

CAREERS360
PRACTICE Series

Maharashtra HSC

Political Science
Sample Paper 2025

Maharashtra HSC Sample Paper 2025 Political Science

Time: 3 hours; marks:80

Note:

(1) All questions are compulsory.
(2) Figures to the right indicate full marks.
(3) Start answering every new question on a new page.

1. A. Choose the correct alternative and complete the following statements:

SOLUTION:

Today, 22 countries of the European Union are part of the Schengen Area. The Schengen Area allows for passport-free travel across member countries, facilitating easier movement for citizens and travelers within Europe.

The correct option is: (b) 22

SOLUTION :

Until the coming of foreign channels, Doordarshan was the only TV broadcaster in India. Established in 1959, it was the sole provider of television content in the country for many years, offering a range of educational and entertainment programs.

The correct option is: (c) Doordarshan

(iii) The _____ revolution was perhaps the most important revolution in the field of technology.

- (a) Facebook
- (b) WhatsApp
- (c) Instagram
- (d) Internet

SOLUTION :

The Internet revolution was perhaps the most important revolution in the field of technology. It fundamentally changed how people communicate, access information, and conduct business on a global scale.

The correct option is: (d) Internet

(iv) _____ joined BRICS in 2010.

1. Japan
2. Bhutan
3. South Africa
4. Nepal

SOLUTION:

South Africa joined BRICS in 2010. BRICS is an association of five major emerging economies: Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa, aimed at promoting economic, political, and cultural cooperation among member countries.

The correct option is: (3) South Africa

(v) _____ Act came into force in 2005 in India.

1. Right to Education
2. Right to Information
3. Lokpal and Lokayukta
4. Consumer Protection

SOLUTION:

The Right to Information (RTI) Act came into force in 2005 in India. This law empowers citizens to request information from public authorities, promoting transparency and accountability in government operations.

The correct option is: (2) Right to Information

1.B | Identify the incorrect pair in every set, correct it and rewrite:

(i) Identify the incorrect pair in every set, correct it and rewrite:

1. Rise of China and India - Emergence of multipolarity
2. Ethnic Nationalism - Principle of self-determination
3. Currency of European Union - Dollar

SOLUTION:

Incorrect pair - Currency of European Union - Dollar

Correct pair - Currency of European Union - Euro

(ii) Identify the incorrect pair, correct it, and rewrite:

1. Rules and regulations to govern international trade - GATT 1948
2. World Trade Organisation (WTO) - 2000
3. Globalisation - 1991

SOLUTION:

- Incorrect pair: World Trade Organisation (WTO) - 2000
- Correct pair: World Trade Organisation (WTO) - 1995

(iii) Identify the incorrect pair in the set, correct it and rewrite:

1. Non-Alignment - Principle of India's Foreign Policy
2. Burma - Ceylon

3. Border dispute - India and China

SOLUTION:

- Incorrect Pair: Burma - Ceylon
- Correct Pair: Burma - Myanmar

1.C| Complete the following statements by using the appropriate option:

(i) There was growth in international economic relations, because _____.

1. spread of globalisation
2. availability of foreign capital
3. of increased connectivity through mobile phones

SOLUTION:

There was growth in international economic relations because of the spread of globalization. Globalization has led to increased trade, investment, and collaboration between countries, integrating economies worldwide.

The correct option is:

1. spread of globalisation

(ii) India is a developing country because _____.

1. it is rich in crude oil.
2. it needs financial investment in industry for its development.
3. it is the largest in terms of population.

SOLUTION:

India is considered a developing country because it needs financial investment in industry for its development. Despite having a large population and rich natural resources, significant investments in industrial and infrastructural development are required to improve economic growth and living standards.

The correct option is: 2. it needs financial investment in industry for its development.

(iii) The term "Capitalist market economy" is used _____.

1. to describe the system in India
2. to describe the system in China
3. to describe the system in the United States of America

SOLUTION:

The term "Capitalist market economy" is used to describe the system in the United States of America. This economic system is characterized by private ownership of the means of production, market-driven prices, and minimal government intervention in business activities.

The correct option is: 3. to describe the system in the United States of America

(iv) There have been tensions between India and Pakistan since independence because _____.

1. of Jammu-Kashmir issue
2. of the dispute over the sharing of Brahmaputra river water.
3. of Tibet issue

SOLUTION:

There have been tensions between India and Pakistan since independence because of the Jammu-Kashmir issue. This territorial dispute has led to several conflicts and ongoing political and military tensions between the two countries.

The correct option is:

1. of Jammu-Kashmir issue

1.D | State the appropriate concept for the given statements:

(i) When a state influences other states without the use of military force.

SOLUTION: Soft Power

(ii) The introduction of high yielding variety of seeds and increased use of irrigation methods.

SOLUTION: Green Revolution

(iii) The person that investigates allegations or grievances arising out of the conduct of public servants in India.

SOLUTION: Lokpal or Lokayukta

(iv) The instrument of a country to establish, maintain and develop relations with the rest of the world.

SOLUTION: Foreign Policy

1.E | Find the odd word in the given set and rewrite:

(i) Find the odd word in the given set and rewrite:

- (a) Lal Bahadur Shastri
- (b) Narendra Modi
- (c) Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar
- (d) Atal Bihari Vajpayee

SOLUTION: Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar

(ii) BRICS Members:

1. India
2. Russia
3. China
4. America

SOLUTION: America

(iii) Find the odd word in the given set and rewrite

1. Linguism
2. Regionalism
3. Nationalism
4. Communalism

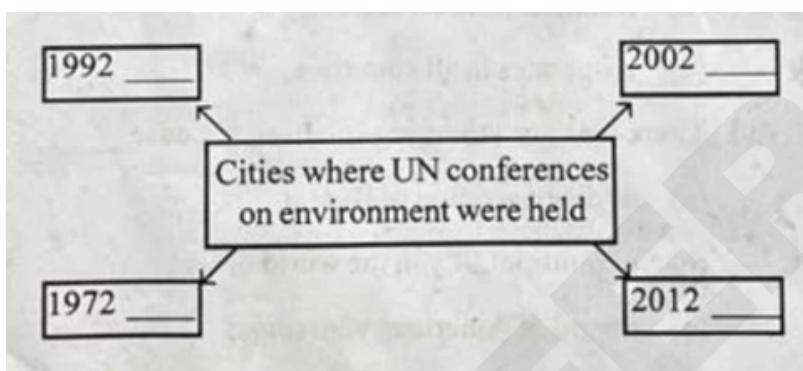
SOLUTION: Nationalism

(iv) Find the odd word in the given set and write:

1. Arunachal Pradesh
2. Sikkim
3. Dalai Lama
4. Meghalaya

SOLUTION: Dalai Lama

2.A. Complete the concept map:



SOLUTION:

- (a) 1992 - Rio de Janeiro
- (b) 2002 - Johannesburg
- (c) 1972 - Stockholm
- (d) 2012 - Rio

B. Observe the given map and answer the following question:



Write the names of any five Asian countries.

Solution: India, China, Bangladesh, Thailand, Indonesia

3 | State whether the following statements are True or False with reasons (Any FIVE):

3.A National Commission for Women was set up to protect the rights of women in India.

True

False

SOLUTION: This statement is True.

Explanation:

- The National Commission for Women (NCW) was established in 1990 with the primary objective of safeguarding the rights and legal entitlements of women in India.
- Its core purpose is to facilitate the redressal of grievances faced by women, ensuring their voices are heard and their concerns are addressed.

3.B Lokayukta can investigate complaints against political executives.

True

False

SOLUTION: This statement is True.

Explanation:

The Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, of 2013 came into force in 2014. This office would inquire into allegations of corruption against public functionaries. It shows the Government's commitment to clean and responsive governance.

3.C The decade of the 1980 s is seen as the golden age of humanitarian intervention.**True****False****SOLUTION:** This statement is False.

Explanation:

- The 1990 s are seen as the 'golden age of humanitarian intervention.' In 1993, the World Conference on Human Rights was held in Vienna, which led to the creation of the office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.
- Increasing awareness about human rights and their protection in international law gave rise to the phenomenon of protection of rights in the form of 'humanitarian intervention'.

3.D Modernisation of the Indian economy meant industrialization.**True****False****SOLUTION:** This statement is True.

Explanation:

Industrialization would provide employment and increase productivity.

3.E Charu Majumdar is associated with the Khalistan movement.**True****False****SOLUTION:** This statement is False.

Explanation:

Charu Majumdar is associated with the Telangana Naxalite movement.

3.F Lokayukta can investigate complaints against political executives.**True****False****SOLUTION:** This statement is True.

Explanation:

The Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, of 2013 came into force in 2014. This office would inquire into allegations of corruption against public functionaries. It shows the Government's commitment to clean and responsive governance.

The State of Maharashtra was the first and pioneer State in India to introduce the concept of Lokayukta. The Maharashtra Lokayukta Institution came into being in 1972. The Lokayukta can investigate allegations or grievances arising out of the conduct of public servants including political executives, legislators, officers of the State Government, local bodies, public enterprises, and other instrumentalities of Government. A member of the public can file specific allegations with the Lokayukta against any public servant for inquiry. The Lokayukta can also initiate a suo-moto inquiry into the conduct of public servants.

3.G The Sagarmala project is a more comprehensive road connectivity plan.

True

False

SOLUTION: This statement is False.

Explanation:

- India has sought to harness its 7,500 km and 14,500 km of potentially navigable waterways and strategic location on key international maritime trade routes through two compatible programmes viz. Sagarmala and Bharatmala.
- The Sagarmala programme aims to promote port and river transport systems and the Bharatmala programme is a comprehensive road connectivity plan.

4| Explain the correlation between the following (Any THREE):

4.A Economic interest and formation of Trade blocs.

SOLUTION:

- i. When a number of countries reach unique economic accords, a trade bloc is created.
- ii. These accords are designed to safeguard and advance the interests of the bloc's members.
- iii. These agreements typically concentrate on lowering or eliminating trade restrictions, such as tariffs and quotas.
- iv. In 2006, the SAARC nations signed a free trade pact.

4.B Good Governance and E-Governance.

SOLUTION:

- Good Governance aims to replace traditional public administration riddled with corruption and red-tapism and to make it more citizen-centric, responsible, and responsive. The core values of good governance include efficiency, inclusiveness, being consensus-oriented, transparency, accountability, etc. Specific programs aimed at good governance include setting up of Lokpal and Lokayuktas, Creating of Citizen's Charters, Right to Information Act, institutional mechanisms like NHRC, NCW, etc.
- E-Governance is one of the most important aspects of good governance. It involves the employment of Information and Communications Technology (I.C.T) to facilitate efficient and instant transmission and processing of information as well as storing and retrieval of data. Thus, e-governance helps to implement core values of good governance such as transparency, effectiveness, accountability, and participation of citizens.

4.C Lokpal - Eradication of corruption

SOLUTION:

1. The Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, of 2013 came into force in 2014. The Act provides for the establishment of a body of Lokpal for the Union and Lokayukta for States.
2. This office would inquire into allegations of corruption against public functionaries. It shows the Government's commitment to clean and responsive governance.
3. The concept of Lokpal has been taken from Sweden where the office is called the Ombudsman. The typical duties of an ombudsman are to investigate complaints against government officials and attempt to resolve them.
4. The Government of India appointed Pinaki Chandra Ghose as the first Lokpal in 2019.

4.D National Unity and Regional Aspirations

SOLUTION:

1. National Unity is possible when citizens of that State exhibit psychological oneness, solidarity, and shared values. It is not homogeneity but a form of ethnic, religious, and linguistic acceptance.
2. Regional aspirations occur in forms like demand for separate States, language issues, etc., Regional aspirations have their roots in historical linguistic/cultural issues or may be a product of regional political outfits. Sometimes, regional aspirations may even become secessionists, as in the case of the Khalistan movement.
3. India has tried to reconcile regional aspirations with national unity by creating a federation with a strong center, creating smaller states, and reorganizing states linguistically.

4.E Good Governance and E-Governance.

SOLUTION :

- Good Governance aims to replace traditional public administration riddled with corruption and red-tapism and to make it more citizen-centric, responsible, and responsive. The core values of good governance include efficiency, inclusiveness, being consensus-oriented, transparency, accountability, etc. Specific programs aimed at good governance include setting up of Lokpal and Lokayuktas, Creating of Citizen's Charters, Right to Information Act, institutional mechanisms like NHRC, NCW, etc.
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Q.5 Express your opinion in 25 to 30 words on the following :

(1) Maintaining peace in the world is an important function of United Nations.

Solution:

- i. The United Nations an important global organization would intervene in countries to prevent conflict from escalating.
- ii. The process of disintegration of states and the creation of new states was not always peaceful there was a lot of bloodshed in Bosnia Chechnya, East Timor, and Eritrea.
- iii. It is the main task of United Nation Peacekeeping to maintain peace.
- iv. In the past cold war era, the United Nation continued to intervene in conflict situations to bring about a peaceful resolution of the dispute.
- v. Now the rationale for intervention was not just to stop the ongoing war but also to prevent the reoccurrence of conflicts in the future, maintain peace and protect the human rights of the affected people.

(2) Peace and stability are needed for the nation's progress.

Solution:

1. Peace, stability, and public order are necessary for the nation's progress and the good life of citizens. An unruly society will lead to violence, loss of life, destruction of property, and economic and political instability.
2. Conflict resolution is linked to the maintenance of law, order, and peace. In the absence of order and stability, divisive tendencies will prevail, infrastructure will be targeted, investments will be discouraged thus becoming a barrier to economic growth.
3. At a basic level, political stability is ensured using constitutional machinery and socio-economic development. In case of any problem occurring, the State tries to resolve it peacefully.
4. In case the issue escalates or becomes violent, the State may employ force if necessary.

(iii) India's role in the Indian ocean.

Solution: The Revolution in the Information and Communication Technology Sector has the potential to take the administration to a different height. This is because many countries around the world are turning to e-governance in a big way.

In the last few decades, the administration has become complex and diverse. Expectation from Citizen Governance has also increased by many times. Information and Communication Technology has made it possible to efficiently store information, retrieve it when desired, send.

(4) Right to information is a key to strengthen democracy.

Solution:

- i. Right to information provides access to information about public policies and actions.
- ii. It is the key to strengthening participatory democracy and ushering in a people-centered/government.
- iii. Transparency in government organizations makes them function more objectively, and predictably.
- iv. Also enables citizens to participate in the governance process.

(v) Positive and negative aspects of globalisation.

Solution:

(a) Positive side:

- (1) New job opportunities are becoming available for the youth in our country and abroad.
- (2) More employment is being created in the private sector.
- (3) We are connected to the world in a more efficient way. A better understanding of what is going on in the world and how it will affect us.

(b) Negative side:

- (1) State welfare schemes are likely to be suspended.
- (2) There is also a fear that local industries, especially small ones, will be destroyed by global competition.
- (3) Small and marginal farmers will not be able to compete with big companies in the field of agriculture.

Q. 6 Answer the following questions in 80 to 100 words

(1) Discuss the important concerns associated with environment.

Solution: Some of the important concerns associated with the environment are as follows:

- i. Climate change: Greenhouse gas emissions are the main cause of climate change. This has resulted in extreme weather, events such as droughts, wildfires, heat waves, and flooding.
- ii. Pollution: Air pollution and climate change are closely linked. Greenhouse gas emissions that are warming the planet are also creating smoggy conditions in major cities that endanger public health.
- iii. Deforestation: Forests are important as they absorb CO₂ that would otherwise escape into the atmosphere and worsen global warming. Cutting down trees also threatens animals and humans who rely on healthy forests to sustain themselves.
- iv. Water scarcity: As the population increases and climate change causes more droughts water scarcity is becoming more of an issue. Access to clean, safe drinking water is an important problem faced by the population today.
- v. Loss of Biodiversity: Loss of biodiversity threatens food security and population health. Climate change is also a major contribution to biodiversity.

(2) What is women empowerment? Explain the measures undertaken for it.

Solution:

1. Women empowerment is the process of enabling women to take control of their own lives, make their own decisions and achieve their personal and social rights. This includes empowering women economically, socially and politically to ensure that they have the same opportunities as men in all walks of life.
2. Women empowerment is crucial for achieving gender equality and is essential for sustainable development of any society.
3. It includes various policies including education, economic opportunities, healthcare and legal rights to enable women to live with dignity, freedom and security.
4. Empowering women leads to more equitable development outcomes and promotes family and community well-being.

leads to more equitable development outcomes and promotes family and community well-being.

(3) Explain the features of structural dimension to create national unity.

Solution:

1. It was structurally important to strengthen the nation by creating a democratic system with universal adult sovereignty. Democracy and national integration complement each other. Participation of various groups in governance was made possible by representative democracy.
2. The Constitution adopted a federal system of government with a strong central government. This allowed for a balance between regional needs and national needs. Constitutional amendments in the 1990s (73rd and 74th constitutional amendments) increased the participation of local government bodies from the panchayat system.
3. Language plays an important role in building cultural identity. The Constitution of India recognized regional languages as official languages and India was divided into linguistic provinces.
4. At the administrative level the Indian Administrative Services (IAS, IPS, IFS, IRS etc.) came into existence. This created a central administrative system. Similarly, state administrative services came into existence at the state level.
5. National Integration Council was established in 1969. In this, it was considered to prepare the country

to walk on the path of progress by finding ways to fight narrow tendencies like tribalism, casteism, regionalism, linguisticism. At this time, it was decided to establish a 'National Integration Council' to review the issues related to national integration and make recommendations regarding it.

6. The Constitution of India enshrined some fundamental duties for Indians.

(4) Liberal Democracy is essential.

Solution:

1. Liberal democracy is a form of representative democracy. Liberal democracy is currently one of the dominant political ideologies in the world.
2. It gives importance to individual liberty.
3. Liberal democracy is characterized by the presence of a few important features i.e. Universal suffrage, Free and fair elections, Competitive party politics, Rule of law. Considering all this, it can be said that liberal democracy is essential.

(5) Explain the Fundamental Principles of Indian Foreign Policy.

Solution: There are some fundamental ideas that act as guidelines for foreign policy-makers in India. They are listed below:

- Sovereign Equality of States.
- Respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all states.
- Non-intervention in the internal affairs of any other state.
- Respect for International Law.
- Active participation in International and Regional Organisations.
- Belief in peaceful co-existence and peaceful resolution of international disputes.

Q. 7 Answer the following questions in 150 to 200 words with reference to the given points:

(1) Explain in detail the political issues in the context of globalisation.

(a) Meaning of globalisation.

(b) Importance of democracy.

(c) Position of the state.

(d) Non-state actors.

(e) Human Rights.

Solution:

Introduction: Globalisation increased connectedness among countries and people and events in one part of the world have an impact on another part. There is various way of looking at this change.

Some of the important political issues in the context of globalisation:

- a. Importance of democracy: The East European revolution of 1989 and the disintegration of the Soviet Union is looked at as the fall of communism. It has been argued that the world is moving towards democratic political systems. Terms like 'Participatory State', 'Citizen Centric Governance' and 'Good

'Governance' have become important. Participatory state goes beyond traditional democratic practices wherein the decision is made by the majority. In a participatory state, all segments of society are involved in the making of policy.

b. Position of the state: It is being argued that the State is becoming less and less important. One of the key features of the State is its sovereignty. The concept of sovereignty is linked with the concept of jurisdiction of the state. This is the right of the State to make laws within its territory. It has been argued that the concept of sovereignty is being challenged from both, internal and external factors. External challenges come from the growth of international law, regional economic organisations, globalisation of markets, growing environmental and humanitarian concerns, etc. Internal challenges come from a decline of national consensus, growth of ethnic nationalism, activism of non-state actors, etc.

c. Non-state actors: It is the importance of the civil society that has given importance to non-state actors. Thus, Voluntary Organisations and NonGovernmental Organisations (NGO) have started to become more important. Today international relations is not relations between states, it also includes non-state actors. They play an important role in promoting humanitarian issues. Besides organisations like the Amnesty International, Green Peace Movement, terrorist.

d. Human Rights: In the age of globalisation protection of human rights has become an important agenda. But there is a need to make a distinction between the approaches to human rights of the developed world and the developing world. The Third World holds that economic development has to precede before civil and political rights and that a greater value needs to be placed on community and family than on individual rights. The Indian constitution for example, lays stress on the aspect of social justice and looks at food, shelter, clothing, education and health as primary needs of its citizens. It is further argued that in the desire to achieve distributive justice there is an undue emphasis on liberty rights and not welfare rights of the people. Therefore, countries should have the right to interpret human rights in accordance to their history, culture, polity, and economy.

(2) Explain the impact of globalisation.

(a) Impact on Technology

(b) Social Impact

(c) Cultural Impact

(d) Political Impact

(e) Economic Impact

Solution:

a. Impact on Technology. When discussing globalisation, we say the world has become more interconnected. Technological developments have helped this interconnectivity. For example, online applications can be made for admission to any college or university abroad. Similarly, mobile calls or WhatsApp messages can be made to your friends and family worldwide. The Internet revolution was perhaps the most important revolution in the field of technology. It became possible to connect to anyone in the world instantly. This global communication infrastructure has helped in the spread of ideas, cultures, and information. The internet has provided 'search engines' to find information and enabled 'social networking' activity like 'Twitter', 'Skype', 'Facebook', 'Instagram', 'WhatsApp', etc.

b. Social Impact: Another aspect of this global culture is the rise of individualism and materialism in society. The breakup of the traditional family system was mainly due to urbanization. The concept of individualism has further enhanced this. We are likely to hear the words 'I want my privacy' or 'this is my personal space' right from school-going children to elderly people. Similarly, the tendency to spend beyond one's financial means has increased due to the introduction of credit cards.

c. Cultural Impact: The movement of the people within the country and the world has impacted the culture. We see the emergence of what is called 'global cosmopolitan culture'. There is a great deal of Western domination of this global cosmopolitan culture. Values like modernization, westernization, and secularisation are considered more important than traditional values. This is seen in people's lifestyles. For example, there is an increase in the consumption of fast food like burgers, pizza, vada pao, etc. The method of celebrating traditional festivals like Christmas, Diwali, etc, has become more Westernized. New ideas like celebrating 'Mother's Day', 'Father's Day', 'Friendship Day', etc have come in. There is also an increasing demand for 'Western wear' in the clothes purchased in the market.

d. Political Impact:

1. **Position of the State:** Under globalisation, the state's sovereignty, which is inextricably tied to its jurisdiction, looks to be under attack internally and externally. Internal obstacles include non-state actor activism, the emergence of polarising forces, the erosion of national unity, and so on, while external challenges have the rise of regional economic organisations, rising humanitarian concerns, and so on.
2. **Non-State actors:** Today, non-state actors such as NGOs, pressure organisations, and so on play an important role in international affairs and advancing humanitarian problems.

3. Human Rights: Human rights protection and promotion are critical issues in the age of globalisation. Countries interpret human rights in light of their history, culture, economy, and political system. Many countries, like India, prioritize social justice over the full enjoyment of civil and political rights. It is sometimes asserted that the role and relevance of the state are gradually dwindling, nonetheless, the state remains the pivot in both domestic and foreign realms.

e. Economic Impact

1. One impact is seen in the labour market. There is a migration of skilled and semi-skilled labour from one country to another. For example, these companies recruit both skilled and semi-skilled employees.
2. There is a lot of skilled and semi-skilled Indian labour working in West Asia, Africa, the United States, Europe, etc. The growth of the private sector has also increased employment in the service sector. Various services like catering, goods delivery, transport, etc. are being provided.
3. A second impact is seen in small industries and shops. They have to face competition from the big multinational companies. Shops and small industries that are efficient can compete. For example, we have seen big grocery stores and malls in cities, but despite these, the small shopkeepers, and vegetable and fruit sellers continue to attract clientele. This is because they provide the necessary services to the people.
4. A third impact is on the agricultural sector. Today farmers can sell their goods directly to companies. Multinational companies have introduced new technology and opened markets for Indian agricultural products. For example, India exports marine products, meat, rice, spices, cotton, fresh fruits and vegetables, sugar, coffee, groundnut, cashews, etc.