

Maharashtra Board Class 12 Political Science 42(J-856) Question Paper with Solutions

Time Allowed :3 Hour	Maximum Marks :80	Total questions :7
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General Instructions

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

1. This question paper contains 7 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. All questions are compulsory.
3. Figures to the right indicate full marks.
4. Start answer to every new question on a new page.

Q. 1. (A) Choose the correct alternative and complete the following statements:

(1) Today _____ countries of the European Union are part of the Schengen Area.

[20, 22, 30, 32]

(2) In _____ Economic System, the public and private sectors play an important role.

[Mixed, Communist, Socialist, Capitalist]

(3) The United Nations set up the World Commission on Environment and Development in the year _____.

[1967, 1983, 1990, 2001]

(4) The Planning Commission was replaced by the _____ Aayog.

[Election, Economic, Social, NITI]

(5) _____ joined BRICS in 2010.

[Japan, Bhutan, South Africa, Nepal]

Solution:

For each statement, the correct options are as follows:

- (1) 22 countries of the European Union are part of the Schengen Area.
- (2) In the Mixed Economic System, both public and private sectors play an important role.
- (3) The United Nations set up the World Commission on Environment and Development in the year 1983.
- (4) The Planning Commission was replaced by the NITI Aayog.
- (5) South Africa joined BRICS in 2010.

Quick Tip

When answering MCQs, read the options carefully to eliminate the wrong choices, and ensure you are choosing the most accurate and relevant answer.

Q. 1. (B) Identify the incorrect pair in every set, correct it and rewrite:

(i)

- (a) Rise of China and India - Emergence of multipolarity
- (b) Ethnic Nationalism - Principle of self determination
- (c) Currency of European Union - Dollar

(ii)

- (a) Adult Franchise in India - 20 years completed
- (b) National policy for the empowerment of women - 2001
- (c) Planning Commission of India - 1950

(iii)

- (a) Trade unions - Political institutions
- (b) Birth and death certificate - Administrative machinery
- (c) International Organisation - Asian Development Bank

Solution:

- (i) (c) Currency of European Union - **Euro**
- (ii) (a) Adult Franchise in India - **1950**
- (iii) (a) Trade unions - Political institutions

Quick Tip

When identifying incorrect pairs, make sure to verify historical and factual accuracy from reliable sources.

(C) Complete the following statements by using the appropriate option:

(i) There was growth in international economic relations, because _____.

- (a) spread of globalisation,
- (b) availability of foreign capital,
- (c) increased connectivity through mobile phones

(ii) Planning Commission was set up in India, _____.

- (a) to increase agricultural productivity,
- (b) to develop industries,
- (c) to improve the standard of living of the people and overall development

(iii) Unilever is a transnational company because _____.

- (a) it does not consider any particular country as its base,
- (b) it functions in all sectors,
- (c) it operates in all countries.

(iv) There was growth of regionalism, because _____.

- (a) of disintegration of Russia,
- (b) of multipolarity in the world order,

(c) of end of American supremacy

Solution:

- (i). **(a)** spread of globalisation.
- (ii). **(c)** to improve the standard of living of the people and overall development.
- (iii). **(a)** it does not consider any particular country as its base,
- (iv). **(b)** of multipolarity in the world order.

Quick Tip

In multiple choice questions, eliminate obviously incorrect options to narrow down your choices and increase your chances of selecting the correct answer.

(D) State the appropriate concept for the given statements:

(i) When a state influences other states without the use of military force - _____.

Solution:

The appropriate concept is **Soft Power**.

Quick Tip

Soft power refers to the ability of a state to influence others through non-coercive means, such as culture, diplomacy, and economic power.

(ii) The introduction of high yielding variety of seeds and increased use of irrigation methods - _____.

Solution:

The correct concept is **increased productivity**.

Quick Tip

The introduction of high-yielding varieties and better irrigation methods are key to increasing agricultural productivity, especially in developing countries.

(iii) The person that investigates allegations or grievances arising out of the conduct of public servants in India - _____.

Solution:

The correct concept is **Lokayukta**.

Quick Tip

The Lokayukta is a statutory body in India, responsible for investigating corruption and misconduct by public officials, particularly at the state level.

(iv) The instrument of a country to establish, maintain, and develop relations with the rest of the world - _____.

Solution:

The correct concept is **External Affairs Ministry**.

Quick Tip

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) handles foreign policy, diplomatic relations, and international collaborations for a country.

(E) Find the odd word in the given set and rewrite:

- (i) Lal Bahadur Shastri, Narendra Modi, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
- (ii) International Monetary Fund, Asian Development Bank, World Bank, Maharashtra Bank.
- (iii) Climate change, deforestation, pollution, political parties.

(iv) Members of SAARC - India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, China.

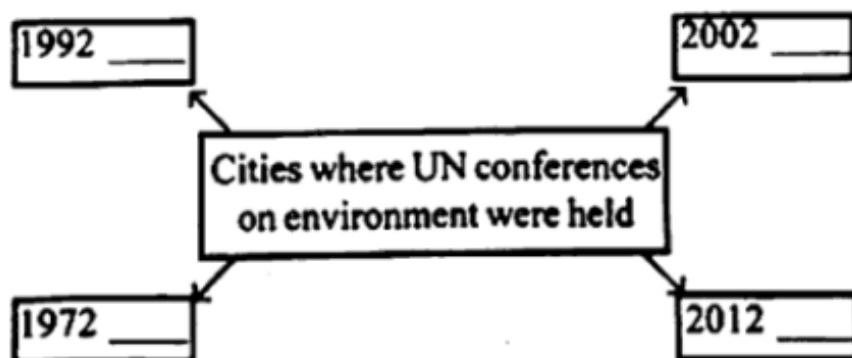
Solution:

- (i). **Odd word:** Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar. (The others are Prime Ministers of India)
- (ii). **Odd word:** Maharashtra Bank. (The others are international financial institutions)
- (iii). **Odd word:** Political parties. (The others are environmental issues)
- (iv). **Odd word:** China. (The others are SAARC members)

Quick Tip

To find the odd word, analyze the words in the group and identify the common theme they share. The word that doesn't align with the others is the odd one.

Q. 2. (A) Complete the concept map:



The concept map is completed as follows:

Cities where UN conferences on environment were held

- **1992:** Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (Earth Summit)
- **1972:** Stockholm, Sweden (First UN Conference on the Human Environment)
- **2002:** Johannesburg, South Africa (World Summit on Sustainable Development)
- **2012:** Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (Rio+20 Summit)

Quick Tip

The UN has held major environmental conferences to address global environmental issues, such as sustainable development and climate change. These conferences aim to set international frameworks and agreements.

(B) Observe the given map and answer the following questions:



(i) Write the name of three countries of the European Union who are members of the Eurozone.

Solution:

- Germany
- France

- Spain

(ii) Write the name of two countries of the European Union who are not the members of Eurozone.

Solution:

- United Kingdom
- Denmark

Quick Tip

When asked about the Eurozone, focus on the countries that use the Euro as their currency. Some countries in the European Union, like the UK and Denmark, opt out of the Eurozone.

Q.3 State whether the following statements are True or False with reasons (Any FIVE):

(i) The decade of 1980s is seen as the golden age of humanitarian intervention.

Solution:

False. While the 1980s did witness some humanitarian interventions, the golden age of humanitarian intervention is typically linked to the 1990s, especially after the Cold War, when there was a greater global willingness to address crises such as those in the Balkans and Rwanda. The 1980s, however, were characterized by geopolitical tensions that often hindered intervention efforts.

Quick Tip

The 1990s, especially following the end of the Cold War, saw a surge in humanitarian interventions, marked by several high-profile international responses to crises.

(ii) Globalisation introduced the concept of Market Economy.

Solution:

True. Globalisation spread market economies worldwide, leading to increased trade, capital flow, and privatization in formerly communist or centrally planned economies.

Quick Tip

Globalisation has played a significant role in the spread of market economies, encouraging international trade, foreign investment, and the deregulation of markets.

(iii) Planning Commission was established to promote development in the agricultural sector.

Solution:

False. The Planning Commission was created with the aim of fostering overall economic development, encompassing agriculture, industry, and services.

Quick Tip

The Planning Commission in India was tasked with formulating five-year plans to drive comprehensive economic growth, covering not just agriculture, but all sectors of the economy.

(iv) Good governance aims at efficient use of natural resources.

Solution:

True. Good governance includes promoting environmental sustainability and the responsible use of resources.

Quick Tip

Good governance focuses on ensuring that natural resources are used efficiently, ethically, and sustainably to benefit present and future generations.

(v) National freedom movement in India played an important role in national integration.

Solution:

True. The national freedom movement played a key role in uniting the various regions and communities of India in their struggle for independence from colonial domination.

Quick Tip

The national freedom movement in India served as a unifying force, bridging regional, linguistic, and religious differences to attain independence.

(vi) Lokayukta can investigate complaints against political executives.**Solution:**

True. The Lokayukta is a state-level body in India established to investigate allegations of corruption and misconduct by government officials, including political executives.

Quick Tip

The Lokayukta serves as an important check on the power of politicians and bureaucrats, ensuring accountability and transparency at the state level.

(vii) Democracy is required to establish national integration.**Solution:**

True. Democracy promotes national integration by ensuring equality, representation, and participation of diverse communities. It creates an inclusive environment where all citizens have a voice, contributing to social harmony and unity.

Quick Tip

Democracy allows for the free exchange of ideas, encourages tolerance, and fosters a sense of belonging among the citizens of a nation.

Q.4 Explain the correlation between the following (Any THREE):**(i) Economic Interest and Trade Blocs.**

Solution:

Economic interests are the primary driving force behind the formation of trade blocs. These blocs allow countries to work together to achieve mutual economic benefits, including increased trade, reduced tariffs, and shared economic growth. By joining trade blocs like the European Union (EU), Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), or Mercosur, member countries can strengthen their economic ties and increase access to each other's markets.

Quick Tip

When discussing the correlation between economic interests and trade blocs, focus on the benefits of reducing trade barriers and promoting regional economic cooperation.

(ii) India and Africa.**Solution:**

India and Africa share deep historical, economic, and cultural connections. India has made significant investments in Africa's infrastructure, energy, technology, and agricultural sectors. The trade relationship between India and Africa has expanded, with India emerging as one of Africa's largest trading partners. India's strategy toward Africa emphasizes strengthening cooperation in vital areas such as agriculture, energy, healthcare, and infrastructure. Furthermore, India has extended financial assistance to Africa through loans, grants, and capacity-building initiatives aimed at developing various sectors across the continent.

Quick Tip

India's partnership with Africa emphasizes mutual development, infrastructure collaboration, and trade expansion, promoting South-South cooperation between the two regions.

(iii) Good governance and E-governance.**Solution:**

Good governance is founded on principles such as transparency, accountability, participation, and the rule of law. Its aim is to ensure that governments operate effectively and efficiently, while minimizing corruption. E-governance refers to the use of information and communication technology (ICT) to provide government services, simplify administrative processes, and enhance communication between governmental bodies and citizens.

Quick Tip

E-governance improves the efficiency of governance and strengthens citizens' confidence in the government by making services more accessible and transparent.

(iv) GATT and World Trade Organisation.

Solution:

The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) was established in 1947 as a multilateral agreement aimed at reducing trade barriers, fostering international trade, and promoting economic cooperation. GATT's main focus was on lowering tariffs and setting trade rules. However, in 1995, GATT was succeeded by the World Trade Organization (WTO), which took over the responsibility of managing international trade agreements. While GATT primarily functioned as a framework for trade negotiations, the WTO is a more comprehensive institution with a wider mandate, including the regulation of trade-related intellectual property rights (TRIPs), dispute resolution, and trade policy reviews.

Quick Tip

The transition from GATT to the WTO represented a shift from a negotiation framework to a more inclusive system that governs services, intellectual property, and traditional goods trade.

(v) Globalisation and Culture.

Solution:

Globalisation refers to the process of increasing interconnectedness and interdependence among the world's economies, societies, and cultures. While globalisation promotes the free

flow of goods, services, and ideas, it also has a profound impact on culture. On the one hand, globalisation has led to the spread of cultural ideas, practices, and values across borders, allowing cultures to influence each other. This has led to cultural exchange, the sharing of technology and knowledge, and the popularisation of global trends like music, fashion, and food.

Quick Tip

Globalisation's cultural impact is double-edged: it facilitates cultural exchange and the spread of ideas, but also raises concerns about the erosion of local traditions and identities.

Q.5 Express your opinion in 25 to 30 words on the following (Any THREE):

(i) There is a need to protect the environment.

Solution:

Protecting the environment is essential to prevent the depletion of natural resources, combat climate change, and preserve biodiversity, ensuring the well-being and prosperity of future generations.

Quick Tip

To provide a concise response, focus on the central idea and support it with key points such as the long-term advantages of protection and the potential consequences of inaction.

(ii) E-governance speeds up governmental processes.

Solution:

E-governance enhances decision-making speed, reduces corruption, and improves public service accessibility, making government processes more efficient and transparent for citizens.

Quick Tip

When discussing e-governance, highlight its benefits such as increased efficiency, transparency, and citizen satisfaction, focusing on how it enhances service delivery.

(iii) India's role in the Indian Ocean.

Solution:

India holds strategic importance in the Indian Ocean, ensuring maritime security, facilitating trade, and fostering diplomatic relations with neighboring nations, contributing to regional stability.

Quick Tip

Focus on India's strategic position and its influence on regional security and trade routes. Mention specific roles like defense, diplomacy, and economic interests.

(iv) Regionalism in international politics.

Solution:

Regionalism in international politics promotes cooperation within a region, strengthening economic, political, and security ties. However, it may lead to division and undermine global cooperation in certain instances.

Quick Tip

When discussing regionalism, consider both the positive aspects of strengthening regional ties and the potential negative effects like division and fragmentation of global unity.

(v) Positive and negative aspects of globalisation.

Solution:

Globalisation encourages economic growth, cultural exchange, and technological progress. However, it also leads to economic inequality, cultural homogenization, and environmental challenges, requiring a balanced approach.

Quick Tip

When evaluating globalisation, consider both its ability to connect nations and its down-sides like inequality, cultural loss, and environmental degradation. Balance is key in your response.

Q.6 Answer the following questions in 80 to 100 words (Any TWO):

(i) Discuss the political issues in the context of globalisation.

Solution:

Globalization has resulted in greater interconnectedness among nations, but it also brings political challenges, such as the erosion of national sovereignty, wealth inequality, and the dominance of multinational corporations. These issues have led to tensions between global governance and local governance, as well as difficulties in preserving cultural identity. Moreover, political instability can arise when domestic policies are shaped by global economic trends.

Quick Tip

When addressing political issues related to globalization, consider both its positive and negative effects. Highlight economic inequality and its impact on local governance.

(ii) What is women empowerment? Explain the measures undertaken for it.

Solution:

Women empowerment involves giving women the power to control their lives, make decisions, and access resources. This includes improving their opportunities for education, healthcare, economic independence, and political involvement. Key measures include gender equality legislation, awareness campaigns, reservation policies, and fostering women

entrepreneurship. Initiatives like Beti Bachao Beti Padhao and maternal health schemes are also important steps toward advancing women empowerment.

Quick Tip

When discussing women empowerment, emphasize the role of legislation, education, and awareness campaigns as essential measures to promote gender equality.

(iii) Explain the features of structural dimension to create national unity.

Solution:

The structural dimension of fostering national unity encompasses political, social, and economic systems that promote equality, representation, and equitable access to resources. Key elements include a strong legal framework, fair distribution of wealth and resources, and inclusive governance that represents all sections of society. It also stresses the importance of cultural diversity, freedom of expression, the rule of law, and the promotion of national integration and harmony.

Quick Tip

When discussing national unity, highlight the importance of legal frameworks, social equality, and inclusive governance. Focus on the themes of inclusivity and integration.

(iv) Explain various institutions protecting rights of different sections in India.

Solution:

India has several institutions that protect the rights of different sections, such as the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), the National Commission for Women (NCW), and the National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC). These bodies ensure the protection and promotion of rights for marginalized groups. The judiciary also plays a vital role in safeguarding the Constitution's guarantees of equality and justice for all citizens.

Quick Tip

Make sure to mention key institutions like NHRC, NCW, and NCSC, and their role in ensuring equal rights for all citizens.

Q.7 Answer the following questions in 150 to 200 words with reference to the given points (Any ONE) :

(i) Explain the principles of Indian foreign policy.

Solution:

The principles of India's foreign policy are rooted in the ideals of peace, stability, and international collaboration. These principles include:

Non-Alignment: India adopted the non-alignment policy to retain its independence in decision-making, avoiding alignment with any power bloc during the Cold War. It aimed to stay neutral in global conflicts.

Sovereignty and Territorial Integrity: India firmly supports the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity, ensuring that no external interference disrupts its domestic affairs.

Non-Intervention in Internal Affairs: India advocates for the respect of a nation's internal sovereignty and believes in resolving conflicts without foreign interference.

Belief in Peaceful Co-existence: India's foreign policy emphasizes peaceful coexistence among nations, fostering mutual understanding, dialogue, and cooperation.

Active Participation in International Organizations: India actively engages in international organizations such as the United Nations, ASEAN, BRICS, and the Commonwealth, to promote multilateral cooperation.

Quick Tip

Highlight India's contribution to global peace, along with its commitment to neutrality and fostering cooperation in international relations.

(ii) Discuss the role of the state in the contemporary period.

Solution:

In the modern era, the role of the state is diverse, as it addresses a wide range of societal, political, and economic issues. Key roles of the state include:

Governance: The state is tasked with creating and enforcing laws, ensuring justice, and upholding democratic values. Effective governance requires transparency, accountability, and adherence to the rule of law.

Economic Development: The state plays a vital role in driving economic progress by regulating markets, providing essential infrastructure, attracting investments, and ensuring the fair distribution of resources.

Welfare: The state must safeguard the well-being of its citizens, especially vulnerable groups, by implementing welfare programs such as healthcare, education, and social security.

Nation Building: The state contributes to national unity, cultural identity, and social cohesion by promoting inclusivity and collective national objectives.

Peace and Order: The state is responsible for ensuring internal security, preventing conflicts, and maintaining law and order within society.

Quick Tip

Highlight the state's diverse roles, especially in governance, welfare, and nation-building, as these are essential for national development and stability.