



B.K. BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION

SARALA BIRLA GROUP OF SCHOOLS
A CBSE DAY-CUM-BOYS' RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL
TERM-1 EXAMINATION 2026-27

SOCIAL SCIENCE (087)

CLASS: IX

MARKING SCHEME (SET-1)

DURATION: 3 Hrs.

Date: 31/08/2026

Max. Marks: 80

Name:

Roll no: -----

SECTION-A: HISTORY (18 Marks)

Q1. (c) Third Estate

Explanation: Before 1789, only members of the Third Estate (peasants, artisans, merchants, workers) paid direct and indirect taxes (like *taille* and *gabelle*). The First (Clergy) and Second (Nobility) Estates enjoyed tax exemptions.

Q2. (a) Abbé Sieyès

Explanation: Abbé Sieyès, originally a priest, wrote the famous pamphlet titled "*What is the Third Estate?*" to highlight the role and oppression of commoners.

Q3. (a) Reichstag

Explanation: The elected parliament of Germany was called the *Reichstag*. (*Duma* belongs to Russia, *Estates-General* to pre-revolutionary France).

Q4. (b) To indoctrinate youth into Nazi ideology, military discipline, and absolute loyalty to Hitler.

Explanation: The *Hitler-Jugend* (Hitler Youth) trained young boys from age 14 to worship war, hate Jews, and serve the Nazi state unconditionally.

Q5. Explain any two causes that led to the empty treasury of France when Louis XVI ascended the throne.

1. **Long years of war & assistance to American colonies:** Prolonged involvement in wars drained financial resources. Helping 13 American colonies gain independence from Britain added over 1 billion *livres* to an existing debt.
2. **Cost of maintaining an extravagant court:** Enormous sums of money were spent maintaining the luxurious royal court at the Palace of Versailles.

Q6. Describe the circumstances leading to the outbreak of revolutionary protest in France in 1789.

1. **Social Inequality:** French society was split into three estates, with the entire tax burden falling on the Third Estate, creating deep resentment.

2. **Subsistence Crisis:** Rapid population growth (from 23 million to 28 million) caused grain shortages. Droughts and bad harvests caused bread prices to skyrocket, leading to widespread hunger and bread riots.
3. **Financial Crisis & Proposal for New Taxes:** Louis XVI called the Estates-General on May 5, 1789, to impose new taxes, pushing public anger to a boiling point.
4. **Voting Dispute in Estates-General:** The Third Estate demanded that each member have one vote instead of one vote per estate. When the King rejected this, commoners walked out and formed the National Assembly.
5. **Outbreak of Violence:** Severe winters and rumours that the King sent troops to destroy crops caused panicking peasants and citizens to storm the Bastille on July 14, 1789.

OR

Role of philosophers in inspiring the French Revolution:

- **John Locke:** In his *Two Treatises of Government*, Locke rejected the absolute power and divine right of the monarch.
- **Jean Jacques Rousseau:** In *The Social Contract*, Rousseau proposed a government based on a social contract between citizens and their elected representatives.
- **Montesquieu:** In *The Spirit of the Laws*, he advocated for a division of power within the government among three branches: the legislative, executive, and judicial.

Q7. Explain the key factors that facilitated the rise of Adolf Hitler to power in Germany by 1933.

1. **Humiliation of the Treaty of Versailles:** Germany lost territory, military power, and was forced to pay heavy war reparations, making citizens bitter toward the Weimar Republic.
2. **Great Depression (1929):** Economic collapse left millions unemployed, businesses shut down, and currency inflated. Nazi propaganda offered hope and jobs during this chaotic period.
3. **Hitler's Oratory & Propaganda:** Hitler was a powerful speaker whose speeches promised to rebuild national pride, restore employment, and undo past injustices.
4. **Weakness of Weimar Republic:** Political instability and frequent government collapses destroyed public faith in democratic institutions.
5. **Use of Mass Mobilization:** Nazi rallies, swastika banners, and organized parades created a sense of unity and strength, winning Hitler the position of Chancellor in January 1933.

OR

Systemic features of the Nazi state and control over citizens:

- **Establishment of a Dictatorship:** The *Enabling Act of 1933* gave Hitler absolute authority to bypass Parliament and rule by decree.
- **Total Propaganda & Media Control:** The Ministry of Propaganda (led by Joseph Goebbels) controlled radio, press, theatre, and education to spread Nazi ideology continuously.
- **Indoctrination of Youth:** Textbooks were rewritten, Jewish teachers were dismissed, and youth organizations (*Jungvolk*, *Hitler Youth*) trained children to follow Nazi values.

- **Police State & Surveillance:** Specialized security forces like the Gestapo (Secret State Police), SS, and SA arrested and removed any political opponents or "undesirable" groups.

Q8. History Map Work

- **A: Great Britain** (or **USSR / USA** depending on map marker; usually **Great Britain** or **France** on European maps).
- **B: Germany** (epicentre of Axis powers in Europe).

SECTION-B: GEOGRAPHY (25 Marks)

Q9. a) Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

Explanation: Fold Mountains like the Himalayas are formed by colliding tectonic plates that lift up marine sedimentary deposits.

Q10. a) Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

Explanation: The combination of fertile alluvium soil, perennial water flow, and favourable climate creates optimal conditions for farming.

Q11. (c) Gorges

Explanation: Fast-flowing Rivers in their upper/youthful stage cut steep V-shaped valleys and deep gorges through vertical erosion. (Ox-bow lakes, deltas, and meanders form downstream).

Q12. (b) Lake Mansarovar

Explanation: The Indus originates in Tibet near Lake Mansarovar and flows westward into India through Ladakh.

Q13. (c) Godavari

Explanation: Due to its large length (~1,500 km) and vast basin size, the Godavari is known as the 'Dakshin Ganga'.

Q14. (a) Water divides

Explanation: An elevated land area (like a mountain or ridge) separating two adjacent drainage basins is a water divide (e.g., the Western Ghats).

Q15. Mention any two distinct features of the Himalayan rivers compared to Peninsular rivers.

1. **Perennial vs. Seasonal Flow:** Himalayan rivers flow year-round because they are fed by both rainfall and melting glaciers. Peninsular rivers are seasonal and rely primarily on rainfall.
2. **Course Length & Erosion:** Himalayan rivers have long courses, carrying massive amounts of silt and performing intense upper-course erosion. Peninsular rivers have shorter, shallower courses over hard rock.

OR

How lakes are of immense value to human beings:

1. **Flow Regulation:** Lakes help prevent floods during heavy rainfall and maintain a steady stream flow during dry seasons.
2. **Economic & Living Benefits:** They provide water for irrigation, support freshwater fisheries, generate hydroelectricity, and promote tourism.

Q16. Why is the central location of India at the head of the Indian Ocean considered to be of great strategic significance?

1. **Connecting International Sea Routes:** The Trans-Indian Ocean routes connect the industrial economies of Europe with East Asian nations.
2. **Maritime Trade Dominance:** India's long coastline allows direct sea access to West Asia, Africa, and Europe from the west coast, and Southeast/East Asia from the east coast.
3. **Geopolitical Control:** Occupying a central position at the head of the Indian Ocean gives India a natural strategic advantage in regional trade and maritime security.

Q17. Contrast the prominent relief features of the Western Ghats with those of the Eastern Ghats.

Feature	Western Ghats	Eastern Ghats
Continuity	Continuous wall; can only be crossed through passes (Thal, Bhor, Pal Ghats).	Discontinuous and irregular; dissected by major east-flowing rivers.
Elevation	Higher average elevation (900 – 1,600 metres).	Lower average elevation (~600 metres).
Highest Peak	Anamudi (2,695 m).	Mahendragiri (1,501 m).
Rainfall Type	Cause orographic rain on the windward slopes.	Receive rain mostly during retreating monsoons; parallel to southwest monsoon winds.

Q18. Source-Based Questions

- **18.1:**
 - **Latitude:** 8°4'N to 37°6'N
 - **Longitude:** 68°7'E to 97°25'E
- **18.2:** The **Tropic of Cancer** (23°30'N).
- **18.3:**
 - **Andaman and Nicobar Islands:** Located in the **Bay of Bengal** (southeast).
 - **Lakshadweep Islands:** Located in the **Arabian Sea** (southwest).

Q19. Source-Based Questions

- **19.1:** The **Western Ghats**.
- **19.2:** The Narmada and Tapi flow west because they flow through **rift valleys** formed by tectonic faulting, following the natural tilt of these structural troughs rather than the general slope of the peninsula.

- **19.3:**
 - **East-flowing rivers:** Form wide, fertile **deltas** at their mouths (e.g., Godavari, Krishna deltas) due to gentler slopes and high sediment loads.
 - **West-flowing rivers:** Form **estuaries** because their steep, short slopes prevent large silt accumulation at the coast.

Q20. Geography Map Work

- *Locate and label correctly on an outline map of India:*
 1. **Karakoram Range** (Northernmost Jammu & Kashmir/Ladakh) **OR Zaskar Range** (South of Karakoram/Indus).
 2. **K2** (Northern Karakoram Range) **OR Anamudi** (Kerala/Western Ghats).
 3. **Tapi River** (Flows westward through Madhya Pradesh/Gujarat) **OR Mahanadi River** (Flows eastward through Odisha).

SECTION-C: POLITICAL SCIENCE

Q21. (b) It is a more accountable form of government.

Explanation: Democracies require leaders to respond to public needs and remain accountable to citizens through periodic elections.

Q22. (d) All of the above

Explanation: Historically, Saudi Arabia restricted women's voting rights until 2015, Estonia made citizenship rules difficult for Russian minorities, and Fiji's electoral system weighted indigenous votes higher than Indo-Fijians.

Q23. a) Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

Explanation: The Assembly met over 3 years to deliberate every clause, ensuring all diverse communities were represented fairly.

Q24. d) (A) is false, but (R) is true.

Explanation: The Indian Constitution is a flexible, living document that allows for amendments as society evolves.

Q25. (c) 18 years

Explanation: Under Universal Adult Suffrage, every Indian citizen aged 18 or above has the right to vote.

Q26. a) Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

Explanation: Electoral competition encourages political parties to fulfill promises to stay in office.

Q27. "Democracy enhances the dignity of citizens." Justify this statement with three arguments.

1. **Principle of Political Equality:** Democracy is based on the rule of "*one person, one vote, one value.*" The poorest and least educated citizens hold the same political status as the rich and educated.
2. **Rights & Freedom:** Citizens are granted Fundamental Rights, such as freedom of speech and expression, protecting them from arbitrary state power.
3. **Self-Correction & Participation:** Citizens are active decision-makers rather than passive subjects. If elected representatives make poor choices, citizens can change them in the next election.

Q28. Why do we need a Constitution for a democratic nation? Give three valid reasons.

1. **Generates Trust & Harmony:** It lays down basic ground rules needed for diverse groups to live together peacefully.
2. **Defines & Limits Power:** It specifies how the government will be constituted and sets strict boundaries to prevent leaders from misusing their power.
3. **Protects Citizen Rights:** It guarantees rights and freedoms to individuals that no government can easily override.

Q29. What makes an election in India democratic? Explain the role of the Independent Election Commission.

1. **Autonomous Status:** The Election Commission (EC) operates independently of executive control. The Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) cannot be easily removed by the government once appointed.
2. **Conducts Free and Fair Elections:** The EC oversees every step of the election process, from updating voter lists to announcing final results.
3. **Enforces Code of Conduct:** It punishes candidates or political parties that use money, muscle power, or government resources illegally during campaigns.

OR

Model Code of Conduct rules for election campaigns in India:

- *Definition:* A set of norms agreed upon by political parties to guide their conduct during election campaigns.
- *Key Rules:*
 1. No party or candidate can use places of worship for election propaganda.
 2. The ruling party cannot use official government vehicles, aircraft, or personnel for campaign activities.

Q30. Source-Based Questions

- **30.1:** The makers faced challenges due to the violent partition of the country, high social and religious diversity, and integrating over 500 princely states.
- **30.2:** The British gave princely states the choice to join India, join Pakistan, or remain independent.
- **30.3:** Constitution-makers reached consensus on core democratic principles (like universal adult suffrage and minority protections), drew inspiration from global constitutions, and conducted thorough debates to ensure a balanced document.

SECTION-D: ECONOMICS

Q31. (a) Wheat and Rice

Explanation: The Green Revolution introduced High Yielding Variety (HYV) seeds primarily for wheat and rice production.

Q32. (b) Dairy farming

Explanation: Dairy is the most common non-farm activity in Palampur, where families sell milk in nearby towns like Raiganj.

Q33. (b) Physical capital

Explanation: Just as investing in machinery yields higher output, investing in education and healthcare turns human beings into productive human capital with higher earnings.

Q34. (c) Primary Sector

Explanation: The primary sector covers all activities that directly extract or yield natural resources (agriculture, fishing, and forestry).

Q35. Differentiate between Multiple Cropping and Modern Farming Methods.

Multiple Cropping	Modern Farming Methods
Growing more than one crop on the same piece of land during a single year.	Using technological inputs like HYV seeds, chemical fertilizers, pesticides, and farm machinery.
Focuses on land management and crop rotation using natural inputs.	Focuses on boosting yield per hectare using modern inputs and heavy irrigation.

Q36. Differentiate between economic and non-economic activities with examples.

- **Economic Activities:** Activities undertaken to earn a livelihood or income (adds value to national income).
 - *Example:* A teacher teaching in a school or a farmer growing crops for sale.
- **Non-Economic Activities:** Activities performed out of love, affection, duty, or charity without monetary gain.
 - *Example:* A mother cooking food for her family or volunteering at a community shelter.

Q37. "Land is a fixed natural resource, yet its intensive utilization has put severe stress on its sustainability." Discuss with reference to Palampur.

1. **Depletion of Water Tables:** Continuous use of tubewell irrigation for HYV crops has depleted groundwater levels over time.
2. **Soil Degradation:** Overusing chemical fertilizers strips the soil of natural nutrients, killing essential soil microorganisms.
3. **Loss of Natural Soil Fertility:** Farmers are forced to use increasingly higher quantities of chemical fertilizers every year to maintain crop yields, raising input costs and damaging long-term soil health.

OR

Physical Capital & its types:

- **Physical Capital:** The variety of inputs required at every stage during production.
 1. **Fixed Capital:** Tools, machinery, and buildings that can be used in production over many years.
 - *Examples:* Farmers' ploughs, tubewells, tractors, or factory buildings.
 2. **Working Capital:** Raw materials and money on hand that get used up during production.
 - *Examples:* Seeds, fertilizers, and cash needed to pay laborers or buy supplies.

Q38. How does investment in education and health transform a human being into a productive human asset? Elaborate with examples.

1. **Increases Productivity and Skill:** Education provides knowledge, vocational training, and technical skills, enabling individuals to perform specialized jobs efficiently.
 - *Example:* A trained IT professional generates far higher output than an unskilled worker.
2. **Improves Physical Ability & Working Days:** Good healthcare improves life expectancy and reduces sick days, allowing individuals to contribute consistently to the workforce.
3. **Creates Virtuous Cycles:** Educated and healthy parents invest more in their children's schooling and health, creating a cycle of human development across generations.

OR

Types of Unemployment (Rural vs. Urban):

- **Rural Unemployment:**
 1. **Seasonal Unemployment:** Occurs when people cannot find work during certain months of the year when no agricultural activity takes place (e.g., between sowing and harvest).
 2. **Disguised Unemployment:** Occurs when more people are working on a farm than necessary. Removing extra workers does not reduce total agricultural production.
- **Urban Unemployment:**
 - **Educated Unemployment:** Occurs when educated individuals holding high school, diploma, or university degrees are unable to find suitable jobs matching their qualifications.