

Social Science
Sample Question Paper – 3
(Session 2026-27)
Class IX

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Maximum Marks: 80

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. This question paper contains 36 questions. All questions are compulsory.
 2. The paper is divided into FOUR sections — A, B, C and D. Each section carries 20 marks.
 3. Section A: History Section B: Geography Section C: Political Science Section D: Economics
 4. The paper includes MCQs, Very Short Answer, Short Answer, Long Answer, source-based and map-based questions.
 5. Very Short Answer questions carry 2 marks each. Answers should not exceed 40 words.
 6. Short Answer questions carry 3 marks each. Answers should not exceed 60 words.
 7. Long Answer questions carry 5 marks each. Answers should not exceed 120 words.
 8. Source-based questions carry 4 marks. Map-based questions must be answered on the map provided.
 9. Internal choice has been provided in selected questions. Attempt only one option where applicable.
-

SECTION — A | HISTORY

1. Which type of evidence can directly reveal what objects and structures were present at an ancient settlement? **1**
(A) Archaeological remains
(B) Future forecasts
(C) Modern advertisements
(D) Election speeches

2. Why is it difficult to reconstruct the lives of ordinary people in the distant past from royal inscriptions alone? **1**
(A) Such sources may reflect mainly the viewpoint and concerns of rulers or donors.
(B) Inscriptions contain no historical information.
(C) Archaeologists cannot study inscriptions.
(D) All ancient inscriptions are fictional.

3. A settlement located near a river had access to water, fertile land and transport, but also faced periodic floods. Which conclusion best reflects the historical importance of rivers? **1**
(A) Rivers offered both opportunities and risks to early societies.
(B) Rivers always prevented permanent settlement.
(C) Rivers were useful only for fishing.
(D) Rivers had no effect on political organisation.

4. Which development most likely helped early states administer larger territories? **1**
(A) Organised systems of officials, taxation and communication
(B) Elimination of all trade routes
(C) Complete absence of local administration
(D) Dependence only on oral rumours

5. State any two ways in which written records can help historians understand the past. **2**
6. Explain any three ways in which the growth of agriculture could transform social organisation. **3**
7. (A) Explain how trade could spread not only goods but also ideas, technologies, beliefs and cultural practices in early India. **5**

OR

(B) Examine the main challenges faced by rulers while governing large territories before modern communication systems.

8. Read the source carefully and answer the questions that follow: **4**
A historian studies an ancient society using a combination of coins, inscriptions, pottery, buildings and literary references. One source may provide information about political authority, another about economic activity, and another about everyday material life. Comparing these sources helps the historian identify agreements and differences before drawing conclusions.
1. Why is using several types of evidence useful?
 2. What can coins reveal about an economy?
 3. Why should historians compare sources before reaching a conclusion?

9. Mention any two early historical places from the textbook that were important in trade or urban networks. **2**

SECTION — B | GEOGRAPHY

10. Which statement correctly describes plate movement? **1**
(A) It can contribute to earthquakes, volcanoes and mountain building.
(B) It affects only rainfall.
(C) It occurs only in deserts.
(D) It stops all changes on Earth's surface.
11. A place at a higher elevation is generally cooler than a nearby low-lying place. Which factor is illustrated? **1**
(A) Altitude
(B) Longitude alone
(C) Ocean salinity
(D) Soil colour
12. Which condition most directly supports the formation of clouds and rainfall? **1**
(A) Rising moist air followed by cooling and condensation
(B) Complete absence of water vapour
(C) Permanent sinking of all moist air
(D) Removal of all atmospheric moisture

13. Which statement best explains why the monsoon is called seasonal? 1
(A) Wind direction changes with the seasons.
(B) Rain falls equally throughout the year everywhere.
(C) Winds never change direction.
(D) Only mountains receive monsoon winds.

14. State any two factors that influence the climate of a place. 2

15. Explain any three ways in which the Himalayas influence India's climate or drainage. 3

16. (A) Explain the main factors responsible for the onset and distribution of the Indian monsoon. 5

OR

(B) Explain how plate tectonics helps us understand the distribution of earthquakes and volcanoes.

17. Read the source carefully and answer the questions that follow: 4

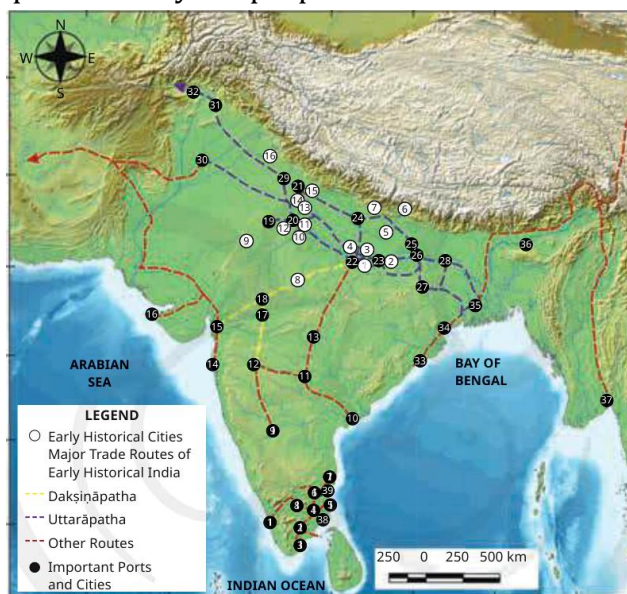
Two towns are located at nearly the same latitude. Town X is close to the sea, while Town Y lies far inland. Town X experiences a smaller annual temperature range, whereas Town Y has hotter summers and colder winters. The example shows how distance from the sea can modify the climate of a place.

1. Which climatic factor is highlighted?
2. Why does the sea reduce temperature extremes near the coast?
3. What does this example show about the interaction of location and climate?

18. Study the map of major trade routes of early historical India given below. Answer the following:

2

- (a) Identify the numbered city/port marked as Pāṭaliputra.
- (b) Identify the numbered port Muziris.
- (c) Name the major route represented by the purple dashed line.



SECTION — C | POLITICAL SCIENCE

19. Which feature is essential for a meaningful election? **1**
(A) Genuine choice among candidates or parties
(B) Permanent rule without public approval
(C) No accountability after elections
(D) Cancellation of all political competition
20. What is the main purpose of periodic elections in a democracy? **1**
(A) To enable citizens to choose representatives and hold them accountable
(B) To remove all political disagreement
(C) To prevent citizens from participating
(D) To make governments permanent
21. Which situation best illustrates indirect election? **1**
(A) Citizens elect representatives who then choose a leader.
(B) Citizens directly choose a local representative.
(C) A ruler appoints all representatives.
(D) A political party selects a candidate without any election.
22. Which institution is specifically associated with conducting and supervising elections in India? **1**
(A) Election Commission of India (B) Finance Commission
(C) Planning Commission (D) UPSC
23. Give two reasons why voters need reliable information about candidates and policies. **2**
24. Explain any three ways in which political parties connect citizens with government and public issues. **3**
25. (A) Explain how free and fair elections strengthen accountability in a democracy. **5**

OR

(B) Explain why the opposition is important in a democratic system.

26. Read the source carefully and answer the questions that follow: 4

A democratic election is not simply the act of casting a vote. It involves periodic elections, meaningful choices, rules that apply to contestants, institutions that conduct the process, and citizens who participate with awareness. These elements help ensure that elected representatives remain accountable to the people.

1. Why must elections be periodic?
2. What makes a choice meaningful for voters?
3. Name one institutional condition needed for free and fair elections.

27. What is the difference between direct and indirect elections? Give one Indian example of each. **2**

SECTION — D | ECONOMICS

28. Why does scarcity make choice necessary? 1
(A) Resources are limited while wants can be numerous.
(B) All resources are unlimited.
(C) Every want can be satisfied simultaneously.
(D) Choices have no consequences.
29. A student chooses to spend an evening studying instead of attending a movie. The most relevant economic idea is: 1
(A) Opportunity cost
(B) Public good
(C) Inflation
(D) Foreign exchange
30. Which question is NOT one of the three central economic questions? 1
(A) What to produce?
(B) How to produce?
(C) For whom to produce?
(D) How to win an election?
31. Which feature best describes a mixed economy? 1
(A) It combines market decisions with an important role for government.
(B) All decisions are made only by consumers.
(C) All resources are owned by one private firm.
(D) Government has no role at all.
32. A village has limited groundwater. Farmers must decide whether to use it for drinking water, crops or another purpose. What does this example primarily show? 1
(A) Resource allocation under scarcity
(B) Unlimited supply
(C) Absence of trade-offs
(D) No economic choice
33. Explain any two reasons why opportunity cost matters in everyday decision-making. 2
34. Differentiate between a market economy and a planned economy on any three bases. 3
35. (A) Explain the three central economic questions and why every economy must address them. 5

OR

- (B) Explain why a mixed economy may be considered practical when both efficiency and social welfare are important.

36. Read the source carefully and answer the questions that follow:

4

A small manufacturer has limited funds. It can either purchase a machine that increases output or spend the same amount on improving storage facilities. The owner compares expected benefits before deciding. Choosing one option means giving up the benefit that could have been obtained from the other.

1. Why does the owner have to make a choice?
2. What is the opportunity cost of the selected option?
3. Which economic idea helps compare the alternatives?