

FIRST TERM MODEL QUESTION PAPER 2024 WITH ANSWER KEY SET 2

SOCIAL SCIENCE - Standard VII

Time: 2 hours

(Prepared by www.educationobserver.com)

Section A: The Constitution of India (5 Marks)

Hint: The Constitution of India is the supreme law of the land, providing the framework for governance and the protection of citizens' rights.

1. Discuss the importance of the Preamble to the Indian Constitution. (3 marks)
 2. What is the significance of Fundamental Rights in the Indian Constitution? (2 marks)
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Section B: Fundamental Duties and Directive Principles (5 Marks)

Hint: The Constitution not only grants rights to citizens but also expects them to fulfill certain duties. Additionally, Directive Principles guide the state in policy-making.

3. Explain the role of Fundamental Duties as outlined in the Indian Constitution. (2 marks)
 4. How do the Directive Principles of State Policy influence the governance of India? Provide examples. (3 marks)
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Section C: Social Justice and the Constitution (5 Marks)

Hint: The Indian Constitution is designed to promote social justice and ensure equality for all citizens, particularly the marginalized sections of society.

5. How does the Indian Constitution address issues of social justice? (2 marks)
 6. Discuss the significance of the Right to Equality and its impact on Indian society. (3 marks)
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Section D: From Injustice to Justice - Social Reformers (5 Marks)

Hint: Throughout history, many social reformers have fought against discrimination and worked towards social justice and equality.

7. Describe the contributions of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar to social justice in India. (3 marks)
 8. How did Savitribai Phule contribute to the education and empowerment of women? (2 marks)
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Section E: Marginalization and Discrimination (5 Marks)

Hint: Marginalization refers to the exclusion of certain groups from the mainstream of society, often leading to social injustice.

9. Explain the concept of marginalization and give examples of groups that have been marginalized in Indian society. (2 marks)
 10. Discuss the impact of caste-based discrimination in India and the measures taken to address it. (3 marks)
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Section F: Women's Rights and Social Justice (5 Marks)

Hint: Women in India have historically faced various forms of discrimination, but many reformers and movements have worked towards their rights and empowerment.

11. How did the social reform movement in the 19th century contribute to women's rights in India? (3 marks)
 12. What are the key provisions in the Indian Constitution that protect the rights of women? (2 marks)
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Section G: The Role of Education in Social Justice (5 Marks)

Hint: Education is a powerful tool for social transformation and justice, helping to uplift marginalized communities and reduce inequalities.

13. How has education been used as a tool for social change by reformers like Jyotirao Phule? (3 marks)
 14. Discuss the importance of education in achieving social justice in contemporary India. (2 marks)
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Section H: Contemporary Issues in Social Justice (5 Marks)

Hint: In modern India, social justice continues to be a critical issue, with ongoing efforts to address discrimination and inequality.

15. What are the challenges faced by the differently-abled in India today, and how does the law protect their rights? (3 marks)
16. Explain the role of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act in safeguarding children's rights. (2 marks)

ANSWER KEY

Section A: The Constitution of India (5 Marks)

1. Discuss the importance of the Preamble to the Indian Constitution.
Answer: The Preamble to the Indian Constitution is a brief introductory statement that outlines the guiding principles and philosophy of the Constitution. It declares India to be a Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, and Democratic Republic, committed to Justice, Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity for all its citizens. The Preamble serves as the Constitution's spirit and essence, reflecting the intentions of its framers and the aspirations of the people of India. (3 marks)
 2. What is the significance of Fundamental Rights in the Indian Constitution?
Answer: Fundamental Rights are essential rights granted to all citizens of India, ensuring their freedom and protection from arbitrary actions by the state. These rights include the Right to Equality, Right to Freedom, Right against Exploitation, Right to Freedom of Religion, Cultural and Educational Rights, and the Right to Constitutional Remedies. They are crucial for the functioning of a democratic society as they protect individual liberties and promote social justice. (2 marks)
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Section B: Fundamental Duties and Directive Principles (5 Marks)

3. Explain the role of Fundamental Duties as outlined in the Indian Constitution.
Answer: Fundamental Duties, enshrined in Article 51A of the Indian Constitution, remind citizens of their responsibilities towards the nation. These duties include respecting the Constitution, the national flag, and the national anthem, promoting harmony, protecting the environment, and safeguarding public property. While not enforceable by law, these duties aim to instill a sense of responsibility and civic consciousness among citizens, complementing the rights provided by the Constitution. (2 marks)
 4. How do the Directive Principles of State Policy influence the governance of India? Provide examples.
Answer: The Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP), found in Part IV of the Indian Constitution, are guidelines for the government to follow in policy-making and governance. Although not justiciable, they aim to create a welfare state by promoting social and economic justice. Examples include providing free legal aid, improving public health, and securing the right to work and education. The DPSPs have influenced several laws and policies, such as the implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) and the Right to Education Act. (3 marks)
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Section C: Social Justice and the Constitution (5 Marks)

5. How does the Indian Constitution address issues of social justice?
Answer: The Indian Constitution addresses social justice through various provisions, including Fundamental Rights, Directive Principles of State Policy, and affirmative action policies. The Right to Equality (Article 14) prohibits discrimination, and the Constitution provides for reservations in education, employment, and political representation for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Other Backward Classes. The Constitution also abolishes untouchability (Article 17) and promotes policies aimed at reducing inequalities and ensuring a fair distribution of resources. (2 marks)
6. Discuss the significance of the Right to Equality and its impact on Indian society.
Answer: The Right to Equality, enshrined in Articles 14 to 18 of the Indian Constitution, is fundamental in establishing a fair and just society. It ensures that all citizens are treated equally before the law and prohibits discrimination on the grounds of religion, race, caste, sex, or place of birth. The Right to Equality has played a significant role in challenging and dismantling social hierarchies, such as the caste system, and has empowered marginalized communities by providing them with equal opportunities in various fields, including education, employment, and politics. (3 marks)
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Section D: From Injustice to Justice - Social Reformers (5 Marks)

7. Describe the contributions of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar to social justice in India.
Answer: Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, often called the architect of the Indian Constitution, was a prominent social reformer who fought against caste discrimination and worked tirelessly for the rights of Dalits (formerly known as untouchables). He played a crucial role in drafting the Indian Constitution, ensuring that it included provisions to protect marginalized communities, such as the abolition of untouchability (Article 17) and reservations in education and government jobs for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Ambedkar also worked towards the socio-economic upliftment of Dalits through education and advocated for their political representation. His efforts laid the foundation for a more inclusive and just society in India. (3 marks)
8. How did Savitribai Phule contribute to the education and empowerment of women?
Answer: Savitribai Phule, along with her husband Jyotirao Phule, was a pioneer in the field of women's education in India. She established the first school for girls in Pune in 1848, challenging the prevailing norms that restricted women's access to education. Savitribai worked tirelessly to educate girls and women from marginalized communities, emphasizing the importance of education as a tool for social empowerment. She also fought against social evils like child marriage and caste discrimination, making significant contributions to the upliftment of women and the lower castes in Indian society. (2 marks)
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Section E: Marginalization and Discrimination (5 Marks)

9. Explain the concept of marginalization and give examples of groups that have been marginalized in Indian society.

Answer: Marginalization refers to the process by which certain groups are pushed to the edge of society, excluded from mainstream social, economic, and political activities, and denied access to resources and opportunities. In Indian society, marginalized groups include Dalits, Adivasis (tribal communities), women, religious minorities, and the differently-abled. These groups have historically faced discrimination, social exclusion, and economic deprivation. For example, Dalits were subjected to untouchability, which restricted their access to public spaces, education, and employment. Adivasis have often been displaced from their lands due to development projects, leading to loss of livelihood and cultural erosion. (2 marks)

10. Discuss the impact of caste-based discrimination in India and the measures taken to address it.

Answer: Caste-based discrimination in India has led to social stratification, exclusion, and exploitation of lower-caste communities, particularly Dalits. This discrimination manifests in various forms, including social segregation, denial of access to education and employment, and violence against Dalits. To address caste-based discrimination, the Indian Constitution abolished untouchability (Article 17) and introduced affirmative action policies, such as reservations in education, government jobs, and political representation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, was enacted to prevent and punish acts of violence and discrimination against these communities. These measures have contributed to the empowerment of marginalized communities and the reduction of caste-based inequalities in India. (3 marks)

Section F: Women's Rights and Social Justice (5 Marks)

11. How did the social reform movement in the 19th century contribute to women's rights in India?

Answer: The social reform movement in the 19th century played a crucial role in advocating for women's rights in India. Reformers like Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, and Jyotirao Phule challenged oppressive practices such as Sati (widow immolation), child marriage, and the denial of education to women. They promoted the idea of women's education, widow remarriage, and the abolition of Sati, leading to legislative changes like the Widow Remarriage Act of 1856 and the abolition of Sati in 1829. These efforts laid the foundation for the later feminist movement in India and significantly improved the social status of women. (3 marks)

12. What are the key provisions in the Indian Constitution that protect the rights of women?

Answer: The Indian Constitution includes several provisions that protect the rights of women and promote gender equality. Article 14 guarantees equality

before the law, and Article 15 prohibits discrimination based on gender. Article 16 ensures equal opportunities in public employment for women, while Article 39(d) directs the state to ensure equal pay for equal work for both men and women. Additionally, Article 42 mandates the provision of just and humane conditions of work and maternity relief for women. These constitutional provisions form the legal framework for protecting women's rights and advancing gender equality in India. (2 marks)

Section G: The Role of Education in Social Justice (5 Marks)

13. How has education been used as a tool for social change by reformers like Jyotirao Phule?

Answer: Jyotirao Phule recognized the transformative power of education in achieving social justice and used it as a tool to uplift marginalized communities. He believed that education was essential for the empowerment of the oppressed, particularly women and lower-caste communities. Phule established schools for girls and Dalits, challenging the traditional caste-based restrictions on education. By providing access to education, Phule aimed to raise awareness, promote social equality, and break the cycle of poverty and discrimination faced by marginalized groups. His efforts laid the groundwork for a more inclusive education system in India. (3 marks)

14. Discuss the importance of education in achieving social justice in contemporary India.

Answer: Education is crucial for achieving social justice in contemporary India as it empowers individuals, promotes equality, and reduces social and economic disparities. Access to quality education enables marginalized communities to improve their socio-economic status, participate in the workforce, and exercise