



ANGEL'S PUBLIC SCHOOL

HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION

(SAMPLE PAPER)

SESSION 2026 – 27
SUBJECT : SOCIAL SCIENCE

TIME : 03 HRS

GRADE – VIII

M.M:80

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

- (a) Section – A Comprises ten multiple choice questions and ten one word answer type questions, carrying 1 mark each.
- (b) Section – B Comprises twelve short answer type questions (attempt any 10) carrying 3 marks each, and five long answer type questions (attempt any 3) carrying 5 marks each.
- (c) Section – C Comprises one case based type question carrying 5 marks.
- (d) Section – D Comprises a map and a diagram, carrying 5 marks each.

SECTION – A

A. Tick the correct option.

(10)

1. Which type of resource can be replenished naturally?
(a) Non-renewable (b) Renewable (c) Exhaustible (d) Mineral
2. Which of these is a human-made resource?
(a) Soil (b) Water (c) Machines (d) Sunlight
3. What was the capital of Shivaji Maharaj's kingdom?
(a) Pune (b) Raigad (c) Satara (d) Thanjavur
4. Who was the first Peshwa of the Maratha Empire?
(a) Balaji Baji Rao (b) Balaji Vishwanath (c) Baji Rao I (d) Moropant Trimbak pingle
5. Who defeated Siraj-ud-Daulah in the Battle of Plassey 1757?
(a) Lord Dalhousie (b) Robert Clive (c) Warren Hastings (d) Lord Wellesley
6. Which of these policies allowed the British to annex Indian states if the ruler died without a natural heir?
(a) Subsidiary Alliance (b) Doctrine of Lapse (c) Permanent Settlement (d) Partition of Bengal
7. How many houses are there in the Indian Parliament?
(a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) 4
8. Who appoints the Prime Minister of India?
(a) Speaker (b) Chief Justice (c) President (d) Vice President
9. Money, tools and machines used in production are called:
(a) Land (b) Labour (c) Capital (d) Entrepreneur
10. **Assertion(A):** The Rajya Sabha is called the 'Council of States'.

Reason(R) : Members of Rajya Sabha are elected by the elected members of State Legislative Assemblies.

Options:

- (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

B. Write one word or one sentence for the following questions.**(10)**

1. What is the term for anything that has utility and satisfies human needs?
2. Name the type of resource like coal and petroleum that gets exhausted after use.
3. What title was given to the head of the Maratha administrative system?
4. Which European trading company established its first factory at Surat in 1612?
5. What was the name of the fort where Shivaji was crowned in 1674?
6. Which factor of production can be improved with training?
7. Who was the last Mughal emperor declared leader of the 1857 revolt by rebels?
8. Which house of the Parliament can never be dissolved?
9. What term did Dadabhai Naoroji use for the transfer of India's wealth to Britain?
10. What term is used for a person who combines land, labour and capital to run a business?

SECTION – B**C. Short answer type questions. (Do any 10)****(30)**

1. Colonial rulers often claimed that their mission was to "civilise the people they ruled. Based on the evidence in the chapter, do you think this was true in the case of India? Why or why not?
2. What are renewable resources? How are they different from non-renewable ones?
3. Analyse how geography guided Maratha military strategy and state formation.
4. The forts were the core of the state for Marathas. Why were they so important? How did they help the Marathas survive against enemies?
5. Choose one area of Indian life, such as agriculture, education, trade, or village life. How was it affected by colonial rule?
6. Why do you think we have chosen the system of bicameral legislature at the Union level?
7. Sometimes the Parliament is disrupted and does not function for the number of days it is supposed to. What impact do you think this has on the quality of laws and the trust people place in their representatives?
8. How are the factors of production different from each other? What are the difficulties you faced in classifying the factors of production ?
9. Can technology replace other factors like labour? Is this good or bad? Support your answer with the help of an example.
10. What is the role that the Judiciary plays in Indian democracy?
11. "Indians funded their own subjugation." What does this mean in the context of British infrastructure projects in India like the railway and telegraph networks?
12. How does human capital differ from physical capital?

D. Long answer type questions.(Do any three)**(15)**

1. Identify cultural practices in your home and neighbourhood that point to mindfulness in the use of natural resources.

2. Compare how Shivaji and later Marathas treated religious places and people of different faiths. What evidence from the chapter shows their approach to religious diversity?
3. The Women's Reservation Bill 2023, was passed with wide support. Why might it have taken over 25 years for this bill to be passed, despite being discussed for so long?
4. How do you think technology is changing how people develop their skills and knowledge?
5. Why do you think the Constitution made the Executive responsible to the legislature?

SECTION – C

(5)

E. Case based question.

In 1858, after the failure of the Revolt of 1857, the British Parliament passed the Government of India Act. Power was transferred from the East India Company to the British Crown. The British introduced railways, telegraphs and a uniform postal system to improve administration. However, to benefit British industries, they imposed high import duties on Indian handloom cloth while allowing duty-free import of British mill-made cloth. Economist Dadabhai Naoroji later criticized this policy in his book 'Poverty and Un-British Rule in India'.

Answer the following questions.

1. What was the name of the period of direct British rule in India after 1858?
2. Explain any two ways in which British economic policies damaged Indian industries during colonial rule.
3. What concept did Dadabhai Naoroji explain in his book to show how India's wealth was taken to Britain? Explain it briefly.

SECTION – D

(10)

F. Map/Diagram.