CBSE Test Paper - 02

Chapter - 07 Print Culture and the Modern World

- 1. Which of the following statements is correct? (1)
 - a. Printing press increased the cost of books
 - b. Printing press has nothing to do with the price of books
 - c. Printing press reduced the cost of books
 - d. Printing press has kept the prices of the books constant
- 2. Sebastien Mercier was a/an (1)
 - a. Comedian
 - b. Editor
 - c. Novelist
 - d. Artist
- 3. Gagging act was the nickname name of which of the following (1)
 - a. Licensing Act
 - b. Indian Press Act
 - c. Vernacular Press Act
 - d. Registration Act
- 4. Name the paper started by Bal Gangadhar Tilak (1)
 - a. The Statesman
 - b. Amrita Bazar Patrika
 - c. The Kesari
 - d. The Young India
- 5. James Hickey was persecuted by Warren Hastings because (1)
 - a. He published against Warren Hastings
 - b. He killed an English official
 - c. He published against English queen

- d. He published a lot of gossip about company's senior officials in India
- 6. Which method of hand-printing was developed in China? (1)
- 7. Give two names of women authors who were angered by the treatment meted out to widows. (1)
- 8. How did Governor-General William Bentinck react to the petition filed by editors of English and vernacular newspapers? (1)
- 9. What were penny magazines? (1)
- 10. Where was the earliest kind of print technology developed? Explain with examples. (3)
- 11. Explain the role played by print in bringing about a division in the Roman Catholic Church. (3)
- 12. Explain any two steps taken by 'Ulamas' to defend their religion. (3)
- 13. The Imperial State in China, was the major producer of printed material. Support this statement with examples. (3)
- 14. "Print led to intense controversies between social and religious reformers and Hindu orthodoxy." Support the statement with example. (5)
- 15. How did Hindu religious texts benefit from printing? (5)

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Answers

1. c. Printing press reduced the cost of books

Explanation: Printing press reduced the cost of books. Not only this, the time and labour required to produce each book has come down and multiple copies could be produced with greater ease.

2. c. Novelist

Explanation: Mercier was a novelist who declared that printing press is the most powerful engine of progress.

3. c. Vernacular Press Act

Explanation: Vernacular press act was nicknamed as Gagging Act. Its worst feature was that it discriminated between the English press and the Vernacular press.

4. c. The Kesari

Explanation: Kesari is a Marathi newspaper which was founded by Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak, a prominent leader of the Indian Independence movement.

- 5. d. He published a lot of gossip about company's senior officials in India **Explanation:** James Hickey published a lot of advertisements including those related to import and sale of slaves. He also published a lot of gossip about the senior officials of East India Company. Warren Hastings was enraged by this and thus he persecuted James Hickey.
- 6. Woodblock printing was developed in China.
- 7. Women authors who were angered by the treatment meted out to widows were Tarabai Shinde and Pandita Ramabai. They wrote with passionate anger about the miserable lives of upper-caste Hindu women, especially widows.
- 8. In 1835, Governor-General William Bentinck agreed to revise press laws because of the urgent petitions by editors of English and vernacular newspapers.
- 9. Penny magazines were illustrated magazines published by the British for the middle

classes. Penny magazines were specially meant for women and these were manuals teaching proper behaviour and house-keeping.

- 10. i. The earliest kind of printing technology developed in China, Japan and Korea. This was a system of hand printing.
 - ii. From AD 594 onwards, books in China were printed by rubbing paper against the inked surface of woodblocks. As both sides of the thin, porous sheet could not be printed, the traditional Chinese accordion book was folded and stitched at the side.
 - iii. The imperial state in China was, for a very long time, the major producer of printed material. China possessed a huge bureaucratic system which recruited its personnel through civil services examination.
- 11. i. In 1517, the religious reformer Martin Luther wrote Ninety Five Theses criticising many of the practices and rituals of the Roman Catholic Church.
 - ii. A printed copy of this was posted on a church door in Wittenberg. It challenged the Church to debate his ideas. Luther's writings were immediately reproduced in vast numbers and read widely. This lead to a division within the Church and to the beginning of the Protestant Reformation.
 - iii. Luther's translation of the New Testament sold 5,000 copies within a few weeks and a second edition appeared within three months.
 - iv. Deeply grateful to print, Luther said, 'Printing is the ultimate gift of God and the greatest one.'
 - v. Several scholars think that print brought about a new intellectual atmosphere and helped spread the new ideas that led to the Reformation.
- 12. Ulamas were the legal scholars of Islam and the sharia. They feared that colonial rulers would encourage conversion of religion to Christianity. Hence they took following steps to protect their religion:
 - i. They used cheap lithographic presses, published Persian and Urdu translations of holy scripture and printed religious newspapers and tracts.
 - ii. The Deoband Seminary published *Fatwas* telling Muslim readers how to conduct themselves in their everyday lives, and explaining the meaning of Islamic doctrine.
- 13. The imperial State in China was the major producer of printed material because of the following reasons:

- i. China possessed a huge bureaucratic system which recruited its personnel through civil services examination.
- ii. Textbooks for this examination were printed in large number, under the sponsorship of the imperial state.
- iii. From the sixteenth century, the number of candidates taking the examination went up and that increased the volume of print.
- 14. i. Print led to intense controversies between social and religious reformers and Hindu orthodoxy over matters like widow immolation, monotheism, Brahmanical priesthood and idolatry.
 - ii. As the debate developed tracts and newspapers proliferated circulating a variety of arguments in Bengal.
 - iii. To reach a wider audience, the ideas were printed in the everyday spoken language of local people.
 - iv. Rammohun Roy published the Sambad Kaumudi from 1821 and the Hindu orthodoxy commissioned the Samachar Chandrika to oppose his opinions.
 - v. The two Persian newspapers 'Jam-i-Jahan Nama' and 'Shamsul Akbar' were published in the year 1822. In the same year, a Gujarati newspaper, the Bombay Samachar, made its appearance.
- 15. i. Print encouraged the reading of religious texts, especially in the vernacular languages. Printing brought a remarkable change in the religious texts of the Hindus.
 - ii. In 1810, the first printed edition of the Ramcharitmanas of Tulsidas, a sixteenth-century text, came out from Calcutta.
 - iii. By the mid-nineteenth century, cheap lithographic editions flooded north Indian markets.
 - iv. The Naval Kishore Press of Lucknow and Shri Venkateshwara Press in Bombay published numerous religious books in vernacular languages.
 - v. Printed and portable forms of such books helped the religious people to read them anywhere at any time. They could also be read out to large groups of illiterate men and women.
 - vi. Religious texts, therefore, reached a very wide circle of people, encouraging discussions, debates and controversies within and among different religions.