

Class XII Session 2025-26

Subject - Sociology

Sample Question Paper - 8

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. The question paper is divided into four sections.
2. There are 35 questions in all. All questions are compulsory.
3. Section A includes question No. 1-16. These are MCQ type questions. As per the question, there can be one answer.
4. Section B includes question No. 17-25. These are very short answer-type questions carrying 2 marks each. Answer to each question should not exceed 30 words.
5. Section C includes question No. 26-32. They are short answer type questions carrying 4 marks each. Answer to each question should not exceed 80 words.
6. Section D includes question No. 33-35. They are long answer type questions carrying 6 marks each. Answer to each question should not exceed 200 words each.
7. Question no. 33 is to be answered with the help of the given graphics.

Section A

1. Dependents comprise of [1]
a) infants and 70 plus old people b) young people below 15
c) old people above 65 d) Both young people below 15 and infants and 70 plus old people
2. **Assertion (A):** Jati is a generic term referring to species or kinds of anything, ranging from inanimate objects to plants, animals, and human beings. [1]
Reason (R): The precise relationship between varna and jati has been the subject of much speculation and debate among scholars.
a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A. b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
c) A is true but R is false. d) A is false but R is true.
3. **Farmers and Villagers are often synonyms.** Whose statement it is? [1]
a) Smith b) Srinivas
c) Ghurye d) Mukerji
4. **Assertion (A):** Agriculture used to be by far the largest contributor to the country, but today it only contributes about one-sixth of the gross domestic product. [1]



Reason (R): Rural people are increasingly engaged in non-farm rural occupations like transport services, business enterprises, or craft manufacturing.

- a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- c) A is true but R is false.
- d) A is false but R is true.

Question No. 5 to 6 are based on the given text. Read the text carefully and answer the questions: [2]

The loss of the forests on which most tribal communities depended has been a major blow. Forests started to be systematically exploited in British times and the trend continued after Independence. The coming of private property in land has also adversely affected tribals, whose community-based forms of collective ownership were placed at a disadvantage in the new system..... Many tribal concentration regions and states have also been experiencing the problem of heavy in-migration of non-tribals in response to the pressures of development. This threatens to disrupt and overwhelm tribal communities and cultures, besides accelerating the process of exploitation of tribals.

5. Site one recent example of where the costs and benefits of a developmental project moved disproportionately.

- a) Construction a multi-purpose power project
- b) Construction of series of dams over Narmada
- c) Building factories in the fallow suburban land
- d) Coming of the concept of private property

6. Which among the following can be the reason behind the dilution of tribal share as per the given passage?

- i. Heavy in-migration of non-tribals
- ii. Developmental pressure
- iii. Exploitation of tribal forests
- iv. Out-migration of the non-tribals

- a) iii, iv
- b) ii, iii
- c) i, ii
- d) i, iv

7. **Assertion (A):** Caste considerations had inevitably played a role in the mass mobilisations of the nationalist movement. [1]

Reason (R): Efforts to organise the “depressed classes” and particularly the untouchable castes predated the nationalist movement.

- a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- c) A is true but R is false.
- d) A is false but R is true.

8. **Assertion (A):** The schemes of government of India 'stand up India scheme' and Make in India programmes by which employment and self-employment will become possible. [1]

Reason (R): Machinery helps to increase production, but it also creates a danger that eventually machines will replace workers.

- a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- c) A is true but R is false.
- d) A is false but R is true.

Question No. 9 to 10 are based on the given text. Read the text carefully and answer the questions: [2]



Historically, states have tried to establish and enhance their political legitimacy through nation-building strategies. They sought to secure ... the loyalty and obedience of their citizens through policies of assimilation or integration. Attaining these objectives was not easy, especially in a context of cultural diversity where citizens, in addition to their identifications with their country, might also feel a strong sense of identity with their community – ethnic, religious, linguistic and so on. Most states feared that the recognition of such difference would lead to social fragmentation and prevent the creation of a harmonious society. In short, such identity politics was considered a threat to state unity. In addition, accommodating these differences is politically challenging, so many states have resorted to either suppressing these diverse identities or ignoring them on the political domain.

9. Choose the correct options regarding the policy of assimilation.

- i. It involves outright suppression of the identities of ethnic, religious, or linguistic groups.
- ii. It erodes the cultural differences between groups.
- iii. It eliminates ethno-national differences from political arena.
- iv. It allows cultural differences in the private domain.

- a) ii, iii
- b) i, ii
- c) i, iv
- d) iii, iv

10. Which of the following is correct about the integration policy?

- a) It seeks to assert a single national identity
- b) It suppresses ethnic identities in the private domain
- c) It allows cultural differences in the public domain
- d) It erodes the cultural differences between groups

11. When did we get rid of colonial rule? [1]

- a) In 1948
- b) In 1945
- c) In 1947
- d) In 1950

12. The government is trying to sell its share in several public companies to private sector companies by a process which is known as _____ [1]

- a) Unorganised Sector
- b) Disinvestment
- c) Organised Sector
- d) Liberalisation

13. **Assertion (A):** As we enter the twenty-first century, new sites of gender injustice are emerging. [1]

Reason (R): In the 1970s, the emphasis was on modern issues - the rape of women in police custody, dowry murders, the representation of women in popular media, and the gendered consequences of unequal development.

- a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- c) A is true but R is false.
- d) A is false but R is true.

14. **Assertion (A):** The ex-untouchable communities and their leaders have coined another term, 'Dalit', which is now the generally accepted term for referring to these groups. [1]

Reason (R): Whatever the specific etymology of untouchables' names, they are all derogatory and carry a strongly pejorative charge.



- a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A. b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- c) A is true but R is false. d) A is false but R is true.
15. Sanskritization has been criticized for which of the following? [1]
- a) It allows for structural change. b) It accepts characteristics of Dalit culture.
- c) It allows for positional change. d) It stops exclusion and discrimination.
16. To die hards who have developed a kind of fanaticism against minority protection, I would like to say two things. One is that minorities are an explosive force which if it erupts, can blow up the whole fabric of the State. The above statement is related to the views of _____. [1]
- a) Jawaharlal Nehru b) Dr. Ambedkar
- c) Mahatma Gandhi d) Srinivas

Section B

17. What are some common features central to the public perception of disability all over the world? [2]
18. A model of the South Asian colonial city The European town...had spacious bungalows, elegant apartment houses, planned streets, trees on both sides of the street,...clubs for afternoon and evening get togethers...The open space was reserved for...Western recreational facilities, such as race and golf courses, soccer and cricket. When domestic water supply, electric connections, and sewage links were available or technically possible, the European town residents utilised them fully, whereas their use was quite restricted to the native town. (Dutt 1993: 361) [2]

Read the source and answer the following question.

Did the model of the South Asian colonial city cater to the needs of the natives? Give a reason for your answer.

OR

The concept 'Sanskritization' was first introduced by Prof. M.N. Srinivas the famous Indian sociologist. He explained the concept of sanskritization in his book "Religion and society among the coorgs of South India" to describe the cultural mobility in the traditional caste structure of Indian society. In his study of the coorgs of Mysore, he came to know that the lower castes were trying to raise their status in their caste hierarchy by adopting some cultural ideals of the Brahmins. As a result they left some of their ideals which are considered to be impure by the Brahmins. To explain this process of mobility, Srinivas used the term 'Brahminization'. Later on he called it 'Sanskritization' in a broad sense.

Read the source and answer the following question.

What did M.N. Srinivas mean by Sanskritisation and de-Sanskritisation?

19. Many of our cultural practices and patterns can be traced to our agrarian backgrounds. Structural and cultural changes are closely inter-related. Most of the New Year festivals in different regions of India celebrate the main harvest season. [2]
- a. There is a close relationship between agriculture and culture. Give one reason to support the given statement.
- b. Name any two agriculture related festivals.
20. What is the base of **Purity** and **Pollution** among castes? [2]
- OR
- Discuss the concept of Social exclusions.
21. Differentiate between reformist and redemptive social movement. [2]
22. Why is it necessary to reduce the birth rate in India? [2]



23. What does the term **begar** mean? [2]
24. Agricultural productivity increased sharply because of the new technology. India was able to become self-sufficient in food grain production for the first time in decades. It was primarily the medium and large farmers who were able to benefit from the new technology. [2]

i. What is subsistence agriculture?

ii. Who were able to reap the most benefits from Green Revolution and commercialisation of agriculture?

25. How has industrialization affected mutual relationships? [2]

Section C

26. What were the type of classes that existed in rural areas? Explain them. [4]
27. Studies have shown that diverse family forms are found in different societies. Elaborate. [4]
28. What do you understand by the term social structure? [4]

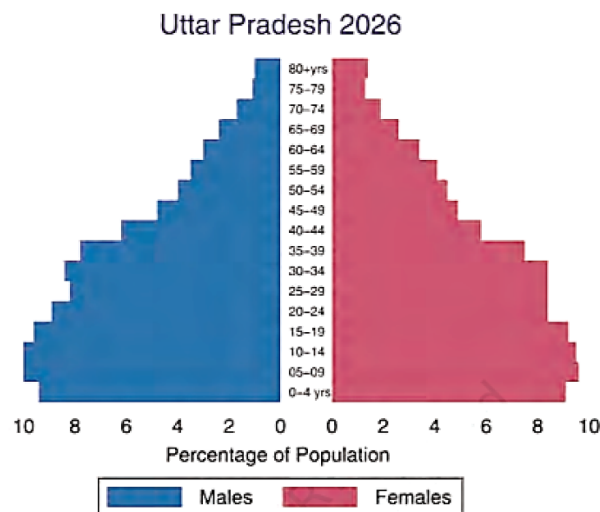
OR

What do you know about Sir Syed Ahmed Khan's social reform movement?

29. What changes have taken place in the process of industrialisation of the country after independence? [4]
30. Sociologists have tried to define what constitutes modernization. Elaborate. [4]
31. What are the different senses in which secularism has been understood in India? [4]
32. Explain the working conditions of labourers working in coal mines. [4]

Section D

33. Read the given image 2 and answer the following questions: [6]



(1) Why population pyramid has a narrow top?

(2) What impact will this bias towards age groups in the age structure be on India?

34. OBCs are a much more diverse group than the Dalits Discuss. [6]
35. Explain the famous tribal movement which resulted in the formation of a separate state. [6]

Solution

Section A

1. **(d)** Both young people below 15 and infants and 70 plus old people
Explanation:
Both young people below 15 and infants and 70 plus old people
2. **(b)** Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
Explanation:
Jati is the word most commonly used to refer to the institution of caste in Indian languages, though it is interesting to note that, increasingly, Indian language speakers are beginning to use the English word 'caste'.
3. **(a)** Smith
Explanation:
Smith
4. **(a)** Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Explanation:
People are moving from rural to urban areas in search of livelihood and better opportunities. People are also engaged in non-agricultural activities due to which the contribution of agriculture is low in GDP.
5. **(b)** Construction of series of dams over Narmada
Explanation:
Construction of series of dams over Narmada
6. **(c)** i, ii
Explanation:
i, ii
7. **(a)** Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Explanation:
Caste considerations had inevitably played a role in the mass mobilisations of the nationalist movement. Efforts to organise the “depressed classes” and particularly the untouchable castes predated the nationalist movement.
8. **(b)** Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
Explanation:
The schemes of government of India 'stand up India scheme' and Make in India programmes by which employment and self-employment will become possible. These schemes are helpful to people of the marginalised sections of the society like SC, ST and other backward classes.
9. **(b)** i, ii
Explanation:
i, ii
10. **(a)** It seeks to assert a single national identity
Explanation:
It seeks to assert a single national identity
11. **(c)** In 1947
Explanation:



In 1947

12. **(b)** Disinvestment
Explanation:
Disinvestment
13. **(b)** Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
Explanation:
The sharp fall in the child sex ratio and the implicit social bias against the girl child represents one of the new challenges of gender inequality.
14. **(b)** Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
Explanation:
The so-called 'untouchables' have been referred to collectively by many names over the centuries. Whatever the specific etymology of these names, they are all derogatory and carry a strongly pejorative charge. However, the ex-untouchable communities and their leaders have coined another term, 'Dalit', which is now the generally accepted term for referring to these groups.
15. **(c)** It allows for positional change.
Explanation:
It allows for positional change.
16. **(b)** Dr. Ambedkar
Explanation:
Dr. Ambedkar

Section B

17.
 - Disability is understood as a biological given.
 - Whenever a disabled person is confronted with problems, it is taken for granted that the problems originate from her/his impairment.
 - The disabled person is seen as a victim.
 - Disability is supposed to be linked with the disabled individual's self-perception.
18. No. When domestic water supply, electric connections, and sewage links were available or technically possible, the European town residents utilised them fully, whereas their use was quite restricted to the native town.

OR

According to M.N. Srinivas Sanskritisation is the process by which members of a lower caste try to emulate the upper caste in terms of customs and traditions, ideologies and lifestyle. But in regions where Non-Sanskritised caste lower caste in the rural area became dominant and influenced the Sanskritised caste upper caste, this process is called De-Sanskritization.

19. a. Throughout history, human societies have been heavily dependent on agriculture for their survival. Agricultural practices such as planting, cultivating, and harvesting crops are deeply embedded in the cultural traditions and customs of communities around the world. As a result, many cultural practices, rituals, and festivals are closely tied to the agricultural calendar and cycles.
Cultural practices and patterns, such as the celebration of new year festivals in different regions during harvesting, Pongal, Bihu, and so on, can be traced back to our agrarian roots.
b. Pongal and Bihu are agricultural festivals celebrated in Tamil Nadu and Assam, respectively.
20. The concepts of purity and pollution among castes in India are rooted in ancient religious, cultural, and social beliefs.



- i. **Religious Foundations:** The caste system is often linked to Hindu scriptures, particularly the Manusmriti, which outlines hierarchical relationships based on ideas of purity. Higher castes, such as Brahmins, are associated with spiritual purity, while lower castes, or Dalits, are seen as impure. This religious sanctioning has perpetuated caste distinctions.
- ii. **Social Practices:** Purity is often linked to ritual cleanliness and social interactions. Higher castes are expected to maintain strict hygiene and avoid contact with lower castes, which is believed to pollute their status. This leads to restrictions on social mobility and interactions, reinforcing caste boundaries.
- iii. **Occupational Roles:** Different castes traditionally have specific occupations, with those involving manual labor often viewed as polluting. This occupational division further entrenches ideas of purity and pollution.

Overall, these beliefs create a complex social hierarchy, where purity is maintained through practices and customs that often marginalize certain groups.

OR

Social exclusion refers to ways in which individuals may become cut off from full involvement in the wider society. It focuses attention on a broad range of factors that prevent individuals or groups from having opportunities open to the majority of the population.

21. Reformist and redemptive social movements differ in their focus and objectives.

- **Reformist Social Movements** aim to make specific changes within existing social structures, seeking gradual improvements in policies and practices. Examples include civil rights and environmental movements, which work within political systems to advocate for justice and equality.
- **Redemptive Social Movements**, on the other hand, focus on personal transformation and spiritual renewal. They seek to change individuals' beliefs and behaviors, often emphasizing moral or spiritual awakening. Examples include religious revival movements that prioritize individual redemption over systemic change.

In summary, reformist movements target societal change, while redemptive movements prioritize individual transformation.

22. **It is necessary to reduce the birth rate in India as:**

- i. More birth rate can lead to the danger of population explosion.
- ii. More birth rate can lead to a reduction in per capita income and national income.
- iii. More birth rate can lead to a problem with the food supply.
- iv. It will increase the problems of poverty and unemployment.
- v. It will lead to the need for more investment.

23. Begar refers to forced labor, where people are compelled to work without pay. It's a form of exploitation and was prevalent in many societies, including India during colonial times.

- 24. i. When agriculturists produce primarily for themselves and are unable to produce for the market, it is known as subsistence agriculture.
- ii. It was the farmers who were able to produce a surplus for the market who were able to reap the most benefits from the Green Revolution and from the commercialisation of agriculture that followed.

25. Rural people leave their villages to work in industries and their families are left behind. The joint family system has almost disappeared.

Section C

26. **Some of the main classes that exist in rural areas are given below:**

- i. **Land-owner farmers:** Steps were taken, after Independence, to change the existing systems related to land. The land was taken away from Zamindars by making laws and was distributed between the lakhs of landless farmers. Every landless farmer was given the land of one hectare free of cost. That is how the landless farmers became land-owner. Before this, they used to do agriculture on the land of Zamindars. Now, they started practising agriculture on their own land.
- ii. **Gentleman Farmers:** Gentleman farmers were also a class of land owner-farmers. They did not have much of the land like zamindars. Those farmers were included in this group who either got land from their ancestors or have bought that land themselves.
- iii. **Middle caste and Middle-class farmers:** Powerful middle caste and middle-class farmers emerged in rural areas after Independence. They are known as middle caste because their position was lower than higher castes and higher than the lower castes in the caste hierarchy. Many landlords and big farmers of higher castes migrated towards urban areas to take advantage of industrialisation and urbanisation. They started to invest their money in industries. Under these circumstances, middle caste and middle-class farmers emerged in rural areas.

27. Family forms and structures vary significantly across different societies due to the influence of cultural, social, economic, and legal factors. Diverse family forms exist across societies due to various factors. These include cultural norms, economic



conditions, and legal frameworks. For instance, nuclear families are common in Western societies, while joint families are prevalent in many Asian cultures. Additionally, single-parent families, same-sex parent households, and childless couples represent other diverse family structures. These variations highlight the adaptability and complexity of family relationships in different social contexts.

28. i. The term 'social structure' is concerned with the structure of the family which can be studied in two ways:
- As a social institution, and
 - In its relationship with other social institutions.
- ii. As a social institution, it can be either a nuclear family or an extended family. Family can be male-dominated or female-dominated. It can be patrilineal or matrilineal. Generally, the internal structure of a family is like other structures such as political, economic and cultural structures.

OR

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan's efforts aimed at reforming the Muslim society. He wanted girls to be educated, but within the precincts of their homes. Like Dayanand Saraswati of Arya Samaj, he stood for women's education but sought for a curriculum that included instruction in religious principles, training in the arts of housekeeping and handicrafts and rearing of children. This may appear very stereotypical today but one has to realize that once such rights were such as education for women were accepted. It started a process that finally made it impossible to confine women to only some kind of education.

29. **Changes have taken place in the process of industrialisation of the country after independence are:**

- Few industries were established in India before independence because it was not possible to get proper facilities from a foreign government.
 - Before 1947, only two steel producing units were present in India, but they increased very quickly after independence.
 - The government made five-year plans whose main objective was the industrial development of the country.
 - After 1947, this process assumed a great speed. India made very good progress in the field of the iron industry, trackers, cars, scooters, motorcycles, electronics, fertilizers, chemicals, heavy industries, etc.
 - India is now one of the leading producers of clothes in the world. It also made great progress in the fields of coal, shipping, petroleum products, etc.
 - Foreign investment in the country increased quickly after 1991 and India is now emerging as an industrialised country.
30. The term modernisation has a long history. From the 19th and more so the 20th century the term began to be associated with positive and desirable values. In the early years, modernisation referred to improvement in technology and production processes. It referred to the path of development that much of West Europe or North America has taken. Modernization assumes that local ties and parochial perspectives give way to universal commitments and cosmopolitan attitudes. People are influenced not just by local but universal contexts. Work gets based on choice, not birth. A scientific attitude and a rational approach matters.
31. Right from the beginning of 20th century, Indian society is constantly changing from a sacred society to a secular one. Many scholars of this century observed that India could remain united on the basis of secularism because people of many religions live over here. On the basis of secularism, all the religious groups and religious beliefs of a state are considered as equal. The meaning of secularism is to remain away from all the religions and not to give preference to any particular religion. All the religions are equal before the state and no religion is discriminated on this base. Secularism is that concept or policy in which people are not being forced to obey any particular religion.
32. The working conditions of laborers in coal mines are often challenging and hazardous. Key aspects include:
- Hazardous Environment:** Coal mines are prone to various risks, including explosions, cave-ins, and exposure to harmful dust and gases like methane and carbon monoxide, leading to serious health issues.
 - Long Working Hours:** Miners typically work long shifts, often exceeding eight hours a day, which can lead to physical exhaustion and health problems over time.
 - Physical Strain:** The work involves heavy lifting, manual labor, and working in cramped, uncomfortable spaces, contributing to musculoskeletal injuries.
 - Lack of Safety Measures:** Despite regulations, many mines may lack adequate safety equipment and training, increasing the risk of accidents.
 - Poor Health and Safety Standards:** Health issues, including respiratory diseases like pneumoconiosis (black lung disease), are common due to prolonged exposure to coal dust.
 - Inadequate Compensation:** Laborers often receive low wages compared to the risks they face, leading to economic instability for their families.

Overall, coal mining remains one of the most dangerous occupations, with ongoing efforts needed to improve safety and working conditions.



Section D

33. (1) It is because older people make up a relatively small proportion of the population.
(2) Economic activity grows in younger populations due to the influx of new people causing population growth. A bias towards younger age groups in India's age structure can positively impact economic activity. With a large, youthful population entering the workforce, there is potential for increased productivity and economic growth. This "demographic dividend" provides an opportunity for innovation, entrepreneurship, and a growing consumer base. However, to fully harness this potential, India must invest in education, skill development, and job creation. Otherwise, a mismatch between available jobs and workforce skills could lead to unemployment and social challenges.
34. i. The OBCs are a much more diverse group than the Dalits or Adivasis. Jawaharlal Nehru as Prime Minister appointed a commission to look into measures for the welfare of OBCs. The first Backward Classes Commission headed by Kaka Kalekar submitted its report in 1953, but it was being sidelined.
ii. From the mid-fifties, OBCs became a regional affair pursued by the state rather than the centre. In the early 20th century the southern states started political agitations. Because of these powerful social movements, policies to address the problems of OBCs were in place long before they were discussed in northern states.
iii. The politicisation of the OBCs allows them to convert their large numbers recent surveys show that they are about 41% of the national population- into political influence. This was not possible at the national level before, as shown by the sidelining of the Kalelkar Commission report, and the neglect of the Mandal Commission report.
iv. The large disparities between the upper OBCs and the lower OBCs make this a difficult political category to work with. However, the OBCs are severely under-represented in all spheres except landholding and political representation.
35. **The tribal movement that resulted in the formation of a separate state of Jharkhand:** Jharkhand is one of the newly-formed states of India, carved out of south Bihar in the year 2000. Behind the formation of this state lies more than a century of resistance. The social movement of Jharkhand had a charismatic leader Birsa Munda, an Adivasi who led a major uprising against the British. Birsa became the important icon of the movement. Stories and songs about him can be found all over Jharkhand. The memory of Birsa's struggle was also kept alive by writing. Within South Bihar, Adivasis shared a common hatred of dikus - migrant traders and moneylenders who had settled in the area and grabbed its wealth, impoverishing the original residents. Most of the benefits from the mining and industrial projects in this mineral-rich region had gone to dikus even as Adivasi lands had been alienated. Adivasi experiences of marginalization and their sense of injustice were mobilized to create a shared Jharkhandi identity and inspire collective action that eventually led to the formation of a separate state.
The issues against which the leaders of the movement in Jharkand agitated were:
- Acquisition of land for large irrigation projects and firing ranges.
 - Survey and settlement operations, which were held up, camps closed down, etc.
 - Nationalization of forest produces which they boycotted.
 - Collection of loans, rent and cooperative dues, which were resisted.

