The Making of a Global World

Fastrack Revision

- Presently, the whole world is deemed to be one global village. But the present form of integration has a long history which started from the pre-modern world.
- As early as 3,000 BCE, an active coastal trade linked the Indus Valley Civilisation with present-day West Asia. *Cowries* from the Maldives found their way to China and East Africa for more than a millennia.
- Silk routes are also a good example of vibrant pre-modern trade and cultural links between distant parts of the world. These routes were made by the West-bound Chinese silk cargoes. These routes linked Asia with Europe and Northern Africa.

Knowledge BOOSTER

Silk routes existed even before the Christian era and were used almost till the 15th century. The Chinese pottery, textiles, spices and silk used to be exported from India along this route.

- Food also offers many examples of long distance cultural exchanges. Common food items such as potatoes, soya, groundnuts, tomatoes, etc., were introduced in Europe and Asia only after Columbus discovered America.
- After potato was introduced in Europe, Ireland's poor peasants became so dependent that when disease destroyed the potato crop, hundreds and thousands died of starvation.
- By the mid-16th century, the Spanish and Portuguese had conquered and colonised America. The deadly small pox germ assisted them in their conquest.
- By the 18th century, sugar and cotton plantations sprung up in America. In these plantations, work was done by slaves captured in Africa. The produce was exported to Europe.
- Economists identify three types of flows within countries, *viz.*, flow of trade, flow of labour and flow of capital. All three flows are interrelated and affected the lives of people on a large scale during the 19th century.

Knowledge BOOSTER

Because of their long isolation, the original inhabitants of America had no immunity against smallpox germ which was transmitted by the Portuguese and Spaniards. It killed whole of communities, paving way for colonisation.

- Population growth from the late eighteenth century had increased the demand for food grains in Britain. The expansion of urban centres and industries pushed up food grain prices.
- The government restricted the import of corn under pressure from landed groups and the laws that allowed the government for this came to be called as Corn Laws.
- Industrialists and urban dwellers forced the abolition of Corn Laws due to high food prices and the result was the scrapping of these laws. With this, food could be imported into Britain more cheaply than it could be produced within the country.
- Between 1820 and 1914, world trade multiplied approximately 25 to 40 times. Technological improvements also played an important role in integrating the world economy.
- In the late 19th century, colonialism also increased. Britain and France made vast additions to overseas territories. Belgium, Germany and the US became new colonial powers.
- Rinderpest is one example of the destructive impact of colonialism on the economy and livelihoods of colonised people. It was a devastating cattle disease carried by infected cattle imported from British Asia to feed the Italian soldiers invading Eritrea in East Africa.
- This period was also a period of great misery and hardships for indentured labourers from India and China who worked for the colonisers.
- The main destination of Indian indentured labour migrants were the Caribbean islands, Mauritius and Fiji.
- From the 1900s, Indian nationalist leaders began opposing the system of indentured labour migration as abusive and cruel. This system was abolished in 1921.
- The First World War (1914–18) was fought between two power blocs. On the one side were Allies comprising of Britain, France, Russia and the US and on the opposite side were the Central Powers comprising of Germany, Austria, Hungary and Ottoman Turkey. The war began in 1914 and lasted for more than four years.
- This war resulted in economic crisis for all the nations, especially Britain.
- The Great Depression began in 1929 and lasted till mid-1930s in the US. The whole world was adversely affected by it.
- The Second World War broke out after two decades after First World War. It was fought between Axis powers comprising of Nazi Germany, Italy and Japan and the Allies powers comprising of Britain, France, Soviet Union and the US.
- This war caused severe loss to life and property. To ensure post-war resurrection, International Monetary Fund and World Bank were established.

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- After the Second World War, the colonies of Asia and Africa gained independence. These countries organised themselves as G-77 to demand a New International Economic Order (NIEO).
- In the 1960s, the Bretton Woods System collapsed and Floating Exchange Rate System was introduced. Also, industries were relocated to low-wage countries.

Important Dateline

Date/ Year		Important Events
3,000 BCE	—	An active coastal trade linked the Indus Valley Civilisation with West Asia.
1845-1849	—	Potato Famine in Ireland.
1885	—	European powers met in Berlin to divide-up Africa between themselves.
1914-1918	—	First World War held.
1921	—	Indentured labour abolished.
1929-1935	—	The Great Depression.
1939-1945	—	Second Word War held.
1947	—	International Monetary Fund and World Bank Commence Financial Operations.
1949	—	The Chinese Communist Revolution which was the culmination of the Chinese Communist Party's drove to power.

Practice Exercise

Multiple Choice Questions

Q 1. Which kind of image appeared regularly in memorial stones?
a. Images of ships
b. Images of crops
c. Images of precious metals
d. None of the above

Q 2. What were the foods introduced in Europe after the discovery of America?
a. Potatoes and soya
b. Groundnuts and maize
c. Tomatoes, chillies and sweet potatoes
d. All of the above

Q 3. Which was the most powerful weapon used by the Spanish to conquer America?
a. Precious metal, silver
b. Smallpox
c. Sugarcane
d. Dates

Knowledge BOOSTER

Smallpox was proved to be a deadly killer and decimated whole communities thereby paving the way for colonisation.

Q 4. Which two countries were among the world's richest until the 18th century?
a. America and China
b. China and India
c. India and America
d. Spain and India

Q 5. Where did the big European powers meet in 1885 for dividing Africa?
a. China
b. Berlin
c. Australia
d. Africa

Q 6. From where could an Indian peasant borrows capital for growing food?
a. From Indian bankers, traders and moneylenders who followed European colonisers into Africa.
b. Only from bankers.
c. Only from traders and moneylenders.
d. None of the above.

Q 7. Who were the first people to link the world in ancient times?
a. Priests
b. Pilgrims
c. Travellers and traders
d. All of these

Q 8. What benefits did people get from trade in meat?
a. Technology promoted better living conditions at home and support for imperialism abroad.
b. Frozen meat transported to Europe reduced the cost of shipping meat and made it affordable for the poor.
c. Reduce the risk of loss as the animals die during shipping.
d. All of the above.

Q 9. What was El Dorado?
a. A fabled city of gold
b. A famous dreamland for many
c. A city of tall buildings
d. A fabled city of diamonds

Q 10. Most Indian Indentured labour came from:
a. Eastern UP
b. North-Eastern states
c. Jammu and Kashmir
d. None of the above

Q 11. How the 19th century 'indentured labour' has often been described?
a. New improvement of colonisation
b. New system of slavery
c. New factor to change the society
d. A factor for industrialisation

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Q 12. In 1820s, India was the single largest exporter of which commodity?

a. Sugarcane b. Gold
c. Opium d. Narcotics

Q 13. During which year did the Great Depression occur?

a. During 1929 to mid 1930s
b. During 1930 to mid 1931s
c. During 1920s
d. In 1923

Q 14. Name the economist who thought that Indian gold exports during the Great Depression of 1929 promoted global economic recovery.

a. VS Naipaul b. John Maynard Keynes
c. Stanley d. Henry Ford

Q 15. Arrange the following in the correct sequence:

(i) The Second World War
(ii) The Great Depression
(iii) The Chinese Revolution
(iv) The IMF and the World Bank commenced financial operations.

a. (i), (ii), (iii), (iv) b. (i), (iii), (ii), (iv)
c. (ii), (i), (iv), (iii) d. (iv), (ii), (i), (iii)

Q 16. 'Chutney Music' was popular in:

a. Trinidad b. Guyana
c. Surinam d. Trinidad and Guyana

Q 17. Which new invention made it possible to transport perishable foods over long distances?

a. Pottery b. Refrigerated ship
c. Precious metals d. Fine cotton cloth

Q 18. Which of the following disease proved a deadly killer for America's original inhabitants?

a. Rinderpest b. Measles
c. Tuberculosis d. Smallpox

Q 19. By which crucial influences post-war reconstruction was shaped?

a. The US emerged as the dominant country in the western world.
b. The collapse of capitalist world.
c. The emergence of Soviet Union as a world power.
d. Both a. and c.

Q 20. In between whom the Second World War was fought?

a. America and Europe
b. USA and Japan
c. The Allies and the Axis Powers
d. None of the above

Q 21. Which country was a major supplier of wheat in the world market in the nineteenth century?

a. Africa b. Eastern Europe
c. North America d. Asia

Q 22. Why were the Europeans attracted the most to Africa?

a. By its natural beauty
b. By the opportunities for investment
c. For its vast land resources and mineral wealth
d. For recruitment of labour

Q 23. Canal colonies were:

a. the areas irrigated by the new canals
b. the areas having several dams
c. the colonies where poor people lined
d. the colonies where canal workers lived

Q 24. Which movement was launched during the Great Depression of 1929?

a. Non-cooperation Movement
b. Peasant Movement
c. Civil Disobedience Movement
d. Satyagraha Movement

Knowledge BOOSTER

Civil Disobedience Movement, under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, was launched in India during the height of depression.

Q 25. Who was the pioneer of mass production which started on late 19th century?

a. Henry Ford b. VS Naipaul
c. Barry Parker d. Ebenezer Howard

Q 26. In Trinidad what was referred as Hosay?

a. Annual Muharram procession marking a carnival
b. Christmas celebration
c. Easter festival
d. New year celebration

Q 27. Match the following and find the correct code:

Column I	Column II
A. Annual Muharram procession in Trinidad.	1. Chutney Music
B. Protest religion.	2. Hosay
C. Popular in Trinidad and Guyana.	3. Rastafarianism

	A	B	C
a.	1	2	3
b.	2	3	1
c.	3	1	2
d.	3	2	1

Q 28. Choose the incorrectly matched pair:

(i) European powers met in Berlin to divide-up Africa—1885
(ii) Second World War held — 1939-1945
(iii) Chinese Communist Revolution drove to power —1947
(iv) The Great Depression took place —1929-1935

a. (ii) b. (iii) c. (i) d. (iv)

Q 29. Read the information given below and find the correct option:

From the mid-1970s, the international financial system changed. The developing countries were then forced to borrow from Western commercial banks and private lending institutions. This led to periodic debt crises, lower incomes and increased poverty in Africa and Latin America. The industrial world was also hit by unemployment between the mid-1970s to the early 1990s. From the late 1970s, MNCs also began to shift production operations to low-wage Asian countries.

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In 1970s, what increased the job opportunities in the Asian countries?

a. Change in financial system.
b. Borrowing money from commercial bank.
c. Investment by foreign MNCs.
d. Shifting of production operation to low-wage Asian countries.

Q 30. What was the result of the abolishing of Corn Laws?

a. Food could be imported into Britain more cheaply than it could be produced within the country.
b. British agriculture was unstable to compete with imports.
c. Vast areas of land were left uncultivated and thousands of people were thrown out of work.
d. Consumption of food declined with the rise in food prices.

Q 31. Who were the decision-making authorities in the IMF and the World Bank?

a. US's right to veto over key IMF and World Bank decision.
b. All the member-nations of these two banks.
c. A majority vote by all the nations.
d. All of the above

Q 32. What do you mean by International Monetary System?

a. It is the system for withdrawal of money.
b. It is the system for deposit of money.
c. It is the system linking national currencies and monetary system.
d. None of the above

Q 33. What was the problem faced by the European colonies in Asia and Africa after Independence?

a. Burden of overwhelming poverty and a lack of resources
b. Overpopulation and illiteracy
c. The economic and social handicaps of long periods of colonial rule
d. Dependence on the colonial powers for economic growth

Q 34. What do you mean by Group of 77 or G-77?

a. A protest against the Western economic policies
b. A group formed by Western nations
c. A group formed by the developing countries
d. All of the above

Knowledge BOOSTER

G-77 is a coalition of developing countries to demand a New International Economic Order (NIEO).

Q 35. Identify the incorrect statement regarding Group 77 countries.

a. Group 77 countries demanded a New International Economic Order(NIEO).
b. They wanted to revise the International Economic System in favour of the developing countries.
c. They established the IMF to deal with external surplus and deficits of its member nations.
d. They wanted a system that would give them a real control over their natural resources.

Q 36. Arrange the following in chronological order and choose the correct option: *(CBSE 2023)*

(i) Napoleonic Wars
(ii) The Treaty of Vienna
(iii) Greek Struggle for Independence
(iv) Slav Nationalism in Ottoman Empire

Options:

a. (iii), (ii), (i), (iv)
b. (i), (ii), (iii), (iv)
c. (iv), (iii), (ii), (i)
d. (iv), (ii), (iii), (i)

Q 37. In which one of the following ways has 'information and communication technology' stimulated the 'globalisation' process the most? *(CBSE 2023)*

a. Access foods across countries.
b. Access raw material across countries.
c. Access services across countries.
d. Access information instantly across countries.

Q 38. Which one of the following aspects was the base of the Bretton Woods System? *(CBSE 2023)*

a. Military System
b. Cultural System
c. Economic System
d. Historical System

Q 39. There were three important developments that greatly shrank the pre-modern world. Identify the incorrect one from the following options: *(CBSE 2023)*

a. The flow of trade
b. The flow of labour
c. The flow of capital
d. The flow of technology

Q 40. Read the statements carefully and choose the correct option:

Statement (I): During Great Depression most part of the world experienced catastrophic decline in production, employment, income and trade.

Statement (II): The Great Depression began in 1919 and remained for 11 years.

a. Statement (I) is correct and (II) is incorrect.
b. Statement (I) is incorrect and (II) is correct.
c. Both statements are incorrect.
d. Both statements are correct.

Q 41. Read the statements carefully and choose the correct option:

Statement (I): The Portuguese and Spanish conquest and colonisation of Antarctica was decisively under way by the mid-sixteenth century.

Statement (II): The most powerful weapon of the Spanish conquerors was the germs such as those of Swine flu that they carried on their person.

a. Statement (I) is correct and (II) is incorrect.
b. Statement (I) is incorrect and (II) is correct.
c. Both statements are incorrect.
d. Both statements are correct.

Assertion & Reason Type Questions

Directions (Q. Nos. 42-48): *In the following questions given below, there are two statements marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option:*

a. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

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b. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
c. Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
d. Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Q 42. Assertion (A): The Silk Routes are a good example of pre-modern trade and cultural links between distant parts of the world.

Reason (R): The name 'Silk Routes' points to the importance of West-bound Chinese silk cargoes along this route.

Q 43. Assertion (A): The First World War was a war like no other before.

Reason (R): The First World War was mainly fought in Europe.

Q 44. Assertion (A): During the war, industries were restructured to produce war-related goods.

Reason (R): Societies were also restructured and women stepped in to undertake jobs that men used to do.

Q 45. Assertion (A): The Great Depression affected the Indian economy also.

Reason (R): It was due to the integration of world into one global economy.

Q 46. Assertion (A): Food offers many examples of long distance cultural exchange.

Reason (R): Ready food stuffs in distant parts of the world might share common origins.

Q 47. Assertion (A): The 19th century indenture system was referred to as the 'new system of slavery'.

Reason (R): The indentured labourers lived in harsh working conditions and had few legal rights.

Q 48. Assertion (A): The Multinational Companies (MNCs) choose China as an alternative location for investment.

Reason (R): The relocation of industry to high-wage countries stimulated world trade and capital flow.

TIP

The relocation of industry to low-wage countries stimulated world trade and capital flow. China is such a country where wages were relatively low.

Answers

1. (a)	2. (d)	3. (b)	4. (b)	5. (b)
6. (a)	7. (d)	8. (d)	9. (a)	10. (a)
11. (b)	12. (c)	13. (a)	14. (b)	15. (c)
16. (d)	17. (b)	18. (a)	19. (d)	20. (c)
21. (b)	22. (c)	23. (a)	24. (c)	25. (a)
26. (a)	27. (b)	28. (b)	29. (d)	30. (d)
31. (a)	32. (c)	33. (a)	34. (c)	35. (c)
36. (b)	37. (d)	38. (c)	39. (a)	40. (a)
41. (c)	42. (a)	43. (d)	44. (b)	45. (a)
46. (a)	47. (a)	48. (c)		

Source Based Questions

Source 1

Read the source given below and answer the questions that follow by choosing the most appropriate option:

The Portuguese and Spanish conquest and colonisation of America was decisively under way by the mid-sixteenth century. European conquest was not just a result of superior firepower. In fact, the most powerful weapon of the Spanish conquerors was not a conventional military weapon at all. It was the germs such as those of smallpox that they carried on their person. Because of their long isolation, America's original inhabitants had no immunity against these diseases that came from Europe. Smallpox in particular proved a deadly killer. Once introduced, it spread deep into the continent, ahead even of any Europeans reaching there. It killed and decimated whole communities, paving the way for conquest.

Q 1. Which of the following was the most powerful weapon of the Spanish conquerors?
a. Conventional military weapon
b. Smallpox
c. Cattle plague
d. None of the above

Q 2. Why did smallpox kill a large number of native American's?
a. They did not know about the disease.
b. The had no immunity against the disease because of long isolation.
c. Smallpox was deadly killer disease.
d. Smallpox spread throughout the continent within a short period.

Q 3. Why did smallpox prove to be a deadly killer?
a. It spread deep into the continent once introduced.
b. It killed and decimated whole communities.
c. Both a. and b.
d. It provided the way for conquest.

Q 4. From where did the disease used as weapon by Spanish conquerors come from?
a. Portugal
b. Spain
c. America
d. Europe

Answers

1. (b) 2. (b) 3. (c) 4. (d)

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Source 2

Read the source given below and answer the questions that follow:

A good place to start is the changing pattern of food production and consumption in industrial Europe. Traditionally, countries liked to be self-sufficient in food. But in nineteenth-century Britain, self-sufficiency in food meant lower living standards and social conflict. Why was this so? Population growth from the late eighteenth century had increased the demand for food grains in Britain. As urban centres expanded and industry grew, the demand for agricultural products went up, pushing up food grain prices. Under pressure from landed groups, the government also restricted the import of corn. The laws allowing the government to do this were commonly known as the 'Corn Laws'. Unhappy with high food prices, industrialists and urban dwellers forced the abolition of the Corn Laws. After the Corn Laws were scrapped, food could be imported into Britain more cheaply than it could be produced within the country.

British agriculture was unable to compete with imports. Vast areas of land were now left uncultivated, and thousands of men and women were thrown out of work. They flocked to the cities or migrated overseas.

Q 1. What was the Corn Law? Why was it abolished?

Ans. The law allowing the British Government to restrict the import of corn is known as the 'Corn Law'.

The Corn Law was abolished because the industrialists and urban dwellers were unhappy with high food prices and so they forced the abolition of these laws.

Q 2. What was meant by self-sufficiency in food in nineteenth century Britain?

Ans. In nineteenth century Britain, self-sufficiency in food meant lower living standards and social conflict.

Q 3. What was the impact of scrapping of the Corn Laws?

Ans. Scrapping of the Corn Laws had the following impact:

(i) Food could be imported into Britain more cheaply than it would be produced within the country.

(ii) As food prices fell, consumption in Britain rose. Faster industrial growth in Britain led to higher incomes and therefore more food imports.

(iii) Around the world in Eastern Europe, Russia, America, Australia, lands were cleared and food production expanded to meet the British demand.

Very Short Answer Type Questions

Q 1. What were *cowries* used for?

Ans. Cowries were used for trading.

Q 2. When did large exodus of Irish people occur in search of work?

Ans. During the time of 1845 to 1849, about 20,00,000 people emigrated in search of work.

Q 3. Study the picture and answer the question:

Why do you think people emigrated from Europe to the US?

Ans. In the nineteenth century, the US was emerging as a very fast developing country with many jobs. So, people emigrated from Europe to the US in search of a better future.

Q 4. Which new invention made it possible to transport perishable foods over long distances?

Ans. The invention of refrigerated ship made it possible to transport perishable food over long distances.

Q 5. What were the silk routes used for?

Ans. Silk routes were used as pre-modern trade and cultural links between distant parts of the world.

Q 6. How did Rinderpest reach Africa?

Ans. Rinderpest arrived in Africa in the late 1880s. It was carried by infected cattle imported from British Asia to feed the Italian soldiers invading Eritrea in East Africa.

Q 7. What is meant by an 'indentured labour'?

Ans. 'Indentured labour' means a bonded labourer under contract to work for an employer for a specific amount of time so as to be able to pay-off his passage to a new country or home.

Q 8. Indian indentured workers came from which regions of India?

Ans. Indian indentured workers came from Eastern UP, Bihar, Central India and dry districts of Tamil Nadu.

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Q 9. When and why was migration of indentured labour abolished?

Ans. Migration of indentured labour was abolished in 1921 because of opposition of Indian nationalist leaders. They criticised this system as abusive and cruel.

Q 10. Why were big European powers met in Berlin in 1885? *(CBSE 2018)*

Ans. Big European powers met in Berlin in 1885 to demarcate their respective territories in Africa.

Q 11. Which countries were a part of Allies and Central Powers during the First World War?

Ans. Allies–Britain, France, Russia
Central Powers–Germany, Austria-Hungary, Ottoman Turkey.

COMMON ERROR

Students may get confused in writing the names of countries as Allies and Central Powers.

Q 12. Which method of production was followed by Henry Ford to increase output?

Ans. Henry Ford used 'assembly line' method to increase output.

Q 13. What was the Great Depression?

Ans. The Great Depression was a severe world wide economic depression in the decade preceding the Second World War.

Q 14. Name the two hostile groups of Second World War. *(CBSE 2020)*

Ans. The two hostile groups of Second World War are:
(i) **Axis Powers:** Germany, Italy and Japan.
(ii) **Allied Powers:** France, Britain, USSR, USA and China.

Q 15. Define the term 'Veto'. *(CBSE 2020)*

Ans. The term 'Veto' refers to a constitutional right to reject a decision or proposal which is made by a law making body.

Q 16. How were jute producers of Bengal affected by the economic crisis?

Ans. The jute producers of Bengal grew raw jute which was processed in factories for export in the form of gunny bags. Since, the gunny bags exported collapsed, the price of raw jute fell to more than 60 per cent. Thus, the producers got affected by the economic crisis.

Q 17. Name the country which has an effective right of veto over IMF and World Bank.

Ans. The United States has an effective right of veto over IMF and World Bank.

Q 18. Why were the MNCs attracted towards the developing countries?

Ans. MNCs were attracted towards the developing countries because of relatively low-wages and higher profits as well as rich resources.

Q 19. Who is referred to as the 'Bretton Woods twins'?

Ans. The 'Bretton Woods twins' refers to the two multilateral organisations created at the Bretton Woods Conference in 1944. They are the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Q 20. Mention the difference between International Monetary System and the Bretton Woods System.

Ans. The International Monetary System is the system that link national currencies and monetary system. On the other hand, the Bretton Woods System was the system based on fixed exchange rates.

Q 21. How was India affected by the Great Depression of 1929? Explain. *(CBSE 2023)*

Ans. The Great Depression of 1929 immediately affected Indian trade. India's exports and imports nearly halved between 1928 and 1934. As international prices crashed, prices in India also plunged between 1928 and 1934, and wheat prices in India fell by 50%.

Q 22. How did the 'smallpox' prove as the most powerful weapon of the Spanish conquerors in the mid-sixteenth century? Explain. *(CBSE 2023)*

Ans. The Spaniards carried the germs of smallpox into the Americas. The local inhabitants had no immunity against these diseases due to their long isolation. Thus, smallpox killed and decimated many communities and paved the way for the colonisation of the American's.

Q 23. Mention any two changes that occurred in West Punjab in the 19th century. *(CBSE 2023)*

Ans. The two changes that occurred in West Punjab in the 19th century are:
(i) Land Tenure System.
(ii) Introduction of Western Education.

Q 24. Mention any two advantages of the silk route in the pre-modern trade. *(CBSE 2023)*

Ans. The two advantages of the silk route in the pre-modern trade are:
(i) Silk route linked the Western world with the middle East and Asia.
(ii) It facilitated the exchange of commodities, ideas, art, culture, language and religion across different civilisations during the 2nd century BC-14th century AD.

Q 25. The most powerful weapon of the Spanish conqueror was not a conventional military weapon at all. Justify the above statement by giving two reasons. *(CBSE SQP 2023-24)*

Ans. The main reason behind unconventional weapon war are:
(i) America and their conquest was not the result of any conventional military weapons or military power but they use germs diseases, *i.e.*, smallpox because American inhabitant does not have any immunity against these smallpox.
(ii) Smallpox have long isolation that came from Europe and as a result it turns out to be one of the deadliest weapon for mass killing in America.

Short Answer Type Questions

Q 1. How were the silk routes a good example of vibrant pre-modern trade and cultural links? Explain.

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OR

'The silk routes are a good example of vibrant pre-modern trade and cultural links between distant parts of the world.' Explain how? *(CBSE 2015)*

Ans. Silk routes linked the East and the West, connecting Asia with Africa, the Middle East and the Southern Europe. These routes are a good example of vibrant pre-modern trade and cultural links, as is evident from the following points:

(i) Chinese pottery travelled far and wide through these routes.

(ii) Textiles and spices from South-East Asia were also transported through these routes.

(iii) Precious metals, such as gold and silver, also flowed from Europe to Asia along this route.

Q 2. 'Many a times introduction of new crops make the difference between life and death'. Explain the statement with the example of introduction of potato crop in Europe.

OR

'The new crops could make the difference between life and death'. Explain the above statement in context of Irish Potato Famine. *(CBSE 2017)*

Ans. 'Many a times introduction of new crops make the difference between life and death'. This can be understood with the example of potato.

(i) Potato was discovered in America and then introduced in Europe. After its introduction, the Europe's poor began to eat better and live longer.

(ii) Ireland's poorest peasants were so dependent on potatoes that during the Great Irish Potato Famine (1845-1849), around 10,00,000 people died of starvation in Ireland and double the number emigrated in search of work.

Q 3. What attracted the Europeans to Africa? Give any three reasons. *(CBSE 2016)*

Ans. Europeans were attracted to Africa because of the reasons stated below:

(i) The vast resources of land in Africa attracted Europeans.

(ii) They wanted to establish cotton and coffee plantations in Africa.

(iii) They wanted to mine its vast mineral resources.

Q 4. 'The pre-modern world changed with the discovery of new sea routes to America.' Give any suitable examples to explain the statement. *(CBSE 2016)*

Ans. The pre-modern world changed with the discovery of new sea routes to America in the following ways:

(i) Many of our common food items such as potatoes, soya, groundnuts, maize, tomatoes, chillies, sweet potatoes, were introduced in Europe by America. These crops made a difference between life and death. The poor began to eat better and live longer in Europe with the introduction of potato.

(ii) Precious metals, particularly silver, from mines located in the present day Peru and Mexico also enhanced Europe's wealth and financed its trade with Asia.

(iii) Slave trade started European traders captured slaves in Africa and took them to America, where they worked on plantations. Europe became the centre of world trade.

COMMON ERROR

Students do not give examples in the context of given statement in points.

Q 5. What were the 'Corn Laws'? How was it abolished?

Ans. The 'Corn Laws' were tariffs and restrictions on imported food grains, specifically corn, enforced in Great Britain between 1815 and 1849. They were designed to keep grain prices high to favour domestic producers.

These laws were abolished due to the following reasons:

(i) Restriction on imports led to high food prices.

(ii) These laws restricted free-trade.

(iii) Industrialists and urban dwellers were against these laws. (Any two)

Q 6. Mention any three effects of the British Government's decision for the abolition of the Corn Laws. *(CBSE 2016, 17)*

OR

Explain any three effects of scraping Corn Laws in Britain. *(CBSE 2020)*

Ans. The three effects of scraping Corn Laws in Britain were:

(i) Food could be imported into Britain at much cheaper rate than it would be produced within the country.

(ii) British agriculture was unable to compete with imports. Vast areas of land were left uncultivated and people started migrating to cities or other countries.

(iii) As food prices fell, consumption in Britain rose. Faster industrial growth in Britain also led to higher incomes and so more food imports.

(iv) Around the world in Eastern Europe, Russia, America and Australia, lands were cleared and food production expanded to meet the British demand. (Any three)

Q 7. What were canal colonies? Why were they built?

Ans. Canal colonies were the areas irrigated by the new canals and were settled by peasants from other parts of Punjab.

These canals were built by the British Government for the following reasons:

(i) A network of irrigation canals were built in West Punjab to transform semi-desert land into a fertile agricultural lands.

(ii) The Britishers wanted to export wheat and cotton. So, people from other parts of Punjab were called and were settled to grow wheat and cotton here.

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TiP

Give proper reasons for the building of canal colonies and not only the explanation for it.

Q 8. 'Trade flourished and markets expanded in the 19th century but there was a darker side to process'. Justify the statement. *(CBSE 2015)*

Ans. The given statement can be justified as follows:

(i) In many parts of the world, the developments meant loss of freedom and livelihoods.

(ii) Late 19th century Europeans conquest brought about many destructive economic, social and ecological changes in the colonies.

(iii) In Africa, in the 1890s, a fast spreading disease of cattle plague or rinderpest had a terrifying impact on people's livelihoods and the local economy.

(iv) The example of indentured labour migration from India shows that it was a world of faster economic growth for some and great misery and poverty for others, technological advances in Europe and new forms of coercion in Asia and Africa. (Any three)

Q 9. Explain how global transfer of disease in the pre-modern world helped in the colonisation of America. *(NCERT)*

Ans. The global transfer of disease in the pre-modern world helped in the colonisation of America in the following ways:

(i) America had been cut-off from regular contact with the rest of the world for millions of years. After its discovery, it attracted the European colonisers because of its vast lands and abundant mineral wealth.

(ii) When these colonisers came to conquer America, they brought with them the germs of deadly diseases such as smallpox. Because of their long isolation, America's original inhabitants had no immunity against this disease.

(iii) Once introduced, the disease spread deep into the continent and killed and decimated whole communities, thus paving way for conquest by the European colonisers.

So, it can be concluded that global transfer of disease (smallpox) in the pre-modern world helped in the colonisation of America.

Q 10. Why was there a need for clearing lands in Australia and America during the 19th century? Explain any three reasons.

Ans. Lands were cleared in America and Australia during the 19th century because of the below stated reasons:

(i) Population in Britain grew at a very fast rate in the late 18th century. Due to high population, the demand for food grains went up. To fulfil the need for food grains in Britain, land was brought under cultivation in America and Australia.

(ii) It was not done only for agriculture. Railways were also needed to link the agricultural regions to the ports. So, the land was cleared to establish new railway lines.

(iii) Land was also cleared to build new harbours and to expand old ones to ship the new cargoes.

Q 11. Describe the impact of 'rinderpest' on people's livelihoods and local economy of Africa in the 1890s. *(CBSE 2018)*

Ans. The 'rinderpest' was a fast-spreading disease of cattle plague. It had a terrifying impact on people's livelihood and local economy in Africa.

(i) Almost 90% of cattle died during a period of five years due to rinderpest. It destroyed the African people's livelihoods.

(ii) Control of colonial governments over the scarce cattle resources after the rinderpest plague enabled the European colonisers to finally conquer and subdue African's.

(iii) It strengthened colonial government's power and enabled European colonisers to force the African's into the labour market as wage earners to work on plantations and in mines.

Knowledge BOOSTER

Rinderpest (Cattle Plague) was carried by infected cattle imported from British Asia to feed Italian soldiers in East Africa.

Q 12. Explain the impacts of the First World War on the British economy. *(CBSE 2016, 17)*

Ans. The impacts of the First World War on the British economy were the following:

(i) After the war, Britain found it difficult to recapture its earlier position of dominance in the colonial market.

(ii) The war had led to a huge increase in demand, production and employment.

(iii) To finance war expenditures, Britain had borrowed from the US. At the end of the war, Britain was burdened with huge external debts.

(iv) The government reduced bloated war expenditures to bring them into line with peace time revenues. (Any three)

Q 13. What was the impact of technology on food availability? Explain with the help of examples.

Ans. New technology enabled the people to avail food in a better way, as is explained with the help of the following examples:

(i) Refrigerated ships enabled transport of perishable food over long distances at lower costs. This enabled the poor people in Britain to consume meat, which was an expensive food item before refrigerated ships came into picture.

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(ii) Technology improved the means of transport. people had access to a more varied diet which came from different parts of the world.

Q 14. Elucidate any three factors that led to the Great Depression. *(CBSE 2016, 17)*

Ans. The three factors that led to the Great Depression were as follows:

(i) Agricultural overproduction remained a problem and it was made worse by falling agricultural prices.

(ii) In the mid-1920s. many countries financed their investments through loans from the US. it was extremely easy to raise loans in the US when the going was good. But in the first half of 1920s, countries that depended crucially on US loan faced an acute crisis.

(iii) The withdrawal of the US loans affected the rest of the world in different ways. In Europe. it led to the failure of the small major banks and the collapse of currencies such as the British Pound Sterling.

Long Answer Type Questions

Q 1. Explain the three types of movements or flows within international economic exchange. Find one example of each type of flow which involved India and Indians and write a short account of it. *(NCERT)*

Ans. Economists have listed three types of movements or flows within international economic exchange. They are:

(i) Flow of Trade: In the 19th century. it was mainly referred to trade in goods. especially cloth or wheat. Fine cloth was produced in India by weavers and exported to European countries.

(ii) Flow of Labour: It is the outcome of migration of labour. from one part of the world to the other. In search of employment or better job opportunities (higher wages. better working and living conditions). Tamil migrants from India went to Ceylon and Malaya in search of work.

(iii) Flow of Capital: The third is the movement of capital for short-term or long-term investment over long distances. *Shikaripuri Shroffs* and *NattuKottai Chettiars* had a sophisticated system to transfer money over long distances and offered loans to small and medium traders.

Q 2. Describe the role of 'technology' in transformation of the world in the nineteenth century. *(CBSE 2019)*

Ans. 'Technology' has played an important role in transformation of the world in the nineteenth century in the following ways:

(i) Technology or new inventions like railways. steamships. and the telegraph had a great impact on the transformation of 19th century world. These advances were the result of larger social. political and economic factors.

(ii) Colonisation stimulated new investments and improvements in transport. As a result. faster railways. lighter wagons. and larger ships helped food to reach more cheaply and quickly from far away farms to final markets.

(iii) Earlier the animals were shipped live from America to Europe. many died on the way or became unfit to eat. Thus. meat became expensive.

(iv) The development of refrigerated ships greatly helped to transport the perishable food items over long distances. This greatly facilitated the shipment of frozen meat from America. Australia or New Zealand to different European countries. This reduced the shipping cost and lowered meat prices.

(v) The meat became a daily diet for the poor. Thus. better living conditions created social peace within the country and support for imperialism in the colonies.

Q 3. Who were indentured labourers? How were they recruited? Explain conditions of the indentured labourers who went to work in different parts of the world.

OR

Describe the condition of indentured labour that migrated from India during the nineteenth century. *(CBSE 2019)*

Ans. Indentured labourers were bonded labourers under contract to work for an employer for a specific amount of time. to pay-off their passage to a new country or home.

Recruitment was done by agents engaged by employers who were paid a small commission.

The condition of the indentured labourers in different parts of the world was very pathetic. It can be described as:

(i) They were subjected to harsh. in human and unsympathetic conditions.

(ii) If they were caught while escaping, they faced severe punishment.

(iii) They had very few legal rights.

(iv) Deductions were made from their wages if their work was found unsatisfactory.

Q 4. 'Indian trade had played a crucial role in the late nineteenth century world economy.' Analyse the statement. *(CBSE 2019)*

Ans. The given statement can be analysed as follows:

(i) British had a trade surplus with India. The value of exports was greater than the value of imports. This surplus was used to balance its trade deficit with other countries.

(ii) The trade surplus of Britain helped the home charges. *i.e.*, remittances of British officials. traders. interest payments on external debt and pensions of British officials in India.

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(iii) Many indentured workers from Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Central India migrated to other countries in search of work in mines and plantations.

(iv) India was a provider of cotton as a raw material to the cotton textile industries in Britain.

(v) India became an important market for final goods of cotton textile.

Q 5. How had the US economy resumed its strong growth in the early 1920s? Explain with examples. *(CBSE 2019)*

Ans. The US economy resumed its strong growth in the early 1920s in the following ways:

(i) During the war, industries were restructured to produce war-related goods. Entire societies were also reorganised for war as men went to battle, women stepped in to undertake jobs that earlier only men were expected to do.

(ii) The war led to snapping of economic links between some of the world's largest economic powers which were now fighting with each other to pay for them.

(iii) Britain borrowed large sums of money from US banks as well as the US public. Thus, the war transformed the US from being an international debtor or an international creditor.

(iv) At the war's end, the US and its citizens owned more overseas assets than Foreign Governments and citizens owned in the US. An example for the resumption of strong growth of the US economy is the economic policy followed by Asian countries. The countries of India and China boosted their economy using the same policy. This led to strong growth of the economy.

TiP

Students are advised to provide the reasons for resumption of strong US economy and not only the reasons for its strength only in early 1920s.

Q 6. Explain the causes of the Great Depression. *(NCERT)*

Ans. The Great Depression was caused by a combination of following important factors:

(i) Agricultural Overproduction: Agricultural overproduction was a major factor. As a result of overproduction, agricultural prices fell. As prices fell and agricultural incomes declined, farmers tried to expand production. This further increased the volume of output in the market. The situation got worsened in the market. Prices fell down further. Farm produce rotted for a lack of buyers.

(ii) Recalling of Loans by US: The withdrawal of US loans affected the rest of the world adversely. In Europe, it led to the failure of some major banks and the collapse of currencies such as the British Pound Sterling. In Latin America and elsewhere, it intensified the slumps in agricultural and raw material prices.

Q 7. Describe the effect of the Great Depression on the world. Who were the worst affected by this depression? *(CBSE 2017)*

Ans. The Great Depression started around 1929 and lasted till the mid-1930s. The following were its impacts on the world:

(i) During this period, most parts of the world experienced catastrophic decline in production, employment, income and trade.

(ii) Agricultural regions and communities were the worst affected because the fall in agricultural prices was more prolonged than that in the prices of industrial goods.

(iii) In Europe, the major banks failed and the British Pound Sterling collapsed.

(iv) In Latin America, it intensified the slump in agricultural and raw material prices.

(v) US banks slashed domestic lending and called back loans. Many households in the US could not repay what they had borrowed, and were forced to give up their homes, cars and other consumer durables.

(vi) The US banking system collapsed. By 1933 over 4,000 banks had closed and between 1929 and 1932 about 1,10,000 companies had collapsed.

(vii) The depression affected Indian imports and exports adversely.

(viii) As the prices of agricultural products fell internationally, indebtedness among Indian farmers increased and they were forced to sell their lands, jewellery, etc., to meet their needs. Thus, the peasants were badly affected.

(Any five)

Q 8. Why did Group of 77 countries demanded a New International Economic Order? Explain.

Ans. The Group of 77 countries demanded a New International Economic Order (NIEO) to achieve the following objectives:

(i) Developing countries must be entitled to regulate and control the activities of Multinational Corporations (MNCs).

(ii) The developing nations wanted a system that would give them a real control over their natural resources.

(iii) The developing countries wanted to set-up a system through which they could get a better

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market for their manufactured goods in the developed countries.

(iv) They wanted to revise the international economic system in favour of the developing countries.

(v) The developing countries wanted more development assistance and fairer prices for raw materials.

Q 9. What is meant by the Bretton Woods Agreement? *(NCERT)*

Ans. The Bretton Woods Conference took place in July, 1944 at Bretton Woods in New Hampshire, USA. All the leading countries of the world participated in this conference to decide upon a framework which would help to preserve economic stability, ensure full employment and help in post-war reconstruction. An agreement was entered into at this conference to establish International Monetary Fund and World Bank. This agreement was referred to as the Bretton Woods Agreement.

Other important features of this agreement are as discussed:

(i) Under this system, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), commonly referred to as World Bank, were established.

(ii) The Bretton Woods System was based on fixed exchange rate. In this system, national currencies, for example, the Indian Rupee, was pegged to the Dollar at fixed exchange rate.

(iii) Decision-making authority was given to the Western industrial powers. The US was given the right of veto over key IMF and World Bank decisions.

COMMON ERROR

Students often give the meaning of agreement and not its features or complete explanation.

Q 10. Describe any five factors that led to the end of the Bretton Woods System and the beginning of globalisation. *(CBSE 2016)*

Ans. The five factors that led to the end of the Bretton Woods System and the beginning of globalisation are as follows:

(i) The economic power of the USA declined. US Dollar no longer commanded confidence. It could not maintain its value in relation to gold.

(ii) International financial system changed. The IMF and the World Bank were created to meet the financial needs of the industrial countries. The developing countries were forced to borrow from Western commercial banks.

(iii) There was unemployment in industrialised countries. The number of unemployed started rising and people began to go to long distances looking for any work they could find.

(iv) MNCs shifted their production units to Asian countries because of cheap labour and low wages.

(v) China became a destination of attraction for the investment by foreign MNCs.

Chapter Test

Multiple Choice Questions

Q 1. India's nationalist leaders began opposing the system of indentured labour migration as abusive and cruel. When was it abolished?

a. 1921 b. 1931
c. 1919 d. 1911

Q 2. Which of the following represent the group of powers collectively known as the axis power during the Second World War?

a. Germany, Italy, Japan
b. Austria, Germany, Italy
c. France, Japan, Italy
d. Japan, Germany, Turkey

Q 3. Which of the following statements correctly identifies the Corn Laws?

a. Restricted the import of corn to England
b. Allowed the import of corn to England
c. Imposed tax on corn
d. Abolished the sale of corn

Q 4. Give the correct reason for decline of household income in Europe after the First World War.

a. People stopped going to work as they were scared of the war situation.
b. Death and injuries had reduced the number of able bodied workforce.
c. Home governments had imposed heavier taxes.
d. People could not go to work because they got busy with reorganisation of their households.

Q 5. The geographical exploration in Africa was directly linked to:

a. search for scientific information
b. imperial projects
c. vast land with rich resources
d. labour to work for plantations in America

Assertion and Reason Type Questions

Directions (Q. Nos. 6-7): *In the following questions given below, there are two statements marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option:*

a. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

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b. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
c. Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
d. Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Q 6. Assertion (A): Thousands of people flee from Europe to America in the nineteenth century.

Reason (R): Until the nineteenth century, poverty and hunger were common in Europe, cities were crowded and deadly diseases were widespread.

Q 7. Assertion (A): The First World War transformed the world drastically with the adoption of a new mode of warfare based on modern weapons of mass destruction.

Reason (R): Economic transformation was in the form of shift in investment and capital distribution.

Source Based Question

Q 8. *Read the source given below and answer the questions that follow by choosing the most appropriate option:*

The silk routes are a good example of vibrant pre-modern trade and cultural links between distant parts of the world. The name 'Silk Route' points to the importance of West-bound Chinese silk cargoes along this route. Historians have identified several silk routes, over land and by sea, knitting together vast regions of Asia, and linking Asia with Europe and Northern Africa. They are known to have existed since before the Christian Era and thrived almost till the fifteenth century. But Chinese pottery also travelled the same route, as did textiles and spices from India and South-East Asia. In return, precious metals – gold and silver – flowed from Europe to Asia.

Trade and cultural exchange always went hand in hand. Early Christian missionaries almost certainly travelled this route to Asia, as did early Muslim preachers a few centuries later. Much before all this, Buddhism emerged from Eastern India and spread in several directions through intersecting points on the silk routes.

(i) Which of the following silk routes are a good example?
a. Modern trade
b. Pre-modern trade
c. Ancient trade
d. Global trade

(ii) What was exported from India through silk route?
a. Oil
b. Petroleum
c. Textile and spices
d. Herbs

(iii) Who travelled through silk route to Asia?
a. Early Christian Missionaries and Muslim preachers
b. Buddhists and Muslim preachers
c. Chinese and Europeans
d. Africans and Christian Missionaries

(iv) Which of the following shows that silk routes link the world?
a. Through silk route, Chinese pottery, Indian textiles and spices from South-East Asia travelled to Europe and North Africa.
b. The most well-known silk route connected China to Europe.
c. West-bound Chinese silk cargoes and Chinese pottery travelled through this route.
d. All of the above

(v) Which of the following religions spread through silk routes?
a. Buddhism
b. Christianity
c. Islam
d. All of these

(vi) Identify the correct statement out of the following:
a. The silk route helped in commercial and cultural exchange.
b. The silk route was acting as a link between different countries.
c. The silk route acted as route for West-bound silk cargoes from China.
d. All of the above

Very Short Answer Type Questions

Q 9. What was the effect of potatoes on the lives of the poorest in Europe?

Q 10. Mention the two steps that were taken to meet the increased demand for food in Britain.

Short Answer Type Questions

Q 11. What steps were taken by the economists and politicians of the world to meet the global economic crisis that arose after the Second World War?

Q 12. 'Trade flourished and markets expanded in the late 19th century but there was a darker side to the process.' Explain the statement.

Q 13. Why did developing countries organise the G-77? Give three reasons.

Long Answer Type Questions

Q 14. 'The pre-modern world changed with the discovery of new sea routes to America.' Support the statement with suitable examples.

Q 15. 'Trade and cultural exchange always went hand in hand' Explain the statement in the light of silk route.

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