

**Question Paper 2015 Outside Delhi  
CBSE Class 12 Sociology**

**General Instructions:**

- There are 25 questions in all.
- All questions are compulsory.
- Questions no. 1 – 14 are short answer type questions carrying 2 marks each. Answer to each question should not exceed 30 words.
- Questions no. 15 – 21 are long answer type questions carrying 4 marks each. Answer to each question should not exceed 80 words.
- Questions no. 22 – 25 are very long answer type questions carrying 6 marks each. Answer to each question should not exceed 200 words. Question no. 25 is to be answered on the basis of the passage given.

**1. Why is dependency ratio a source of economic growth and prosperity ?**

**Ans.** Dependency ratio – a source of economic growth and prosperity

- a) Due to larger proportion of workers relative to non-workers or dependents
- b) When ratio is low it is beneficial: when high it is a cause for worry.

**2. According to Adam Smith, what is meant by 'invisible hand' ?**

**Ans.** Invisible hand – According to Adam Smith

- It is an unseen force at work that converts what is good for each individual into what is good for society.
- Market economy is made up of a series of individual exchanges based on self-interest which create a system involving the interest of all.

**3. What is a Nation-State ?**

**Ans.** Nation – State

- 1) Pertains to a particular type of state, characteristic of the modern world.
- 2) Government has sovereign power within a territorial area and the people are citizen of a

single nation.

**4. What right does the Right to Information Act give to citizens ?**

**Ans.** RTI – right of citizens

- 1) Any person may request information from a public authority.
- 2) Take copies of documents; inspect records, work and documents etc.

**5. In what way do rituals have secular dimensions ?**

**Ans.** Rituals – secular dimensions

- It provides men and women to socialize with their peers and superiors
- Showing off the Family's Wealth, Status etc.

**6. What are the two important roles performed by the Gram Sabha ?**

**Ans.** Gram- Sabha – role

- An open forum for discussions and village level development activities
- Ensuring inclusion of the weaker sections in the decision - making process

**7. How did benami transfers enable the landowners to keep control over their land ?**

**Ans.** Benami transforms –

- Landowners managed to divide the land among relatives and others including servants.
- In some places rich farmers actually divorced their wives in order to avoid provisions of the Land- ceiling Act

**8. Distinguish between a strike and a lock-out.**

**Ans.** Strike and lock out –

- In a Strike, workers, do not go to work
- In a Lock- out, the management shuts the gates & prevents workers from coming to work

**9. Mention two features that define the organised sector.**

**Ans.** Features of organized sector

- Consists of all units employing ten & more people throughout the year
- Registered with the govt. to ensure that employees gets the benefits

**10. How is work organised through scientific management ?**

**Ans.** Scientific Management –

- All work is broken down into its smaller repetitive elements and divided between workers.
- Workers were timed with the help of stop watches to fulfill a certain target every day.
- Introduction of assembly line along with conveyer belt

**11. What is meant by ‘Globalisation of Culture’ ?**

**Ans.** ‘Globalisation of culture –

- Circulation of culture & cultural products around the world.
- Mixing of global with the local

**12. How is mass media different from other means of communication ?**

**Ans.** Mass media

- Mass media reaches mass audiences
- It requires a formal structural organization to meet large – scale capital, production & management demands.

**13. Give the meaning of the term ‘Infotainment’.**

**Ans.** Infotainment

A combination of information & entertainment to sustain the interest of readers.  
(The term is mentioned in the ‘blue-box’ which is not part of evaluative portion.)

**14. How does media function as a watch-dog of democracy ?**

**Ans.** Media as a watch dog of democracy

- To spread the spirit of self-reliance
- Means to inform people of the various developmental activities.
- Fights against oppressive social practices.
- Formulates public opinion
- Provides a platform for voicing grievances
- Promotes rational, scientific ethos.

**15. Describe the Theory of Demographic Transition. Why is the transition period**

**associated with population explosion ?**

**Ans.** Theory of Demographic Transition

- First stage – high birth rate and high death rate leads to low growth rate.
- Second stage – high birth rate and low death rate leads to high growth rate.  
(transitional stage)
- Third stage – both birth rate & death rate are low leading to low growth rate.
- The “population explosion” occurs in the second stage:- death rate is brought down relatively quickly through advanced methods of disease control etc.

**16. According to Alfred Gill, the market has significance much beyond its economic functions. Explain.**

**OR**

**Explain Colonialism and emergence of new markets.**

**Ans.** Alfred Gell – Significance of market.

- Layout of the market symbolizes the hierarchical inter-group social relations in this region.
- Different social groups are located according to their position in the caste and social hierarchy as well as in the market system.
- The quality of social relations is expressed in the kinds of goods that are bought and sold.
- Interactions between tribal and non-tribal are different.

**OR**

- Disruptions in production, trade and agriculture.
- Demise of handloom industry
- India began to be fully linked to the world capitalist economy.
- New groups entered into trade & business.

**17. In your opinion, has the linguistic reorganisation of states helped or harmed India ? Give reasons.**

**Ans.** Linguistic reorganization of states

- In 1920's the Indian National Congress was reconstituted on linguistic lines.
- Gandhi and other leaders promised that the new nation would be based on a new set of provinces on the principle of language.
- This led to a fear of further sub-division of India which did not happen
- Far from undermining Indian unity, linguistic states have helped strengthened it.

**18. Do you think westernisation is one of the reasons for generation conflict ?**

**Ans.** Westernisation – Reason for generation conflict.

- Often conflict between generations are seen as cultural conflicts resulting from westernisation.
- Westernisation among the middle class makes generational difference more complex.

**19. Explain the concept of competing interest with examples.**

**OR**

**Is inequality a hurdle in the working of a democratic country ? Explain.**

**Ans.** Competing interests –

- Competing interests operate on the Indian social scene and clamour for control of the state's resources.
- Competing interests do not always reflect a clear class divide.
- Issue of the close down of a factory as it emits toxic waste.
- The flipside is that closure of the factory will render people jobless.

**OR**

**Inequality a hurdle in the working of democratic country –**

- Democratisation is not easy in a society that has had a long history of inequality based on Caste, community and gender.
- Certain members belonging to particular groups, communities are not included or informed about meetings and activities of the village in Indian rural structure.

- The Gram Sabha are often controlled by rich landlords.
- They make decisions on development activities , allocate funds , leaving the silent majority as mere onlookers.

**20. Describe the various reasons for farmers' suicide in India.**

**Ans.**

- Widespread aspect of the globalization of agriculture increased dependence of farmers on expensive fertilizers and pesticides
- Created ecological crisis
- Distress due to crop failures, draught, debts
- Suicides by marginal farmers in attempting to increase their productivity by practicing green revolution.
- State support for agriculture has declined substantially
- Agriculturists are unable to form powerful pressure

**21. Are global interconnections new to the World and India ? Discuss.**

**Ans.** Global interconnections – New to the World and India.

- Silk route, centuries ago connected India to the great civilizations.
- People from different parts came to India as traders, conquerors, migrants and settled down here.
- Modern capitalism had a global dimension since colonial rule.
- Colonialism led to considerable movement, India was the source of raw material.

**22. Caste system in the contemporary period has tended to become invisible for the upper and upper middle classes but it is opposite in lower classes. Comment.**

**OR**

**Discuss some of the rules that the caste system imposes.**

**Ans.** Caste system - Contemporary period.

- Upper castes and upper – middle castes benefited significantly from the developmental policies of the post – colonial era.

- Upper caste elite are able to benefit from subsidized public education.
- Status got consolidated in the second and third generations and believed that caste had little to do with their advancement.
- For SC,ST and OBCs, Caste has become all too visible.
- They have no inherited educational and social capital .They cannot afford to abandon their Caste identity
- Policies of reservations serve as their lifelines.

**OR**

Rules of the Caste system –

- Determined by birth
- Strict rules of marriage – Endogamous (Endogamy)
- Rules about food and food sharing
- Arranged in a hierarchy of rank and status
- Sub – divisions within themselves – segmental organization
- Traditionally linked to occupations.

**23. Discuss the social and economic problems of Adivasis in India. What steps have been taken by the Government to uplift their status ?**

**Ans.** Problems of Adivasis - steps taken by the Government for their upliftment –

- Impoverished and exploited circumstances.
- Accelerated resource extraction started during colonial period.
- Denied access to forests and land for cultivation.
- Adivasis lands acquired for new mining and dam projects in the name of “ National development.

Steps taken by the Government for their upliftment –

- Reservation
- Special Laws to protect them.
- Schemes for development – Five year plans, Tribal sub-plans, Tribal welfare blocks, special multipurpose schemes.



**24. Explain with suitable examples the class based movements in India.**

**Ans.** Class based movements – Peasant movement, worker’s movements etc.

- Peasant movements or agrarian struggles have taken place from pre-colonial days.
- Bengal revolt of (1859 – 62) against Indigo plantation system and Deccan riots of 1857, against moneylenders.
- Between 1920 and 1940 peasant’s organizations such as Bihar Provincial Kisan Sabha demanded freedom from economic exploitation. At the time of independence Tebhaga and Telangana movements emerged.
- New farmer’s movements – Price and related issues.
- Worker’s movements –In the early stages of colonialism, labour was very cheap as the colonial government did not regulate wages or working conditions.
- Emergence of Trade unions.
- Waves of strikes in the textile mills in Bombay etc.

**25. Read the following passage and give the answer to the following questions :**

To facilitate the smooth functioning of its rule, colonialism introduced a wide array of changes in every sphere, be it legal or cultural or architectural. Colonialism was a story apart in the very scale and intensity of the changes that it brought about. Some of these changes were deliberate while some took place in an unintended fashion. For example, we saw how western education was introduced to create Indians who would manage British colonialism. Instead it led to the growth of a nationalist and anti-colonial consciousness.

**(a) What do you understand by the term ‘Colonialism’?**

**(b) What structural changes were seen in India during the Colonial period?**

**Ans.** (a) Colonialism – Means the establishment of rule by one country over another.

(b) The structural changes brought about in the colonial period were –

- The major changes were brought about by industrialization and urbanization.
- Emergence of machine based production
- Decline of old cities and towns – emergence of new cities
- Changes in agricultural practices and cropping patterns, mobility of people