

CBSE – CLASS X

SOCIAL SCIENCE (087)

SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER (2025–26)

(As per Assessment Scheme 2024–25)

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. There are **38 questions** in the Question Paper. All questions are compulsory.
2. The Question Paper has **four sections**:
Section A – History, Section B – Geography,
Section C – Political Science, Section D – Economics.
3. Each section carries **20 marks**.
4. **VSA (2 marks)**: Answer in not more than **40 words**.
5. **SA (3 marks)**: Answer in not more than **60 words**.
6. **LA (5 marks)**: Answer in not more than **120 words**.
7. **Case-Based Questions (CBQ)** are of **4 marks** with sub-parts.
8. **Map-based questions** carry **5 marks** (History – 2, Geography – 3).
9. Internal choices are provided in some questions. Attempt **only one**.
10. Separate questions are provided for **Visually Impaired candidates** in lieu of map/visual questions.

SECTION A – HISTORY (20 MARKS)

Q1. Match the following and choose the correct option: (1)

Column I

Column II

A. Giuseppe Mazzini

1. Italian Revolutionary

B. Frankfurt Parliament

2. German National Assembly

C. Balkan region

3. Area of intense nationalism

D. Marianne

4. Symbol of French Republic

Q2. Identify the leader shown in the picture: (1)



A. Mahatma Gandhi

B. Jawaharlal Nehru

C. Subhash Chandra Bose

D. Bhagat Singh

(Visually Impaired Candidates: Answer in words)

Q3. Which event marked the beginning of the Non-Cooperation Movement in India? (1)

A. Jallianwala Bagh Massacre

B. Khilafat Movement

C. Chauri Chaura Incident

D. Simon Commission

Q4. The spread of nationalism in Europe was closely linked with the rise of – (1)

A. Imperialism

B. Liberalism

C. Socialism

D. Colonialism

Q5A. Explain two reasons why the sense of collective belonging developed in India. (2)

OR

Q5B. Explain two effects of the First World War on India. (2)

Q6A. How did folk songs, symbols, and icons contribute to the growth of nationalism in India? (3)

OR

Q6B. Explain the role of business classes in the Civil Disobedience Movement. (3)

Q7A. Analyse the role of Mahatma Gandhi in transforming the national movement in India. (5)

OR

Q7B. Explain the impact of print culture on the spread of ideas in Europe. (5)

Q8. Case-Based Question (4)

Read the source given below:

“Print culture created a new culture of reading. Ordinary people gained access to books and newspapers. This helped in spreading new ideas, debate, and discussion.”

8.1 What was the main impact of print culture on society? (1)

8.2 How did print culture help nationalism? (1)

8.3 State two reasons why printed books became popular. (2)

Q9. MAP SKILL – HISTORY (2 MARKS)

On the outline map of India, locate and label:

A. Place associated with Dandi March

B. Place of Jallianwala Bagh

(For Visually Impaired Candidates: Answer in words)

SECTION B – GEOGRAPHY (20 MARKS)

Q10. Which factor is most important for sustainable development of resources? (1)

Q11. Identify the correct pair of soil and crop: (1)

A. Black soil – Rice

B. Red soil – Cotton

C. Alluvial soil – Wheat

D. Laterite soil – Wheat

Q12. Which is the main objective of Project Tiger? (1)

Q13. Which type of forest is found in areas receiving heavy rainfall? (1)

Q14. Which river valley project is used for hydel power and irrigation? (1)

Q15. Evaluate the significance of rainwater harvesting in India. (1)

Q16. Explain why manufacturing industries are concentrated in urban areas. (2)

Q17A. Explain the importance of iron and steel industry in India. (5)

OR

Q17B. Analyse the role of non-conventional sources of energy in sustainable development. (5)

Q18. Case-Based Question (4)

Read the passage and answer:

“Water scarcity affects agriculture, industries, and daily life. Efficient management of water resources is necessary.”

18.1 What is water scarcity? (1)

18.2 Mention two causes of water scarcity. (2)

18.3 Suggest one method to conserve water. (1)

Q19. MAP SKILL – GEOGRAPHY (3 MARKS)

Locate and label:

I. Hirakud Dam OR Bhakra Nangal Dam

II. Any two of the following:

Major sea port in Maharashtra

International airport in Delhi

International airport in Kerala

(Alternate questions for Visually Impaired Candidates provided)

SECTION C – POLITICAL SCIENCE (20 MARKS)

Q20. Which form of power sharing involves sharing among different organs of government? (1)

Q21. Which political system allows only one party to rule? (1)

Q22. Why is power sharing desirable? (1)

Q23. Assertion–Reason: (1)

A: Democracy promotes equality

R: Democracy allows participation of citizens

Q24. Highlight two differences between unitary and federal government. (2)

Q25. Mention two ways in which caste affects politics in India. (2)

Q26. Explain how democracy accommodates social diversity. (3)

Q27A. Explain the functions of political parties. (5)

OR

Q27B. Analyse the role of pressure groups in democracy. (5)

Q28. Case-Based Question (4)

Based on Power Sharing:

28.1 Name one country with a federal system. (1)

28.2 State one advantage of power sharing. (1)

28.3 Explain two types of power sharing. (2)

SECTION D – ECONOMICS (20 MARKS)

Q29. What is disguised unemployment? (1)

Q30. Which indicator shows standard of living? (1)

Q31. Which sector provides support services to other sectors? (1)

Q32. What is the main function of banks? (1)

Q33. Why is money better than barter system? (1)

Q34. Match the following related to globalisation: (1)

Q35. Explain the role of education in economic development. (3)

Q36. Why is the formal sector of credit important? (3)

Q37. Explain three impacts of globalisation on Indian economy. (3)

Q38A. Explain differences between public and private sector. (5)

OR

Q38B. Analyse the impact of globalisation on employment. (5)

— END OF QUESTION PAPER – 3 —

Name:..... Date:.....

Std..... div..... Roll No.....



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1. The responsibility of the correctness of internal details rests with the publisher.
2. The territorial waters of India extend into the sea to a distance of twelve nautical miles measured from the appropriate base line.
3. The administrative headquarters of Chandigarh, Haryana and Punjab are at Chandigarh.
4. The boundary of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and Nagaland shown on this map is as inferred from the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act, 1971, but has yet to be verified.
5. The External Boundaries and Coastline of India on the map are as per the latest Primary copy certified by the Survey of India.
6. The intermediate boundaries between Uttar Pradesh-Uttarakhand, Bihar-Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh-Chhattisgarh have not been verified by the Government concerned.

Class Teacher's Signature

CBSE – CLASS X – SOCIAL SCIENCE (087)

Answer Key (2025–26)

SECTION A – HISTORY (20 Marks)

Q1. Match the following:

Column I

Column II

A. Giuseppe Mazzini

1. Italian Revolutionary

B. Frankfurt Parliament

2. German National Assembly

C. Balkan region

3. Area of intense nationalism

D. Marianne

4. Symbol of French Republic

Q2. Identify the leader:

Answer: C. Subhash Chandra Bose

Bose led the Indian National Army and emphasized armed struggle for independence.

Q3. Beginning of Non-Cooperation Movement:

Answer: B. Khilafat Movement

The movement (1920–22) started alongside the Khilafat movement to protest British rule peacefully.

Q4. Spread of nationalism in Europe linked with:

Answer: B. Liberalism

Liberal ideas promoted democracy, equality, and freedom → fostered nationalism.

Q5A. Sense of collective belonging in India:

Nationalist leaders promoted unity across regions through newspapers, speeches, and rallies.

Shared struggle against British laws like Rowlatt Act and Salt Tax created solidarity.

OR Q5B. Effects of First World War on India:

Economic hardship due to high taxes and inflation.

Rise in political awareness → laid foundation for Non-Cooperation Movement.

Q6A. Folk songs, symbols, and icons in nationalism:

Folk songs inspired people during protests and evoked patriotic feelings.

Symbols like tricolour flag, and icons like Gandhi, mobilized masses for independence.

Festivals, theatre, and plays spread nationalist ideas widely.

OR Q6B. Role of business classes in Civil Disobedience Movement:

Provided financial support to sustain nationwide protests.

Promoted boycott of foreign goods, encouraging Swadeshi industry.

Mobilized local population in towns and cities.

Q7A. Role of Mahatma Gandhi in national movement:

Introduced Satyagraha and non-violent civil disobedience.

Mobilized people across social classes and regions.

Encouraged self-reliance via Khadi and Swadeshi.

United peasants, workers, students in mass movements.

Emphasized moral and ethical struggle over violent means.

OR Q7B. Impact of print culture in Europe:

Spread literacy and education among ordinary people.

Newspapers and books created awareness of ideas and debates.

Encouraged political and social reform movements.

Promoted nationalism and identity awareness.

Facilitated communication across regions → faster mobilization.

Q8. Case-Based Question:

8.1 Main impact of print culture: Spread of literacy, knowledge, and awareness among masses.

8.2 Helped nationalism: Printed books & newspapers informed citizens about injustice → united people against colonial rule.

8.3 Reasons for popularity:

Affordable and accessible to common people.

Written in local languages, easy to understand.

Q9. Map Skill – History:

A: Sabarmati Ashram, Gujarat (Dandi March)

B: Amritsar, Punjab (Jallianwala Bagh)

SECTION B – GEOGRAPHY (20 Marks)

Q10. Important factor for sustainable resource development:

Answer: Technological and institutional development

Q11. Correct soil-crop pair:

Answer: B. Red soil – Cotton

Q12. Main objective of Project Tiger:

To conserve tigers and their habitats, and prevent extinction.

Q13. Forest type in heavy rainfall areas:

Tropical evergreen forests (dense, multi-layered).

Q14. River valley project for hydel power & irrigation:

Bakra Nangal Dam / Hirakud Dam

Q15. Significance of rainwater harvesting:

Reduces dependence on groundwater.

Prevents water scarcity.

Helps in agriculture and urban water supply.

Q16. Manufacturing industries concentrated in urban areas:

Access to transport, markets, and labor.

Availability of infrastructure like power and water.

Q17A. Importance of iron and steel industry:

Supports construction, transport, and machinery industries.

Provides employment.

Essential for defense & infrastructure.

Generates revenue and promotes industrial growth.

Backbone of national development.

OR Q17B. Role of non-conventional energy:

Reduces fossil fuel dependency.

Sustainable and eco-friendly.

Solar, wind, and biomass provide electricity in remote areas.

Reduces pollution & carbon footprint.

Ensures long-term energy security.

Q18. Case-Based – Water scarcity:

18.1 Water scarcity: Shortage of water for agriculture, industry, and daily use.

18.2 Causes:

Over-extraction of groundwater.

Unequal distribution & urbanization.

18.3 Method to conserve: Rainwater harvesting.

Q19. Map Skill – Geography:

Dam: Bhakra Nangal Dam / Hirakud Dam

Major sea port in Maharashtra: Mumbai

International airport Delhi: Indira Gandhi International Airport

International airport Kerala: Kochi / Thiruvananthapuram

SECTION C – POLITICAL SCIENCE (20 Marks)

Q20. Power sharing among organs:

Horizontal distribution of power

Q21. Political system with one party:

One-party system

Q22. Why power sharing desirable:

Prevents conflict, ensures stability, protects minorities.

Q23. Assertion–Reason:

Answer: A. Both A & R true, R explains A

Q24. Differences – Unitary vs Federal:

Aspect

Unitary

Federal

Power distribution

Central govt strong

Division of powers

Constitution

Flexible

Rigid

Q25. Caste affects politics in India:

Voting behavior based on caste identity.

Political parties nominate candidates to attract caste-based votes.

Q26. Democracy accommodates social diversity:

Representation of minorities and different communities.

Equal rights and participation in governance.

Power sharing at multiple levels (Union, State, local).

Q27A. Functions of political parties:

Form government & provide leadership.

Represent citizen interests.

Policy formulation and alternatives.

Mobilize people during elections.

Promote accountability.

OR Q27B. Role of pressure groups:

Influence government policy without contesting elections.

Represent specific interests (farmers, workers).

Promote participation and awareness.

Q28. Case-Based – Power Sharing:

28.1 Federal country: India

28.2 Advantage: Reduces conflict between different regions.

28.3 Types of power sharing:

Horizontal (among organs: legislature, executive, judiciary)

Vertical (between central & state governments)

SECTION D – ECONOMICS (20 Marks)

Q29. Disguised unemployment:

More people employed than needed → low productivity.

Q30. Indicator showing standard of living:

Per capita income / Human Development Index

Q31. Sector providing support services:

Tertiary sector (services like transport, banking, education)

Q32. Main function of banks:

Provide credit, accept deposits, and support economic activities.

Q33. Money better than barter system:

Acts as medium of exchange.

Common measure of value.

Facilitates trade without double coincidence of wants.

Q34. Match for globalisation:

MNC → Buying up local companies

WTO → Liberalising international trade

IT → Facilitating rapid integration of markets

Globalisation → Increased interdependence of countries

Q35. Role of education in development:

Increases literacy & skills.

Enhances employability.

Promotes innovation & growth.

Q36. Importance of formal sector credit:

Lower interest rates.

Accessible to small businesses & farmers.

Encourages investment and entrepreneurship.

Q37. Impacts of globalisation on India:

Increased foreign investment.

Growth of IT & service sector.

Exposure to global markets & technology.

Q38A. Differences – Public vs Private sector:

Aspect

Public

Private

Ownership

Government

Private individuals

Objective

Welfare & development

Profit

Job security

High

Variable

Example

Indian Railways

Reliance Industries

OR Q38B. Impact of globalisation on employment:

Positive: Job creation in IT, service & manufacturing.

Negative: Job insecurity, closure of uncompetitive small firms.