

ICSE 2025 EXAMINATION
Sample Question Paper – 4
History & Civics

Time: 2 Hours

Max. Marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. Answer to this Paper must be written on the answer sheet provided separately.
2. You will not be allowed to write during first 15 minutes.
3. This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.
4. The time given at the head of this Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.
5. Attempt all questions from Part I (Compulsory).
6. A total of five questions are to be attempted from Part II, two out of three questions from Section A and three out of five questions from Section B.
7. The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [].

PART - I

(Attempt all questions from this part)

QUESTION 1.

Choose the correct answers to the questions from the given options.

(i) On March 1, 2023, the Speaker of the Lok Sabha was elected by a majority of members present and voting. What information about the Speaker's election can we infer from this?

- (a) The Speaker is appointed directly by the President of India.
- (b) The Speaker is elected from the members of the Rajya Sabha.
- (c) The Speaker is elected from the members of the Lok Sabha by a majority vote.
- (d) The Speaker's position is hereditary, passed down through generations

Answer: (c) The Speaker is elected from the members of the Lok Sabha by a majority vote.

(ii) Given below are details of a few candidates eligible for the Lok Sabha elections:

Person	Age (in years)	Description
A	30	Is an Indian citizen and a lawyer in a high court
B	25	Holds a high government post
C	24	Is a graduate and has been involved in public service
D	27	Is an Indian citizen and a business person

Select the person who fulfills the eligibility criteria to become a member of the Lok Sabha.

- (a) A (b) B
(c) C (d) D

Answer: (a) A

(iii) Who has the power to reverse the death sentence given by supreme court



- (a) The Prime Minister (b) The President of India
(c) The Governor (d) The Attorney General

Answer: (b) The President of India

(iv) Residents of Delhi, P and Q, had a dispute over a piece of ancestral land. After several failed attempts to resolve the issue, they approached the Supreme Court directly as the case involved constitutional questions.

The Court used its power to hear the matter as the first instance and gave a judgment.

Which function of the Supreme Court is highlighted in this case?

- (a) Appellate jurisdiction
- (b) Original jurisdiction
- (c) Advisory jurisdiction
- (d) Revisory jurisdiction

Answer: (b) Original jurisdiction

(v) Supreme Court : Constitutional Cases :: District Court : _____

- (a) Criminal Cases
- (b) Advisory Opinions
- (c) Civil Cases
- (d) International Disputes

Answer: (c) Civil Cases

(vi) Identify the powers of the High Court:

P : Can issue writs to enforce Fundamental Rights

Q : Can impeach the President

R : Can review the constitutionality of state laws **S :** Can dissolve Parliament

- (a) P and Q
- (b) P and R
- (c) Q and S
- (d) R and S

Answer: (b) P and R

(vii) Assertion (A) : Dadabhai Naoroji is known for the Drain of Wealth theory, which criticized the economic exploitation of India by the British.

Reason (R) : Dadabhai Naoroji was one of the founders of the Indian National Congress.

- (a) Reason contradicts Assertion.
- (b) Reason is the reason for Assertion.
- (c) Assertion is true but Reason is false.
- (d) Assertion and Reason are independent of each other

Answer: (d) Assertion and Reason are independent of each other

(viii) A law similar to the Vernacular Press Act is passed in Country X. Which of the following groups will be most affected by this law?

- (a) The Military
- (b) The Peasants
- (c) The Press and Journalists
- (d) The Industrial Workers

Answer: (c) The Press and Journalists

(ix) A community is facing heavy taxation imposed by the colonial government. The community leaders, who follow the principles of the Early Nationalists, are deciding on a course of action.

Which of the following actions are they NOT likely to take?

- (a) Organizing a public protest demanding reduction of taxes
- (b) Writing a petition to the government explaining the hardships caused by the taxes
- (c) Organizing a boycott of British goods in protest
- (d) Starting an armed rebellion against the government

Answer: (d) Starting an armed rebellion against the government

(x) United Nations Day is observed every year to celebrate the establishment of the United Nations. When is United Nations Day celebrated?



- (a) October 24
- (b) November 1
- (c) December 10
- (d) September 21

Answer: (a) October 24

(xi) Identify the ODD ONE out of the following contributions of Subhas Chandra Bose:

- (a) Formation of the Forward Bloc
- (b) Leading the Non-Cooperation Movement
- (c) Organizing the Indian National Army (INA)
- (d) Establishing the Provisional Government of Free India

Answer: (b) Leading the Non-Cooperation Movement

(xii) The residents of City X are discussing a peaceful way to demand their rights. Being followers of the Cabinet Mission Plan, which of the following methods are they MOST LIKELY to approve?

- (a) Start a violent revolution

- (b) Propose a federal structure with provincial autonomy
- (c) Demand the complete partition of their city
- (d) Advocate for foreign rule to continue

Answer: (b) Propose a federal structure with provincial autonomy

(xiii) Read the description and identify the person –

He became the leader of the National Socialist German Workers' Party (Nazi Party) and was responsible for initiating World War II.

- (a) Benito Mussolini
- (b) Adolf Hitler
- (c) Joseph Stalin
- (d) Winston Churchill

Answer: (b) Adolf Hitler

(xiv) The above image depicts the outlawed practice of Sati, where a widow would immolate herself on her husband's funeral pyre. When was this practice made illegal in India?



- (a) 1829
- (b) 1830
- (c) 1857
- (d) 1894

Answer: (a) 1829

(xv) Identify the cities most associated with decisions of the International Court of Justice.

- (a) The Hague, New York
- (b) Geneva, Paris
- (c) Washington, Moscow
- (d) London, Tokyo

Answer: (a) The Hague, New York

(xvi) Which of the following describes a key objective of the United Nations formed after World War II?

- (a) To maintain international peace and security.
- (b) To promote the rise of fascism in Europe.
- (c) To form military alliances between all member nations.
- (d) To promote colonial expansion by European nations.

Answer: (a) To maintain international peace and security.

QUESTION 2.

Read the extract below and answer the questions that follow:

(i) Who is the Presiding Officer of the Rajya Sabha? What is their role?

Answer: The Presiding Officer of the Rajya Sabha (Council of States) in India is the Vice President of India, who serves as the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha. In the absence of the Vice President, the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha performs the duties of the presiding officer.

(ii) Which category of power is being exercised by the Rajya Sabha in the following situations:

- (a) Passing a resolution to create new All India Services
- (b) Reviewing a bill passed by the Lok Sabha

Answer: (a) The Rajya Sabha exercises its exclusive power to create new All India Services by passing a resolution declaring it necessary or expedient in the national interest.

(b) The Rajya Sabha exercises its power of reviewing bills passed by the Lok Sabha, acting as a chamber of review and reflection. This power helps ensure balanced legislation and prevents hasty decision-making.

(iii) Imagine you were a member of the Rajya Sabha. Mention any two ways you could influence legislation.

Answer: By debating and amending bills passed by the Lok Sabha. By moving motions or resolutions to discuss issues of national importance.

(iv) Give two reasons why the Rajya Sabha is considered a permanent house.

Answer: The Rajya Sabha is considered a permanent house because it is not subject to dissolution, unlike the Lok Sabha. Its members have staggered terms, with one-third retiring every two years, ensuring continuity. This structure helps maintain stability and avoids complete turnover, preserving its functions and legislative role.

(v) Mention any two exclusive powers of the Rajya Sabha.

Answer: Two exclusive powers of the Rajya Sabha are:

1. Power to introduce money bills: While the Lok Sabha has the primary authority, the Rajya Sabha can suggest amendments to money bills, though the Lok Sabha has the final say.
2. Power to approve or disapprove ordinances: The Rajya Sabha can either approve or disapprove ordinances promulgated by the President.

(vi) Name any two categories of members in the Rajya Sabha.

Answer: Two categories of members in the Rajya Sabha are:

1. Elected Members: These members are elected by the members of the State Legislative Assemblies and members of the Legislative Assemblies of the Union Territories through a single transferable vote system.
2. Nominated Members: These members are nominated by the President of India. They are typically individuals with distinguished contributions in fields like literature, science, art, and social service.

(vii) Mention the maximum number of members in the Rajya Sabha.

Answer: The maximum number of members in the Rajya Sabha, the upper house of India's Parliament, is 250.

This includes:

- 238 members who are elected by the members of State Legislative Assemblies and Union Territories' representatives, based on proportional representation.
- 12 members who are nominated by the President of India for their expertise in fields such as literature, science, art, and social services.

PART – II

SECTION – A

(Attempt any three questions from this section)

3. The growth of nationalism in India was fueled by various factors, including economic exploitation and repressive colonial policies. The rise of leaders like Raja Rammohan Roy played a crucial role in this movement. With reference to this, answer the following questions:

(i) What were the major contributions of Raja Rammohan Roy in the socio-religious reform movements? Mention any three.

Answer: Raja Rammohan Roy made significant contributions to socio-religious reform in India:

1. Abolition of Sati: He campaigned against the practice of Sati (the immolation of widows) and played a key role in its legal abolition in 1829.
2. Promotion of Education: He advocated for modern education, especially for women, and helped establish schools that focused on science and literature.
3. Reform of Religious Practices: Roy challenged rigid Hindu orthodoxy and founded the Brahmo Samaj, promoting monotheism and rationalism over idol worship and superstitions.

(ii) How did the economic exploitation by the British contribute to the rise of nationalism in India?

Answer: Economic exploitation by the British played a significant role in fostering Indian nationalism. The British imposed heavy taxes on Indian farmers and industries, draining India's wealth and resources. This led to widespread poverty, economic stagnation, and the destruction of local industries, especially handicrafts. The exploitation of Indian labor and the forced export of raw materials while India remained economically backward sparked resentment. The increasing awareness of this exploitation, coupled with the rise of educated Indian leaders, helped galvanize the nationalist movement.

(iii) The foundation of the Indian National Congress marked the formal beginning of the nationalist movement. Analyse this statement by mentioning any four immediate objectives of the Congress.

Answer: The foundation of the Indian National Congress (INC) in 1885 marked a significant milestone in the Indian nationalist movement. Its immediate objectives included:

1. Promoting political association: Creating a platform for political dialogue among Indians.
2. Advocating for civil rights: Demanding greater representation and rights for Indians under British rule.
3. Reforms in government: Calling for constitutional reforms and greater participation in governance.

4. Addressing economic exploitation: Highlighting the negative impact of British economic policies on India.

4. The Indian National Army (INA) was formed to liberate India from British rule.

With reference to the INA, answer the following:

(i) Name the leader of the Indian National Army. Mention any two objectives of the INA.

Answer: (i) The leader of the Indian National Army (INA) was Subhas Chandra Bose.

Two objectives of the INA were:

1. To secure India's independence from British rule through armed struggle.
2. To unite Indians from all regions, communities, and religions in the fight for freedom, promoting nationalism and patriotism among the masses.

(ii) The INA inspired many Indians to join the freedom struggle. Mention any three points to analyze the role of the INA in the Indian freedom movement.

Answer: The Indian National Army (INA) played a significant role in inspiring Indians to join the freedom struggle:

1. Military Resistance: The INA, under Subhas Chandra Bose, fought alongside the Japanese against British forces, proving that armed resistance could challenge colonial rule.
2. Nationalism and Unity: The INA fostered a sense of nationalism and unity among Indians, regardless of their backgrounds, by promoting the idea of a free India.
3. Symbol of Defiance: The INA's courage and sacrifices motivated many to support the independence movement, demonstrating that India could fight for its freedom on the global stage.

(iii) The British government reacted strongly to the INA's activities. Mention any four steps taken by the British to suppress the INA.

Answer: The British government took several steps to suppress the Indian National Army (INA):

1. Trials of INA Officers: British authorities arrested INA leaders and tried them for treason and war crimes, notably the "Red Fort Trials."

2. Execution: Some INA soldiers were executed or sentenced to imprisonment.
3. Propaganda: The British launched a media campaign to discredit the INA and portray it as a threat.
4. Military Crackdown: British forces cracked down on any remaining INA supporters and arrested suspected collaborators.

5. Read the excerpt given below and answer the questions that follow.

The Swadeshi Movement has been the core of the Independence movement as well and has contributed a lot to the development of Indian nationalism. This Swadeshi Movement has got much wider support from the masses since 1906 against the erstwhile Partition of Bengal and ultimately turned into a full-blown independence movement in the early 20th century till we attained Independence.

(i) Name the major cause of this movement. Give any two reasons for partition of Bengal.

Answer: The major cause of the Swadeshi Movement was the Partition of Bengal in 1905 by the British colonial rulers. The partition was seen as a direct attempt to divide and rule by creating divisions along religious lines, which would weaken the nationalist movement.

Two reasons for the partition of Bengal are:

1. Divide and Rule Policy: The British government wanted to divide Bengal into two regions, East Bengal and West Bengal, to create a rift between the Hindu and Muslim communities. This was intended to weaken the growing nationalist sentiment and reduce the influence of the Bengali elite, which was increasingly active in the freedom struggle.
2. Administrative Convenience: The British cited administrative convenience due to the large population of Bengal, which was seen as difficult to govern as a single entity. However, this was largely seen as a pretext to achieve their political goals of sowing division and weakening nationalist unity.

(ii) Discuss three significant programmes of the Swadeshi Movement, focusing on how they promoted selfreliance, boycotted foreign goods, and supported local industries. Briefly explain their impact on the freedom struggle.

Answer: Three significant programmes of the Swadeshi Movement were:

1. **Boycott of Foreign Goods:** The movement encouraged people to boycott British goods, which led to a rise in the consumption of indigenous products. This directly challenged British economic dominance in India.
2. **Promotion of Swadeshi Goods:** People were urged to use locally made goods, especially handloom products like khadi. This bolstered Indian industries and helped foster self-reliance.
3. **Establishment of Local Industries:** Several local industries, like cotton mills and steel factories, were set up to reduce dependency on foreign imports, promoting economic self-sufficiency.

(iii) Mention any four impacts of Swadeshi Movement.

Answer: The Swadeshi Movement had several significant impacts:

- **Economic Development:** It promoted the growth of indigenous industries, reducing reliance on British goods.
- **National Consciousness:** It fostered a sense of national unity and pride, strengthening the Indian identity.
- **Political Awakening:** It ignited a spirit of political resistance, leading to increased participation in the freedom struggle.
- **Social Reform:** It encouraged social reforms, such as the upliftment of women and the eradication of caste discrimination.

6. Look the picture carefully and answer the following questions :



(i) Identify the event in the above picture. Name the important people seen in the given picture. Mention the year when the event took place.

Answer: (i) The event shown in the picture is the event organized for the transfer of power ceremony. This is the swearing ceremony when the first Prime Minister of India was taking oath. The important people in the picture are Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Lord Mountbatten and Lady Mountbatten. The event took place in the year 1947 on 15th August when India attained independence from British rule.

(ii) List the main clauses of the Indian Independence Act, highlighting the key provisions related to the partition of India and the transfer of power.

Answer: The main clauses of the Indian Independence Act, 1947 were as follows
Partition and Creation of Two Dominions: India was divided into two independent dominions, India and Pakistan, from August 15, 1947.

Main Clauses of the Indian Independence Act (1947)

The Indian Independence Act, passed by the British Parliament, was the legal framework for India's partition and the transfer of power. Here are the key provisions:

(i) **Partition of India:** The Act divided British India into two independent dominions: India (predominantly Hindu) and Pakistan (predominantly Muslim).

(ii) **Date of Independence:** Both dominions were granted independence on August 15, 1947.

(iii) **Transfer of Power:** The Act outlined the process for the transfer of power from British rule to the newly formed governments of India and Pakistan.

(iv) **Constitutional Framework:** It provided for the drafting of constitutions for both India and Pakistan.

(v) **Division of Assets and Liabilities:** The Act addressed the division of assets and liabilities between the two dominions.

(iii) Explain the consequences of the Mountbatten Plan on India, focusing on its impact on the partition, political landscape, and the relations between India and Pakistan.

Answer: The Mountbatten Plan of 1947 accelerated India's partition, dividing it into India and Pakistan based on religious lines. This led to massive violence and displacement, with millions fleeing their homes. The plan also established the Dominion of India and Pakistan, granting them independence from British rule.

Politically, the partition created deep divisions between the two nations, with ongoing disputes over Kashmir and other issues. The relationship between India

and Pakistan has been characterized by hostility, with several wars fought between them. The Mountbatten Plan thus had far-reaching consequences for the Indian subcontinent, shaping its political landscape and the complex relationship between its two newly formed nations.

7. Nationalism is an idea and movement that holds that the nation should be congruent with the state. In the context of nationalism, explain each of the following.

(i) Discuss the impacts of socio-religious reform movement on nationalism.

Answer: The socio-religious reform movements of the 19th century played a crucial role in shaping national consciousness and laying the foundation for modern Indian nationalism. They addressed social evils like sati, child marriage, caste discrimination, and the plight of widows, promoting a sense of moral and social awakening. Reformers like Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, and Jyoti Rao Phule advocated for women's rights, caste equality, and interfaith harmony, fostering social awareness, unity, and inspiring the nationalist movement. These movements promoted education and rational thinking, challenging orthodoxy and traditional social structures, leading to a sense of shared identity and common purpose among Indians.

(ii) Explain the role of press during this period.

Answer: During the period of nationalism, the press played a crucial role in shaping public opinion and spreading nationalist ideas. Newspapers, pamphlets, and books became vital tools for disseminating ideas of national unity, independence, and identity. The press helped forge a collective consciousness by educating the public about national issues, promoting a shared language and culture, and rallying people for political causes. It also acted as a platform for political debate and resistance against colonial or imperial powers, fostering a sense of solidarity and national pride.

(iii) Discuss the reaction of Britishers with the formation of Indian National Congress. State the appropriate reason for their change of attitude later.

Answer: The British initially viewed the formation of the Indian National Congress (INC) in 1885 with suspicion, considering it a harmless gathering of educated elites. However, as the INC began to demand greater self-rule and political rights for Indians, the British attitude shifted to a more repressive stance. By the early 20th century, British authorities became wary of the INC's growing influence and increasing calls for autonomy, fearing it could challenge British control over India.

The shift in attitude was due to the rise of more assertive leaders and the growing demands for political and social reform.

PART – II

SECTION – B

(Attempt any two questions from this section)

8. With reference to the Union Parliament, answer the following questions.

(i) State three conditions on which a person cannot qualify to become a member of Parliament.

Answer: A person cannot qualify to become a member of Parliament under the following conditions:

1. If they are not a citizen of India.
2. If they are of unsound mind, as declared by a court.
3. If they are declared bankrupt or convicted of certain criminal offenses, such as corruption or election-related crimes.

(ii) The two Houses of the Parliament enjoy co-equal powers in many spheres. Explain it by giving any three examples.

Answer: The two Houses of the Union Parliament, the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, enjoy co-equal powers in several spheres. Three examples include:

1. Passing Ordinary Legislation: Both Houses must agree for a bill to become law.
2. Impeachment of the President: Both Houses are involved in the process.
3. Money Bills: Rajya Sabha can suggest amendments, but the Lok Sabha has the final say.

(iii) Explain any four powers of Rajya Sabha in India's federal set up.

Answer: Here are four powers of Rajya Sabha in India's federal set-up:

1. Legislative Powers: While the Lok Sabha is the primary legislative body, the Rajya Sabha has the power to introduce and pass bills, except for money bills. It can also amend bills passed by the Lok Sabha.

2. **Creation of All-India Services:** The Rajya Sabha can pass resolutions to create new All-India Services, such as the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) or the Indian Police Service (IPS).
3. **Legislation on State List Subjects:** Under Article 249, the Rajya Sabha can pass a resolution by a two-thirds majority to enable Parliament to legislate on matters in the State List for a specific period.
4. **Election of the Vice President:** The Rajya Sabha elects the Vice President of India, who also serves as the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.

9. The Indian Union Executive consists of the President, the Vice-President and the Council of Ministers headed by the Prime Minister. In this context, answer the following questions :

(i) 'The President holds a position of authority and dignity'. In this context, how does he exercise his own individual judgement?

Answer: The President of India exercises his individual judgment primarily in situations where the advice of the Council of Ministers is not binding. For instance, the President may act independently in situations such as the appointment of the Prime Minister when no clear majority exists in the Lok Sabha or in cases of the dismissal of the Council of Ministers. The President also has discretion in granting pardons or deciding on the dissolution of the Lok Sabha.

(ii) Before holding the office, what does the Vice-President swear in his oath?

Answer: Before holding office, the Vice-President of India takes an oath in which they swear to faithfully discharge their duties. The oath includes a pledge to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution and the law of India. The Vice-President also vows to uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India, perform their duties with integrity, and act in accordance with the Constitution. The oath is administered by the President of India.

(iii) Mention any four points of Prime Minister ship in relation with the President.

Answer: The Prime Minister holds a central role in the Indian Union Executive, especially in relation to the President. Here are four key points of Prime Minister ship in relation to the President:

1. **Adviser to the President:** The Prime Minister advises the President on all matters of governance.

2. **Leader of the Council of Ministers:** The Prime Minister leads and coordinates the actions of the Cabinet.
3. **Decision-Making:** The President acts on the advice of the Prime Minister in most matters.
4. **Representation:** The Prime Minister represents the Cabinet in discussions with the President.

10. The Supreme Court enjoys both advisory and appellate jurisdictions, which play a critical role in addressing complex legal and constitutional issues in India.

With reference to the powers and jurisdictions of the Supreme Court, answer the following questions:

(i) What is meant by the advisory jurisdiction of the Supreme Court? Mention any two situations where the Supreme Court can exercise its appellate jurisdiction.

Answer: The advisory jurisdiction of the Supreme Court refers to its power to give legal advice to the President of India on any matter of public or constitutional importance, as per Article 143 of the Constitution. This advice is not binding.

The Supreme Court exercises its appellate jurisdiction in:

1. Appeals from the High Courts in civil, criminal, or constitutional matters.
2. Appeals involving substantial questions of law regarding the interpretation of the Constitution.

(ii) The appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court is an important aspect of its functioning. Justify this statement with any three points.

Answer: The appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court is crucial for several reasons:

1. **Ensures Uniformity:** It ensures uniform interpretation of the law across the country by resolving conflicts between lower courts and High Courts.
2. **Protection of Fundamental Rights:** It provides a mechanism for safeguarding citizens' fundamental rights by hearing appeals in cases of rights violations.
3. **Final Authority:** As the highest judicial authority, it serves as the final appellate body, ensuring justice and resolving legal disputes of national importance.

(iii) Explain the following terms:

(a) Writs issued by the Supreme Court

(b) Revisory Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court

Answer: (a) Writs issued by the Supreme Court: The Supreme Court of India has the power to issue writs under Article 32 of the Constitution to protect fundamental rights. These writs include *Habeas Corpus* (to release a person unlawfully detained), *Mandamus* (to command a public authority to perform a duty), *Prohibition* (to stop a lower court from exceeding jurisdiction), *Certiorari* (to quash an order of a lower court), and *Quo Warranto* (to challenge the authority of a person holding an office). These writs help safeguard constitutional rights and ensure the rule of law.

(b) Revisory Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court: The Supreme Court's revisory jurisdiction allows it to review and correct decisions made by lower courts, especially if there's an error of law or fact. Under Article 137 of the Constitution, the Court can review its own judgments or orders. This power ensures that justice is properly administered and mistakes can be rectified, contributing to consistency in legal decisions. However, the Court generally exercises this jurisdiction in exceptional circumstances, such as when there is a miscarriage of justice.