

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

Time Allowed:3 Hours	Maximum Marks:80	Total Questions:53
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General Instructions

Instructions for the candidates:

The question paper is divided into **four** sections:

1. All questions are compulsory.
2. Figures to the right indicate full marks.
3. 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:

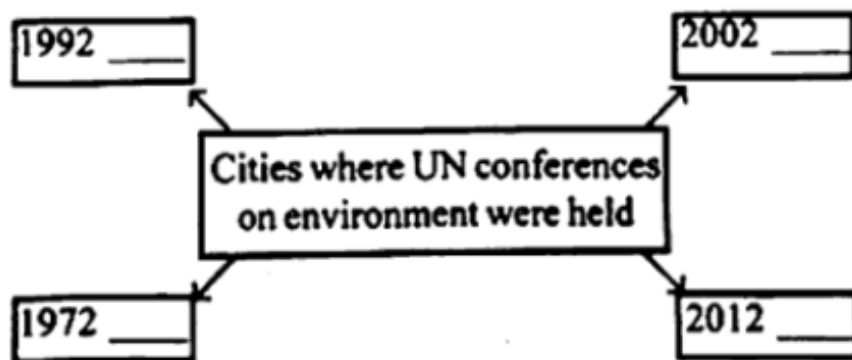
(i). **Odd word:** Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar. (Others are Prime Ministers of India)

- (ii). **Odd word:** Maharashtra Bank. (Others are international financial institutions)
(iii). **Odd word:** Political parties. (Others are environmental issues)
(iv). **Odd word:** China. (Others are SAARC members)

Quick Tip

To identify the odd word, analyze the group of words and determine the common theme they share. The word that doesn't fit with the rest 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. The 1980s did see some humanitarian interventions, but the golden age of humanitarian intervention is more commonly associated with the 1990s, particularly after the Cold War, when there was greater international willingness to intervene in crises like in the Balkans and Rwanda. The 1980s were marked by geopolitical tensions, which often limited intervention efforts.

Quick Tip
The 1990s, particularly after the end of the Cold War, were more active for humanitarian interventions, with several high-profile cases of international response 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 established to promote economic development in general, including agriculture, industry, and services.

Quick Tip

The Planning Commission in India was responsible for formulating five-year plans to promote comprehensive economic development, including but not limited to the agricultural sector.

(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 united the diverse regions and communities in India in their fight for independence from colonial rule.

Quick Tip

The national freedom movement in India was a catalyst for unity, overcoming regional, linguistic, and religious divides to achieve 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 have long-standing historical, economic, and cultural ties. India has significantly invested in Africa's infrastructure, energy, technology, and agricultural sectors. The India-Africa trade relationship has grown, with India becoming one of Africa's largest trading partners. India's approach towards Africa is focused on enhancing cooperation in key areas such as agriculture, energy, healthcare, and infrastructure. Additionally, India has provided financial support for the development of various sectors within Africa through loans, grants, and capacity-building programs.

Quick Tip

India's relationship with Africa focuses on mutual development, infrastructure partnerships, and trade growth, reinforcing South-South cooperation between the two regions.

(iii) Good governance and E-governance.

Solution:

Good governance is centered around the principles of transparency, accountability, participation, and rule of law. It seeks to ensure that governments serve the public effectively and efficiently while minimizing corruption. E-governance refers to the use of information and communication technology (ICT) to deliver government services, improve administrative processes, and enhance communication between government bodies and citizens.

Quick Tip

E-governance not only improves the efficiency of governance but also strengthens citizens' trust in their government by making services more transparent and accessible.

(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, promoting international trade, and enhancing economic cooperation. GATT focused on reducing tariffs and establishing trade rules. However, in 1995, GATT was replaced by the World Trade Organisation (WTO), which took over the responsibility of administering international trade agreements. While GATT served primarily as a framework for trade negotiations, the WTO is a more robust institution with a broader mandate, including the regulation of trade-related intellectual property rights (TRIPs), dispute resolution, and trade policy reviews.

Quick Tip

The transition from GATT to WTO marked a shift from a framework of trade negotiations to a more comprehensive system that includes the regulation of services and intellectual property alongside 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:

The protection of the environment is critical to prevent the depletion of natural resources, mitigate climate change, and safeguard biodiversity for future generations' well-being and prosperity.

Quick Tip

For a concise response, focus on the core idea and provide supporting details such as the long-term benefits of protection and consequences of inaction.

(ii) E-governance speeds up governmental processes.

Solution:

E-governance facilitates quicker decision-making, reduces corruption, and improves accessibility to public services, thus making governmental processes more efficient and transparent for citizens.

Quick Tip

When answering about e-governance, mention its benefits like efficiency, transparency, and citizen satisfaction. Keep the focus on how it improves 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 downsides 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:

Globalisation has led to greater interconnectedness between nations, but it also raises political issues such as the erosion of national sovereignty, unequal distribution of wealth, and the dominance of multinational corporations. This has caused tension between global governance and local governance, as well as challenges in maintaining cultural identity. Additionally, political instability can arise when domestic policies are influenced by global economic trends.

Quick Tip

Focus on both the positive and negative impacts of globalisation when discussing political issues. Mention economic disparity and its effects on local governance.

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

Solution:

Women empowerment refers to enabling women to have control over their lives, decisions, and resources. It includes improving their access to education, healthcare, economic opportunities, and political participation. Measures include legislation for gender equality, awareness campaigns, reservation policies, and support for women entrepreneurship. Programs like Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, and schemes for maternal health are further steps taken to promote women empowerment.

Quick Tip

Highlight the importance of legislation, education, and awareness campaigns when explaining measures for women empowerment.

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

Solution:

The structural dimension for creating national unity involves political, social, and economic systems that ensure equality, representation, and access to resources. Key features include a well-established legal framework, equitable distribution of wealth and resources, and inclusive governance that represents all sections of society. It also emphasizes cultural diversity, freedom of expression, and the rule of law, while promoting national integration and harmony.

Quick Tip

When explaining national unity, include factors like legal frameworks, social equality, and inclusive governance. Focus on 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 Indian foreign policy are centered on the ideals of peace, stability, and international cooperation. These principles include:

Non-Alignment: India followed the non-alignment policy to maintain its independence in decision-making without aligning with any power bloc during the Cold War. It aimed to remain neutral in international conflicts.

Sovereignty and Territorial Integrity: India firmly upholds the principle of sovereignty and territorial integrity in its foreign relations, ensuring that no foreign interference disrupts its domestic affairs.

Non-Intervention in Internal Affairs: India advocates for respecting the internal sovereignty of nations and believes in resolving conflicts without foreign interference.

Belief in Peaceful Co-existence: India's foreign policy emphasizes the peaceful co-existence of nations, promoting mutual understanding, dialogue, and cooperation.

Active Participation in International Organizations: India actively participates in international organizations like the United Nations, ASEAN, BRICS, and the Commonwealth, to foster multilateral cooperation.

Quick Tip

Emphasize India's role in fostering global peace and its commitment to neutrality and cooperation in international relations.

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

Solution:

In the contemporary period, the role of the state is multifaceted, as it addresses various societal, political, and economic challenges. Some key roles of the state include:

Governance: The state is responsible for creating and enforcing laws, ensuring justice, and promoting democratic values. Effective governance includes transparency, accountability, and ensuring the rule of law.

Economic Development: The state plays a critical role in driving economic growth by regulating markets, providing infrastructure, promoting investments, and ensuring equitable distribution of resources.

Welfare: The state must ensure the well-being of its citizens, especially marginalized sections, through welfare programs such as healthcare, education, and social security benefits.

Nation Building: The state fosters national unity, cultural identity, and social harmony by promoting inclusivity and shared national goals. **Peace and Order:** The state is responsible for maintaining internal security, preventing conflicts, and ensuring that law and order prevail in society.

Quick Tip

Focus on the state's multi-dimensional roles, especially in governance, welfare, and nation-building efforts, which are key to the development and stability of a nation.