

Maharashtra State Board
Political Science
Sample Question Paper – 1
Academic Year: 2024-2025

Note:

1. All the questions are compulsory.
2. Figures to the right indicate full marks.
3. Minimum of 4 points are expected for sub-questions of 4 marks.
4. Write answers to each question on new page.

Q1.A | Choose the correct alternative and complete the following statement:

1.A.1. The right to information act came into force from ____ in India.

1. 1952
2. 1972
- 3. 2005**
4. 2014

Solution:

The right to information act came into force from 2005 in India.

1.A.2. In ____ GATT was replaced by WTO.

1. 1948
2. 1984
3. 1992

4. 1995

Solution:

In 1995 GATT was replaced by WTO.

1.A.3. The concept of citizen charter is the activity of ____.

1. Good governance

2. NGO activity
3. Development administration
4. POSDCORB

Solution:

The concept of citizen charter is the activity of Good governance.

1.A.4. ____ is a sense of political identity.

1. Freedom
2. State
3. Nation

4. Nationalism

Solution:

Nationalism is a sense of political identity.

1.A.5. India needs capital investment in ____ for its development.

1. Defence
2. agriculture

3. Infrastructure

Solution:

India needs capital investment in Infrastructure for its development.

Q1.B | Identify the incorrect pair in every set, correct and rewrite it:

1.B.1. Identify the incorrect group or factor.

1. Panchayati Raj - 73rd Amendment
2. Azadi Movement - West Bengal

3. IAS - All India Services

Solution:

IAS - All India Services

Explanation: Correct Pair: IAS - Indian Administrative Service

1.B.2. Identify the incorrect group or factor.

1. Right to Information Act - 2005
2. Lokpal and Lokayukta Act - 2013

3. Maharashtra Lokaayukta Act - 2016

Solution:

Maharashtra Lokaayukta Act - 2016

Explanation: Correct Pair: Maharashtra Lokaayukta Act - 1972

1.B.3. Identify the incorrect pair in the set and rewrite.

1. Export of food grains - First sector

2. Industries - Second sector
3. Health and Education - Third sector

Solution:

Export of food grains - First Sector

Explanation: Correct Pair: Export of food grains - Third Sector

Q1.C | State the appropriate concepts for the given statement:

1.C.1. State the appropriate concept for the given statement:

Terrorist organisation in Sri Lanka.

Solution:

LTTE

1.C.2. State the appropriate concept for the given statement:

International order that emerged with the decline of the dominance of the USA.

Solution:

Multipolarity

1.C.3. State the appropriate concept for the given statement:

Disintegration of Yugoslavia and the emergence of new nations.

Solution:

Ethnic nationalism

1.C.4. State the appropriate concept for the given statement:

Modernisation of Indian economy.

Solution:

Industrialisation

Q1.D | Complete the following sentences by using appropriate reasons:

1.D.1. National integration is problematic in countries like India and the USA; because ____.

1. there is large public disorder.
2. there is trust deficit in leadership.

3. there is plurality of race, religion and language.

Solution:

National integration is problematic in countries like India and the USA; because **there is plurality of race, religion and language.**

1.D.2. Planning commission was setup by the government of India in 1950 ____.

1. to promote rapid economic development and raise standard of living of the people.

2. to increase agricultural production.
3. to bring about rapid industrialisation.

Solution:

Planning commission was setup by the government of India in 1950 **to promote rapid economic development and raise standard of living of the people.**

1.D.3. Lokpal and Lokayukta will crush corruptions because ____.

1. they are empowered to investigate allegations of corruption against public officials.

2. their presence will serve as a restraint on corrupt officials.
3. they will scrutinise working of administration.

Solution:

Lokpal and Lokayukta will crush corruptions because they are empowered in investigate allegations of corruption against public officials.

1.D.4. United Kingdom people decided to have European Union because ____.

1. British rationalism was strong.

2. Britain had secondary status in the European Union.

3. There was pressure to accept Euro currency.

Solution:

United Kingdom people decided to have European Union because British rationalism was strong.

Q1.E | Find the odd one out and rewrite:

1.E.1. Find the odd word in the given set:

Countries in the Eurozone -

1. France

2. Sweden

3. Germany

4. Italy

Solution:

Sweden

1.E.2. Find the odd word out and rewrite:

1. Jawaharlal Nehru

2. Indira Gandhi

3. Rajiv Gandhi

4. Sonia Gandhi

Solution:

Sonia Gandhi

1.E.3. Find the odd word out and rewrite:

Terrorist Organisation

1. Narmada Bachao Andolan

2. JKLF

3. LTTE

4. IRA

Solution:

Narmada Bachao Andolan

1.E.4. Find the odd one out.

1. Mobile

2. Satellite

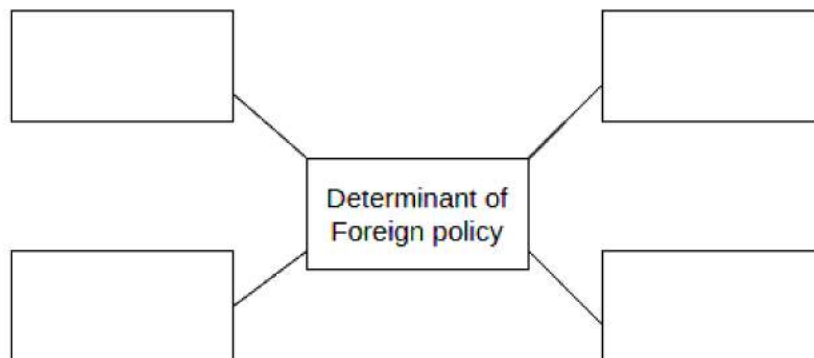
3. Internet

4. Gramophone

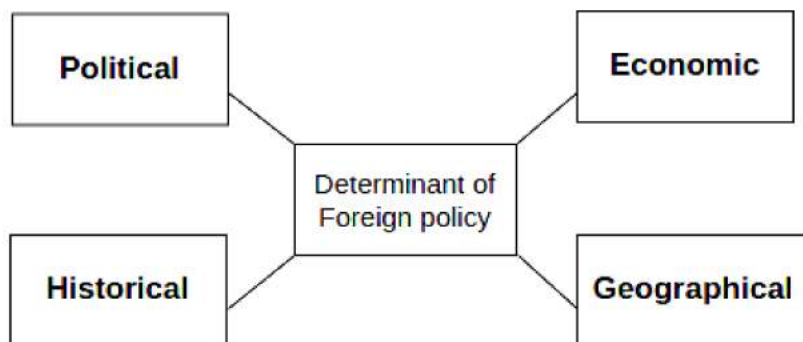
Solution:

Gramophone

Q2.A. Complete the following concept map:



Solution:



2.B. Observe the map and answer the following questions.



1. Which was the largest state in Soviet Union?
2. Name two republics in the Eastern USSR.
3. Name two republics in the Western USSR.

Solution:

1. Russia was the largest state in the Soviet Union.
2. The Republic of Kazakhstan and the Republic of Tajikistan were the two republic in the Eastern USSR.
3. The Republic of Estonia and the Republic of Latvia were the two republic in the western USSR.

Q3 | State with reason whether the following statements are true or false (Any 5):

3.A. State whether the following statement is true or false with reason.

The government of India had to use military power in Punjab.

1. True

2. False

Solution:

This statement is **True**.

Explanation: A section of extremist demanded Khalistan and independent state of Punjab.

3.B. State whether the following statement is true or false with reason.

Investment is required for economic development.

1. True

2. False

Solution:

This statement is **True**.

Explanation: Flow of capital in the form of investment is needed for economic development.

3.C. State whether the following statement is true or false with reason.

Economic factors are taken into consideration while explaining poverty.

1. True

2. False

Solution:

This statement is **True**.

Explanation:

Poverty is therefore a state of an individual, family or society where people are unable to provide for their basic necessities of life.

3.D. State whether the following statement is true or false with reason.

India is striving to integrate with the world (Global) economy.

1. True

2. False

Solution:

This statement is **True**.

Explanation: After adopting economic reforms in 1991, India has accepted globalisation.

3.E. State whether the following statement is true or false with reason.

Many new nation-states emerged in Europe in 1990's.

1. True

2. False

Solution:

This statement is **True**.

Explanation: The disintegration of the USSR led to the emergence of Russia and 14 new states.

3.F. State whether the following statement is true or false with reason.

The significance of Indo-Pacific region in international politics has increased.

1. True

2. False

Solution:

This statement is **True**.

Explanation:

- i. Regional organization ASEAN is influential in the Indo-Pacific region.
- ii. The united state is keenly interested in Indo-Pacific region.

3.G. State whether the following statement is true or false with reason.

Economic and political changes have bearing on socio-cultural entitles.

1. True

2. False

Solution:

This statement is **True**.

Explanation: Socio-Cultural sphere has undergone radical transformation under the impact of globalisation, and economic political pressure.

Q4 | Explain the correlation between the following (Any 3):

4.A. Explain the co-relationship between the following:

India and Bangladesh

Solution:

- i. The 1971 Indian intervention was crucial in allowing old East Pakistan to break free from Pakistan and become an independent country.
- ii. The relationship between India and Bangladesh was cordial before Shaikh Mujib-ur Rehman's murder.
- iii. In 1975, Shaikh Mujib-ur-Rehman served as Bangladesh's first prime minister.
- iv. Several irritants contributed to the relationship's tension, but these issues have been handled.
- v. Both cross-border insurgency and terrorism share a similar level of worry.

4.B. Explain co-relation between the following.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and India's foreign Policy.

Solution:

- i. The idea and policy of Non-Alignment is the contribution of India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru.
- ii. Nonalignment has been an important feature of India's foreign policy.
- iii. It was India's response to the Cold War politics of the two super powers.
- iv. India chose to remain "non-aligned".

4.C. Explain the co-relationship between the following:

Economic interest and formation of Trade blocs.

Solution:

- i. When a number of countries reach unique economic accords, a trade bloc is created.
- ii. These accords are designed to safeguard and advance the interests of the bloc's members.
- iii. These agreements typically concentrate on lowering or eliminating trade restrictions, such as tariffs and quotas.
- iv. In 2006, the SAARC nations signed a free trade pact.

4.D. Explain the co-relation between the following.

Empowerment of women and Sustainable Development.

Solution:

- i. Environmental sustainability is defined as responsible interaction with the environment to avoid depletion or degradation of natural resources and allow for long-term environmental quality.
- ii. Empowerment is a process by which oppressed persons gain control over their own lives.
- iii. It seeks to balance human activity with nature, thus promoting the concept of sustainable development.
- iv. So women empowerment promotes concept of sustainable development.

4.E. Explain the co-relationship between the following:

Right to information and good governance.

Solution:

- i. The right to information is crucial to effective government.
- ii. It increases the administration's efficiency, objectivity, and transparency.
- iii. It makes it possible for citizens to actively participate in governance.
- iv. The right to information was granted to citizens in 2005 as it was realised how important it is for successful governance.

Q5 | Explain your opinion in 25 to 30 words (Any 3) :

5.A. Express your opinion.

India's role in the Indian Ocean.

Solution:

1. The Indian Ocean is one of the most busy and critical maritime transportation links in the world. The economies of littoral countries depend heavily on ports, shipping, and vast natural resources.
2. India's vast coastline of about 7500 km presents both opportunity and challenge to India in terms of security and foreign perspectives.
3. India's exclusive economic zone is 2.4 million sq. km. 90% of our trade by volume and almost all oil imports come through the sea.
4. India is a co-founder of the Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation in 1997 (IORA). The main objective of IORA is to promote sustained, balanced development of the Indian Ocean region. India has initiated the Sagarmala and Bharatmala programmes to harness India's coastline.

5.B. Express your Opinion:

Elaborate the concept of environment.

Solution:

- i. Our environment is made up of everything around our ecology.
- ii. The land, water, air, climate, flora, plants, and people and animals who dwell on earth are all considered to be a part of the natural environment.
- iii. By using technology, man has altered the environment to suit his demands. In order to build cities and communities, he cleared the forest and turned the land into agricultural land.
- iv. In order to obtain more land, he changed the course of rivers and pushed back the seam.

5.C. Express your opinion.

There is a need to protect the environment.

Solution:

1. The environment refers to all living and non-living things that make up our surroundings. Many environmental problems result due to unplanned management, human activities, and technological development that interfere with the environment.

2. Protection of the environment refers to the conservation and preservation of the environment by reducing pollution, soil erosion, global warming, deforestation, etc.
3. The main environmental concerns hence are climate change, water scarcity, pollution, loss of biodiversity, etc.
4. Environmental degradation and depletion of resources will result in the spread of pests and vector diseases, extinction of species, natural disasters like floods; acid rain, melting of glaciers, etc. Life on this earth cannot exist unless we restore environmental balance.

5.D. Explain Your Opinion:

Brexit

Solution:

- i. Brexit refers to the British people's choice to leave the European Union in 2016.
- ii. British nationalists believed that the European Union's top officials viewed the UK as a vassal state.
- iii. It represents a victory of national sovereignty over internationalism and endangers the process of globalisation as it is currently underway.
- iv. In 2020, the UK formally exited the European Union.

5.E. Express your opinion.

Humanitarian intervention

Solution:

1. One of the main purposes of the UN in the maintenance of international peace, security, and cooperation. UN Peacekeeping Force comprises of military personnel and resources sent by member States.
2. In the post-cold war era, the UN rationale for intervention was not just to stop ongoing wars but also to prevent the reoccurrence of conflicts and protect the human rights of the affected people.
3. The UN intervened in Cambodia, Somalia, Yugoslavia, East Timor, Eritrea, Syria, etc., for this purpose. In 1993, over 170 nations participated in the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna to reaffirm their commitment to protecting human rights.

4. The office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights was created to coordinate human rights initiatives. The increasing awareness about human rights protection in international law gave rise to humanitarian intervention, especially in conflict zones.
5. NGO's have contributed significantly to the spread of humanitarian intervention for e.g. ICRC, Oxfam, etc. The 1990s are described as the "golden age of humanitarian intervention."

Q6 | Answer the following in brief 80 to 100 words (Any 2):

6.A. State the traditional approach poverty.

Solution:

- i. The traditional perception of poverty would focus on the lack of food, water, shelter, clothing, sanitation, etc.
- ii. There is also a monetary based consideration of what is poverty.
- iii. Poverty is therefore a state of an individual, family or society where people are unable to provide for their basic necessities of life.
- iv. It focuses on the earnings of an individual that would help him to live a relatively comfortable life.
- v. These are material aspects of life. A State is expected to ensure that the people are provided for the necessary material goods for their survival.
- vi. There is an alternate view of poverty. This focuses on both the material and nonmaterial aspects of life.
- vii. Here the focus is on human wellbeing through sustainable societies in social, economic and political terms.
- viii. Here the emphasis is on values, community ties and availability of common resources. Such a view would focus on participatory nature of decision making, ensuring that the marginalised community is able to participate in public policy and promote economic and political decentralisation.

6.B. Explain any five values of good governance.

Solution:

The values of Good Governance are as follows:

- i. **Participatory:** It is one of the most essential aspects of good governance. The effective functioning of any democratic system requires people's participation. It ensures that the voices and choices of people are heard. People get an opportunity to participate in the process of decision-making and its implementation.
- ii. **Rule of Law:** The supremacy of the law of the land i.e. constitution is another core value of good governance. Constitutional value is the guiding post for the administration. All are treated equally in front of the law. It ensures a just and fair polity where the rights of the people are safeguarded.
- iii. **Transparency:** The culture of secrecy has been challenged by the value of transparency. This enables the people to keep the government under public scrutiny. In India since 2005, the Right to Information Act has been giving citizens the right to seek information related to the functioning of the government.
- iv. **Responsiveness:** Good governance requires that institutions and processes try to serve all stakeholders within a reasonable time frame. The government is prompt in taking decisions and especially pays heed to the problems and designs policies accordingly.
- v. **Consensus-Oriented:** There are several viewpoints in a given society. Good governance requires a dialogue between various segments of society. This can help to reach a broad consensus on what is in the best interest of the whole community and how this can be achieved. It also requires a broad and long-term perspective on what is needed for sustainable human development and how to achieve the goals of such development.

6.C. Elaborate the Unipolar world order.

Solution:

- i. In 1990, Iraq went in for a war against Kuwait and established control over its territory. There was a global reaction against it and the matter was discussed in the United Nations.
- ii. The Soviet Union which was facing internal problems disintegrated in 1991.
- iii. There wasn't much ideological opposition against the United States and eventually the meaning of the term 'New World Order' which implied American dominance and leadership in matters of security was accepted at the global level. This was the first expression of the unipolar world order.

- iv. The United States emerged as a dominant country. American dominance had political and economic dimensions. Politically, the American model of liberal-democratic governance was readily accepted and adopted by several post-communist states of Eastern Europe and elsewhere.
- v. One of the other aspects about American domination was the use of American 'soft power'. Soft power is when you influence the other countries without the use of military force. The influence is spread through economic, social, cultural and other similar means.

6.D. State the recommendations of the second Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC).

Solution:

The Second Administrative Reforms Commission looked at the following issues to revamp the traditional public administration in India:

- i. **Accountable and Transparent Government:** The focus was on creating a system of accountability and transparency in administration. There was also a need to avoid delays in the service provided.
- ii. **Make administration more result-oriented:** Various administrative processes were to be simplified made user-friendly.
- iii. **Citizen centric administration:** Ensure greater involvement of people's representatives and community at large in the conceptualisation and execution of programmes.
- iv. **Reforms that aimed at changing public administration in India:** There have been a large number of reform measures which have sought to bring administration closer to the people. Broadly these initiatives include:
 - 1. Enacting laws giving certain rights to people.
 - 2. Setting up of new institutional mechanisms to redress citizens' grievances.
 - 3. Improving accessibility to citizens by setting up units closer to people.
 - 4. Simplifying procedures to reduce bureaucratic delays.
 - 5. Using technology to improve internal efficiency.
 - 6. Rewarding government employees who perform well.
 - 7. Improving discipline within the organisation.

8. Reducing regulatory control.
9. Holding public contact programmes etc.

Q7 | Answer any one question with reference to the given point :

7.A. 'The changes that took place in the world in 1990 brought in a rethinking in approaches to public administration'. Explain Points:

1. Globalisation of the world economy: The technological revolution.
2. International economic relations
3. International institutions
4. Non-state actors

Solution:

Several changes took place in the world in 1990s. These changes include the following:

1. **Globalisation of the world economy:** Globalisation had several dimensions:
(a) The technological revolution in the sector of communication brought in the internet, mobile communications, TV, etc. These developments and the growth of social networking brought in instant connectivity and transparency in the administrative system.
(b) International economic relations changed, trade and investment became an important economic issue. This made international funding agencies more influential.
2. **International economic relations:** International economic relations changed, trade and investment became an important economic issue. This made international funding agencies more influential.
3. **International Institutions:** There is a growing influence of international funding agencies like International Monetary Fund, World Bank, Asian Development Bank, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Environment Programme, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund etc. These donor agencies now influenced the policies of the Third World countries. They wanted reforms in the traditional administrative setup of the countries that were seeking aid.
4. **Non-state actors:** Voluntary Organisations and Non-Governmental Organisations started to play a greater role in public administration. These changes brought in a rethinking in approaches to public administration.

It was felt that the traditional approaches of public administration would not satisfy the requirements of the citizens. This brought in a shift from public administration as an approach to governance. Governance approach is a break from the traditional model of public administration.

These reforms sought to revamp the traditional, archaic, elephantine sized public administration riddled with delays, red tape, and corruption. It aimed to replace these old systems with responsive, responsible, participative, equitable public administration. The new model is popularly called as 'Good Governance' model. This model also looks at the interlinkages between state (government), and civil society. This model wanted to make administration citizen centered and not rule bound.

7.B. Explain in detail the following values of Good Governance.

- a. participation
- b. transparency
- c. responsiveness
- d. accountability

Solution:

1. **Participation:** It is one of the most essential aspects of good governance. Effective functioning of any democratic system requires people's participation. It ensures that voices and choices of people are heard. People get an opportunity to participate in the process of decision making and its implementation.
2. **Transparency:** The culture of secrecy has been challenged by the value of transparency. This enables the people to keep the government under public scrutiny. In India since 2005 the Right to Information Act has been giving the citizens the right to seek information related to the functioning of the government.
3. **Responsiveness:** Good governance requires that institutions and processes try to serve all stakeholders within a reasonable timeframe. The government is prompt in taking decisions and specially pays heed to the problems and designs the policies accordingly.
4. **Accountability:** Accountability is a key requirement of good governance. Not only governmental institutions but also the private sector and civil society organisations must be accountable to the public and to their institutional stakeholders. Who is accountable to whom depends on whether decisions or

actions taken are internal or external to an organisation or institution. In general an organisation or an institution is accountable to those who will be affected by its decisions or actions. Accountability cannot be enforced without transparency and the rule of law.