

CBSE CLASS 12 Sociology Sample Paper Solution 2024-25

Ques 1. Assertion(A): The modern state had begun to take an active interest in the development of early forms of public health management, policing and maintenance of law and order.

Reason (R): This new and constantly expanding sphere of state activity required the systematic science of economics.

- a) 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 and R is true.

Ans. B

Solu. Due to growing populations, industrialization, and the necessity for governance, the modern state did in fact begin to show an interest in public health, law, and order. Economics is important for state action, but it cannot account for the evolution of public health and law enforcement, which are mostly administrative and governance issues.

Ques 2. Assertion(A): For most of us who are born and live in India, social inequality and exclusion no longer are facts of our lives.

Reason(R): The everydayness of social inequality and exclusion often make them appear inevitable, almost natural.

- a) 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 and R is true.

Ans. D

Solu. Numerous lives are impacted by the persistent social inequality and exclusion that exist in Indian society. While assumption (A) falsely implies that social injustice and exclusion are no longer present for the majority of Indians, explanation (R) accurately describes how these issues become normalized.

Ques 3. While population rises in geometric progression, agricultural production can only grow in arithmetic progression.

Which of the following appropriately explains the progressions?

- I. 2,4,8,16 and 2,4,6,8 respectively
- II. 2,4,6,8 and 2,4,8,16 respectively
- III. 3,6,12,24 and 3,6,9,12 respectively
- IV. 3,6,9,12 and 3,6,12,24 respectively

- a) I., II.
- b) II., IV.
- c) I. and III.
- d) I. and IV

Ans. C

Solu. Geometric progression means numbers increase by multiplication (e.g., 2, 4, 8, 16 in I. and 3, 6, 12, 24 in III.), while arithmetic progression means numbers increase by addition (e.g., 2, 4, 6, 8 in I. and 3, 6, 9, 12 in III.). Hence, I. and III. correctly represent the progressions.

Ques 4. Assertion(A): It was in the cultural and domestic spheres that caste has proved strongest.

Reason(R): While some boundaries may have become more flexible or porous, the borders between groups of castes of similar socio-economic status are still heavily patrolled.

- a) 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 and R is true.

Ans. A

Solu. Particularly in cultural and domestic domains like marriage, social rituals, and traditions, caste still has a significant impact. The claim is accurate, and the explanation explains why caste-based distinctions still exist, even amongst groups with comparable socioeconomic standing.

Ques 5. Which of the following statements is not true with regard to colonialism and caste?

- a) All major social institutions and specially the institution of caste underwent major changes during the colonial period.**
- b) All of the changes brought about by colonialism were intended or deliberate.**
- c) Initially, the British administrators began by trying to understand the complexities of caste in an effort to learn how to govern the country efficiently.**
- d) The 1901 Census under the direction of Herbert Risley was particularly important as it sought to collect information on the social hierarchy of caste.**

Ans. B

Solu. During colonialism, the caste system underwent numerous accidental modifications that came about as a result of policies or societal changes rather than intentional attempts to reform the institution. As such, it is false to say that "all of the changes brought about by colonialism were intended or deliberate".

“There is no necessary relationship between any specific form of community and the modern form of the state. Any of the many bases of community identity (like language, religion, ethnicity and so on) may or may not lead to nation formation – there are no guarantees.”

Based on the given passage, answer Q6 and 7.

Ques 6. Cultural diversity can often be perceived as a source of threat to states because-

- I. states see all forms of community identity as dangerous rivals.**
- II. control is difficult in case of heterogenous identities.**
- III. Suppressing cultural diversity can be very costly in terms of the subdued community.**
- IV. community identities cannot act as the basis of nation-formation.**

- a) I. and IV. only**
- b) III. and IV. only**
- c) I., II., III. only**
- d) I., II., III., IV.**

Ans. C

Solu. Control in heterogeneous societies is challenging because states frequently see community identities as competitors to their power (I., II.). Suppressing cultural diversity can have negative social and financial effects (III.). However, assertion IV is false because community identities can occasionally provide the foundation for nation-formation.

Ques 7. Which of the following is not true for a community conflict?

- a) Communities become reversed mirror images of each other in a community conflict.**
- b) People often react emotionally in case of any perceived threat to their community identity.**
- c) Community identities provide a sense of security and satisfaction to its members.**
- d) Community conflicts can be resolved easily.**

Ans. D

Solu. Deeply ingrained emotional ties to identity and the fact that conflicts drive communities to "mirror images" of one another (a), react emotionally (b), and give

members a sense of security (c) make them difficult to resolve in most cases. Therefore, it is untrue to say that disputes are readily resolved.

Ques 8. Assertion(A): Today, barring the North-Eastern states, there are no areas of the country that are inhabited exclusively by tribal people.

Reason (R): Since the middle of the nineteenth century, non-tribals have moved into the tribal districts of central India, while tribal people from the same districts have migrated to plantations, mines, factories and other places of employment.

- a) 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 and R is true

Ans. A

Solu. It is correct that both A and R exist, and that R explains why most Indian tribal districts are no longer purely tribal. This shift was caused by the migration of both non-tribals into tribal communities and tribal members to other job centers.

A great many students and office-workers around the world go to work only for five or six days and rest on the weekends. Yet, very few people who relax on their day off realise that this holiday is the outcome of a long struggle by workers. That the work-day should not exceed eight hours, that men and women should be paid equally for doing the same work, that workers are entitled to social security and pension — these and many other rights were gained through social movements. Social movements have shaped the world we live in and continue to do so. Based on the given passage, answer Q9 and 10.

Ques 9. Which of the following statements is incorrect?

- a) The rights we enjoy just happened to exist.
- b) Social movements not only change societies; they also inspire other social movements.

c) Movements are directed against the state and takes the form of demanding changes in state policy or practice.

d) A social movement requires sustained collective action over time.

Ans. A

Solu. The rights we possess today are not a product of random events; rather, they are the outcome of persistent social movements. Option (a) is false since movements aim to alter state policy, necessitate group action, and spur additional social change.

Ques 10. Social Movements is an important subject matter of Sociology because-

I. These protests were perceived by elites as a major threat to the established order of society.

II. 'crowd' and the 'mob' were not made up of anarchic hooligans out to destroy society. Instead, they too had a 'moral economy'.

III. Public resorted to protest because they had no other way of expressing their anger and resentment against deprivation. IV. There was an anxiety among people to maintain the prevailing social order.

a) I. and IV.

b) III. and IV.

c) II., IV. and III.

d) I., II., and III.

Ans. D

Solu. Elites have viewed social movements as a danger (I.), yet these movements are not anarchic and are indicative of a "moral economy" (II.). People can voice their complaints and oppose the status quo through public protests (III.). IV doesn't matter here, either, because most social movements don't aim to uphold the existing social order.

Ques 11. Which of the following statements is true for the Indian government's policy of liberalization?

- a) Private companies, especially foreign firms, are encouraged to invest in sectors earlier reserved for the government.
- b) Foreign products are now easily available in Indian shops.
- c) Indian companies have ensured that they work within national boundaries.
- d) Licenses are no longer required to open industries.

Ans. A

Solu. In India, liberalization enticed foreign and private investment into hitherto government-controlled areas. In light of liberalization, statements (b), (c), and (d) are either untrue or only partially true.

Ques 12. Which of the following is not true for stereotypes?

- a) In a country such as India, many of these stereotypes are partly colonial creations.
- b) They are flexible characterisations of a group of people.
- c) Stereotypes are often applied to ethnic and racial groups and to women.
- d) Prejudices are often grounded in stereotypes.

Ans. B

Solu. Stereotypes are inflexible, simplistic beliefs about groups that are frequently reluctant to change. They are applied to a number of groups, including women and members of racial and ethnic minorities. Since option (b) implies flexibility—a quality that stereotypes do not generally exhibit—prejudices are frequently based on these stereotypes.

Ques 13. Assertion (A): Sanskritisation normally presupposes either an improvement in the economic or political position of the group concerned or a higher group selfconsciousness resulting from its contact with a source of the 'Great Tradition'.

Reason (R): In a highly unequal society such as India there were and still are obstacles to any easy taking over of the customs of the higher castes by the lower.

- a) 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 and R is true.

Ans. A

Solu. Both A and R are accurate, and R clarifies why Sanskritization is difficult in an extremely caste-based country such as India, where it is difficult for lower castes to embrace the traditions of upper castes.

Ques 14. Assertion (A): No social group howsoever weak or oppressed is only a victim.

Reason (R): Human beings are always capable of organising and acting on their own – often against very heavy odds—to struggle for justice and dignity

- a) 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 and R is true

Ans. A

Solu. A and R are both true, and R explains why A is true. The premise that no social group is just a victim is supported by the fact that oppressed groups can organize themselves to fight for justice and even have agency.

Ques 15. Which of the following statements is true for the tea plantations established by the British in India?

- a) The colonial administrators were clear that the measures taken on the plantation for labourers was different vis-à-vis the planters.
- b) Coolies lived a comfortable life on the tea plantations.
- c) Planters and coolies had a cordial relationship.

d) Colonial administration stuck to democratic norms.

Ans. A

Solu. The colonial administration clearly distinguished between the treatment of planters, who were primarily Europeans, and the laborers, who were called coolies, by imposing harsh and repressive circumstances on the latter. The coolies had hard lives, and their connection with the planters was anything but friendly; the other possibilities are false.

Ques 16. Put the following statements in the correct order.

- I. The worker works without wages until the loan is repaid.**
- II. He will loan them some money.**
- III. The contractor goes to villages and asks if people want work.**
- IV. They can break the contract and find another employer.**

- a) III., II., I., IV.**
- b) I., II., III., IV.**
- c) IV., III., II., I.**
- d) I., II., IV., III.**

Ans. A

Solu. The contractor should ask them if they want to work (III), offer them a loan (II), have them return the loan by working for free (I), and then give them the opportunity to break the contract and find another job (IV). This is the proper sequence of events.

Ques 17. The dependency ratio is equal to the population below 15 or above 64, divided by population in the 15-64 age group. This is usually expressed as a percentage. In 2020, the average Indian was only 29 years old, compared with an average age of 37 in China and the United States, 45 in Western Europe, and 48 in Japan. What inference can you draw from this statement?

Solu. It can be concluded that India's population is younger than that of China, the US, Western Europe, Japan, and other nations. India may have a lower dependency ratio—that is, fewer people who are dependent on the working-age population—due to its younger average age. This demographic advantage, which is also referred to as a "demographic dividend," suggests that India may have more potential economically and in terms of labor force than other nations with aging populations.

Ques 18. Prejudice can be either positive or negative. Support the statement with suitable examples.

Solu. Prejudice refers to preconceived notions about particular groups, which may be favorable or unfavorable.

Positive Prejudice: Assuming, for example, that all Asians are proficient in science or mathematics is a positive stereotype. But this can disregard people's unique strengths or interests and put them under excessive pressure.

Negative Prejudice: Assuming that members of a particular ethnic group are more likely to commit crimes is an example of negative prejudice. This belief can result in discriminatory actions or viewpoints that are harmful to the affected persons.

OR

Discrimination can be very hard to prove because it may not be open or explicitly stated. Support the statement with suitable examples.

Solu. Discrimination is hard to prove since it frequently takes place in subtle ways.

Employers may, for instance, discreetly express their bias by rejecting applicants based solely on their gender or ethnicity throughout the recruiting process. Citing nebulous reasons such as "lack of cultural fit" or "not enough experience," they may defend the rejection even though the true cause is bias.

In the case of housing, for example, landlords may refuse to rent to members of specific ethnic or religious groups on the grounds that the property is "unavailable," even when it is for sale.

Ques 19. State how communalism is all about politics, not about religion.

Solu. The use of religious differences for political advantage is known as communalism. Communalism is fundamentally a political instrument, even though it frequently seems to be about religious identity. Political figures or organizations may take advantage of religious feelings to sow discord, garner support, or establish dominance by portraying a certain community as superior or in danger. This frequently results in divisiveness and confrontation, when the real goal is accomplishing political goals rather than upholding or advancing religious principles.

Ques 20. Give an example of an anomalous instance with regard to minority groups.

Solu. When a minority community in a nation has substantial political or economic power despite being lower in size, that could be considered an unusual event involving minority groups. For instance, even though the white population was a minority, institutionalized racial discrimination and segregation resulted from the white minority's political power over the black majority in South Africa during the apartheid era.

OR

People constituting a nation may actually be citizens or residents of different states.

Solu. A state is a political body with clearly defined borders, but a nation is typically characterized by shared culture, history, and identity. Individuals who live in different states but nevertheless identify as belonging to the same country may do so.

As an example, the Kurdish people, although dispersed throughout Iraq, Turkey, Syria, and Iran, regard themselves as a nation with a common identity. Likewise, prior to the formation of Israel lived in multiple states while sharing a sense of nationhood.

Ques 21. Begum Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain was born in a well-to-do Bengali Muslim family, and was lucky to have a husband who was very liberal in outlook and encouraged her education first in Urdu and later in Bengali and English. She

was already a successful author in Urdu and Bengali when she wrote Sultana's Dream to test her abilities in English.

Why was Sultana's Dream considered a remarkable short story, in context of struggle for women's equality and rights?

Solu. Because Sultana's Dream depicts a feminist utopia with traditional gender roles reversed, it is regarded as a notable short tale. The narrative illustrates the ridiculousness of gender-based discrimination by having women rule society and males restricted to the house. This narrative, which was written in 1905, when women's duties were still limited, questioned patriarchal conventions and imagined a society in which women had autonomy and intellectual freedom. It was a groundbreaking work in the feminist movement for women's rights because Rokeya posed important questions like gender equality, women's empowerment, and education through her creative story.

Ques 22. Agrarian society can be understood in terms of its class structure. But we must also remember the structure is itself through the caste system. In rural areas, there is a complex relationship between caste and class. This relationship is not always straightforward.

Give two examples to prove that the relationship is not straightforward.

Solu. Caste and property Ownership: It is not always the case in rural areas that members of higher castes, such as Brahmins or Kshatriyas, are the wealthiest or possess the most property. Rich farmers or landlords, on the other hand, could be members of middle-class castes. For instance, the agricultural sector in some areas is dominated by middle castes who own land, such as the Jats, Patels, or Reddys, but Brahmins, despite having a higher social rank, own less land.

Class Mobility Across Castes: Situations in which members of lower castes obtain riches or move up the social ladder further muddle the caste-class relationship. Because of government programs or educational opportunities, Dalits or other backward classes, or OBCs, may be able to rise economically in some places. However, because of their caste position, they may still experience social discrimination, demonstrating that economic class and caste-based social status don't always align.

Ques 23. . In the old social movements, the role of political parties was central. Political scientist Rajni Kothari attributes the surge of social movements in India in the 1970s to people’s growing dissatisfaction with parliamentary democracy. As a result of this people joined social movements or non-political party formations. What were the reasons for this growing dissatisfaction?

Solu. There are a number of reasons why parliamentary democracy became increasingly unpopular in the 1970s:

Failing to Address Social Inequality: Even after independence, a lot of disadvantaged groups remained to deal with social and economic inequality, including women, tribal communities, and Dalits. Political parties frequently fell short of adequately representing their interests.

Corruption and Bureaucracy: The public's perception of political figures and organizations as dishonest, self-serving, and ineffective grew, which eroded public confidence in the democratic process.

Authoritarianism and the Emergency: People's skepticism of official political structures was exacerbated when Prime Minister Indira Gandhi imposed the Emergency (1975–77), restricting civil rights. Outside of established political party structures, this time also saw the emergence of grassroots groups centered on gender equality, environmental justice, and civil rights.

**Ques 24. “You need energy. The eyes move, the neck, the legs and the hands, each part moves. Weaving is done under a continuous gaze - one cannot go anywhere, the focus must be on the machine. When four machines run all four must move together, they must not stop. (Joshi 2003)
The more mechanised an industry gets, the fewer people are employed.”
What are the reasons for this?**

Solu. There are various reasons why fewer people are employed when industries become more mechanized:

Enhanced production: Since machines can do jobs faster and more effectively than human labor, fewer personnel are required to oversee the machines, resulting in higher production.

Decrease in Manual Labor: Since machines can perform repetitive, physically taxing, or precise tasks that would otherwise require more workers, mechanization reduces the need for manual labor.

Cost-Effectiveness: Because robots lower long-term labor costs, such as salary and benefits, and the possibility of labor conflicts, employers may favor them. Human responsibilities frequently move from manufacturing to machine maintenance or supervision as industries become more automated, requiring fewer workers overall.

Ques 25. “Someone may be endowed with exceptional intelligence or talent, or may have worked very hard to achieve their wealth and status.”

Does this statement reflect social stratification? Give reasons for your answer.

Solu. Yes, this statement reflects societal stratification, but in a meritocratic meaning rather than conventional systems of stratification based on ascribed rank like caste or race.

Meritocracy: This theory holds that people can rise in society by hard work, ability, or intelligence. This is an example of social mobility, in which individuals can climb or descend the social ladder in accordance with their aptitudes and exertions.

Social Hierarchy: Because not everyone has equal access to chances and resources (such as education), which enable them to develop their talents, inequality continues even under meritocratic regimes. There may be an advantage for those born into wealthy or privileged families, which would reinforce a type of stratification based on opportunity access.

As a result, even if the statement celebrates individual success, it only partially captures the complexity of social stratification in terms of unequal access to opportunities.

SECTION-C

Ques 26. “An alternative to the nation-state, then, is the “state nation”, where various “nations”— be they ethnic, religious, linguistic or indigenous identities— can coexist peacefully and cooperatively in a single state polity.”

What factors are required to build enduring state-nations?

Solu. Establishing sustainable state-nations necessitates multiple vital elements:

A political system that incorporates representation from all racial, cultural, and religious groups in the state is known as inclusive governance. Federalism or decentralized governance is frequently used in this context to grant autonomy to various regions and organizations.

Cultural Recognition: The diversity of the state's population's languages, customs, and religions must be acknowledged and protected. For peaceful coexistence, it is essential that various languages, celebrations, and customs be officially acknowledged.

Lawfulness and Parity: To keep society cohesive, laws must provide fairness and equal rights to all citizens, regardless of their racial or religious background.

Intergroup Cooperation: Sturdy civic institutions that promote communication and collaboration between many groups lessen conflict and promote diversity's unifying power.

Shared National Identity: Different communities must be united under a single political framework, even as they appreciate difference. This requires a sense of civic nationalism or collective national identity.

Ques 27. “The present form of caste as a social institution has been shaped very strongly by both the colonial period as well as the rapid changes that have come about in independent India. The development activity of the state and the growth of private industry affected caste indirectly through the speeding up and intensification of economic change.”

How has economic change affected caste?

Solu. Economic changes have altered caste in numerous ways:

Urbanization and Industrialization: Traditional caste-based jobs and hierarchies have been undermined by the migration of people seeking employment from rural areas to urban centers. The inflexible barriers of caste at work are lessened in cities where individuals from various castes coexist.

Market Economy: As private sector enterprises and economies focused on the market have grown, money and class have emerged as important indicators of social standing. As a result, caste-based limitations on economic activity have weakened.

Affirmative action: Through government initiatives like reservations for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) in the workforce and in schools, marginalized

groups now enjoy more social mobility and access to possibilities for upward economic mobility.

Education: New economic opportunities and access to education, especially for historically oppressed castes, has led to greater social and economic mobility, challenging the traditional caste-based division of labor.

Ques 28. "In traditional India caste system operated within a religious framework. Belief systems of purity and pollution were central to its practice. Today it often functions as political pressure groups."

Illustrate the process of secularisation of caste.

Solu. The transition from caste as a social and religious structure to one that is primarily political and economic is known as the secularization of caste.

Caste as Political Identity: Caste has grown to be a significant electoral politics component in contemporary India. Caste is no longer only a sociological identifier; political parties frequently use it as a tool for political negotiation by organizing caste groupings to form vote blocs.

Caste-based Movements: A number of caste-based movements have surfaced to call for political representation, reservations, and acknowledgement. Rather of using religious concepts like pollution and purity, these groups speak in terms of equality, rights, and justice.

Economic and Educational Factors: The importance of caste disparities based on ritual purity has decreased as individuals from lower castes have acquired access to economic and educational possibilities in daily interactions, especially in urban and professional settings.

Role of the State: Laws such as the abolition of untouchability (Article 17 of the Indian Constitution) have legally prohibited caste-based discrimination, contributing to the secularization of caste.

OR

"The term modernisation has a long history. From the 19th and more so the 20th century, the term began to be associated with positive and desirable values. People and societies wanted to be modern. In the early years, modernisation

referred to improvement in technology and production processes. Increasingly, however, the term had a wider usage.”

What, according to sociologists, constitutes the modernisation process?

Solu. Sociologists claim that the following are part of the modernization process:

Industrialization is the transition of economies from agrarian to industrial, marked by mechanization, large-scale production, and the expansion of factories.

Urbanization is the process by which people migrate from rural to urban areas, resulting in the expansion of cities, the emergence of new social structures, and alterations in way of life.

Secularization: The loss of religious sway over public and political affairs and the rise of reason, science, and law-based government.

Democratization is the process by which democratic institutions and principles—such as individual rights, political engagement, and the rule of law—proliferate.

Education expansion refers to expanding literacy and educational opportunities, which support social mobility, creativity, and critical thinking.

Cultural Change: Modifications to customs, beliefs, and behaviors that are typically associated with individualism, gender equality, and rational thinking, as well as the weakening of traditional hierarchies like caste and patriarchy.

Ques 29. “A significant change in rural society that is linked to the commercialisation of agriculture has been the growth of migrant agricultural labour. As ‘traditional’ bonds of patronage between labourers or tenants and landlords broke down, and as the seasonal demand for agricultural labour increased in prosperous Green Revolution regions, a pattern of seasonal migration emerged.”

Elaborate on this pattern of migration.

Solu. The following migration patterns are connected to the commercialization of agriculture:

Seasonal Migration: When labor is in high demand during the peak farming seasons (sowing and harvesting), agricultural laborers from poorer regions like Bihar or Odisha relocate to agriculturally rich regions like Punjab or Haryana.

Dissolution of Traditional Patronage: In the past, laborers were confined to a certain landlord or patron and worked in semi-feudal settings. These connections deteriorated with commercialization, which made workers go elsewhere for wage-based work.

Wage Labor: Workers now work as seasonal wage earners, relocating from one agricultural location to another in response to demand for labor, as opposed to being permanently employed by a landlord.

Inter-state Migration: This pattern frequently entails long-distance movement from states with weak economies to wealthier Green Revolution states, resulting in a more fluid and mobile workforce in rural India.

Ques 30. Enumerate the indicators of the process of globalisation of agriculture.

Solu. Among the markers of agriculture's globalization are:

commerce liberalization: The opening up of markets to the free flow of agricultural goods between nations has resulted in a rise in international agricultural commerce.

Global corporations investing in agriculture, encompassing large-scale farming, agribusiness, and food processing businesses, is a sign of the sector's growing internationalization. This is known as foreign direct investment, or FDI.

Technology Transfer: Precision farming, mechanization, and genetically modified crops are just a few examples of the cutting-edge agricultural technologies that have revolutionized agriculture worldwide.

Global Supply Chains: One of the most obvious indicators of globalization is the incorporation of regional agricultural goods into international food processing and distribution supply chains, which are frequently associated with multinational enterprises.

Impact of International Policies: Global organizations like the World Trade Organization (WTO) influence domestic agricultural policies, impacting subsidies, pricing, and market access for farmers.

Ques 31. Industrialisation in the west is associated with the growth of a middle class. Discuss the Indian experience of the growth of this middle class.

Solu. In contrast to the West, India's middle class has grown according to a different trajectory:

Post-independence Era: Small business entrepreneurs, professionals, and bureaucrats made up the majority of the middle class in India at first. With the creation of public sector businesses, which offered steady work, this segment grew.

Economic Reforms and Liberalization (1991): The 1990s economic liberalization brought to the rapid rise of the private sector, information technology, and service industries, which in turn contributed to the rapid expansion of the middle class, particularly in urban regions.

Consumerism: The expanding spending power and appetite for consumer goods, cars, homes, and education of the Indian middle class define them. The impact of globalization and economic expansion is reflected in this middle class that is driven by spending.

Employment and Education: Getting into Higher Education and professional employment opportunities, particularly in IT, engineering, management, and finance, have contributed to the growth of this class.

Social Mobility: Unlike the West, where class structures were more rigid, India's middle class is relatively fluid, with many people rising from lower economic backgrounds due to education and entrepreneurship.

Ques 32. “The argument for a tribe-caste distinction was founded on an assumed cultural difference between Hindu castes, with their beliefs in purity and pollution and hierarchical integration, and ‘animist’ tribals with their more egalitarian and kinship-based modes of social organisation.”

Is this distinction between tribes and caste viable? Give reasons for your answer

Solu. For a number of reasons, the distinction between caste and tribe is not totally valid.

Cultural Overlap: Due to Hinduization, many tribes have absorbed comparable customs over time, despite the fact that caste is frequently connected to the Hindu hierarchy and ideas of contamination and purity. Thus, there is not always a clear cultural divide between castes and tribes.

Economic and Social Integration: Through trade, education, and employment, tribes have assimilated economically and socially with the mainstream caste system in many locations. In some circumstances, tribes have adopted caste-like social stratifications.

Political Mobilization: Tribes and castes are increasingly frequently used as political divisions. Similar to Dalit groups, tribal groups also mobilize to demand political participation, resources, and rights, making it harder to distinguish them as different social groupings.

Changing Identity: The persona of many tribes has evolved, and in certain cases, tribal groups have converted to mainstream religions or participated in caste-based politics, further complicating the distinction.

Thus, the distinction between tribe and caste is increasingly less clear-cut due to socio-economic changes and political factors.

Ques 33.

TABLE 4: LITERACY RATE IN INDIA				
(Percentage of population 7 years of age and above)				
Year	Persons	Males	Females	Male-Female gap in literacy rate
1951	18.3	27.2	8.9	18.3
1961	28.3	40.4	15.4	25.1
1971	34.5	46.0	22.0	24.0
1981	43.6	56.4	29.8	26.6
1991	52.2	64.1	39.3	24.8
2001	65.4	75.9	54.2	21.7
2011	73.0	80.9	64.6	16.3

Source: Bose (2001:22); Census of India 2011.

Based on the reading of the above data, please answer the following questions.

a) What are the different factors which determine in literacy rates in our country?

Solu.

b) How do inequalities in literacy rate lead to inequality across generation?

Solu.

(Q 33. FOR CANDIDATES WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENT)

The literacy rate for women is 16.3% less than the literacy rate for men. However, female literacy has been rising faster than male literacy, partly because it started from relatively low levels. Female literacy rose by about 10.4 per cent between 2001 and 2011 compared to the rise in male literacy of 7.6 per cent in the same period. Literacy increased approximately 8% in total. Male literacy rose about 5% whereas female literacy rose about 10%.

a) What are the different factors which determine in literacy rates in our country?

Solu. Several variables influence literacy rates in India:

Socioeconomic Status: Access to schooling is severely impacted by poverty. Low-income families frequently struggle to pay for textbooks, school supplies, and uniforms, which raises the dropout rate among kids, particularly females.

Gender Disparity: Women's lower literacy rates are a result of patriarchal standards and traditional gender roles. Girls may attend or finish school at a lower rate as a result of families choosing to educate boys over girls.

Geographical Disparities: Due to a lack of adequate educational infrastructure, including schools and qualified teachers, rural areas typically have lower literacy rates than urban areas. Providing high-quality education is more difficult in rural or poor areas.

Government Initiatives and Policies: Programs such as Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and policies such as the Right to Education Act (RTE)

and Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) play a crucial role in improving literacy by making education more accessible, especially for marginalized sections of society.

Cultural and Social Norms: Cultural beliefs and societal attitudes toward education, particularly for girls and marginalized groups like Dalits and tribals, can impact literacy rates. In some communities, early marriage or the need for children to work hampers educational attainment.

Infrastructure and Resources: The availability of schools, proper sanitation facilities, trained teachers, and quality educational materials determine the effectiveness of education. A lack of these resources, especially in rural areas, negatively affects literacy rates.

Language Barriers: In multilingual regions, students may face difficulties learning in a language that is not their mother tongue, leading to challenges in literacy acquisition.

b) How do inequalities in literacy rate lead to inequality across generation?

Solu. There are various ways in which disparities in literacy rates continue into subsequent generations:

Economic Opportunities: Literacy is directly linked to employability and income levels. Families with lower literacy rates are more likely to experience financial difficulties, particularly among women. This makes it harder for them to support their kids' education, which feeds the cycle of poverty and illiteracy.

Gender Inequality: Women who are less literate than men are less likely to be employed, to support their families financially, and to have access to resources and rights. This imbalance affects their children, especially daughters, who are more likely to face challenges to education and economic independence.

Educational Access for Children: Parents with lower literacy rates frequently place less priority on formal education, which can result in lower educational attainment for their children. Literate parents, on the other hand, are more likely to support and encourage their children's education, ensuring better prospects for future generations.

Health and Nutrition: Literate individuals, particularly women, are more likely to be aware of healthcare practices and nutritional needs. Higher literacy rates among parents lead to healthier children, which is critical for cognitive development and learning. In contrast, illiteracy may result in poor health outcomes, further hindering the next generation's educational achievements.

Political and Social Participation: Literate individuals are better equipped to engage in democratic processes, advocate for their rights, and access government services. Lower literacy rates limit such participation, restricting marginalized groups' ability to influence policy and improve conditions for future generations.

Ques 34. 'Job recruitment as factory worker takes a different pattern'. Discuss.

Solu. Factory worker job recruitment frequently varies from other forms of employment because of its unique criteria and procedures:

Informal Networks: Friends, relatives, or local contractors who serve as middlemen between the employer and the prospective employee are among the informal networks frequently used to hire factory workers. As a result, fewer formal job ads and recruiting firms are used.

Contractors and Middlemen: To ensure a consistent supply of labor, many enterprises, particularly in sectors like manufacturing or textiles, depend on contractors or labor agencies. Precarious job conditions may result from these intermediaries hiring, managing, and even paying employees.

Employment: Depending on the demand for a product, factory jobs can be seasonal or temporary. Consequently, hiring may be advertised hoc, with workers hired for short periods, often without formal contracts, leading to job insecurity.

Gender and Caste Considerations: Recruitment patterns in factories often reflect social hierarchies. For example, women are often recruited for tasks requiring fine motor skills, such as in the garment industry, while men may be recruited for physically demanding jobs. In some regions, caste-based discrimination may also influence recruitment patterns, with lower-caste individuals often relegated to menial jobs.

Skill and Training Requirements: While factory jobs generally require fewer educational qualifications, they may require specific skills or training, particularly in sectors like

automobile manufacturing or electronics. Recruitment for these jobs may involve skill tests or short training programs.

Migrant Labor: Factories often recruit migrant workers from poorer regions to fill labor shortages. These workers may be recruited through local agents or contractors and are often housed in factory-provided accommodations, creating a system of dependence on the employer.

Ques 35. How did peasant movements evolve from pre-colonial days to post-colonial times?

Solu. India's peasant movements have changed significantly between pre- and post-colonial periods:

Movements of Pre-Colonial Peasants:

Localized and Spontaneous: Peasant uprisings during the pre-colonial era were primarily localized and spontaneous, frequently occurring in response to sudden economic problems like higher taxes, forced labor, or droughts. These uprisings lacked long-term political goals and were not centrally planned.

Leadership by Local Chiefs or Zamindars: Some of these movements were led by local chiefs, tribal leaders, or petty zamindars who were likewise affected by the harsh practices of higher authorities or regional rulers.

Concentrate on Immediate Grievances: Prior to colonization, peasant uprisings typically restricted their demands to matters that could be resolved right once, such as lower taxes or better rental conditions. There was no unifying objective for these movements of social or political transformation.

Colonial Period Peasant Movements: Organized Resistance: During the colonial period, peasant movements were more organized, notably in opposition to harsh British policies like the Permanent Settlement Act, which privileged zamindars and placed a severe burden on peasants. The Champaran Movement (1917) and the Indigo Revolt (1859) were two of the first examples of mass revolt against colonial exploitation.

National Leaders' Involvement: At this period, national figures like Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and Mahatma Gandhi started to get involved in peasant conflicts, lending them a more comprehensive political aspect. To coordinate farmer demands across the country, the Kisan Sabhas, or peasant groups, were established.

Link with Nationalism: Throughout the colonial era, peasant movements grew more closely linked to the Indian independence movement. Peasants started to perceive their financial hardships as part of a larger anti-colonial struggle for independence.

Movements of Post-Colonial Peasants:

Emphasis on Land Reforms: Following independence, peasant groups turned their attention to land reforms, land redistribution, and obtaining higher wages for workers in agriculture. One example of a post-colonial peasant uprising calling for land redistribution is the Telangana Rebellion (1946–1951).

The emergence of movements on the left: Left-wing peasant movements emerged in post-colonial India; in the 1960s, the Naxalite movement was one example. These movements, which drew inspiration from communist ideology, called for the collapse of the feudal system and drastic land reforms.

Farmer Movements and the Agrarian Crisis: In recent years, peasant movements have changed to address problems associated with the agrarian crisis, like debt, lack of access to technology, and insufficient minimum support prices (MSP). Campaigns such as the farmers' demonstrations against the 2020 farm laws have highlighted the growing discontent among farmers over neoliberal agricultural policies.

In summary, peasant movements have evolved from localized resistance in pre-colonial times to organized, ideologically driven struggles in post-colonial India, addressing a wide range of economic and political issues.