

226
10/10/25

BHARTIYA SHIKSHA BOARD
Model Paper - Half Yearly
SOCIAL SCIENCE - Class 8
Session 2025-26

Time: 3 Hours

Max Marks: 80

Instructions:

- Read the questions carefully.
- Please check that this question paper contains 08 printed pages.
- 10 minutes extra time is allowed to read this question paper. During this time, students will only read the question paper and not write the answers.
- This question paper contains **15** questions.
- Attempting all the questions is compulsory.
- This question paper contains **four** sections:
- **Section-A: Q.no. 1** carries **10** marks, **Q.no. 2** carries **05** marks, and **Q.no. 3** carries **04** marks.
- **Section-B: Q.no. 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8** carries **05** marks each.
- **Section-C: Q.no. 9** carries **04** marks, and **Q.no. 10** and **Q.no. 11** carries **06** marks each.
- **Section-D: Q.no. 12** carries **04** marks, **Q.no. 13** and **Q.no. 14** carries **05** marks each, and **Q.no. 15** carries **06** marks.

SECTION-A

Q1. Choose the correct option and write in your answer sheet. (1x10=10)

I. The Constitution of Bharat is a dynamic document that helps

- (a) shaping its political and legal systems.
- (b) driving socio-economic development.
- (c) securing the vital rights of individuals.

Options:

- (i) (a) and (c)
- (ii) Only (c)
- (iii) Only (b)
- (iv) All of the above

II. The reduction of pH of the ocean caused by the uptake of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere is known as

Options:

- (i) Ocean salinity.
- (ii) Ocean acidification.
- (iii) Carbon footprint.
- (iv) Land use change.

III. Media provides political information to make the voter
(i) aware.
(ii) responsible.
(iii) Well-informed.
(iv) All the above.

IV. The Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapith was founded by
(i) Mahatma Gandhi.
(ii) Shiv Prasad Gupta and Bhagwan Das.
(iii) Dr Rajendra Prasad and Babu Sampurnanand.
(iv) Dayanand Saraswati.

V. Which wholesale Trade involves?
(i) Selling of goods or services directly to Consumers.
(ii) Taking necessary goods from others.
(iii) Selling goods with discounts.
(iv) Large transactions of money and large amounts of sales.

VI. The Term "Nature Deficit Disorder" refers to
(i) the lack of genetic diversity in species.
(ii) the consequences of spending less time in nature.
(iii) the extinction of species due to habitat loss.
(iv) the pollution of natural resources.

VII. The greenhouse gases among the following is/are:
(i) Carbon dioxide
(ii) Methane
(iii) Nitrous Oxide
(iv) Ozone.

VIII. The constitution of Bharat was drafted by:
(i) The Indian National Congress.
(ii) The Parliament.
(iii) The Constituent Assembly.
(iv) The Communist Party

In part IX and X, given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and other labelled as Reason (R). Read them carefully and choose the correct option.

IX. Assertion (A): Article 15 of the Indian Constitution permits discrimination against any citizen based on their religion or castes.

Reason (R): It aims to ensure social equality by preventing discrimination on grounds only of religion, race, caste, gender, or place of birth.

- (i) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is correct explanation of (A)
- (ii) Both (A) and (R) are correct but (R) is not correct explanation of (A)
- (iii) (A) is true but (R) is false
- (iv) (A) is False but (R) is true

X. Assertion: Climate change disproportionately harms livelihoods in the service sector, particularly among the poor and marginalized.

Reason: People with limited resources often depend on climate-sensitive service jobs, lack protective infrastructure, and face reduced demand during and after climate shocks.

- (i) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is correct explanation of (A)
- (ii) Both (A) and (R) are correct but (R) is not correct explanation of (A)
- (iii) (A) is true but (R) is false
- (iv) (A) is False but (R) is true

(1x5=5)

Q2. Match the Column A with Column B.

Column A
Quaternary Sector
Retail Trade
Brain Drain
Service Sector
SDG 4

Column B
Quality Education
IT enabled services
Software Developers
Professionals migrating overseas
Automatic Vending Machine

Q3. State True or False:

(1x4=4)

- I. Monasteries were educational institutions where the students were taught the subjects related to Buddhism and Philosophy.
- II. The State Bank of India is the Central Bank of our country.
- III. During the colonial period, education flourished in Bharat (India).
- IV. Railways is a fastest mode of transport and is suitable for short distance.

SECTION B

Q4. Answer the following questions:

Our Great Heritage

Education significantly contributes to making people great by equipping them with knowledge, skills, values, and opportunities essential for personal and professional excellence. The importance of knowledge is mentioned in one of our ancient scriptures, Panchatantra, which states that there can never be any comparison between a king and a scholar. This is because a king gets respect only in his kingdom, whereas a scholar gets respect everywhere.

Sanskrit Shloka:

विद्वत्त्वं च नृपत्वं च नैव तुल्यं कदाचन ।
स्वदेशे पूज्यते राजा विद्वान् सर्वत्र पूज्यते ॥
(पञ्चतन्त्र मित्रसंप्राप्ति - 59)

Hindi Translation:

राजा और विद्वान में कभी तुलना नहीं की जा सकती क्योंकि राजा अपने राज्य में पूजित होता है वहीं विद्वान की सर्वत्र पूजा होती है।

Questions:

- I. Why is education considered important for making people great? (Based on the first paragraph explaining education's role in personal and professional excellence) (1 mark)
- II. Translate and explain the meaning of the Sanskrit shloka given in the text. (2 marks)
- III. Discuss the central message of the Panchatantra quote presented in the text regarding the value of a scholar versus a king. (2 marks)
- Q5. Discuss any five schemes launched by the government of Bharat to ensure economic equality. (5 marks)
- Q6. Explain some of the recent efforts taken by Bharat to combat climate change? (5 marks)
- Q7. What are the main features of the Gurukul System of imparting education? (5 marks)

Q8. Answer the following questions:

Our Great Heritage

The Varna system emerged on the basis of a person's karma, that is, the work the person does, and not on the basis of birth. The person who started doing any kind of work, became related to that Varna. Shri Krishna has also said in the Geeta-

Sanskrit Shloka:

चातुर्वर्ण्यं मया सृष्टं गुणकर्मविभागशः।

(गीता - 4.13)

Hindi Translation:

मैंने गुण कर्म के अनुसार चतुर्वर्ण्य (ब्राह्मण, क्षत्रिय, वैश्य एवं शूद्र) का सर्जन किया है।

The Chatur varna system has been created by me on the basis of the qualities and work.

Questions:

- I. According to the text, what key factor determined a person's Varna when the system first emerged, and how did this differ from a birth-based system? (2 marks)
- II. Imagine you lived in ancient times when the Chatur varna system began. Based on the passage, if you belong to the Kshatriya varna, what kind of services did you contribute to? (3 marks)

SECTION C

Q9. Observe the picture given below and answer the questions that follow: (1+3=4 marks)



- (a) Identify the prominent landmark shown in the image.
- (b) Explain the significance of the Sanskrit language in the traditional Indian education system.

Q10. Open Text Based Assessment- Read the following extract and answers the questions that follows:

“Nalanda University”

Nalanda University, also known as Nalanda Mahavihara, was a renowned centre of learning in ancient Bharat. It was located in the present-day Bihar. It was one of the earliest residential universities in the world, with over 10,000 students and 2,000 teachers functioning from around the 5th century CE to the 12th century CE. Students came from various parts of Bharat, and from countries like China, Korea, Japan, Tibet, Mongolia, Turkey, Sri Lanka, and Southeast Asia. Nalanda offered a wide range of subjects, including Buddhist scriptures, philosophy, logic, grammar, medicine, mathematics, astronomy, and arts. The curriculum was designed to promote critical thinking and comprehensive understanding. Nalanda was home to many distinguished scholars and teachers, including Nagarjuna, a great Buddhist philosopher; Aryabhata, the renowned mathematician and astronomer, and Xuan Zang (Hsuan-Tsang), the Chinese pilgrim and scholar who studied and later documented his experiences at Nalanda. The scholars were taught through lectures, discussions, and debates. The medium of instruction was Sanskrit, and there was a significant emphasis on the teacher-student relationship. The university had a vast library known as Dharma Gunj, which consisted of three main buildings.

Questions :

- (a) Name some famous scholars associated with Nalanda? (1 mark)
- (b) What was Nalanda University also known as, and where was it located in ancient Bharat? (2 marks)
- (c) Describe the significance of Nalanda University as one of the world's earliest residential universities, including details about its student and teacher population and its operational period. (3 marks)

Q11. Read the following Case study carefully and answer the questions that follow:
Rampur is a small village in Rajasthan, surrounded by mustard fields and a weekly market called the haat. About forty years ago, most trade in Rampur happened through barter. Families exchanged what they produced: farmers offered wheat or bajra, potters traded clay pots, shepherds brought wool, and milk sellers exchanged curd and ghee

Barter worked when people's needs matched. But it also created problems. Sometimes the quantities were hard to compare—how many pots equal a sack of wheat? At other times, people didn't want each other's goods at the same time. This double coincidence of wants made transactions slow. During drought years, when crops were low, it became even harder because everyone wanted grain, and few were willing to trade it away.

Things began to change when a pucca road connected Rampur to the nearby town. Traders started visiting the haat with coins and later paper notes. The village cooperative set up a small shop where prices were written on a board. Money made value clear and allowed people to sell goods even if the buyer didn't want to exchange another item.

In recent years, money in Rampur has taken a new form as well. The post office opened savings accounts, and a few shopkeepers now accept digital payments on market day. Younger villagers help elders scan QR codes, while elders still prefer cash for everyday purchases. During festivals like Diwali and Teej, old habits return—neighbours exchange sweets, grains, and small gifts as a sign of friendship, keeping a part of the barter tradition alive.

Today, Rampur uses both tradition and modernity: barter for social bonding during festivals, and money—cash or digital—for quick, fair, everyday trade.

Questions:

- (a) Explain how the introduction of money and the pucca road transformed trade in Rampur. (3 marks)
- (b) Which system—barter or money—do you think is better for a large city? Give at least two reasons (3 marks)

SECTION D

Q12. Analyse and study the following Source of information carefully and answer the questions that follow: questions that follow:

"The Yamuna River"

The Yamuna River, one of India's most important water bodies, has been severely impacted by pollution over the years. Originating from the Yamunotri Glacier in the Himalayas, the river passes through major cities like Delhi and Agra, where untreated industrial effluents, sewage, and religious offerings are dumped into it. As a result, the river's water quality has deteriorated, with high levels of toxic chemicals, heavy metals, and bacterial contamination. This pollution not only threatens aquatic life but also affects the millions of people who depend on the river

for drinking water, irrigation, and other daily needs. Despite efforts to clean and conserve the river, its condition remains a critical environmental and public health issue.

(2 marks)

(a) How is Yamuna River getting polluted?

(2 marks)

(b) What are the consequences of Yamuna River pollution

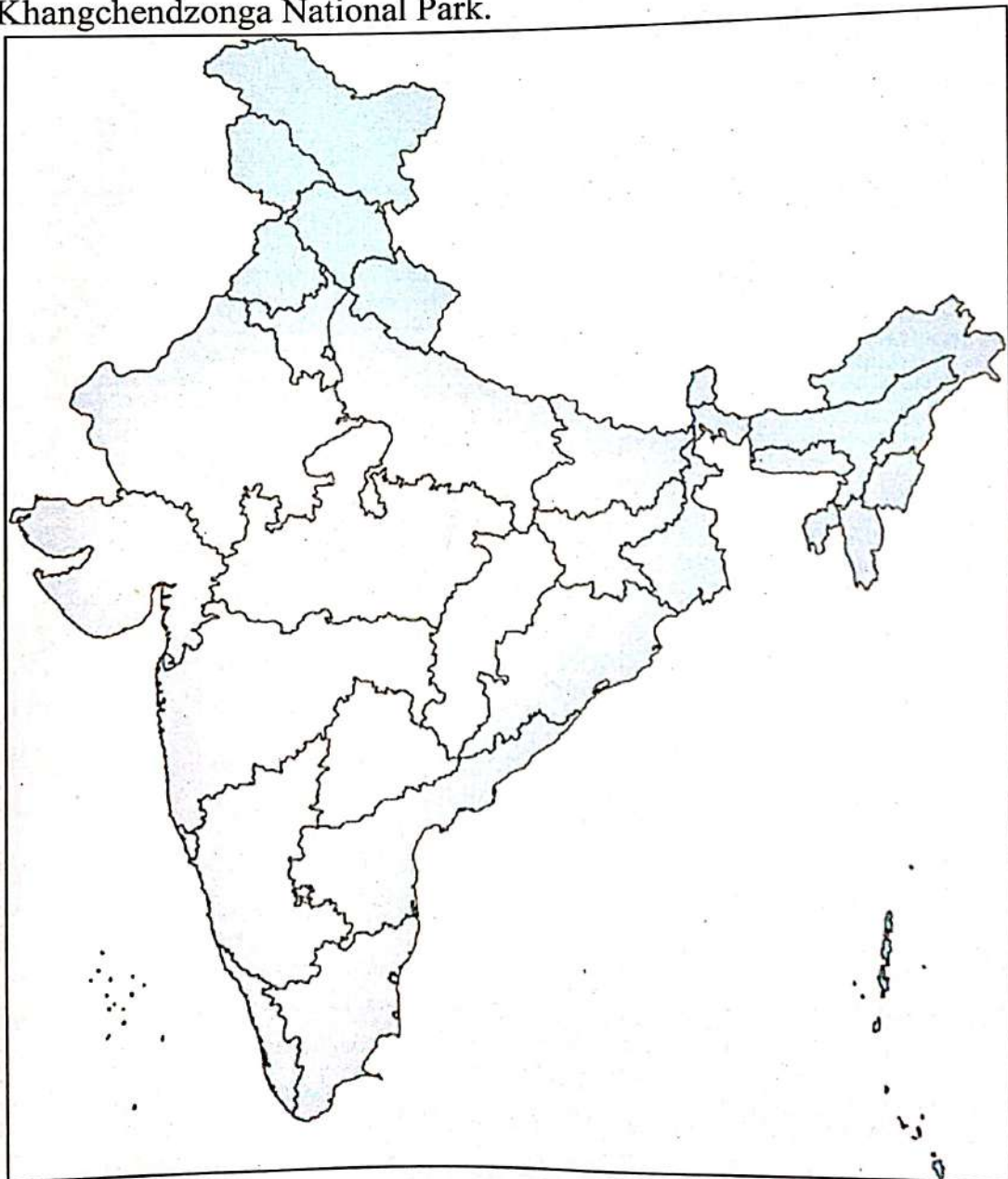
Q13. Identify the main categories of the "Values of Biodiversity" and briefly explain the core concept represented by each category.

(2+3 marks)

Q14. On the provided political map of Bharat, identify the features marked by letters A, B, and C with the help of the following information and write their correct names:

(1x5=5marks)

- (a) Keoladeo National park.
- (b) A tiger reserve located in the mangrove forests of West Bengal.
- (c) A famous national park in Rajasthan known for its tiger population.
- (d) The Periyar Tiger Reserve.
- (e) Khangchendzonga National Park.



Q15. On the given outline physical world on the last page of this question paper, locate and label the six major Global Biodiversity Hotspots. (6 marks)

- (a) The Amazon Basin (South America)
- (b) The Congo Basin (Central Africa)
- (c) The Western Ghats and Himalaya (Bharat)
- (d) Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands
- (e) The Mediterranean Basin (Southern Europe, North Africa, and Western Asia)
- (f) The Coral Triangle (Southeast Asia)

