

CBSE Class 10 Social Science Sample Paper 1

Subject Code: 087 | Academic Year 2026-27

Time Allowed: 3 Hours | Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. This question paper contains 38 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. The question paper is divided into four sections: Section A – History, Section B – Geography, Section C – Political Science and Section D – Economics.
3. Each section carries 20 marks and includes MCQs, Very Short Answer, Short Answer, Long Answer and Case-Based Questions.
4. Very Short Answer (VSA) questions carry 2 marks each. Answers should not exceed 40 words.
5. Short Answer (SA) questions carry 3 marks each. Answers should not exceed 60 words.
6. Long Answer (LA) questions carry 5 marks each. Answers should not exceed 120 words.
7. Case-Based Questions (CBQ) carry 4 marks each, divided into sub-parts. Answers to each sub-part should not exceed 100 words.
8. Map-based questions carry a combined total of 5 marks (2 marks in Section A, 3 marks in Section B).
9. There is no overall choice. However, an internal choice has been provided in some questions. Attempt only one option wherever a choice is given.
10. This is an original practice paper prepared for futuretopper.in and is not an official CBSE sample paper. Marks in square brackets show the weightage for each question.

SECTION A – HISTORY (20 MARKS)

1. The idea of 'collective belonging' among the people of a region, built through shared symbols, songs and stories, is best described as: [1]
 - A. Federalism
 - B. Nationalism
 - C. Colonialism
 - D. Liberalism
2. Which event most directly triggered the launch of the Non-Cooperation Movement in India in 1920? [1]
 - A. The partition of Bengal
 - B. The Rowlatt Act and Jallianwala Bagh incident
 - C. The Second Round Table Conference
 - D. The formation of the Muslim League
3. In the pre-modern world, the Silk Route is chiefly remembered for: [1]
 - A. Connecting Asia with Europe and North Africa through trade in goods, ideas and people
 - B. Establishing the first factory system in Europe
 - C. Linking Britain with its African colonies
 - D. Creating the first international currency system
4. Assertion (A): The spread of print culture in nineteenth-century India encouraged public debate on social reform. Reason (R): Cheaper printing technology made newspapers and pamphlets accessible to a wider readership. [1]
 - 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

5A. Explain any two ways in which shared economic interests, such as the Zollverein customs union, encouraged political unification among German-speaking states in the nineteenth century. **[2]**

OR

5B. Explain any two reasons why the Khilafat issue helped Gandhiji build a broader coalition for the Non-Cooperation Movement.

6A. 'The Non-Cooperation Movement combined the participation of different social groups for different reasons.' Justify this statement with suitable examples. **[3]**

OR

6B. 'The Salt March was a highly effective form of symbolic protest.' Analyse this statement with suitable reasons.

7A. 'Culture played a crucial role in creating the idea of the nation in nineteenth-century Europe.' Explain this statement with reference to folk songs, language and art. **[5]**

OR

7B. Explain how Mahatma Gandhi's idea of Satyagraha differed from earlier forms of political protest, and assess its impact on the Indian national movement.

8. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

An original extract for practice: In 1861, a small handwritten news-sheet began circulating among traders in a Gujarat port town, carrying reports on ship arrivals, grain prices and local disputes. Within a decade, a steam-powered press allowed the same news-sheet to become a printed weekly, reaching readers well beyond the original trading community. Editors began adding commentary on local administration, and readers wrote in with complaints about tax collection, encouraging debate that had not been possible when the news-sheet was handwritten and limited to a few dozen readers.

8.1 Why could the handwritten news-sheet reach only a limited readership? **[1]**

8.2 How did the shift to a steam-powered press change the reach and role of the publication? **[1]**

8.3 Analyse how the addition of reader commentary contributed to public debate in the region. **[2]**

9. Identify and name the following places associated with the nationalist movement in India: **[2]**

(a) The coastal town where Mahatma Gandhi broke the salt law in 1930.

(b) The city where the Indian National Congress held its session in December 1920, at which the Non-Cooperation programme was formally adopted.

Note: In the full-length examination this appears as an outline-map identification exercise; for this practice paper it is presented as a direct identification question testing the same map-skill content.

SECTION B – GEOGRAPHY (20 MARKS)

10. Which of the following best explains why resource planning is essential in India? **[1]**

- A. Resources are unlimited and evenly spread across all regions
- B. Resources are unevenly distributed and need technology and institutions to be used sustainably
- C. Only the government requires resources for its own use
- D. Resource planning is required only for mineral resources

11. Community-managed forests where local people protect wildlife and forests, without any formal government notification, are classified as: **[1]**

- A. Reserved forests
- B. Protected forests
- C. Unclassed forests
- D. National parks

- 12.** Multipurpose river valley projects such as large dams are criticised mainly because they: **[1]**
- A. Reduce the availability of irrigation water
 - B. Cause displacement of local communities and disturb the ecology of the river basin
 - C. Have no role in flood control
 - D. Prevent the generation of hydroelectric power
- 13.** Which of the following statements about jhumming (shifting cultivation) is correct? **[1]**
- A. It is a highly mechanised commercial farming practice
 - B. It involves clearing a patch of forest, cultivating it briefly, and then leaving it fallow for regeneration
 - C. It is practised mainly in the alluvial plains of Punjab and Haryana
 - D. It relies entirely on drip irrigation systems
- 14.** Bauxite, the principal ore of aluminium, is most closely associated with which type of rock formation in India? **[1]**
- A. Alluvial deposits of the Gangetic plains
 - B. Tertiary rock formations found in Odisha, Jharkhand, Gujarat and Chhattisgarh
 - C. Coastal sedimentary basins of Kerala
 - D. Glacial deposits of the Himalayan region
- 15.** Which of the following is a locational advantage typically cited for setting up an information technology industry? **[1]**
- A. Proximity to iron ore mines
 - B. Availability of skilled manpower and reliable connectivity infrastructure
 - C. Availability of large quantities of coking coal
 - D. Proximity to jute-growing regions
- 16.** Distinguish between black soil and laterite soil on the basis of their formation and suitability for crops. **[2]**
- 17A.** 'Agriculture remains the backbone of the Indian economy despite the growth of other sectors.' Examine this statement, and discuss any two challenges currently faced by Indian farmers. **[5]**

OR

- 17B.** Discuss the significance of mineral and energy resources for a developing economy like India, with reference to both conventional and non-conventional sources.
- 18.** Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

An original extract for practice: A district administration in central India reported that a cluster of small foundries and tanneries had grown rapidly along a river bank over two decades, drawn by cheap land and easy access to water for processing. Local residents began reporting discoloured water downstream and a decline in fish catch, while air quality worsened near the foundries due to smoke from furnaces. The administration proposed common effluent treatment facilities and stricter monitoring, but factory owners argued that the additional cost could force smaller units to shut down.

- 18.1 Identify two types of pollution described in the passage. **[1]**
- 18.2 Explain how manufacturing industries of the kind described can cause both water and air pollution. **[2]**
- 18.3 Do you think common effluent treatment facilities are a fair solution for both the environment and small industries? Justify your answer. **[1]**
- 19.** Identify and name the following, associated with resources and infrastructure in India: **[3]**
- (a) The multipurpose dam built on the Sutlej river, used for both irrigation and hydroelectric power generation.
 - (b) A major sea port located on the western coast of India, in Gujarat.
 - (c) An international airport located in the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

Note: In the full-length examination this appears as an outline-map exercise; here it is presented as a direct identification question testing the same map-skill content.

SECTION C – POLITICAL SCIENCE (20 MARKS)

- 20.** Power-sharing among different social groups is considered desirable mainly because it: **[1]**
- A. Guarantees that one community will always dominate government
 - B. Helps maintain the unity and stability of a country by accommodating diverse groups
 - C. Removes the need for elections
 - D. Applies only to countries with a single ethnic group
- 21.** In a federal system of government, which of the following is a typical feature? **[1]**
- A. All powers are concentrated in a single central authority
 - B. Power is constitutionally divided between different levels of government
 - C. States can be abolished by the central government at will
 - D. There is no independent judiciary to resolve disputes between levels of government
- 22.** Assertion (A): Communalism can weaken democratic functioning in a country. Reason (R): Communal politics seeks to organise political life around a single religious community's identity, often at the expense of other communities. **[1]**
- 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
- 23.** A political party that wishes to be recognised as a 'national party' by the Election Commission of India must, among other conditions, secure a minimum vote share or representation: **[1]**
- A. In only one state
 - B. Across a specified number of states as laid down by the Election Commission
 - C. In local body elections only
 - D. In any one national election regardless of vote share
- 24.** Highlight any two features of federalism as practised in India. **[2]**
- 25.** Identify any two forms of discrimination that women continue to face in different spheres of life in India. **[2]**
- 26.** 'The outcomes of democracy depend on the quality of government it produces.' Support this statement with suitable arguments. **[3]**
- 27A.** 'Political parties play a significant role in the functioning of a democracy.' Explain with suitable points. **[5]**

OR

- 27B.** Analyse the major challenges faced by political parties in India today.
- 28.** Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

An original scenario for practice: In the imagined federation of Rivera, two major linguistic communities, the Norlanders and the Suvans, have coexisted for decades. Following independence, the Norlander-majority government adopted the Norlander language as the sole official language nationwide and reserved a large share of government jobs for Norlander speakers. Over time, Suvan citizens, concentrated in the southern provinces, began to feel excluded from public administration and higher education. Civil society groups have proposed a new arrangement recognising both languages as official within their respective regions, along with guaranteed representation for Suvans in the national civil service.

- 28.1 Identify the type of majoritarian measure adopted by the Norlander-majority government. **[1]**
- 28.2 State one consequence of this measure for the Suvan community. **[1]**
- 28.3 Explain how the proposed new arrangement reflects the principle of power-sharing. **[2]**

SECTION D – ECONOMICS (20 MARKS)

- 29.** Which of the following best defines disguised unemployment? [1]
- A. A situation where workers are unemployed and actively seeking work
 - B. A situation where more people are engaged in an activity than are actually needed, so removing some would not reduce output
 - C. Unemployment caused only during economic recessions
 - D. A form of unemployment found exclusively in urban areas
- 30.** Per capita income, while useful, is considered an incomplete measure of development mainly because it: [1]
- A. Cannot be calculated for any country
 - B. Hides how income is actually distributed among the population
 - C. Is always higher in developing countries than developed ones
 - D. Measures only agricultural output
- 31.** Which of the following best illustrates the interdependence between the primary and tertiary sectors? [1]
- A. A farmer grows wheat and consumes it entirely within the household
 - B. A farmer's wheat is transported by trucks and stored in warehouses before reaching city markets
 - C. A factory manufactures tractors using imported steel only
 - D. A software company develops an application with no external inputs
- 32.** In India, currency notes are issued by: [1]
- A. The Ministry of Finance
 - B. Commercial banks
 - C. The Reserve Bank of India
 - D. State governments
- 33.** Which of the following best describes the requirement of 'double coincidence of wants' in a barter system? [1]
- A. Both parties must want exactly what the other is offering to trade
 - B. Both parties must belong to the same profession
 - C. Both parties must use currency notes to complete the exchange
 - D. Both parties must approach a bank for the transaction
- 34.** Which of the following is most accurately described as a factor that has enabled globalisation to accelerate in recent decades? [1]
- A. Restrictions on the movement of goods across borders
 - B. Rapid improvement in information and communication technology
 - C. Reduction in the number of multinational companies
 - D. Complete isolation of national economies from one another
- 35.** Distinguish between the organised and unorganised sectors of the Indian economy, using any three points of comparison. [3]
- 36.** 'Formal sources of credit need to be made more accessible to all sections of society.' Justify this statement. [3]
- 37.** Explain any three factors that have enabled the process of globalisation. [3]
- 38A.** A researcher interviewed two workers, one employed in a government hospital and the other in a small roadside workshop. Using this scenario, analyse the key differences between the organised and unorganised sectors that the researcher is likely to have observed. [5]

OR

- 38B.** Discuss both the positive and negative effects of privatisation on an economy.

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Marking Scheme – Social Science Sample Paper 1

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SECTION A – HISTORY

1. Correct answer: B. Nationalism

Nationalism refers to the sense of unity and common identity that a people develop through shared culture, history, symbols and collective memory, often mobilised to imagine themselves as one nation.

2. Correct answer: B. The Rowlatt Act and Jallianwala Bagh incident

Widespread anger over the repressive Rowlatt Act and the Jallianwala Bagh tragedy of 1919 convinced Gandhiji and the Congress that a nationwide movement was needed, leading to the launch of Non-Cooperation in 1920.

3. Correct answer: A. Connecting Asia with Europe and North Africa through trade in goods, ideas and people

The Silk Route networks illustrate that pre-modern trade and cultural exchange linked distant parts of the world well before European colonisation, carrying goods such as silk and spices along with travellers, missionaries and ideas.

4. Correct answer: A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A

Cheaper, faster printing allowed newspapers and pamphlets to circulate widely, which in turn gave reformers and ordinary readers a shared platform to debate social and religious questions.

5A. Answer:

(i) The Zollverein removed tariff barriers between German states, allowing goods, capital and people to move freely, which built a shared economic interest in unity. (ii) Railways built to serve this customs union linked markets and regions together, strengthening the practical case for political unification alongside economic integration.

5B. Answer:

(i) The Khilafat issue gave Muslims a specific grievance (protection of the Ottoman Caliph) that Gandhiji could link to the wider national movement, drawing Muslim participation. (ii) By combining Khilafat with Non-Cooperation, Gandhiji hoped to unite Hindus and Muslims in a common campaign against colonial rule, widening the movement's social base.

6A. Answer:

Peasants joined to protest against high rents and oppressive landlords; workers in cities boycotted foreign cloth and joined strikes for better wages and working conditions; the business community supported the boycott of foreign goods to protect their own trade; and students and teachers left colonial institutions as a mark of nationalist protest, showing that each group brought its own local grievances into the wider movement.

6B. Answer:

Salt was a necessity used by every household, so a tax on it touched rich and poor alike, making the march instantly relatable; by manufacturing salt himself in defiance of the law, Gandhiji dramatised colonial injustice in a simple, non-violent act that ordinary people could imitate across the country; the march also attracted international press attention, embarrassing the colonial government on a world stage.

7A. Answer:

Nationalist movements used culture to build a shared imagination of the nation. Composers and collectors of folklore recorded traditional songs and stories, presenting them as expressions of a common national spirit. Language became a rallying point, as movements to standardise and promote a common tongue (for example Polish resistance to Russian and German linguistic domination) reinforced a sense of separate identity. Visual art, such as allegorical paintings personifying liberty and the nation as a woman figure, gave abstract ideas of nationhood a recognisable, emotionally powerful form. Together, these cultural expressions helped ordinary people imagine themselves as members of a single nation, well before political unification was achieved.

7B. Answer:

Satyagraha emphasised truth and non-violence as the moral basis of resistance rather than armed rebellion or purely constitutional petitioning. It invited mass, non-violent participation, allowing peasants, workers, students and women to join without needing specialised political training. It also placed pressure on the coloniser's conscience and international opinion by exposing repression against unarmed protestors. Its impact was significant, as it broadened the national movement's social base far beyond the educated elite, giving it a genuinely mass character, and became the template for movements such as Non-Cooperation and Civil Disobedience.

8.

8.1 A handwritten sheet had to be copied by hand, which was slow and costly, so only a small number of copies could be made, limiting circulation to a narrow trading circle. [1 mark(s)]

8.2 Mechanised printing allowed many copies to be produced quickly and cheaply, so the publication could be distributed as a weekly to a much wider and more varied readership beyond the original trading community. [1 mark(s)]

8.3 Once ordinary readers could write in with grievances about administration and taxation, the publication became a shared public space where opinions could be exchanged; this encouraged wider scrutiny of local governance and gave readers a sense that their views mattered, which is a key feature of how print culture fostered public debate in the period. [2 mark(s)]

9. Answer:

(a) Dandi, on the coast of Gujarat, was where Gandhiji broke the salt law by making salt from sea water at the end of the Dandi March. (b) Nagpur hosted the December 1920 Congress session at which the Non-Cooperation programme was adopted.

SECTION B – GEOGRAPHY

10. Correct answer: B. Resources are unevenly distributed and need technology and institutions to be used sustainably

Because resources are not spread evenly across regions and excessive or careless use can exhaust them, planning that combines appropriate technology, quality of resources and institutional support is essential for sustainable development.

11. Correct answer: C. Unclassed forests

Unclassed forests are owned by both government and private individuals or communities, and in several states, especially in the north-east, local communities manage and protect these forests without formal reservation.

12. Correct answer: B. Cause displacement of local communities and disturb the ecology of the river basin

While multipurpose projects provide irrigation, power and flood control, they are criticised for submerging land, displacing local and tribal populations, and altering the natural flow and sediment pattern of rivers.

13. Correct answer: B. It involves clearing a patch of forest, cultivating it briefly, and then leaving it fallow for regeneration

Jhumming is a traditional form of shifting cultivation practised in parts of the north-eastern hill states, where a forest patch is cleared and burnt, farmed for a short period, and then left fallow to allow the vegetation to regenerate.

14. Correct answer: B. Tertiary rock formations found in Odisha, Jharkhand, Gujarat and Chhattisgarh

Bauxite deposits in India are largely found in tertiary rock formations, with Odisha as the leading producer, along with significant deposits in Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Gujarat.

15. Correct answer: B. Availability of skilled manpower and reliable connectivity infrastructure

Unlike traditional heavy industries that depend on raw material location, IT and software industries are considered footloose and prefer locations offering skilled human resources and dependable telecommunication and power infrastructure.

16. Answer:

Black soil is formed from the weathering of lava rock and is well suited to cotton cultivation, since it retains moisture effectively; it is found extensively across the Deccan plateau. Laterite soil develops under conditions of high temperature and heavy rainfall, with intense leaching that removes silica, leaving the soil suitable mainly for crops such as cashew and tea after the addition of manure and fertiliser.

17A. Answer:

Agriculture continues to provide livelihood to a large share of India's workforce, supplies raw material to agro-based industries, and remains central to food security; its performance also strongly influences demand for goods produced by industry. Two challenges faced by farmers are, first, fragmented and small landholdings that limit the scope for mechanisation and economies of scale, and second, heavy dependence on the monsoon in large parts of the country, which makes output vulnerable to erratic or delayed rainfall. Together, these challenges constrain productivity even as agriculture remains fundamental to the wider economy.

17B. Answer:

Minerals such as iron ore and coal supply the raw material and fuel base for core industries, while energy resources power transport, agriculture and households, making them essential inputs for economic growth. Conventional sources such as coal and mineral oil currently meet the bulk of India's commercial energy needs but are exhaustible and contribute to environmental pollution. Non-conventional sources such as solar, wind and biogas are renewable, cause comparatively little pollution and can supply power to remote areas not yet connected to the grid, making them increasingly important for sustainable long-term development.

18.

18.1 The passage describes water pollution, from discoloured river water and reduced fish catch, and air pollution, from smoke released by furnaces near the foundries. *[1 mark(s)]*

18.2 Untreated effluents containing chemical waste from tanneries and foundries are often discharged directly into rivers, adding organic and inorganic pollutants that harm aquatic life and reduce water quality; at the same time, furnaces and processing units release smoke and particulate matter into the air, degrading air quality for nearby residents. *[2 mark(s)]*

18.3 Yes, common effluent treatment facilities can be a reasonable middle path, since shared infrastructure spreads the cost of treatment across several small units, making compliance more affordable than each factory building its own plant, while still ensuring that untreated waste is not released into the river; this protects the environment without necessarily forcing individual small units to close down. *[1 mark(s)]*

19. Answer:

(a) The Bhakra Nangal project on the Sutlej river provides irrigation and hydroelectric power to the northern states. (b) Kandla (Deendayal) port in Gujarat is a major sea port on India's western coast. (c) The Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi, is the international airport located in the National Capital Territory.

SECTION C – POLITICAL SCIENCE

20. Correct answer: B. Helps maintain the unity and stability of a country by accommodating diverse groups

When different social groups feel that their voice is heard through power-sharing arrangements, it reduces the risk of conflict and strengthens the unity and stability of a diverse country.

21. Correct answer: B. Power is constitutionally divided between different levels of government

Federalism involves a constitutional division of power between the central or union government and state or regional governments, usually protected by an independent judiciary that resolves disputes between the two levels.

22. Correct answer: A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A

Because communal politics organises support around one religious identity and can marginalise other communities, it tends to deepen social divisions and weakens the inclusive functioning that democracy requires.

23. Correct answer: B. Across a specified number of states as laid down by the Election Commission

The Election Commission of India lays down conditions relating to vote share and seats won across a specified number of states for a party to be recognised as a national party.

24. Answer:

First, governmental power in India is divided between the union government and the state governments, each with its own defined areas of authority under the Constitution. Second, disputes between the two levels of government over their respective powers are resolved by an independent judiciary, which acts as an umpire ensuring that neither level oversteps its constitutional limits.

25. Answer:

First, women often face wage discrimination, receiving lower pay than men for similar work, particularly in the unorganised sector. Second, women remain under-represented in political institutions such as legislative assemblies and Parliament, despite forming roughly half the population, reflecting continuing barriers to equal participation in public life.

26. Answer:

A democratic government is expected to be accountable to citizens through regular elections, which creates pressure for responsive and legitimate decision-making. It follows constitutionally laid down procedures, promoting the rule of law over arbitrary action. It also allows for peaceful correction of mistakes, since citizens can vote out governments that fail to perform, unlike systems without regular accountability. These features together suggest that while democracy may not guarantee efficient government in the short run, it tends to produce more legitimate and corrigible governance over time.

27A. Answer:

Political parties contest elections and offer voters a set of policy choices, making elections meaningful rather than a contest of unconnected individuals. They form and run governments, translating manifesto promises into policy once in office. They play the role of opposition, holding the ruling party accountable in legislatures. They shape public opinion by raising issues and mobilising citizens around them. They also provide access to welfare schemes and government machinery for ordinary citizens through their local representatives, linking citizens to the state on a day-to-day basis.

27B. Answer:

Many parties struggle with internal democracy, as leadership positions are often concentrated within a few families or individuals rather than being contested openly. Dissenting members frequently have little formal say in a party's decisions, discouraging internal debate. Parties also face criticism over the influence of money and muscle power in candidate selection and campaigning. Additionally, meaningful choices between parties are sometimes limited, as major parties converge on similar policy positions, giving voters fewer distinct alternatives on key issues.

28.

28.1 The government imposed a single official language and reserved public employment for the majority linguistic group, a majoritarian measure that privileges one community over others. [1 mark(s)]

28.2 The Suvan community felt excluded from public administration and higher education opportunities, leading to a sense of alienation from the state. [1 mark(s)]

28.3 The proposed arrangement recognises both languages as official within their respective regions and guarantees Suvan representation in the civil service, so that no single community can impose its will unilaterally; this mirrors the constitutional logic of power-sharing, where diverse groups are given a share in decision-making and public institutions, which helps preserve national unity and reduces the risk of conflict. [2 mark(s)]

SECTION D – ECONOMICS

29. Correct answer: B. A situation where more people are engaged in an activity than are actually needed, so removing some would not reduce output

Disguised unemployment occurs, for instance, in agriculture, where family members work on the same small plot of land; removing some of them would not reduce total output, showing that their marginal productivity is effectively zero.

30. Correct answer: B. Hides how income is actually distributed among the population

Average income can rise even if the gains are concentrated among a small section of the population, so per capita income alone does not reveal inequality in the distribution of income across a country.

31. Correct answer: B. A farmer's wheat is transported by trucks and stored in warehouses before reaching city markets

Here, transport and storage services from the tertiary sector are essential for primary sector output (wheat) to reach the market, illustrating how the sectors depend on one another.

32. Correct answer: C. The Reserve Bank of India

The Reserve Bank of India, on behalf of the central government, is responsible for issuing currency notes, which are then accepted as a medium of exchange.

33. Correct answer: A. Both parties must want exactly what the other is offering to trade

In a barter system, an exchange can only happen when each party happens to want precisely what the other has to offer, a restrictive condition that money helps to remove.

34. Correct answer: B. Rapid improvement in information and communication technology

Advances in telecommunication, computers and the internet have made it far easier and cheaper to coordinate production, share information and place orders across countries, which has been a key enabler of globalisation.

35. Answer:

First, organised sector jobs typically offer job security, whereas unorganised sector work is often insecure and can end without notice. Second, organised sector employment usually comes with regulated working hours and benefits such as paid leave, while unorganised sector workers frequently face longer hours with no such benefits. Third, organised enterprises are registered with the government and follow rules laid down in various labour laws, whereas unorganised enterprises are largely unregistered and fall outside the direct reach of such regulation.

36. Answer:

Formal sources such as banks and cooperatives are supervised by the Reserve Bank of India, which monitors that they charge reasonable interest rates and follow fair lending practices, unlike many informal moneylenders who can charge very high rates. Wider access to formal credit would allow small farmers and entrepreneurs to invest in their activities without falling into cycles of debt caused by exploitative informal lending. It would also support broader economic development, since timely and affordable credit enables productive investment across sectors, particularly among those currently excluded from the formal banking system.

37. Answer:

First, rapid improvement in transportation technology, including containerised shipping, has made it cheaper and quicker to move goods across long distances. Second, advances in information and communication technology, especially telecommunications and the internet, allow instant communication and coordination between offices located in different countries. Third, liberalisation of trade and investment policies by many governments has reduced barriers, allowing companies to set up production and source materials across national borders more freely.

38A. Answer:

The government hospital employee is likely to have a secure, regulated job with fixed working hours, provisions for paid leave, and access to benefits such as provident fund and medical allowance, since the government sector is registered and follows labour regulations. The roadside workshop worker, by contrast, is likely to face an insecure arrangement with no formal contract, variable and often longer working hours, no guaranteed leave or safety net if the workshop shuts down, and no legal protection against arbitrary dismissal, reflecting the largely unregistered and unregulated nature of unorganised sector employment. The comparison would reveal that job security, regulation and benefits are the central differences between the two.

38B. Answer:

On the positive side, privatisation can improve efficiency, as private firms operating under competitive pressure often innovate and cut costs more readily than some public enterprises; it can also reduce the fiscal burden on government by transferring loss-making units out of the public budget and attract fresh investment and technology into a sector. On the negative side, privatisation can reduce access to essential services for poorer sections if private providers prioritise profit over universal coverage, and it may lead to job losses or worsened working conditions where private owners cut costs by reducing staff or benefits. A balanced view suggests that privatisation should be assessed sector by sector, weighing efficiency gains against the risk of reduced access and worker welfare.