

\* Select and write one most appropriate option out of the four options given for each of the questions [27]

1. What is the main focus of the chapter?

- (A) Urban Government
- (B) Local Government in Rural Areas
- (C) National Government
- (D) International Relations

**Ans. :** (B) Local Government in Rural Areas

2. What does the term 'Panchayat' refer to?

- (A) A national council
- (B) A village council
- (C) A city council
- (D) A state assembly

**Ans. :** (B) A village council

3. Who is the head of the Gram Panchayat?

- (A) Gram Sabha
- (B) Panchayat Secretary
- (C) Sarpanch/Pradhan
- (D) Patwari

**Ans. :** (C) Sarpanch/Pradhan

4. What initiative in Maharashtra worked to eliminate child labour and child marriage?

- (A) Sangkhu Radhu Khandu Gram Panchayat
- (B) Children's Parliament
- (C) Bal Panchayat
- (D) Panchayat samiti

**Ans. :** (C) Bal Panchayat

5. Who was awarded the Padma Shri in 2020 for his work in Hiware Bazar?

- (A) Dnyaneshwar Kamble
- (B) Popatrao Baguji Pawar
- (C) Vandana Bahadur Maida
- (D) Bunker Roy

**Ans. :** D

6. The Panchayati Raj system operates at which levels?

- (A) Village, district, and state
- (B) Village, block, and district
- (C) City, block, and district
- (D) Village, city, and state

**Ans. :** B

Explanation: The Panchayati Raj system consists of three tiers: the Gram Panchayat



at the village level, the Panchayat Samiti at the block level, and the Zila Parishad at the district level.

7. What is the main role of the Gram Panchayat?

- (A) Managing state-wide policies
- (B) Overseeing block-level development
- (C) Handling local village issues and development
- (D) Planning district-level infrastructure

**Ans. : C**

Explanation: The Gram Panchayat handles local village issues, including infrastructure and resource management directly addressing the needs of the community

8. Which Panchayati Raj institution connects multiple Gram Panchayats within a block?

- (A) Zila Parishad
- (B) Gram Panchayat
- (C) Panchayat Samiti
- (D) Village Council

**Ans. : C**

Explanation: The Panchayat Samiti operates at the block level and coordinates development plans and resources among various Gram Panchayats in the block.

9. What initiative helps children share their concerns with local governance?

- (A) Bal Sabhas
- (B) Panchayat Samiti
- (C) Zila Parishad
- (D) Gram Sabha

**Ans. :** Explanation: Bal Sabhas and Bal Panchayats are part of the Child-Friendly Panchayat Initiative, allowing children to voice their concerns and participate in local decision-making.

10. Who is responsible for managing land records in a Gram Panchayat?

- (A) Sarpanch
- (B) Panchayat Secretary
- (C) Patwari
- (D) Gram Sabha

**Ans. : C**

Explanation: The Panchayat Secretary is responsible for managing land records in a Gram Panchayat, overseeing administrative tasks related to land and local governance.

11. The real India lives in its villages.

The statement was given by:

- (A) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar
- (B) Jyotiba Phule
- (C) Mahatma Gandhi
- (D) Vivekanand

**Ans. : (C) Mahatma Gandhi**

12. Which of the following statement/s about village Lakshmanpur is/are correct ?

- A. Lakshmanpur, a large village is located in the foothills of the Himalayas.



- B. It has 300 houses and a population of about 700, most of whom are farmers.  
C. Some have relatives serving in the armed forces.  
D. A few younger villagers have migrated to the city for higher studies in IITs and IIMs.

(A) A and B                      (B) C and D                      (C) B and C                      (D) A, B and D

**Ans. :** (C) B and C

13. Which of the following statements about village Vandana Bahadur Maida, is/are correct?

A. Vandana Bahadur Maida, a member of the Bhil community from the village of Khankhandvi in Madhya Pradesh.

B. She defied matriarchal norms to become the first female Sarpanch of her village.

C. She convinced women in the village to attend the Sabha meetings and addressed critical issues like education and sanitation.

D. Vandana's journey shows how women can play a leading role in transforming rural India.

(A) A and B                      (B) A and D                      (C) A and C                      (D) A, C and D

**Ans. :** (C) A and C

14. The members of the gram panchayat are generally elected for a term of:

(A) 1 year                      (B) No fixed term                      (C) 5 years                      (D) 4 years

**Ans. :** (C) 5 years

15. The is an ancient text written by Kautilya.

(A) Ramayana                      (B) Gita                      (C) Young India                      (D) Arthashastra

**Ans. :** (D) Arthashastra

16. What is the main objective of the Panchayati Raj system?

(A) To provide employment opportunities

(B) To promote industrialisation

(C) To enable villagers to take an active part in the development of their villages and local areas

(D) To increase the power of the Central Government

**Ans. :** (C) To enable villagers to take an active part in the development of their villages and local areas

17. The head of the Gram Panchayat is known by which of the following names?

(A) Sarpanch                      (B) Pradhan

(C) Panchayat Secretary                      (D) Patwari

**Ans.:** (A) Sarpanch



18. Which of the following is not a level of the Panchayati Raj system?

- (A) Village level      (B) Block level      (C) District level      (D) State level

**Ans. :** (D) State level

19. The officer who maintains land records in a Gram Panchayat is known as

- (A) Panchayat Secretary      (B) Patwari  
(C) Sarpanch      (D) Pradhan

**Ans. :** (B) Patwari

20. What is the name of the initiative that enables children to express their ideas and opinions on matters that affect them?

- (A) Child Friendly Panchayat initiative  
(B) Bal Sabha  
(C) Bal Panchayat  
(D) Children's Parliament

**Ans.:** (A) Child Friendly Panchayat initiative

21. Which initiative is an offshoot of Bunkers Roy' 'Barefoot College initiative'?

- (A) Child Friendly Panchayat initiative  
(B) Children's Parliament  
(C) Bal Sabha  
(D) Bal Panchayat

**Ans. :** (B) Children's Parliament

22. Which scheme aids in the construction of all-weather roads in rural areas?

- (A) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana  
(B) Panchayati Raj Yojana  
(C) Gram Panchayat Yojana  
(D) Zila Parishad Yojana

**Ans.:** (A) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana

23. Which ancient text of governance was written by Kautilya?

- (A) Arthshastra      (B) Panchayati Raj      (C) Gram Panchayat      (D) Zila Parishad

**Ans.:** (A) Arthshastra

24. Arthshastra mentions the establishment of four headquarters for administrative purposes. In which year was the book written?

- (A) 2000 years ago      (B) 2300 years ago      (C) 2500 years ago      (D) 2800 years ago

**Ans. :** (B) 2300 years ago



25. Arrange the following events in chronological order.

- (i) Kautilya wrote Arthshastra
- (ii) Panchayati Raj system was established
- (iii) Child Friendly Panchayat Initiative was launched
- (iv) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana was launched

(A) (i), (ii), (iii), (iv)      (B) (i), (iii), (ii), (iv)      (C) (ii), (i), (iii), (iv)      (D) (iii), (ii), (i), (iv)

**Ans.:** (A) (i), (ii), (iii), (iv)

26. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

- I. Panchayat Samiti forms a link between Gram Panchayats and Zila Parishad.
- II. Panchayat Samiti collects development plans from all Gram Panchayats.
- III. Panchayat Samiti presents the development plans to the Central Government.
- IV. Panchayat Samiti co-ordinates between Gram Panchayats.

(A) I and II      (B) I, II and IV      (C) I, II, III and IV      (D) II and IV

**Ans. :** (B) I, II and IV

27. Which among the following statements is/are correct?

- I. Gram Panchayat is the highest level of the Panchayati Raj system.
- II. Panchayat Samiti is the block level institution.
- III. Zila Parishad Is the district level institution.
- IV. Panchayati Raj institutions are same across all states.

(A) I and II      (B) I, II and III      (C) II and III      (D) III and IV

**Ans. :** (C) II and III

**\* Assertion - Reasoning based questions.**

**[14]**

28. Assertion (A): The Panchayati Raj system allows villagers to manage their own affairs.

Reason (R): The system includes a three-tier structure of local governance to address various levels of issues.

(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 correct but (R) is wrong.      (D) (A) is wrong but (R) is correct.

**Ans.:** (A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

29. Assertion (A): The Child-Friendly Panchayat Initiative focuses on engaging children in local governance.

Reason (R): This initiative aims to address issues like child labor and education.

(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 correct but (R) is wrong.      (D) (A) is wrong but (R) is correct.

the correct explanation of (A).      not the correct explanation of (A).

**Ans.:** (A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

30. Assertion (A): Panchayati Raj institutions essential for addressing the specific needs of rural communities in India.

Reason (R): Panchayati Raj institutions handle various aspects of village life, such as infrastructure \* maintenance, resource management, and resolving local disputes.

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

**Ans. : A**

Explanation: Panchayati Raj institutions are designed to address specific needs of rural areas and their functions align with this objective by managing local resources and resolving disputes.

31. Assertion (A): The Gram Panchayat is the most local level of government in rural areas.

Reason (R): The Gram Panchayat members are directly elected by the Gram Sabha, which consists of all adults in the village who are registered voters.

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

**Ans. : A**

Explanation: The Gram Panchayat is indeed the lowest tier of local government, and its members are elected by the Gram Sabha, ensuring local representation.

32. Assertion (A): The Panchayat Samiti acts as a link between Gram Panchayats and Zila Parishads. Reason (R): Panchayat Samiti members include village Sarpanch and local State Legislative Assembly members.

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

explanation of  
Assertion (A).

explanation of  
Assertion (A).

**Ans. : A**

Explanation: The Panchayat Samiti connects the Gram Panchayat (village level) with the Zila Parishad. Members of these institutions are elected by local people and also include village Sarpanch and local State Legislative Assembly members.

33. Assertion (A): The 73rd and 74th Amendment Acts reserve one-third of the seats in Panchayati Raj institutions for women.

Reason (R): These reservations ensure that women's voices are heard in local governance.

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

**Ans. : A**

Explanation: The amendments reserved 33% seats for women to enhance their representation and ensure their participation in local governance.

34. Assertion (A): Child-Friendly Panchayat Initiatives help children participate in decision-making processes at the local level.

Reason (R): These initiatives encourage children to attend school and oppose child labour and early marriages.

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

**Ans. : A**

Explanation: Initiatives designed to involve children in local governance also aim to address broader social issues like education and child labor, thus aligning with their goals.

35. Assertion (A): Like every village in India, the Lakshmanpur people have a system of local government called 'Panchayat'.

Reason (R): Panchayats bring governance closer to the people, making it possible for them to actively participate in decision-making processes.

- (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

**Ans.:** (A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)

36. Assertion (A): The structure and functions of the Panchayati Raj institutions differ a little across States.

Reason (R): The Central government have authority over those institutions.

- (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

**Ans. :** (B) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)

37. Assertion (A) The Panchayat Secretary performs administrative functions.

Reason (R) He is responsible for maintaining land records.

- (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 false but (R) is true
- (D) (A) is true but (R) is false

**Ans.:** (A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)

38. Assertion (A) Panchayat Samiti plays a crucial role in co-ordinating between Gram Panchayats.

Reason (R) It collects development plans from all the Gram Panchayats and presents them to the district or state levels.

- (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 false but (R) is true
- (D) (A) is true but (R) is false

**Ans.:** (A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)

39. Assertion (A) The Children Parliament initiative has empowered underprivileged children in Rajasthan.

Reason (R) It has enabled them to develop leadership skills and become socially aware.

- (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 false but (R) is true
- (D) (A) is true but (R) is false

**Ans. :** (D) (A) is true but (R) is false

40. Assertion (A) Kautilya's Arthshastra mentions the establishment of headquarters by the king.

Reason (R) It describes the structure of the state and how the economy can be made prosperous.

(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 false but (R) is true

(D) (A) is true but (R) is false

**Ans. :** (B) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)

41. Assertion (A) The Sangkhu Radhu Khandu Gram Panchayat has been declared a Child Friendly Gram Panchayat.

Reason (R) It has taken steps to cater to the needs and rights of children.

(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 false but (R) is true

(D) (A) is true but (R) is false

**Ans.:** (A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)

**\* Fill in the blank with correct answer.[1 Mark each]**

**[19]**

42. The Panchayati Raj system operates at three levels: the village, the block, and the \_\_\_\_\_

**Ans. :** district

43. The head of the Gram Panchayat is known as the \_\_\_\_\_ or Pradhan.

**Ans. :** Sarpanch

44. The \_\_\_\_\_ is an officer who maintains land records in many parts of India.

**Ans. :** Patwari

45. The system of local government in rural areas is also known as \_\_\_\_\_ Raj.

**Ans. :** Panchayati

46. The \_\_\_\_\_ Panchayat Initiative creates opportunities for children to express their ideas and opinions.

**Ans. :** Child-Friendly

47. The Panchayati Raj system operates at the village, block, and \_\_\_\_\_ levels.

**Ans. :** District

48. The head of a Gram Panchayat is known as the \_\_\_\_\_ or Pradhan.

**Ans. :** Sarpanch

49. Bal Panchayats are part of the \_\_\_\_\_ initiative to include children in local governance.

**Ans. :** Child-Friendly Panchayat

50. The Panchayat Samiti coordinates development plans between \_\_\_\_\_ Panchayats.

**Ans. :** Gram

51. The Zila Parishad oversees \_\_\_\_\_ development projects.

**Ans. :** District-wide

52. 1. Panchayats bring \_\_\_\_\_ closer to the people, making it possible for them to actively participate in the processes.

**Ans. :** Governance, decision

53. After \_\_\_\_\_ became its \_\_\_\_\_ he started applying Anna Hazare's model of rainwater harvesting, watershed conservation and massive tree planting of lakhs of trees.

**Ans. :** Popatrao Baguji Pawar, Sarpanch

54. There is a reservation of \_\_\_\_\_ Seats for women in Panchayat.

**Ans. :** One third

55. The head of the Panchayat is called \_\_\_\_\_.

**Ans. :** Sarpanch

56. The Zila Panchayat is the \_\_\_\_\_ level of the Panchayati Raj system.

**Ans. :** highest

57. Kautilya's. \_\_\_\_\_ describes the administrative structure from the village to the regional capital around 2300 years ago.

**Ans. :** Arthshastra

58. The \_\_\_\_\_ Gram Panchayat in West Sikkim has been declared a Child Friendly Gram Panchayat due to its Child Friendly initiatives.

**Ans. :** Sangkhu Radhu Khandu

59. The Panchayati Raj system works at three levels-the village, the \_\_\_\_\_ and the district.

**Ans. :** block

60. The Panchayat Samiti collects development plans from all the Gram Panchayats and then puts them together to present it before the \_\_\_\_\_ levels for funding and implementation.

**Ans. :** district or state



\* State if the following are true or false.[1 Mark each]

[10]

61. The Panchayati Raj system includes a Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti, and Zila Parishad.

**Ans. :** True

62. The Gram Panchayat is responsible for district-wide development projects.

**Ans. :** False

63. The Panchayat Samiti operates at the village level and handles local issues.

**Ans. :** False

64. Child-Friendly Panchayat Initiatives, like Bal Panchayats, help incorporate children's views in local governance.

**Ans. :** True

65. The Sarpanch is the head of the Panchayat Samiti.

**Ans. :** False

66. The Panchayati Raj system is a form of national government.

**Ans. :** false

67. The Gram Panchayat is responsible for collecting development plans from Gram Sabhas and presenting them to the Panchayat Samiti.

**Ans. :** false

68. Kautilya's Arthshastra describes the structure of the state and how the economy could be made prosperous around 1000 years ago.

**Ans. :** false

69. The Dronamukha is a provincial headquarters for every 400 villages according to Kautilya.

**Ans. :** true

70. One-third of the seats in Panchayati Raj institutions are reserved for men.

**Ans. :** false

\* Answer the questions.[1 Mark each]

[15]

71. What is the role of the Gram Sabha?

**Ans. :** The Gram Sabha is a group of adults from a village who discuss and make decisions on local matters.

72. What is the primary function of a Gram Panchayat?

**Ans. :** The Gram Panchayat addresses local issues and promotes development in the village.

73. Who assists the Gram Panchayat in administrative functions?

**Ans. :** The Panchayat Secretary assists the Gram Panchayat in administrative functions.

74. What initiative helps children express their ideas and opinions in villages?

**Ans. :** The Child-Friendly Panchayat Initiative.

75. Which village became a model for rainwater harvesting and tree planting?

**Ans. :** Hiware Bazar.

76. What is the role of Panchayati Raj institutions in rural governance?

**Ans. :** Panchayati Raj institutions manage everyday affairs in rural areas, including infrastructure maintenance, resource management, and resolving local disputes.

77. What is the population of Lakshmanpur?

**Ans. :** The population of Lakshmanpur is about 700 people.

78. What are the three levels of the Panchayati Raj system in India?

**Ans. :** The three levels are the Gram Panchayat (village level), Panchayat Samiti (block level), and Zila Parishad (district level).

79. Who is the head of a Gram Panchayat?

**Ans. :** The head of a Gram Panchayat is known as the 'Sarpanch' or Tradhan.'

80. Name one key responsibility of the Panchayat Secretary.

**Ans. :** The Panchayat Secretary handles administrative tasks within the Gram Panchayat.

81. What is the purpose of the Child-Friendly Panchayat Initiative?

**Ans. :** The initiative helps children share their ideas and concerns about their well-being through platforms like Bal Sabhas and Bal Panchayats.

82. In which village did Popatrao Baguji Pawar serve as Sarpanch?

**Ans. :** Popatrao Baguji Pawar served as Sarpanch in Hiware Bazar.

83. What is the main function of the Panchayat Samiti?

**Ans. :** The Panchayat Samiti coordinates plans from different Gram Panchayats and presents them at higher levels for development and funding.

84. How many seats are reserved for women in Panchayat institutions by the 73rd and 74th Amendment Acts?

**Ans. :** One-third of the seats are reserved for women.

85. Name one achievement of Vandana Bahadur Maida as Sarpanch.

**Ans. :** Vandana Bahadur Maida encouraged women to participate in Gram Sabha meetings and addressed issues like education and sanitation.

\* very short answer questions. [2 Mark each]

[50]



86. In your view, what type of person should be a Gram Panchayat member?

**Ans. :** In my view a Gram Panchayat member should possess the necessary following qualities

- A good friend to the community who cares about the people and their problems.
- A truthful and fair person who always speaks the truth and is fair to everyone.
- A leader who helps and shows others the way and works together.
- A good listener and speaker who hears what others say and explains things clearly.
- A kind and caring person who thinks about how others feel and helps those in need.
- A dreamer who thinks about what the community needs in the future.
- A team player who works together with others for the community's good.
- Someone who takes responsibility for their actions and decisions.
- Someone who loves to help and wants to make the community a better place.
- Someone who understands local rules and ways to help the community.

87. Let us suppose that you study in a village school. The school is located next to a highway and students find it difficult to cross the road when they come to school or leave at the end of the day. What are the options to solve this issue? Which institutions in the Panchayati Raj can help you? What can the students do?

**Ans. :** If our village school is located next to a highway, making it difficult for students to cross the road safely, some of the options that can be taken to solve the issue are as follows

- **Pedestrian crossing or Zebra crossing** Paint a zebra crossing or install a pedestrian crossing signal to alert drivers to slow down.
- **Speed bump or speed breaker** Install speed bumps or speed breakers to reduce vehicle speed near the school.
- **School crossing guard** Appoint a school crossing guard or a traffic volunteer to help students cross the road safely.
- **Footbridge or Overpass** Construct a footbridge or overpass for students to cross the highway safely.
- **Alternate route** Identify an alternate route for students to reach school, avoiding the highway.

Institutions in Panchayati Raj that can help are

- **Gram Panchayat** The local village council can take up the issue and work with other authorities to implement a solution.
- **Panchayat Samiti** The block-level council can provide guidance and support to the Gram Panchayat.
- **Zila Parishad** The district-level council can allocate funds and resources for infrastructure development, such as footbridges or speed breakers.



The students can do the following

- **Raise awareness** Organise awareness campaigns to educate drivers about the importance of slowing down near schools.
  - **Petition** Create a petition signed by students, parents, and teachers to submit to the Gram Panchayat or other authorities.
  - **Meet with authorities** Meet with Gram Panchayat members, Panchayat Samiti officials, or Zila Parishad representatives to discuss the issue and potential solutions.
  - **Participate in safety initiatives** Participate in safety initiatives, such as painting zebra crossings or installing speed breakers, under the guidance of authorities.
- By working together, students, schools and Panchayati Raj institutions can find a solution to ensure safe crossing for students.

88. What are Panchayati Raj institutions?

**Ans. :** Panchayati Raj Institutions are local self-government bodies in rural India, established to decentralize governance and empower local communities. They include the Gram Panchayat (village level), Panchayat Samiti (block level), and Zila Parishad (district level). Panchayati Raj Institutions are responsible for local administration, development, and addressing community needs, operating under the framework provided by the Constitutional.

89. Discuss the role of the Gram Panchayat in the Panchayati Raj system and its impact on local governance.

**Ans. :** The Gram Panchayat is the lowest level of the Panchayati Raj system and plays a crucial role in local governance. It is responsible for addressing issues such as agriculture, road maintenance, and education within the village.

The Gram Panchayat's impact is significant as it brings governance closer to the people, allowing them to actively participate in decision-making processes and manage local issues effectively. By addressing specific needs and collaborating on development plans, the Gram Panchayat helps in the overall improvement of village life.

90. Explain the significance of the Child-Friendly Panchayat Initiative and its impact on rural communities.

**Ans. :** The Child-Friendly Panchayat Initiative aims to involve children in local governance by creating opportunities for them to express their ideas and opinions on matters affecting their well-being. This initiative promotes the participation of children in Bal Sabhas and Bal Panchayats, helping to address issues such as child labor, child marriage, and school attendance.

The impact of this initiative includes improved child rights awareness, better educational outcomes, and increased community engagement in addressing children's needs. It also fosters a sense of responsibility and leadership among young people.

91. Analyze the influence of historical texts like the Arthaśhāstra on the development of local governance structures in India.

**Ans. :** The Arthashastra, written by Kauṭilya, provides detailed descriptions of administrative structures and governance from the village to the regional capital. Its influence on the development of local governance structures in India is evident in the conceptualization of a multi-tiered administrative system that mirrors the Panchayati Raj system.

The text outlines the establishment of sub-district, district, and provincial headquarters, which parallels the modern Panchayati Raj levels of Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti, and Zila Parishad. The historical text's emphasis on a structured administrative framework highlights the continuity and evolution of governance practices in India.

92. Describe the process of electing a Sarpanch and the responsibilities that come with this position.

**Ans. :** The Sarpanch is elected by the members of the Gram Sabha, a group of adult villagers who are enrolled as voters. The election process involves direct participation from the villagers, ensuring that the choice of Sarpanch reflects the community's needs and preferences.

The Sarpanch's responsibilities include leading the Gram Panchayat, overseeing local development projects, addressing village issues, and representing the village in higher administrative levels. The Sarpanch plays a pivotal role in implementing government schemes, managing resources, and fostering community engagement.

93. Discuss the role and achievements of the Bal Panchayat and its contribution to child welfare in rural areas.

**Ans. :** The Bal Panchayat is a child-run council that addresses issues affecting children in rural areas, such as child labor, child marriage, and school attendance. Its role includes advocating for children's rights, convincing parents and adults to prioritize education, and addressing social issues impacting children.

The achievements of Bal Panchayats include successfully bringing children back to school, eliminating harmful practices, and raising awareness about child rights. Their contributions enhance child welfare by involving children in decision-making processes and empowering them to be active participants in their communities.

94. Discuss with adult members of your family and neighbourhood, and make a list of their expectations from the urban local bodies.

**Ans. :** Expectations may include :

- Efficient management of waste and sanitation services.
- Prompt repair of infrastructure issues such as roads and water supply.
- Transparent and accountable administration.



- Development and maintenance of public spaces like parks and community centres.
- Effective implementation of government schemes and services.

95. Make a list of characteristics of a good urban local body.

**Ans. :** Characteristics include :

Responsiveness : Addressing issues and complaints promptly.

Transparency : Open communication about decisions and spending.

Accountability : Clear mechanisms for reporting and addressing failures.

96. Explain the three-tier structure of the Panchayati Raj system.

**Ans. :** The Panchayati Raj system consists of three levels: the Gram Panchayat (village level), the Panchayat Samiti (block level), and the Zila Parishad (district level). Each level plays a role in local governance, from addressing village-specific issues to coordinating development plans across larger areas.

97. Describe the contribution of Popatrao Baguji Pawar to Hiware Bazar.

**Ans. :** Popatrao Baguji Pawar implemented rainwater harvesting, watershed conservation, and extensive tree planting in Hiware Bazar. His efforts transformed the village into a green and prosperous area, addressing issues related to droughts and poor agricultural yields.

98. What are the responsibilities of the Panchayat Samiti?

**Ans. :** The Panchayat Samiti coordinates matters across Gram Panchayats, collects development plans, and presents them at the district or state levels for fund allocation and implementation of government schemes.

99. How does the Panchayati Raj system ensure the participation of women and disadvantaged sections?

**Ans. :** The Panchayati Raj system reserves one-third of the seats for women and makes special provisions to ensure that the needs and problems of disadvantaged sections are heard and addressed.

100. What was the primary goal of the Children's Parliament initiative in Rajasthan?

**Ans. :** The Children's Parliament aimed to empower underprivileged children through education and democratic participation, teaching them about democracy and social responsibility while addressing issues such as education, sanitation, and social equality.

101. Describe the Panchayati Raj system and its three levels.

**Ans. :** The Panchayati Raj system is a three-tier local and is directly elected by the village residents. The Panchayat Samiti operates at the block level, coordinating and consolidating plans from multiple Gram Panchayats. At the district level, the Zila Parishad oversees and supports the development projects and governance activities initiated at the lower levels.



102. How does the Gram Panchayat contribute to local governance in villages?

**Ans. :** The Gram Panchayat is the most local level of government and is directly involved in managing village affairs. It addresses issues such as road maintenance, water resource management, and support for local schools. Members are elected by the Gram Sabha and make decisions on local matters, ensuring that governance is tailored to the specific needs of the community.

103. What are some examples of initiatives taken by Panchayats to support children's welfare?

**Ans. :** Examples include Bal Panchayats in Maharashtra working to end child labour and child marriages, Sangkhu Radhu Khandu Gram Panchayat in Sikkim making schools safer and providing healthy meals, and the Children's Parliament by Barefoot College in Rajasthan, which empowers children through mock elections and leadership activities.

104. How did the Panchayat Samiti help in implementing development projects?

**Ans. :** The Panchayat Samiti brings together plans from various Gram Panchayats and presents them at the district level to secure funds and support for development projects. It plays a crucial role in coordinating and facilitating the implementation of government schemes like the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana.

105. What is the significance of having women represented in Panchayat institutions?

**Ans. :** Reserving one-third of seats for women in Panchayat institutions ensures gender inclusivity and empowers women to participate in decision-making processes. This representation helps address issues from a diverse perspective and promotes more equitable development in communities.

106. Explain how Popatrao Baguji Pawar's initiatives impacted his village.

**Ans. :** Popatrao Baguji Pawar implemented effective rainwater harvesting, watershed conservation, and extensive tree planting in Hiware Bazar. These initiatives rejuvenated the village's environment and agriculture, leading to its recognition as a green and prosperous village.

107. What are the benefits of including children's voices in Panchayat decisions through initiatives like Bal Panchayats?

**Ans. :** Including children's voices helps address issues affecting their well-being and ensures their concerns are considered in local governance. It promotes their involvement in community decisions, educates them about democratic processes, and fosters a sense of responsibility and empowerment.

108. Describe the role and function of the Zila Parishad in the Panchayati Raj system.

**Ans. :** The Zila Parishad is the district-level institution in the Panchayati Raj system. It oversees and supports the implementation of development projects, coordinates

between Panchayat Samitis and higher authorities, and manages district-wide issues including infrastructure, education, and healthcare.

109. How does the Panchayati Raj system facilitate local participation in governance?

**Ans. :** The Panchayati Raj system facilitates local participation by creating a structure where villagers can elect representatives at various levels (Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti, Zila Parisha(d) to address local issues, manage resources, and implement development projects. This system ensures that governance is close to the people and responsive to their needs.

110. What role do Panchayati Raj institutions play in addressing local issues like infrastructure and education?

**Ans. :** Panchayati Raj institutions manage and address local issues by maintaining infrastructure, such as roads, managing water resources, and supporting local schools. They ensure that development projects are implemented according to the specific needs of the community and that government benefits reach the intended recipients.

\* Answer short answer questions. [3 Mark each]

[18]

111. Test yourself-without looking at the text above, can you name the three-tiers of the Panchayati Raj System? What are the key functions of each of the three-tiers?

**Ans. :** The three-tiers of the Panchayati Raj system are Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti and Zila Parishad. The key functions of these three tiers are as follows

**(i) Gram Panchayat (Village Level)** The Gram Panchayat develops the village and provides basic needs like water, roads and sanitation. It also supports agriculture, health and education in the village.

**(ii) Panchayat Samiti (Block Level)** The Panchayat Samiti co-ordinates the activities of the Gram Panchayats in its block. It implements development programs and monitors their progress.

**(iii) Zilla Parishad (District Level)** The Zila Parishad oversees the activities of the Panchayat samitis in its district. It plans and manages resources and funds for the development of the district.

112. Write a letter to the Sarpanch regarding the issue of plastic bags lying on the roadside in the village.

**Ans. :** self

113. What are their functions?

**Ans. :** Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) perform functions related to local governance and development, including :

- Planning and implementation of development schemes : Agriculture, rural housing, and infrastructure.
- Social welfare activities : Education, health, and sanitation.



- Regulation of natural resources : Water management and forest conservation.
- Maintenance of public utilities : Roads, drainage, and street lighting.
- Promotion of local industries : Small-scale and cottage industries.
- Dispute resolution : Handling minor disputes and local issues.

114. Why are they important in governance and democracy?

**Ans. :** Panchayati Raj Institutions are important in governance and democracy because they :

- Empower communities to make decisions about their development.
- Facilitate direct participation of citizens in governance.
- Distribute power and responsibilities to local levels.
- Enable efficient and localized management of resources.
- Cater to specific needs and priorities of rural populations.

faster transparency, accountability, and public involvement in the democratic process.

115. How do you think can the old maps used by Patwari be helpful for us? Can they tell us something about the past and the present?

**Ans. :** Old maps kept by the village Patwari can be helpful in the following ways

- showing land use changes over time
- revealing village expansion or shrinkage
- locating traditional water sources
- resolving boundary disputes
- tracking infrastructure development
- identifying environmental changes
- preserving cultural heritage
- understanding demographic changes

These maps provide insights into the village's past, helping us understand the present and make informed decisions for the future.

116. Why do you think it is important for the government to pay more attention to the needs and problems of the disadvantaged sections of society?

**Ans. :** The government should pay more attention to the needs of disadvantaged groups because

- they are often left out and ignored.
- they face big obstacles that prevent them from getting basic rights and opportunities.
- they are more likely to be poor and treated unfairly.
- helping them can break cycles of poverty and inequality.
- it's a matter of fairness and human rights.
- it can benefit everyone and help the economy grow.
- disadvantaged groups have unique experiences that can help improve decision-making.



By focusing on their needs, the government can create a fairer and more just society.

**\* Long answer questions [4 Mark each]**

**[20]**

117. Describe the Panchayati Raj system in India and its impact on rural governance.

**Ans. :** The Panchayati Raj system is a decentralised form of governance in India designed to bring administration closer to the people at the grassroots level. It operates through a three-tier system, which includes the Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti, and Zila Parishad, each serving different functions within the rural governance structure.

(i) Gram Panchayat : At the village level, the Gram Panchayat is the most local form of governance. It consists of elected representatives from the village, including a head known as the Sarpanch or Pradhan. The Gram Panchayat is responsible for managing daily affairs, such as road maintenance, water resource management, and local education.

It ensures that decisions are tailored to the specific needs of the village, fostering direct participation from the community in governance. This proximity allows the Gram Panchayat to address local issues more effectively and ensures that government benefits reach the intended recipients.

(ii) Panchayat Samiti : At the block level, the Panchayat Samiti serves as an intermediary body that connects the Gram Panchayat with the Zila Parishad. It consolidates and coordinates development plans from various Gram Panchayats, facilitating the implementation of larger projects and schemes such as construction of all-weather roads in rural areas under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. The Panchayat Samiti plays a crucial role in ensuring that resources are allocated efficiently and that development projects are aligned with the needs of the block.

(iii) Zila Parishad : At the district level, the Zila Parishad oversees and supports the work of the Panchayat Samiti. It is involved in managing district-wide issues and implementing large-scale development initiatives. The Zila Parishad helps coordinate efforts across multiple blocks and ensures that policies and projects are executed effectively at the district level. It also plays a vital role in the allocation of funds and resources for various development activities. The Panchayati Raj system significantly impacts rural governance by promoting local self-government, increasing transparency, and enhancing accountability. It empowers local communities to participate in decision-making processes and address their specific needs, thereby fostering more responsive and effective governance at the grassroots level.

118. Discuss the importance of women's participation in Panchayati Raj institutions and provide examples of successful female leaders in this system.

**Ans. :** Women's participation in Panchayati Raj institutions is crucial for promoting gender equality and ensuring that governance reflects diverse perspectives. The 73rd and 74th Amendments Acts of the Indian Constitution mandated that one-third of the seats in Panchayat institutions be reserved for women.

This reservation has significantly enhanced women's representation and influence in local governance.

(i) Empowerment and Representation : The inclusion of women in Panchayati Raj institutions allows for a more balanced representation of the community's needs. Women bring unique perspectives and priorities to governance, often focusing on issues such as health, education, and sanitation. This increased representation helps address gender-specific concerns and ensures that policies and initiatives are more inclusive.

(ii) Examples of Successful Female Leaders :

- Vandana Bahadur Maida : As the first female Sarpanch of Khankhandvi village in Madhya Pradesh, Maida made notable contributions to her community by encouraging women's participation in Gram Sabha meetings. She addressed critical issues such as education and sanitation, demonstrating how female leadership can drive positive change in rural areas.
- Dnyaneshwar Kamble : Although a male leader, Kamble's support for women's participation was significant. As a transgender Sarpanch of Tarangfal village, Kamble's leadership broke barriers and promoted inclusivity in local governance.
- Kamal Parmar : His initiative in Ahmedabad, where he taught underprivileged children, indirectly supported female empowerment by providing educational opportunities for girls and their families, highlighting the role of supportive leaders in fostering community development.

(iii) Impact of Women's Participation: Women's involvement in Panchayati Raj institutions has led to improved community welfare and more equitable development. Female leaders have been instrumental in addressing issues such as child marriage, domestic violence, and women's health, contributing to overall community advancement. The participation of women in Panchayati Raj institutions not only empowers them but also enhances the effectiveness of local governance by ensuring that the needs and concerns of all community members are addressed.

119. What are the similarities and the the Panchayati Raj system in rural areas urban local bodies?

**Ans. :** Similarities :

- Both involve local governance and decision-making at a community level.
- Both aim to address local issues and improve quality of life.
- Both have elected representatives responsible for managing local affairs.

Differences :

- Panchayati Raj focuses on rural areas, while urban local bodies manage cities and towns.
- Urban local bodies often deal with more complex infrastructure and services due to higher population density.
- Panchayati Raj structures include Gram Panchayats and Zilla Panchayats, whereas urban local bodies are categorised into Municipal Corporations, Municipal Councils, and Nagar Panchayats based on population size.

120. "The Panchayati Raj system works at three levels – the village, the block, and the district. This system allows for local governance and ensures that development plans and resources are managed efficiently. The Gram Panchayat, being the base level, directly interacts with the villagers, addressing their immediate needs and concerns. Above the Gram Panchayat is the Panchayat Samiti, which coordinates between multiple Gram Panchayats, and at the top is the Zila Parishad, which oversees district-level administration."

1. What are the three levels of the Panchayati Raj system ?
2. What role does the Panchayat Samiti play in the Panchayati Raj system ?
3. How does the Zila Parishad contribute to local governance ?
4. Why is the Gram Panchayat considered the base level of the Panchayati Raj system ?

**Ans. :** 1. The three levels are the village (Gram Panchayat), the block (Panchayat Samiti), and the district (Zila Parishad).

2. The Panchayat Samiti coordinates between multiple Gram Panchayats and facilitates the presentation of development plans at the district level.

3. The Zila Parishad oversees district-level administration, ensuring that the work of the Panchayat Samiti and Gram Panchayats aligns with district-wide development goals.

4. The Gram Panchayat is considered the base level because it is the closest to the people and directly handles local issues and development needs.

121. "The Panchayati Raj system, known for bringing governance closer to the people, operates through a three-tier structure: the village, the block, and the district. This system enables villagers to participate actively in decision-making processes and manage local resources effectively."

1. What is the primary benefit of the Panchayati Raj system mentioned in the source ?
2. Which levels are included in the three-tier structure of the Panchayati Raj system ?



3. How does the Panchayati Raj system support local decision-making ?
4. In what way does the Panchayati Raj system help manage local resources ?

**Ans. :** 1. The primary benefit is that it brings governance closer to the people, allowing for active participation and effective management of local resources.

2. The three tiers are the village level, the block level, and the district level.

3. The system supports local decision-making by allowing villagers to participate in governance through their local councils (Gram Panchayat) and higher-level institutions (Panchayat Samiti and Zila Parishad).

4. The system helps manage local resources by enabling direct involvement of villagers in decisions related to their resources and development projects.

**\* Long answer questions [5 Mark each]**

**[15]**

122. As a class activity, let four or five students form a Bal Panchayat and the rest of the class imagine they are the villagers. What issues will the Gram Sabha discuss? What challenges could it encounter? What solutions will it propose?

**Ans. :** Gram Sabha can discuss following issues

- Lack of clean drinking water
- Poor condition of village roads
- Insufficient electricity supply
- Need for a new school building
- Waste management issues

Challenges that may be encountered by the panchayat are as follows

- Limited funds
- Resistance from some villagers to change
- Lack of co-operation from local authorities
- Limited resources and expertise
- Balancing individual interests with collective needs

Some of the solutions proposed at the panchayat were as follows

- **Clean drinking water** Install new water pumps and pipes and implement rainwater harvesting systems.
- **Village roads** Repair and maintain existing roads and build new roads to connect remote areas.
- **Electricity supply** Install solar panels or wind turbines and upgrade existing power infrastructure.
- **New school building** Raise funds through donations and grants and collaborate with local authorities for support.
- **Waste management** Implement recycling programs and build a community composting facility.

Bal Panchayat's role is as follows

- Facilitate discussion and decision-making
- Allocate tasks and responsibilities



- Manage funds and resources
- Co-ordinate with local authorities and experts
- Ensure transparency and accountability

123. What similarities and differences do you notice between the governance system at the Central level and at the Panchayat level?(Hint: refer back to Chapter 10 if required.)

**Ans. :** The similarities between the governance system at the Central and Panchayat levels are as follows

- Both have leaders who are chosen by people. (For Ex-MPs in central level and Panchayat members at Panchayat levels).
- Both have a system to make sure everyone works together and follows rules.
- Both want to help people and make their lives better.
- Both levels hold meetings for discussions of the issues.

The differences between the governance system at the Central and Panchayat levels are as follows

- The Central government governs a vast area while the local government governs only the local area.
- The Central government has more power and money than the Panchayat government.
- The Central government makes decisions for the whole country, while Panchayat government makes decisions for a small area.
- The Central government is answerable to the whole country, while Panchayat government is answerable to the people in their small area.
- There are two heads at Central level (President and Prime Minister) while only one head (Sarpanch) at local level.

124. If you get an opportunity to meet a few Panchayat members, what questions would you like to ask them? Discuss in small groups to create a questionnaire. Meet some Gram Panchayat members or invite them to your school. Ask them the questions in your questionnaire and write a short report.

**Ans. :** If I get an opportunity to meet a few Panchayat members, I would ask the following questions

- What inspired you to become a Panchayat member?
- What are the biggest challenges you face in your role?
- How do you ensure everyone's voice is heard in decision-making?
- What initiatives have you taken to improve Our village/town?
- How do you balance individual interests with the greater good?
- What role do you think youth can play in community development?
- How can we, as students, contribute to the Panchayat's efforts?
- What message would you like to share with our school community?

**Short Report**

We met with three Gram Panchayat members, Mr. Kumar, Ms. Devi and Mr. Patel and asked them the questions from our questionnaire. Here's what we learned

- They became Panchayat members to serve their community and make a positive impact.
- Challenges they face include limited resources, conflicting opinions and ensuring everyone's participation.
- They ensure everyone's voice is heard by conducting regular meetings and encouraging open discussion.
- Initiatives they've taken include building new roads, improving healthcare facilities and promoting education.
- They balance individual interests with the greater good by prioritising community needs and seeking expert advice.
- They believe youth can play a vital role in community development by bringing new ideas and enthusiasm.
- We, as students, can contribute by participating in Panchayat meetings, volunteering for community projects and spreading awareness about important issues.
- Their message to our school community is to become active citizens, work together and strive for the betterment of our community.

\* Match the following.

[20]

125.

Column A	Column B
1. Dnyaneshwar Kamble	(a) Promoted rainwater harvesting and tree planting
2. Popatrao Baguji Pawar	(b) First female Sarpanch who addressed education and sanitation issues
3. Vandana Bahadur Maida	(c) Empowered underprivileged children through education and democratic participation.
4. Bunker Roy	(d) Served as Sarpanch and advocated 'Service to the' village is service to the public

Ans. :

Column A	Column B
1. Dnyaneshwar Kamble	(d) Served as Sarpanch and advocated 'Service to the' village is service to the public
2. Popatrao Baguji Pawar	(a) Promoted rainwater harvesting and tree planting
3. Vandana Bahadur Maida	(b) First female Sarpanch who addressed education and sanitation issues

4. Bunker Roy	(c) Empowered underprivileged children through education and democratic participation.
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126.

Column A	Column B
(1) Gram Panchayat	(i) District-level institution
(2) Panchayat Samiti	(ii) Manages local village issues
(3) Zila Parishad	(iii) Connects Gram Panchayats within a block
(4) Child-Friendly Panchayat Initiative	(iv) Encourages children's participation in governance
(5) Sarpanch	(v) Head of the Gram Panchayat

Ans. :

Column A	Column B
(1) Gram Panchayat	(ii) Manages local village issues
(2) Panchayat Samiti	(iii) Connects Gram Panchayats within a block
(3) Zila Parishad	(i) District-level institution
(4) Child-Friendly Panchayat Initiative	(iv) Encourages children's participation in governance
(5) Sarpanch	(v) Head of the Gram Panchayat

127.

Column A	Column B
1. Panchayat Secretary	A. Consists of all adult residents of above 18 years of a village or a group of villages within a Gram Panchayat who votes Panchayat election.
2. Patwari	B. A official appointed by government act as a link between the Gram Panchayat and government.
3. Sarpanch	C. The elected head of Gram Panchayat.
4. Gram Sabha	D. Is an official at the Panchayat level who helps the Panchayat secretary in maintaining records and maps.

Ans. :

Column A	Column B
1. Panchayat Secretary	B. A official appointed by government act as a link between the Gram Panchayat and government.
2. Patwari	D. Is an official at the Panchayat level who helps the Panchayat secretary in maintaining records and maps.
3. Sarpanch	C. The elected head of Gram Panchayat.

4. Gram Sabha	A. Consists of all adult residents of above 18 years of a village or a group of villages within a Gram Panchayat who votes Panchayat election.
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128.

List I (Personalities)	List II (Achievements)
A. Dnyaneshwar Kamble	1. First transgender sarpanch in Maharashtra
B. Vandana Bahadur Maida	2. First female Sarpanch from Bhil community in Madhya Pradesh
C. Popatrao Bagujl Pawar	3. Implemented rainwater harvesting and watershed conservation in Hiware Bazar village
D. Kautilya	4. Authored Arthshastra, an ancient text on governance

	A	B	C	D
(a)	3	4	2	1
(b)	4	2	3	1
(c)	1	2	3	4
(d)	2	3	1	4

Ans. :

List I (Personalities)	List II (Achievements)
A. Dnyaneshwar Kamble	1. First transgender sarpanch in Maharashtra
B. Vandana Bahadur Maida	2. First female Sarpanch from Bhil community in Madhya Pradesh
C. Popatrao Bagujl Pawar	3. Implemented rainwater harvesting and watershed conservation in Hiware Bazar village
D. Kautilya	4. Authored Arthshastra, an ancient text on governance

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Student Bro