Future Topper

Half-Yearly Examination Practice Paper 1

Class IX Social Science (087)

Time allowed: 3 hours Maximum marks: 80

Syllabus covered: Understanding Society: India and Beyond, Part I (NCERT), Chapters 1 to 9. Check your school's half-yearly list before you start.

General instructions

1. This paper has 37 questions in six sections. All questions are compulsory.
2. Section A: questions 1 to 20 are multiple-choice questions of 1 mark each.
3. Section B: questions 21 to 24 carry 2 marks each (about 40 words).
4. Section C: questions 25 to 29 carry 3 marks each (about 60 words).
5. Section D: questions 30 to 33 carry 5 marks each (about 120 words).
6. Section E: questions 34 to 36 are source-based or case-based, with sub-parts of 1, 1 and 2 marks.
7. Section F: question 37 is a map question of 5 marks. Use a political outline map of India.
8. Internal choice is given in some questions. Attempt only one of the choices.

Section A

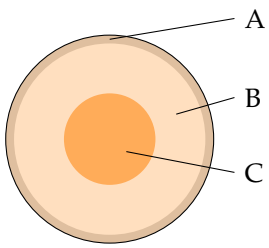
Questions 1 to 20 carry 1 mark each

1. Social Science can best be described as **1**

(a) the study of plants and animals (b) the systematic study of human society

(c) the study of numbers and shapes (d) the study of chemicals

2. The figure shows the layers of the Earth. The layer marked B is the **1**



(a) crust (b) core

(c) atmosphere (d) mantle

3. Which of these is an agent of gradation? **1**

(a) running water (b) earthquake

(c) folding (d) volcano

4. Which gas makes up the largest share of the Earth's atmosphere? **1**

(a) oxygen (b) carbon dioxide

(c) nitrogen (d) argon

5. The average weather of a place over a long period of time is called its **1**

(a) season (b) forecast

(c) humidity (d) climate

6. The India Meteorological Department divides the year into **1**

(a) four seasons (b) two seasons

(c) three seasons (d) six seasons

7. The period in which humans began farming, keeping animals and living in permanent villages is the **1**
(a) Palaeolithic (b) Mesolithic
(c) Neolithic (d) Chalcolithic

8. Small, finely shaped stone tools of the Mesolithic period are called **1**
(a) handaxes (b) microliths
(c) cleavers (d) ploughs

9. Which of these early civilisations developed in a river valley in China? **1**
(a) Mesopotamia (b) Egypt
(c) Sindhu–Sarasvatī (d) The civilisation of the Huang He valley

10. Historical sources usually speak of how many mahājanapadas? **1**
(a) eight (b) sixteen
(c) twelve (d) twenty

11. Among the mahājanapadas, the one that grew most powerful was located in present-day **1**
(a) Bihar (b) Punjab
(c) Gujarat (d) Kerala

12. Inscriptions describing village assemblies under the Cholas are found in a temple in **1**
(a) Thanjavur district (b) Madurai district
(c) Kanchipuram district (d) Mysuru district

13. Bodies called Sabhā and Samiti, which met for consultation, are mentioned in **1**
(a) Vedic texts (b) the Constitution of India
(c) Mughal records (d) British laws

14. Which of these is **not** a principle of democratic processes? **1**
(a) transparency (b) accountability
(c) participation (d) rule by one family

15. The minimum age to vote in elections in India is **1**
(a) 16 years (b) 21 years
(c) 25 years (d) 18 years

16. Which machine lets a voter check, on a printed slip, that the vote was recorded correctly? **1**
(a) VVPAT (b) ATM
(c) GPS (d) CCTV

17. The value of the next best option given up when a choice is made is called **1**
(a) profit (b) opportunity cost
(c) scarcity (d) price

18. Tea and coffee are examples of **1**
(a) complementary goods (b) public goods
(c) substitute goods (d) free goods

19. **Assertion (A):** When the price of a good falls, people usually buy more of it. **1**
Reason (R): The law of demand states an inverse relationship between price and quantity demanded.
(a) Both 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, but R is true.

20. **Assertion (A):** India is called the world's largest democracy. **1**
Reason (R): India has the largest land area in the world.

(a) Both 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, but R is true.

Section B

Questions 21 to 24 carry 2 marks each

21. Distinguish between weather and climate, with one example of each. **2**

22. What are Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs)? Why are they dangerous? **2**

OR

Name two external forces that shape the Earth's surface, and one landform made by each.

23. Why is casting a vote called both a right and a duty of every citizen? **2**

24. Give two features of a market economy. **2**

OR

What are the three central questions that every economy must answer?

Section C

Questions 25 to 29 carry 3 marks each

25. Describe three ways in which Social Science is part of a student's everyday life. **3**

26. Explain three causes of climate change, and suggest how a student can reduce their carbon footprint. **3**

27. Compare the Palaeolithic and Neolithic periods on three points: way of getting food, tools, and type of settlement. **3**

OR

Name three early river-valley civilisations of the world, and write one contribution of each.

28. Explain the role of the Election Commission of India in conducting free and fair elections. Give three points. **3**

29. A farmer can grow either wheat or barley on a piece of land. Explain, with this example, the ideas of scarcity, choice and opportunity cost. **3**

Section D

Questions 30 to 33 carry 5 marks each

30. Describe the layers of the atmosphere in order, starting from the Earth's surface. Write one feature of each. **5**

OR

How do interior forces such as earthquakes, volcanoes, folding and faulting change the Earth's crust? Explain with examples.

31. Trace how political organisation in early India grew from janas to kingdoms, republics and empires. Give examples. **5**

32. "Democracy is not limited to elections alone." Explain this statement with suitable points from the chapter. **5**

OR

Explain five features of the Indian Constitution that form the basis of India's democracy.

33. Explain five factors, other than price, that affect the demand for a good. Give an example for each. **5**

Section E

Questions 34 to 36 are source-based or case-based (4 marks each)

34. Read the source and answer the questions. **4**

In the Chola period, inscriptions on a temple wall at Uttaramerur record in detail how village assemblies worked. They describe who could become a member, how members were chosen, the committees that looked after tanks, gardens and justice, and the rules for removing members who misbehaved.

(i) In which present-day state is Uttaramerur? (1)

(ii) Name one task handled by the village committees. (1)

(iii) Explain two ways in which these assemblies show early democratic practice. (2)

35. Read the case and answer the questions. **4**

During a state election, a voter in Ravi's town saw a candidate's supporters handing out gifts near a polling booth. Ravi's sister, a first-time voter, used a mobile app to send a photo of it to the election authorities. Within hours, officials arrived and stopped it.

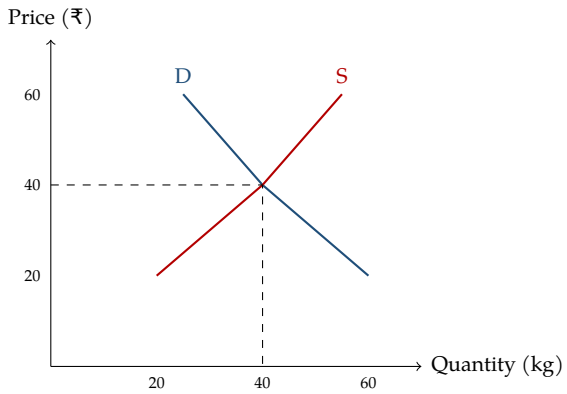
(i) Which set of rules was the candidate's team breaking? (1)

(ii) Name the app the voter could have used. (1)

(iii) How do such apps and alert citizens make elections fairer? Give two points. (2)

36. The table shows the demand and supply of tomatoes in a local market. **4**

Price (₹per kg)	Quantity demanded (kg)	Quantity supplied (kg)
20	60	20
40	40	40
60	25	55



(i) What is the equilibrium price? (1)

(ii) What is there at a price of ₹20: excess demand or excess supply? (1)

(iii) Explain what will happen to the price if heavy rain destroys part of the tomato crop. (2)

Section F

Map question (*5 marks*)

37. On a political outline map of India, locate and label the following. **5**

(a) Rakhigarhi, a major site of the Sindhu–Sarasvatī civilisation
(b) Dholavira, a planned Harappan city
(c) Lothal, a Harappan site with a dockyard
(d) Bhimbetka, a site famous for prehistoric cave art
(e) The state in which the powerful mahājanapada Magadha was located

***** End of question paper *****

Solutions

Answers give the points an examiner looks for. Accept any correct answer in the student's own words.

Section A

1. **Answer:** (**b**)

2. The outer thin layer A is the crust, B is the mantle and C is the core. **Answer:** (**d**) **mantle**

3. **Answer:** (**a**)

4. Nitrogen makes up about 78%. **Answer:** (**c**)

5. **Answer:** (**d**)

6. Winter, summer, monsoon and post-monsoon. **Answer:** (**a**)

7. **Answer:** (**c**)

8. **Answer:** (**b**)

9. **Answer:** (**d**)

10. **Answer:** (**b**)

11. Magadha was in present-day Bihar. **Answer:** (**a**)

12. The Uttaramerur inscriptions in the Vaikuṇṭha Perumal temple, Kanchipuram district. **Answer:** (**c**)

13. **Answer:** (**a**)

14. **Answer:** (**d**)

15. **Answer:** (**d**)

16. Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail. **Answer:** (**a**)

17. **Answer:** (**b**)

18. They can replace each other. **Answer:** (**c**)

19. R states the law that explains A. **Answer:** (**a**)

20. A is true. R is false: India is called the largest democracy because of the scale of citizen participation and its number of registered voters, not its land area, which is not the world's largest. **Answer:** (**c**)

Section B

21. Weather is the condition of the atmosphere at a place on a given day or for a short time, for example a rainy afternoon in Mumbai. Climate is the average weather of a place over a long period, for example the hot, dry climate of western Rajasthan.

22. GLOFs are sudden floods caused when large volumes of water burst out of glacial lakes, for example after rapid melting of glaciers or the collapse of the natural dam holding the lake. They are dangerous because they come with little warning and sweep away villages, roads, bridges and power projects downstream.
OR: Running water (river valleys, waterfalls, deltas), glaciers (U-shaped valleys, moraines), wind (sand dunes), waves (sea cliffs, beaches): any two forces with one landform each.

23. It is a right because the Constitution gives every adult citizen an equal vote to choose the government. It is a duty because democracy works only when citizens take part; by voting, each person helps form a government that represents everyone.

24. Market economy: most decisions about what and how much to produce are taken by private individuals and firms; prices are set by demand and supply; the aim is mostly profit (any two).
OR: What to produce, how to produce, and for whom to produce.

Section C

25. The food we eat is grown, processed, transported and sold through the work of many people, which is economics in action. The roads, schools and electricity we use depend on government decisions and policies. Our languages, festivals and traditions come from history and culture. (Any three, with examples.)

26. Causes: burning coal, petrol and other fuels, which releases greenhouse gases; cutting down forests; and other human activities that increase emissions. Together they lead to global warming and extreme weather.
A student can switch off lights and fans when not needed, walk, cycle or use public transport, plant and care for trees, cut waste, and reuse and recycle.

27. Food: Palaeolithic people hunted animals and gathered plants; Neolithic people grew crops and kept animals.
Tools: Palaeolithic: large stone tools such as handaxes, cleavers and scrapers; Neolithic: polished stone tools, along with pottery and weaving.
Settlement: Palaeolithic: caves and open camps, moving from place to place; Neolithic: permanent villages.
OR: Sindhu–Sarasvatī (planned cities with drains), Mesopotamia (an early writing system), Egypt (monumental buildings such as pyramids), China (early development along the Huang He): any three, each with one correct contribution.

28. The ECI prepares and revises electoral rolls so that every eligible citizen can vote. It conducts elections at many levels, schedules them, and manages polling staff and machines. It enforces the Model Code of Conduct and acts on complaints. It uses measures such as EVMs, VVPAT and voter-awareness campaigns to keep elections free, fair and transparent. (Any three.)

29. Land is scarce: the farmer cannot grow both crops on the same land at the same time. So he must make a choice between wheat and barley. If he chooses wheat, the barley he could have grown and earned from is given up; that value is the opportunity cost of growing wheat.

Section D

30. **Troposphere:** the lowest layer; almost all weather (clouds, rain, storms) happens here; temperature falls with height.
Stratosphere: above the troposphere; contains the ozone layer that absorbs harmful ultraviolet rays; calm air, suited to aircraft.
Mesosphere: temperature falls again; meteors burn up here.
Thermosphere: temperature rises sharply; radio waves are reflected back to Earth here.
Exosphere: the outermost layer, where the air is extremely thin and merges into space.

OR: Earthquakes are sudden movements of the crust that crack and shift the land and can cause landslides. Volcanoes push molten material onto the surface, building mountains and plateaus. Folding happens when layers of rock are pushed together and bend, forming fold mountains such as the Himalayas. Faulting happens when rocks crack and blocks move up or down along the cracks, forming block mountains and rift valleys. Together these interior forces lift, bend and break the crust, creating large landforms on which external forces then work.

31. Early people lived in clans or tribes (janas) led by a rājā, with assemblies such as the Sabhā and Samiti. Janas settled into territories called janapadas, which grew into bigger units, the mahājanapadas; sources speak of sixteen. Some were kingdoms ruled by kings; others were republics (gaṇas or saṁghas) ruled by assemblies. Magadha, in present-day Bihar, grew most powerful. Later, large empires such as the Mauryas and Guptas built systems of administration, taxation and armies, and in the south the Cholas ran a strong state with organised village assemblies.

32. Democracy means self-government through many institutions, rules and practices at the local, state and national levels. It works through principles such as transparency, participation, inclusion, fairness, equality, accountability and respect for different opinions. Citizens take part by staying informed, using media responsibly, joining community activities, and respecting democratic values in daily life. Institutions such as courts, legislatures and local bodies hold power to account between elections. So elections are essential, but democracy is a way of living and governing every day.

OR: Popular sovereignty (power comes from the people); universal adult franchise (every adult has one vote); fundamental rights and duties; the rule of law (all are equal before the law); separation of powers among the legislature, executive and judiciary.

33. **Income:** higher income usually means more demand, for example for better clothes. **Prices of related goods:** if coffee becomes costlier, demand for tea, a substitute, rises; complementary goods are bought together. **Tastes and preferences:** a new fashion raises demand. **Season:** demand for woollens rises in winter. **Future expectations:** if people expect prices to rise, they buy more now. **Population:** more people means more demand. (Any five, with examples.)

Section E

34. (i) Tamil Nadu. (ii) Looking after tanks, gardens or justice (any one). (iii) Members were chosen through set rules rather than by birth, and there were rules to remove members who misbehaved, which shows accountability. Committees shared the work of local governance.

35. (i) The Model Code of Conduct (bribing voters is also an electoral offence). (ii) cVIGIL. (iii) Citizens can report violations quickly with evidence, and officials can act at once. This discourages wrongdoing and makes the process more transparent.

36. (i) ₹40 per kg, where quantity demanded equals quantity supplied (40 kg). (ii) Excess demand, since 60 kg is demanded but only 20 kg is supplied. (iii) Supply falls, so at the old price there would be excess demand. Buyers compete for fewer tomatoes, and the price rises until a new equilibrium is reached.

Section F

37. (a) Rakhigarhi: in Hisar district, Haryana. (b) Dholavira: on Khadir island in the Rann of Kutch, Gujarat. (c) Lothal: near the Gulf of Khambhat, Ahmedabad district, Gujarat. (d) Bhimbetka: near Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. (e) Bihar. Each correct location and label gets 1 mark.