

CLASS XII  
MID-TERM EXAMINATION 2023-24  
SUBJECT: SOCIOLOGY  
SET A  
MARKING KEY/ SOLUTIONS

TIME: 3 Hours

MAX.MARKS: 80

SECTION A

[SECTION A comprises OTQ carrying 1 mark each]

1. Identify the geometric progression.
  - a) 1,2,3,4,5,6 etc
  - b) 1,3,5,7,9,11 etc
  - c) **2,4,8,16,32,64, etc**
  - d) 2,4,6,8,10,12, etc
  
2. A large proportion of children in a population is because of:
  - a) High death rate
  - b) **High birth rate**
  - c) High life expectancy
  - d) More married couples
  
3. **Assertion:** The inequalities in the literacy rate are especially important because they tend to reproduce inequality across generations.  
**Reasoning:** Literacy rate also vary by social group, historically disadvantaged communities like the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes have lower rate of literacy.
  - a) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
  - b) **Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)**
  - c) Both (A) and (R) are false.
  - d) (A) is false but (R) is true.
  
4. Identify the correct statement:
  - a) High dependency ratio leads to demographic dividend.
  - b) **Dependency ratio shows the ratio of non-working age to working-age population.**
  - c) It creates a potential for migration out of the country.
  - d) Dependency ratio shows the ratio of workers to non-workers population.
  
5. Which is not a characteristics of caste System?
  - a) Membership of caste is based upon birth.
  - b) Caste System is seen only in Indian society.
  - c) Castes were traditionally linked to occupations.
  - d) **Caste allows exogamy.**

6. Who of the following was not part of the panchamas?
- Slaves
  - 'foreigners'
  - Merchants**
  - Conquered people
7. Who were the 'absentee landlords'?
- The Upper castes
  - The intermediate castes**
  - The cultivators
  - The untouchables
8. **Assertion:** *The Dalits may build their own temple, or convert to another religion like Buddhism, Christianity or Islam. They may no longer desire to be included in the Hindu temple or religious events.*
- Reasoning:** *Prolonged experience of discriminatory or insulting behaviour often produces a reaction on the part of the excluded who then stop trying for inclusion.*
- Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A**
  - Both A and R are true and R is the incorrect explanation of R
  - Both A and R are false
  - A is true and R is false
9. **Assertion:** Tribe is that group of people who lives away from our civilization on mountains, forests, and valleys traditionally. This group lives in a specific geographical area and have their own language and culture.
- Reasoning:** Indian Constitution encourages Tribes to remain in their natural setting to keep them as a cultural symbol for scholarly studies.
- Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
  - Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
  - Both (A) and (R) are false.**
  - (A) is false but (R) is true.
10. The Brahmins were the highest caste \_\_\_\_\_ where as the Kshatriyas had the highest \_\_\_\_\_ caste status and power.
- Ritually, secular**
  - Secular, ritually
  - Socially, economically
  - Economically, socially
11. A South American proverb says – "If hard labour were really such a good thing, the rich would keep it all for themselves!" What does this proverb imply?
- Presence of social inclusion
  - Presence of equality
  - Presence of social stratification**

- d) Presence of homogeneity
12. Despite the limited literal meaning of the word, the institution of ‘untouchability’ refers not just to the avoidance or prohibition of physical contact but to a much broader set of social sanctions. Which of the following is not such a sanction?
- a) prohibition from sharing drinking water sources
  - b) prohibition from participating in collective religious worship
  - c) **wearing clean clothes**
  - d) imposition of gestures of deference
13. India can be considered a good example of a ‘state-nation’ because \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) **It does not follow assimilationist policy**  
b) It follows integrationist policy  
c) The state does not ensure minority rights  
d) The state does not recognise linguistic rights
14. In sociological sense, one forms a minority group because \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) they have the same occupation  
b) **they have a sense of belonging and group solidarity**  
c) they have common physical characteristics  
d) they are born on a single date of the year
15. These laws allow citizens of a particular state to also – simultaneously – be citizens of another state. Thus, to cite one instance, Jewish Americans may be citizens of Israel as well as the USA; they can even serve in the armed forces of one country without losing their citizenship in the other country. This is known as \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) Double citizenship  
b) Non-Resident citizenship  
c) Two-way citizenship  
d) **Dual citizenship**
16. Write the correct statement related to communalism in India:  
a) It is not a cause of worry in India  
b) It began because of the divide and rule policy of the colonial administrators  
c) **There were instances of religious conflict even in the pre-colonial times.**  
d) the proportionate impact of communal tension is far more traumatic for majority communities.

## SECTION B

**[SECTION B comprises questions carrying 2 mark each]**

17. Why is juvenile sex ratio worrying the demographers?  
The sex ratio for the 0–6 years age group (known as the juvenile or child sex ratio) has generally been substantially higher than the overall sex ratio for all age groups, but it has been falling very sharply.

The state-level child sex ratios offer even greater cause for worry. As many as nine States and Union Territories have a child sex ratio of under 900 females per 1000 males. Haryana is the worst state with an incredibly low child sex ratio of 793 (the only state below 800), followed by Punjab, Jammu & Kashmir, Delhi, Chandigarh, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh.

Uttar Pradesh, Daman & Diu, Himachal Pradesh, Lakshadweep and Madhya Pradesh are all under 925.

While large states such as West Bengal, Assam, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka are above the national average of 919 but below the 970-mark.

Even Kerala, the state with the better overall sex ratio does not do too well at 964, while the highest child sex ratio of 972 is found in Arunachal Pradesh.

18. How are tribes defined?

‘Tribe’ is a modern term for communities that are very old, being among the oldest inhabitants of the sub-continent. Tribes in India have generally been defined in terms of what they were not. Tribes were communities that did not practice a religion with a written text; did not have a state or political form of the normal kind and did not have sharp class divisions.

19. Why is caste invisible today for the upper caste and class?

One of the most significant yet paradoxical changes in the caste system in the contemporary period is that it has tended to become ‘invisible’ for the upper caste, urban middle and upper classes. For these groups, who have benefited the most from the developmental policies of the post-colonial era, caste has appeared to decline in significance precisely because it has done its job so well. Their caste status had been crucial in ensuring that these groups had the necessary economic and educational resources to take full advantage of the opportunities offered by rapid development. In particular, the upper caste elite were able to benefit from subsidised public education, specially professional education in science, technology, medicine and management. At the same time, they were also able to take advantage of the expansion of public sector jobs in the early decades after independence. In this initial period, their lead over the rest of society (in terms of education) ensured that they did not face any serious competition.

20. Differentiate between matriliney and matriarchy.

Matriliney- lineage through mother to daughter

Matriarchy- dominance of mother in the family. Exists only in theory.

21. Explain the non-state initiatives addressing caste discrimination.

- a. Dalits too have been increasingly active on the political, agitational and cultural fronts. Jyotiba Phule, Periyar, Ambedkar.
- b. Political organizations like the Bahujan Samaj Party in Uttar Pradesh and Dalit Sangharsh Samiti of Karnataka have been involved in continuous struggle in this sphere.
- c. Dalits have also made significant contributions to literature in several Indian languages, specially Marathi, Kannada, Tamil, Telugu and Hindi.

22. Who are OBCs?

- a) The Constitution of India recognizes the possibility that there may be groups other than the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes who suffer from social disadvantages. These groups- which need not be based on caste alone, but generally are identified by caste- were described as the ‘socially and educationally backward classes’. This is the constitutional basis of the popular term ‘Other Backward Classes (OBCs) which is in common use today.
- b) They are neither part of the ‘forward’ castes at the upper end of the status spectrum nor the Dalits at the lower end. Since caste has entered all major religions other than Hinduism there

are also members who belong to the backward castes and share the same traditional occupational identification and similar or worse socio-economic status.

23. What are the bases of regionalism in India?

- a) Regionalism in India is rooted in India's diversity of languages, cultures, tribes and religions.
- b) It is also encouraged by the geographical concentration of these identity markers in particular regions.
- c) It is also fuelled by the feeling of regional deprivation.

24. Write the features of authoritarian state.

A. State also has the potential of turning authoritarian. An authoritarian state is the opposite of a democratic state.

B. It is a state in which the people have no voice and those in power are not accountable to anyone.

C. Authoritarian states often limit or abolish civil liberties like freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of political activity, right to protection from wrongful use of authority, right to the due processes of the law, and so on

25. How does cultural diversity pose challenge in a nation?

- 1) The term 'diversity' emphasizes differences rather than inequalities.
- 2) When we say that India is a nation of great cultural diversity, we mean that there are many different types of social groups and communities living here.
- 3) These are communities defined by cultural markers such as language, religion, sect, race or caste.
- 4) When these diverse communities are also a part of a larger entity like a nation, then difficulties may be created by competition or conflict between them.

Cultural diversity poses a tough challenge for a nation for the following reasons:

1. Cultural identities are powerful.
2. They can arouse intense passions and are often able to mobilize large numbers of people.
3. Sometimes cultural differences are accompanied by economic and social inequalities.
4. Measures to address the inequalities or injustices suffered by one community can provoke opposition from other communities. The situation is made worse when scarce resources like river waters, jobs or government funds have to be shared.

## SECTION C

**[SECTION C comprises questions carrying 4 mark each]**

26. Discuss the regional variation of TFR in India.

There are very wide variations in fertility rates across the States of India.

Some states, like Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal have managed to bring down their total fertility rates (TFR) to 1.7 each (2016). This means that the average woman in these states produces only 1.7 children, which is below the 'replacement level'.

Kerala's TFR is also below the replacement level, which means that the population is going to decline in future.

But there are some states, notably Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, which still have very high TFRs. In 2016, the TFRs of these states were 3.3, 2.8, 2.7 and 3.1, respectively.

According to the Economic Survey 2018–19, India's total birth rate was 22.4, among them rural birth rate was 22.4 and urban birth rate was 17.3. The highest birth rate in India is of Uttar Pradesh (25.9) and Bihar (26.4), and they will also account for about half (50%) of the additions to the Indian population upto the year 2041.

27. Delineate on the debate on National development VS. Tribal development.

- I. National development involves the building of large dams, factories and mines for which tribals pay a disproportionate price.
- II. The tribal areas were located in mineral rich and forest covered parts of the country. This kind of development benefitted the mainstream at the expense of the tribals.
- III. The process of national development dispossess tribal of their land has occurred as a necessary by product of the exploitation of minerals and the utilization of favourable sites for setting up hydroelectric power plants.
- IV. The loss of forests affects the tribal economy because their community based forms of collective ownership were placed at a disadvantage in a new system.
- V. Heavy in migration of non-tribal also threatens the tribals community and culture e.g. Narmada Dam. This threatens to disrupt and overwhelm tribal communities and cultures.
- VI. For example, a state like Tripura had the tribal share of its population halved within a single decade reducing them to a minority.

28. With the help of instances, explain how the institution of family may be linked to other spheres of society.

- I. The internal structure of the family is usually related to other structures of society namely politics, economic, cultural.
- II. Thus the migration of men from the villages of the Himalayan region can lead to an unusual proportion of women-headed families in the village.
- III. The work schedules of young parents in the software industry in India may lead to increasing number of grandparents moving in as care-givers to young children.
- IV. The composition of the family there undergoes considerable changes.

29. What are the common features of disability all over the world?

The common features central to the public perception of 'disability' all over the world are:

1. Disability is understood as a biological given.
2. Whenever a disabled person is confronted with problems, it is taken for granted that the problems originate from her/his impairment.
3. The disabled person is seen as a victim.
4. Disability is supposed to be linked with the disabled individual's self perception. The very idea of disability suggests that they are in need of help.

30. What is social exclusion? Why is it involuntary?

Social exclusion refers to ways in which individuals may become cut off from full involvement in the wider society. It is not accidental but systematic- it is the result of structural features of society.

Social exclusion is involuntary which means that exclusion is practiced regardless of the wishes of those who are excluded. For example, rich people are never found sleeping on the pavements or under bridges like thousands of homeless poor people in cities and towns. This does not mean that the rich are being 'excluded' from access to pavements and park benches, because they could certainly gain access if they wanted to, but they choose not to.

Exclusion occurs regardless of the wishes of the excluded. This is evident in the example like prolonged experience of discriminatory or insulting behaviour often produces a reaction on the part of the excluded, who then stop trying for inclusion. After decades of denied entry to temples, some lower castes may convert to other religions when no longer desire to be included in the Hindu temple.

31. What is the relevance of civil society organisations today?

Today the activities of civil society organizations have a wider range, including advocacy and lobbying activity with national and international agencies as well as active participation in various movements. The issues taken up are diverse, ranging from tribal struggles for land rights, devolution in urban governance, campaigns against rape and violence women, rehabilitation of those displaced by dams and other developmental projects, rehabilitation of hawkers and pavement dwellers, campaign against slum demolitions and for housing rights, primary education reform. Civil liberties organizations have been particularly important in keeping a watch on the state and forcing it to obey law. The media, too has taken an increasingly active role specially its emergent visual and electronic segments.

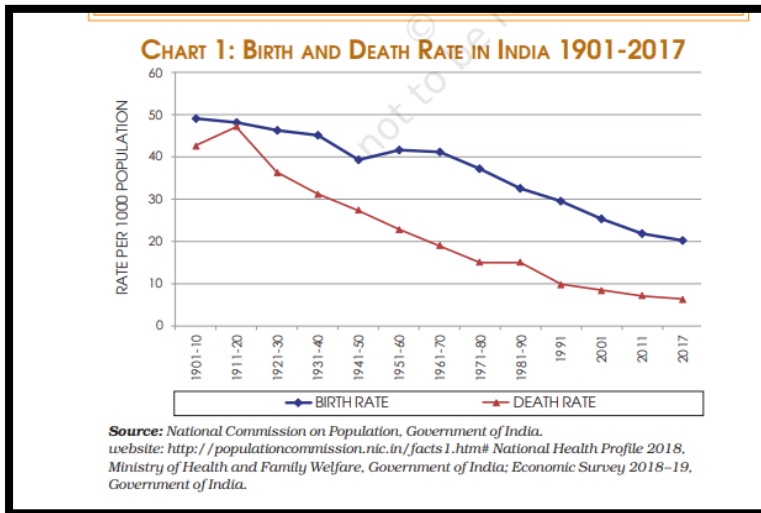
32. How are nation and state related in modern society?

- a) The criterion that comes closest to distinguishing a nation is the state.
- b) Nation-states are closely associated with the rise of nationalism.
- c) Unlike the other kinds of communities mentioned before, nations are communities that have a state of their own.
- d) That is why the two are joined with a hyphen to form the term nation-state. Generally speaking, in recent times there has been a one-to-one bond between nation and state (one nation, one state; one state, one nation). But this is a new development
- e) Modern nations usually need a state to protect their integrity and interests and states usually need a nation if they are to command the allegiance of the individual.
- f) The 'nation' is the most accepted or proper justification for a state while the 'people' are the ultimate source of legitimacy of the nation. On other words, states 'need' the nation as much as even more than nations need states.

## SECTION D

**[SECTION D comprises questions carrying 6 mark each]**

33. Study the graph given below and answer following questions:



- a) Why does birth rate and death rate overlap for the decade of 1911-20?  
Due to the pandemic of Spanish flu. (To be elaborated)
- b) Why do the birth rate and death rate differ in the year 2017?  
Birth rate is a socio-cultural phenomenon hence remained high. Death rate was controlled. This led to increase in the natural growth rate.
- c) How does population momentum trigger population growth?  
Population momentum refers to a situation, where a large cohort of women of reproductive age will fuel population growth over the next generation, even if each woman has fewer children than previous generations did

34. Read the passage and answer the following questions:

In short, even though there have been major changes brought about by social movements over more than a century, and despite changed modes of production as well as concerted attempts by the state to suppress its public role in independent India, caste continues to affect the life chances of Indians in the twenty-first century. 'Untouchability' is an extreme and particularly vicious aspect of the caste system that prescribes stringent social sanctions against members of castes located at the bottom of the purity-pollution scale.

- a) Explain 'purity-pollution' scale.  
Strictly speaking, the 'untouchable' castes are outside the caste hierarchy – they are considered to be so 'impure' that their mere touch severely pollutes members of all other castes, bringing terrible punishment for the former and forcing the latter to perform



elaborate purification rituals. In fact, notions of ‘distance pollution’ existed in many regions of India (particularly in the south) such that even the mere presence or the shadow of an ‘untouchable’ person is considered polluting.

b) Give examples of distance pollution.

The notions of ‘distance pollution’ existed in many regions of India (particularly in the south) such that even the mere presence or the shadow of an ‘untouchable’ person is considered polluting.

c) What does the term ‘dalit’ mean? Who coined the term?

Dalit which is now the generally accepted term for referring to these groups. The word means ‘downtrodden’ and conveys the sense of an oppressed people. It received wide currency during the caste riots in Mumbai in the early 1970s. The Dalit Panthers, a radical group that emerged in western India during that time, used the term to assert their identity as part of their struggle for rights and dignity. Dalits are a mixed population consisting of numerous castes from all over India and they speak a variety of languages.

35. Elucidate on the term ‘secularism’.

- a) In the western sense, secularism means the separation of church and state. It marked the arrival of modernity and the rise of science and rationality as alternatives to religious ways of understanding the world.
- b) The Indian meanings of secular and secularism include the western sense but also involve others.
- c) The most common use of secular in everyday language is as the opposite of communal. So a secular person or state is one that does not favour any particular religion over others.
- d) In terms of the state-religion relationship, this sense of secularism implies equal respect for all religions rather than separation or distancing.
- e) However following both the western sense and the Indian sense of the meaning of secularism, a tension is created leading to passionate disagreements that are hard to settle. For example on one hand, the question of the secular state providing for subsidies for Hajj pilgrimage or maintaining the Tirupati Temple or should the state abolish all religious festival holidays excepting for the national festivals on the other hand.
- f) Another set of complications is created by the tension between the Indian state’s simultaneous commitment to secularism as well as the protection of minorities. Opponents argue that secularism of this sort is only an excuse to favour the minorities in return for their votes or other kinds of support. Whereas the supporters argue that without such special protection, secularism can turn into an excuse for imposing the majority community’s values and norms on the minorities.