial settlement shown in the chapter.
(b) Palashi (Plassey), West Bengal - site of the Battle of Plassey.
(c) Hampi, Karnataka - capital of the Vijayanagara Empire.
(d) Kozhikode (Calicut), Kerala - an important trading city shown on the textbook map.
(e) Mewar region, Rajasthan - associated with the re-establishment of the Mewar Kingdom.
(f) Punjab - region where Sikh confederacies emerged and were later unified under Maharaja Ranjit Singh.

