

POLITICAL SCIENCE (028)

Sample Question Paper — Set 2
Class XII

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. The question paper consists of five sections – A, B, C, D and E, with a total of 30 questions.
2. All questions are compulsory, subject to the internal choices provided.
3. Question numbers 1–12 are multiple choice questions of 1 mark each.
4. Question numbers 13–18 carry 2 marks each. Answers should not exceed 50–60 words.
5. Question numbers 19–23 carry 4 marks each. Answers should not exceed 100–120 words. There is an internal choice in two of these questions.
6. Question numbers 24–26 are picture, map and passage based questions, to be answered as per the instructions given.
7. Question numbers 27–30 carry 6 marks each. Answers should not exceed 170–180 words. There is an internal choice in all four questions.

SECTION – A (12 × 1 = 12 Marks)

- Q.1** Which of the following was a former Soviet republic that became an independent country after 1991? [1]
- (A) Poland
 - (B) Kazakhstan
 - (C) Romania
 - (D) Bulgaria
- Q.2** The common currency adopted by most member states of the European Union is known as the: [1]
- (A) Pound
 - (B) Euro
 - (C) Dollar
 - (D) Franc
- Q.3** Read the Assertion (A) and Reason (R) given below and choose the correct option: Assertion (A): SAARC was established to promote regional cooperation among South Asian countries. Reason (R): All South Asian countries have identical political systems. [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.
- Q.4** Which principal organ of the United Nations is primarily responsible for the maintenance of international peace and security? [1]
- (A) General Assembly
 - (B) Security Council
 - (C) Economic and Social Council
 - (D) Trusteeship Council
- Q.5** Given below are two statements: Statement I: Non-traditional security threats include terrorism and human rights violations. Statement II: Non-traditional security threats always originate from other states. Choose the correct option: [1]
- (A) Only Statement I is correct.
 - (B) Only Statement II is correct.
 - (C) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.
 - (D) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.
- Q.6** The term 'glocalisation' refers to: [1]
- (A) complete rejection of global culture by local communities
 - (B) blending of global influences with local cultures and practices
 - (C) purely economic liberalisation with no cultural impact
 - (D) globalisation of military alliances only
- Q.7** The dominance of the Indian National Congress between 1952 and 1967 has been described by scholars as: [1]
- (A) a coalition of multiple equally powerful parties
 - (B) a broad social and ideological coalition accommodating diverse interests
 - (C) rule sustained through military support
 - (D) a one-man dictatorship without any internal debate
- Q.8** Arrange the following in chronological order, from earliest to latest: I) First Five Year Plan launched II) NITI Aayog formed III) Planning Commission set up IV) Mandal Commission report submitted [1]
- (A) III, I, IV, II
 - (B) I, III, II, IV
 - (C) IV, III, I, II
 - (D) II, IV, III, I
- Q.9** India's policy of Non-Alignment during the Cold War was primarily meant to: [1]
- (A) formally join one of the two power blocs for security guarantees
 - (B) maintain independence from both power blocs while engaging with each on its own terms
 - (C) promote formal military alliances with both blocs simultaneously
 - (D) support colonial rule in Asia and Africa
- Q.10** The slogan associated with Indira Gandhi's campaign in the 1971 Lok Sabha election was: [1]
- (A) Garibi Hatao
 - (B) Swaraj is my birthright
 - (C) Jai Jawan Jai Kisan
 - (D) Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas
- Q.11** The Punjab Accord (1985) primarily sought to resolve disputes relating to: [1]
- (A) river-water sharing and the status of Chandigarh
 - (B) linguistic boundaries in southern India

(C) tribal land rights in the north-east

(D) coastal fishing rights

Q.12 Match the government schemes given in List I with their primary focus area in List II and select the correct code: [1]

List I (Scheme)	List II (Focus Area)
I. Swachh Bharat Abhiyan	i. Sanitation
II. Jan-Dhan Yojana	ii. Financial inclusion
III. Ayushman Bharat Yojana	iii. Healthcare
IV. Beti Bachao Beti Padhao	iv. Girl child welfare

Codes:

(A) I-i, II-ii, III-iii, IV-iv

(B) I-ii, II-i, III-iv, IV-iii

(C) I-iii, II-iv, III-i, IV-ii

(D) I-iv, II-iii, III-ii, IV-i

SECTION – B (6 × 2 = 12 Marks)

Q.13 What is meant by the term ‘unipolar world’? [2]

Q.14 Mention any two objectives that the European Union seeks to achieve among its member states. [2]

Q.15 What is meant by ‘cooperative security’ in the context of contemporary world politics? [2]

Q.16 What did Rajni Kothari mean by the term ‘Congress system’? [2]

Q.17 Mention any two features of the ‘Second Democratic Upsurge’ in India. [2]

Q.18 What was the demand for a separate state of Telangana primarily based on? [2]

SECTION – C (5 × 4 = 20 Marks)

Q.19 Explain any two reasons for the rise of ASEAN as an important regional grouping in Asia. [4]

Q.20 ‘Environmental movements in India reflect both local and global concerns.’ Explain this statement with the help of any two examples. [4]

Q.21 A Explain any two reasons for India’s growing engagement with countries of Southeast Asia. [4]

OR

Q.21 B Discuss the functions performed by any two international agencies such as the IMF or the World Bank. [4]

Q.22 A Explain the circumstances that led to the formation of the Janata Party in 1977. [4]

OR

Q.22 B Discuss any two challenges faced by the Congress system by the late 1960s. [4]

Q.23 Describe the role played by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in the integration of princely states into the Indian Union. [4]

SECTION – D (3 × 4 = 12 Marks)

Q.24 Study the illustration given below and answer the questions that follow: [4]

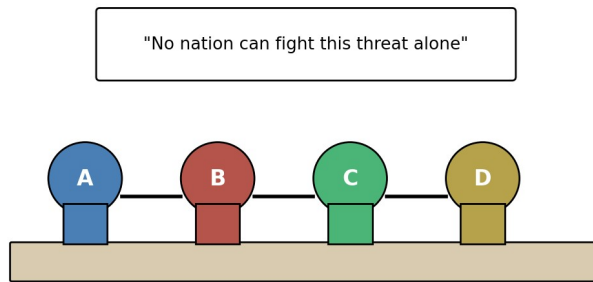


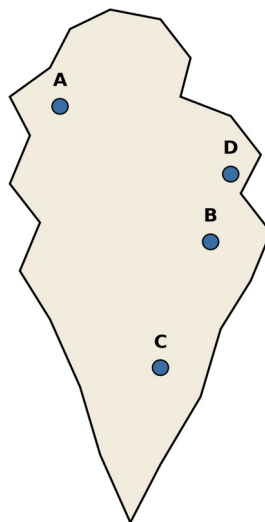
Fig. 24 — Countries Joining Hands Against a Common Security Threat

- I) The illustration best represents: (A) a trade agreement between two countries (B) international cooperation against a shared security threat (C) a military alliance for territorial expansion (D) a cultural exchange programme
- II) The message conveyed in the speech bubble suggests that: (A) security threats can be tackled by one powerful country alone (B) no single nation can address the threat effectively without cooperation (C) all countries should isolate themselves (D) military build-up is irrelevant to security
- III) Which of the following is an example of the kind of threat depicted here? (A) Border disputes between two states (B) Terrorism, which often has cross-border linkages (C) Trade tariffs (D) Currency fluctuation
- IV) Cooperative approaches to such threats commonly involve: (A) unilateral military action (B) intelligence-sharing and joint international action (C) complete disengagement from world affairs (D) abolition of all international organisations

NOTE: The following questions are for Visually Challenged candidates in lieu of Question Number 24:

- I) Name one non-traditional security threat that requires international cooperation.
- II) Why is unilateral action often considered insufficient to address terrorism?
- III) Name one international mechanism used for intelligence-sharing among countries.
- IV) Give one example of a cross-border security threat.

Q.25 In the given outline political map of India, four states have been marked as A, B, C and D. Identify these states on the basis of the clues given below and write their correct names in your answer, along with the alphabet used in the map: [4]



Outline Political Map of India (for representation only, not to scale)

- I) This north-western state witnessed a prolonged regional movement centred on river-water sharing and the status of its shared capital city.
- II) This eastern state was formed in the year 2000 by carving out territory from Bihar, largely to address the aspirations of its tribal population.
- III) This southern state was carved out of Andhra Pradesh in 2014 following a long-standing regional movement.

IV) This north-eastern state has witnessed a long movement for a separate homeland based on tribal identity, resulting in special constitutional protections.

NOTE: The following questions are for Visually Challenged candidates in lieu of Question Number 25:

I) Name the accord signed in 1985 to address regional demands in Punjab.

II) Name any one state carved out of Bihar in the year 2000.

III) Name the newest state of the Indian Union, formed in 2014.

IV) Mention one reason for tribal identity movements in the north-east.

Q.26 Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: **[4]**

After independence, India adopted a mixed economic model that combined elements of both socialism and capitalism. The Planning Commission, set up in 1950, prepared successive Five Year Plans aimed at balancing rapid industrial growth with social justice. Early plans emphasised heavy industries and public sector enterprises, while later years saw growing debate over the pace and direction of economic reform. In 2015, the Planning Commission was replaced by NITI Aayog, reflecting a shift towards a more decentralised and consultative approach to policy-making that gives states a greater role in shaping national development strategy.

I) The Planning Commission was established in the year: (A) 1947 (B) 1950 (C) 1962 (D) 1991

II) According to the passage, early Five Year Plans placed emphasis on: (A) agriculture alone (B) heavy industries and public sector enterprises (C) complete privatisation of industry (D) foreign military alliances

III) NITI Aayog replaced the Planning Commission mainly to promote: (A) greater centralisation of power (B) a more decentralised and consultative policy approach (C) abolition of all economic planning (D) military-led planning

IV) The passage describes India's post-independence economic model as: (A) purely capitalist (B) purely socialist (C) a mixed economic model (D) a barter economy

NOTE: The following questions are for Visually Challenged candidates in lieu of Question Number 26:

I) In which year was the Planning Commission set up?

II) Name the body that replaced the Planning Commission in 2015.

III) Mention one objective of the Five Year Plans.

IV) Name the Prime Minister during whose tenure NITI Aayog was formed.

SECTION – E (4 × 6 = 24 Marks)

Q.27 A Discuss any three consequences of the 1975 Emergency for India's democratic institutions. **[6]**

OR

Q.27 B Assess the significance of the 44th Constitutional Amendment in strengthening safeguards for Indian democracy. **[6]**

Q.28 A Examine any three reasons for the rise of regional political parties in India since the 1960s. **[6]**

OR

Q.28 B Discuss any three demands associated with the movement for a separate state of Telangana. **[6]**

Q.29 A Discuss the significance of international efforts to address climate change, with reference to any two global summits. **[6]**

OR

Q.29 B Explain the concept of 'Common but Differentiated Responsibilities' with suitable examples. **[6]**

Q.30 A Analyse the changing nature of security threats in the twenty-first century, with examples of any three non-traditional threats. **[6]**

OR

Q.30 B Discuss the significance of cooperative security arrangements in addressing contemporary security challenges. **[6]**

POLITICAL SCIENCE (028)

Marking Scheme — Set 2

Class XII

Maximum Marks: 80

SECTION – A

Ans.1 (B) Kazakhstan [1]

Ans.2 (B) Euro [1]

Ans.3 (B) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A. [1]

Ans.4 (B) Security Council [1]

Ans.5 (A) Only Statement I is correct. [1]

Ans.6 (B) blending of global influences with local cultures and practices [1]

Ans.7 (B) a broad social and ideological coalition accommodating diverse interests [1]

Ans.8 (A) III, I, IV, II [Planning Commission-1950, First FYP-1951, Mandal report-1980, NITI Aayog-2015] [1]

Ans.9 (B) maintain independence from both power blocs while engaging with each on its own terms [1]

Ans.10 (A) Garibi Hatao [1]

Ans.11 (A) river-water sharing and the status of Chandigarh [1]

Ans.12 (A) I-i, II-ii, III-iii, IV-iv [1]

SECTION – B

Ans.13 A unipolar world refers to an international order in which a single state (a sole superpower) enjoys overwhelming military, economic and political dominance, with no other power able to match or balance its influence, as seen with the position of the United States after the end of the Cold War. [2]

Ans.14 Any two: (i) To promote peace and economic prosperity through close cooperation among member states. (ii) To create a common market with free movement of goods, capital and people, supported by a shared currency and common institutions. [2]

Ans.15 Cooperative security refers to an approach in which countries work together, often through multilateral institutions and agreements, to address shared security concerns such as terrorism, arms proliferation or environmental degradation, rather than relying solely on individual military strength. [2]

Ans.16 Rajni Kothari used the term ‘Congress system’ to describe the dominance of the Congress party in Indian politics from 1952 to 1967, in which the party functioned less like a single monolithic force and more like a broad coalition accommodating diverse social groups and ideological factions, while opposition parties played the role of pressure groups within this system. [2]

Ans.17 Any two: (i) Increasing political participation of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes during the 1980s. (ii) Greater representation and organisational presence of these groups, giving them a stronger voice in decision-making, though this did not immediately translate into major economic improvement for all sections. [2]

Ans.18 The demand for Telangana was primarily based on the perception of regional neglect and unequal development compared to the coastal and Rayalaseema regions of undivided Andhra Pradesh, along with concerns about jobs, resources and cultural identity of the Telangana region. [2]

SECTION – C

Ans.19 Any two reasons: (i) ASEAN member countries pursued export-oriented industrialisation and gradually reduced tariff barriers among themselves, creating an ASEAN Free Trade Area that boosted intra-regional trade and investment. (ii) The organisation adopted a cooperative, consensus-based approach (the ‘ASEAN Way’) that allowed diverse political systems to work together on economic and security matters, making it an attractive and stable partner for major powers, including India, China, Japan and the United States. [4]

Ans.20 Any two examples: (i) The Chipko Movement in the Himalayan region, which combined local concerns about deforestation and livelihood with the wider global discourse on forest conservation. (ii) The Narmada Bachao Andolan, which raised local concerns about displacement due to large dam projects while also linking to global debates on sustainable development and the rights of indigenous and rural communities. [4]

Ans.21 Any two reasons: (i) Southeast Asia offers India significant economic opportunities through trade and investment, given the region’s growing markets and manufacturing base. (ii) Strategic considerations, including balancing China’s influence and securing sea lanes of communication, have encouraged India to deepen political and defence cooperation with ASEAN countries. [4]

Ans.21 B Any two: (i) The IMF provides financial assistance and policy advice to countries facing balance of payments difficulties, helping stabilise their economies. (ii) The World Bank provides long-term loans and grants for development projects such as infrastructure, education and health, particularly to developing countries. [4]

Ans.22 A The Janata Party was formed in 1977 as a merger of several opposition parties and groups that had come together during the movement against the Emergency, including socialists, the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, and dissident Congress leaders. Public resentment against the excesses of the Emergency, combined with Jayaprakash Narayan's call for unity among non-Congress forces, brought these otherwise diverse groups onto a common platform to contest and defeat the Congress in the 1977 elections. [4]

Ans.22 B Any two: (i) The challenge of political succession after Nehru's death created internal rifts, as different factions within the party competed for leadership. (ii) Emerging economic difficulties and food shortages in the mid-1960s, along with the growth of opposition unity under 'non-Congressism', weakened the Congress's traditional dominance in several states. [4]

Ans.23 Sardar Patel, as Home Minister, adopted firm diplomatic persuasion backed by the threat of force to secure the accession of over 500 princely states to India. He successfully negotiated with most rulers, while military action was used to integrate reluctant states such as Hyderabad and Junagarh. His approach combined political skill with clear resolve on the non-negotiability of India's territorial unity, for which he is remembered as the 'Iron Man' of India. [4]

SECTION – D

Ans.24 (I) B; (II) B; (III) B; (IV) B [4]

Answers for Visually Challenged candidates: (I) Terrorism (or any other cross-border non-traditional threat). (II) Because such threats often have networks and support that cross national borders, making a coordinated response by several countries necessary. (III) Bodies such as INTERPOL facilitate the sharing of intelligence among countries. (IV) Any one, e.g. cross-border terrorism or drug trafficking.

Ans.25 (A) Punjab; (B) Jharkhand; (C) Telangana; (D) Nagaland [4]

Answers for Visually Challenged candidates: (I) The Punjab Accord (Rajiv–Longowal Accord), 1985. (II) Jharkhand. (III) Telangana. (IV) Any one, e.g. concerns over land, identity and control over local resources.

Ans.26 (I) B; (II) B; (III) B; (IV) C [4]

Answers for Visually Challenged candidates: (I) 1950. (II) NITI Aayog. (III) Any one, e.g. balancing rapid industrial growth with social justice. (IV) Narendra Modi.

SECTION – E

Ans.27 A Any three: (i) Fundamental rights, including the right to move courts for their enforcement, were suspended, weakening constitutional safeguards for citizens. (ii) Press censorship was imposed, curbing freedom of expression and public scrutiny of the government. (iii) Thousands of political opponents were detained without trial, undermining the normal functioning of opposition politics and civil society during the period. [6]

Ans.27 B The 44th Amendment, passed after the Emergency, restored several safeguards that had been weakened, including making it more difficult to declare an Emergency by requiring the written advice of the Union Cabinet, and providing that fundamental rights such as the right to life and personal liberty could not be suspended even during an Emergency. It also restored the tenure of the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies to five years and reduced the scope for misuse of emergency provisions, thereby strengthening long-term democratic accountability. [6]

Ans.28 A Any three reasons: (i) Perceived neglect of regional economic and cultural interests by national parties encouraged the rise of state-based parties. (ii) Linguistic reorganisation of states created distinct political identities around which regional parties could mobilise support. (iii) The weakening of the Congress system after the 1960s created space for parties based on caste, region and local issues to gain ground in state politics. [6]

Ans.28 B Any three: (i) Demand for greater control over local water and natural resources believed to be unfairly shared with coastal Andhra. (ii) Concerns over inadequate representation of Telangana in jobs, education and government employment relative to its population. (iii) A distinct cultural and historical identity of the Telangana region that its proponents argued was overshadowed within undivided Andhra Pradesh, along with demands for a separate administrative and political structure. [6]

Ans.29 A International efforts to address climate change gained momentum with the 1992 Rio Earth Summit, which established the principle of sustainable development and led to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. Subsequent summits, such as the 1997 Kyoto Protocol conference and later the 2015 Paris Agreement negotiations, sought to set binding or voluntary targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. These summits are significant because they created a framework for international cooperation, brought developed and developing countries to a common negotiating table, and established mechanisms such as the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities to balance historical responsibility with current capability. [6]

Ans.29 B The principle of 'Common but Differentiated Responsibilities' holds that while all countries share a common responsibility to protect the global environment, developed countries, having historically contributed more to environmental damage through industrialisation, should bear a greater share of the burden of addressing it, including

through funding and technology transfer. For example, under the Kyoto Protocol, binding emission-reduction targets were placed mainly on industrialised countries, while developing countries such as India were given more flexibility, reflecting their lower historical contribution and pressing development needs. [6]

Ans.30 A Any three non-traditional threats: (i) Terrorism, which often operates across borders and targets civilians to create fear for political ends. (ii) Health and epidemic-related threats, such as global pandemics, which can disrupt economies and societies worldwide. (iii) Environmental degradation and resource scarcity, including water and energy insecurity, which increasingly shape national security concerns alongside traditional military threats. [6]

Ans.30 B Cooperative security arrangements are significant because contemporary threats such as terrorism, pandemics and environmental degradation rarely respect national borders and cannot be addressed by any single country acting alone. Through intelligence-sharing, joint military exercises, and multilateral institutions, countries can pool resources and expertise to respond more effectively. Such cooperation also builds trust among nations, reduces the likelihood of misunderstanding leading to conflict, and allows collective responses, such as coordinated action against piracy or terrorism, that are more effective than isolated national efforts. [6]