

**Question paper 2010 Outside Delhi (set-1)**

**CBSE Class 12 Sociology**

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

- There are 25 questions in all.
- All questions are compulsory.
- Question Nos. 1–14 are of 2 marks each, and are to be answered in about 30 words.
- Question Nos. 15–21 are of 4 marks each, to be answered in about 80 words.
- Question Nos. 22–24 are of 6 marks each, to be answered in about 200 words.
- Question No. 25 carries 6 marks and is to be answered based on the passage given.
- Answer should be precise and to the point.

**1. What is meant by the 'age structure' of population?**

**Ans.** The age structure of the population refers to the proportion of persons of different age groups relative to the total population.

**2. What is meant by secularization?**

**Ans.** Secularization refers to the process of decline in the influence of religion that is supposed to accompany modernization.

**3. What are two features of Ascriptive Identity?**

**Ans.** Two features of Ascriptive identity are

1. It is based on birth
2. It is universal

**4. What is the difference between law and justice?**

**Ans.** • The essence of law is its force. It carries the means to force obedience.  
• The essence of justice is fairness.

**5. Why do Dalit social movements have a particular character that is different from other movements?**

**Ans.** Social movements of Dalit show a particular character because it is a struggle for recognition as fellow human beings, for self confidence, for self determination and also for abolition of untouchability. It has been called a struggle “to be touched.”

**6. What is social about social inequality?**

**Ans.** • Social inequality and exclusion are social because they are not about individuals but about groups.

- They are not economic although there is a strong link between social and economic inequality.

**7. What rights does the Right to Information give to citizens?**

**Ans.** Right to Information states that any person may request information from a public authority which is expected to reply within 30 days. 2

**8. What is meant by the globalization of finance?**

**Ans.** The globalization of finance is the global integration of financial markets which undertake billions of dollars worth of transaction within seconds through electronic long distance transactions.

**9. What was the significance of the “Silk Route”?**

**Ans.** The famous silk route connected India to the great civilizations which existed in China, Persia, Egypt and Rome centuries ago.

**10. Differentiate between a reformist and a revolutionary movement.**

**Ans.** • Reformist social movements strive to change the existing social and political arrangements through gradual steps.

- Revolutionary social movements attempt to radically transform social relations, often by capturing state power.

**11. How is colonialism different from earlier forms of conquests?**

**Ans.** • Colonialism was different from earlier forms of conquests because the changes it brought in were far reaching and deep.

• Pre-capitalist conquerors benefitted from their domination but they did not interfere with the economic base whereas British Colonialism which was based on capitalist system directly interfered in production to ensure greatest profit.

**12. Differentiate between Fordism and Post Fordism.**

**Ans.** • Fordism means the mass production of goods at a centralized location  
• Post Fordism means a system of flexible production at dispersed location

**13. What were the demands of workers in the Bombay textile strike of 1982?**

**Ans.** Two demands of Bombay textile strike of 1982 were

1. Better wages.
2. Right to form their own union

**14. Name two women organizations of the early twentieth century.**

**Ans.** • The Women's India Association  
• All India Women's Conference  
• National Council for Women in India

**15. What is meant by westernization? Describe its different aspects.**

**Ans.** M N Srinivas defined westernization as “the changes brought about in Indian society and culture as a result of over 150 years of British rule, term subsuming changes occurring at different levels – technology, institutions, ideology and values”.

Its' different aspects are as follows:

1. Emergence of westernized sub cultural pattern through a minority section of Indians who first came in contact with western culture.
2. There were small sections of people who adopted western life style or were affected by Western ways of thinking.
3. Westernization does involve the imitation of external forms of culture.
4. Apart from ways of life and thinking, it also influenced art and literature

**16. Explain regionalism in the Indian context.**

**Ans.** 1. After independence, initially the Indian state continued with the British-Indian

arrangement dividing India into large provinces called presidencies, and a large no. of princely states like Mysore, Kashmir and Baroda.

2. Soon after the adoption of the constitution, all these units of colonial era had to be re-organized into ethno-linguistic states in response to linguistic regional movements.
3. Regionalism is encouraged by linguistic, cultural and ethnic identities. eg. – Jharkhand, Uttarakhand etc.

**17. According to demographers and sociologists, what are the reasons for the decline in child sex ratio in India?**

**Ans.** The reasons for the decline in child sex ratio in India

1. General prejudice against girls & preference for boys?
2. Severe neglect of girl babies in infancy.
3. Sex specific abortions that prevent girl babies from being born (female foeticide)
4. Female infanticide

**18. Write a note on home based industry with suitable examples.**

**Ans.** Home based industry is an important part of the economy which includes manufacture of lace, zari, carpets, bidis, agarbattis and many such products. This work is mainly done by women and children.

Example, Bidi industry / or any other example

An agent provides raw material and also picks up the finished products. Home workers are paid on a piece rate basis, depending upon the number of pieces they make.

**19. What were the major women's issues taken up by the various reformers in Indian history?**

**OR**

**Describe the social phenomenon of untouchability and explain its various dimensions.**

**Ans.** The major issues taken up by the various reformers over the history are as follows

1. Raja Ram Mohan Roy started anti sati campaign
2. Ranade attempted for widow re-marriage movement.
3. Jyotiba Phule attacked on caste and gender oppression
4. Sir Syed Ahmed Khan wanted girls to be educated but within their homes

5. Dayanand Saraswati stood for women's education

**OR**

Untouchability is an extreme and particularly vicious aspect of the caste system that prescribes stringent social sanctions against members of castes located at the bottom of the purity pollution scale.

Three aspects are:

a. Exclusion, b. Humiliation – subordination, c. Exploitation

**20. What are Panchayats? What are some of their powers and responsibilities?**

**OR**

**In a democratic form of government, Political Parties are key actors. Explain.**

**Ans.** A Panchayat literally means 'Governance by five individuals'

Powers & responsibilities:

1. To prepare plans and schemes for economic development.
2. To promote schemes that will enhance social justice.
3. To levy, collect and appropriate taxes, duties, tolls & fees.
4. Help in the devolution of governmental responsibilities, especially that of finances to local authorities.
5. Social welfare responsibilities include maintenance of burning & burial grounds; recording statistics of birth and death and establishment of child welfare & maternity centers. Control of cattle pounds; propagation of family planning.
6. Development activities include the construction of roads, public buildings, wells, tanks, schools etc. Promote agriculture activities, cottage industry and minor irrigation projects. IRDP and ICD's are monitored

**OR**

In a democratic form of govt., political parties are key actors because

1. It is an organization oriented towards achieving legitimate control of government through an electoral process.
2. It is an organization established with the aim of achieving governmental power and using that power to pursue a specific programme.

3. They are based on certain understanding of society and how it ought to be
4. In a democratic system, the interest of different groups is also represented by political parties.

**21. What was the impact of colonialism on Indian Society?**

**Ans.** The impact of Colonialism on Indian Society

1. It changed not just land ownership laws but decided even what crops ought to be grown and what ought not to be
2. It meddled with the manufacturing sector
3. It altered the way production and distribution of goods took place.
4. It also led to considerable movement of people from one place to another within India.

**22. Write a note on the beginning of modern mass media. What were its effects?**

**OR**

**In what ways has Globalisation affected Indian television?**

- Ans.**
1. The first modern mass media institution began with the development of the printing press.
  2. The first attempts at printing books using modern technologies began in Europe.
  3. This technique was first developed by John Gutenberg in 1440.

\* Its effects were

1. With the industrial revolution, the print industry also grew
2. With the further development of technologies, transportation and literacy, the newspaper began to reach out to a mass audience.
3. It was also responsible for people across a country to feel connected and develop a sense of belonging or “we feeling” and people could think of the nation as an “Imagined community”

**OR**

1. Increase in the privately-run channels.
2. Many fold increase in viewer ship.
3. Expansion in the cable television industry.

4. Foreign network has introduced regional language channels.
5. The trans-national television channels are effective in procuring the diverse groups that constitutes Indian audience.
6. Most television channels telecast 24 X 7

**23. Explain the common features of the caste system as it existed in the past.**

**Ans.** Common features of caste in the past are as follows:

1. Caste is determined by birth
2. Membership in a caste involves strict rules about marriage.
3. Caste membership also involves rules about food and food sharing.
4. Caste involves a system consisting of many castes arranged in a hierarchy of rank and status
5. Caste also involves sub divisions within themselves.
6. Castes were traditionally linked to occupations.

**24. Highlight the caste-based markets and trading networks in pre-colonial India.**

**Ans.**

- India was a major manufacturer and exporter of handloom cloth and luxury silk as well as the source of many other goods eg. spices which were in great demand in Europe.
- Pre colonial India had well organized manufacturing centers as well as indigenous merchant groups, trading networks and banking systems.
- These traditional trading communities or castes had their own system of banking and credit e.g. hundi or bill of exchange which allowed merchants to engage in long distance trade.
- The Nattukottai Chettiars of Tamil Nadu – Nakarattar banks were basically joint family firms where trading and banking activities were organized through caste and kinship relationships.

**25. Read the following passage and answer the questions below:**

**Peddolla Napidi Bhumana hanged himself at home in Donchanda village of Morthad Mandal late on Friday night. It's learnt that the 55 year old farmer, faced with crop**

failure, was driven to desperation because he was unable to clear his mounting debts.

Most suicides in Andhra Pradesh have been reported from the arid regions of Telangana and Rayalaseema where farmers are heavily dependent on rain. As in Vidharba last year, most of the suicides have been farmers who had borrowed heavily from private money lenders at exorbitant interest rates. The loans were taken to dig borewells to tap ground water for cotton and other vegetable crops in the absence of rain. The situation has been exacerbated by the falling water table in these districts.

(16/08/09 TOI)

**a) Which are the regions where most farmers' suicides have taken place? Why have these regions been affected?**

**Ans.**

- Arid regions of Telangana and Rayalaseema where farmers are heavily dependent on rain.
- These regions are affected because
  - they are arid
  - falling water table
  - failure of monsoon etc.

**b) What are some of the changes in rural society and the agrarian economy that are responsible for farmers' suicides?**

**Ans.**

- Failure of rains
- Debt / borrowing from money lenders on high rate of interest.
- Lack of adequate support or market price.
- Loss of crops due to spread of disease or pest, excessive rainfall or drought
- Increased dependence of farmers on expensive fertilizers and pesticides has reduced their profits and put many farmers into debt.