

SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER - 1
SUBJECT- Social Science (087)
CLASS IX (2023-24)

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. Question paper comprises Six Sections – A, B, C, D, E and F. There are 37 questions in the question paper. All questions are compulsory.
2. Section A – From question 1 to 20 are MCQs of 1 mark each.
3. Section B – Question no. 21 to 24 are Very Short Answer Type Questions, carrying 2 marks each. Answer to each question should not exceed 40 words.
4. Section C contains Q.25 to Q.29 are Short Answer Type Questions, carrying 3 marks each. Answer to each question should not exceed 60 words.
5. Section D – Question no. 30 to 33 are long answer type questions, carrying 5 marks each. Answer to each question should not exceed 120 words.
6. Section-E - Questions no from 34 to 36 are case based questions with three sub questions and are of 4 marks each.
7. Section F – Question no. 37 is map based, carrying 5 marks with two parts, 37a from History (2 marks) and 37b from Geography (3 marks).
8. There is no overall choice in the question paper. However, an internal choice has been provided in few questions. Only one of the choices in such questions have to be attempted.
9. In addition to this, separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.
10. Note: CBQ stands for “Competency Based Question”. 50% weightage allocated for competency-based questions.

Section A

1. What was Directory? [1]
 - a) Executive committee of five members
 - b) Legislative committee of five members
 - c) Political committee of five members
 - d) Judicial committee of five members

2. In which sector new services like biotechnology and information technology are now appearing? [1]
 - a) Tertiary
 - b) Manufacturing
 - c) Secondary
 - d) Primary

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.

8. **Read the information given below and select the correct option**

[1]

On 3rd March 1933, the famous Enabling Act was passed. It gave Hitler all powers to sideline Parliament and rule by decree. All political parties and trade unions were banned except for the Nazi Party and its affiliates. The state established complete control over the economy, media, army and judiciary. With the reference to the given information, choose why was the famous Enabling Act passed?

a) To establish democracy in Germany

b) To establish military rule in Germany

c) To establish fire decree in Germany

d) To establish a dictatorship in Germany

9. Which winds prevail in India during cold weather season?

[1]

a) North – East trade winds

b) Permanent winds

c) North – West trade winds

d) North – South trade winds

10. Read the information given below and select the correct option.

[1]

Most of men and women in the eighteenth century could not read or write. So, images and symbols were frequently used instead of printed words to communicate important ideas. Which of the following was a symbol of royal power?

a) The broken chain

b) Sceptre

c) The winged woman

d) Blue-white-red

11. Which of the following is true with reference to ‘Right to Freedom of Religion’ ?

[1]

A. Every person has a right to profess and propagate the religion he/she believes in.

B. All are free to sacrifice animals as offerings to supernatural forces or gods.

a) Both A and B are true

b) A is true but B is false

c) A is false but B is true

d) Both A and B are false

12. Which class majority have meager education and low skill formation?

[1]

a) Men

b) Elderly people

c) Girl child

d) Women

13. Arrange the following statements in their correct order to understand western disturbances. [1]
- i. Unseasonal rain damages crops
ii. The dust Storms create disturbance in the present winter weather of North India.
iii. Jet streams formed over West Asia blow over east and effects West Asian countries.
iv. Very high mountainous regions receive Some Rain which is useful to the Rabi crops.
- a) i, ii, iv, iii
b) iii, iv, i, ii
c) iii, ii, iv, i
d) iv, iii, ii, i
14. Workers in England and Germany began forming associations to fight for better living and working conditions. They set up funds to help members in times of distress and demanded a reduction of working hours and the right to vote. In Germany, these associations worked closely with the **SPD** and helped it win parliamentary seats. What do you mean by "SPD"? [1]
- a) Social Democratic Plan
b) Social Democratic Party
c) Social Dictator Party
d) Socialist Democracy Party
15. Which of the following is not playing a role in food security? [1]
- a) Cooperatives
b) FCI
c) PDS
d) RBI
16. Identify the type of unemployment with the help of given clues: [1]
- In this kind of unemployment, people appear to be employed. This usually happens among family members engaged in agricultural activity. The work requires the service of five people but engages eight people. Three people are extra. The contribution made by the three extra people does not add to the contribution made by the five people. If three people are removed the productivity of the field will not decline.
- a) Agricultural unemployment
b) Disguised unemployment
c) Seasonal unemployment
d) Rural unemployment
17. Which of the following yojna provide additional central assistance to states for basic services such as primary education, health, etc.? [1]
- a) PMGY
b) AAY

c) SGSY

d) NREGA

18. The advantage of opening of the Suez canal to India [1]

a) Increase in political crisis

b) Change in culture

c) Influence the people

d) India's distance from Europe has been reduced

19. Which programme of the government provides compensation to unemployed if he fails to get 100 days of employment for a year? [1]

a) SGSY

b) PMGY

c) NREGA

d) NGWP

20. The year 1904 was a particularly bad one for Russian workers. Prices of essential goods rose so quickly that **real wages** declined by 20 percent. The membership of workers' associations rose dramatically. When four members of the Assembly of Russian Workers, which had been formed in 1904, were dismissed at the Putilov Iron Works, there was a call for industrial action. What do you mean by **real wages**? [1]

a) Reflects the qualities of goods which the wages will actually buy

b) Reflects the quantities of goods which the wages will actually buy

c) None of these

d) Reflects the quantities of goods which the wages will actually sell

Section B

21. Answer the following questions [2]

i) Name the group of islands lying in the Arabian sea and south-east of India?

ii) Name the countries which are larger than India. Also mention the island countries which are our southern neighbors.

22. What do you know about AAY [2]

OR

Give five indicators of poverty.

23. Which states report a significant decline in poverty? [2]

24. What is birth rate and death rate? [2]

Section C

25. Differentiate between Active and Passive Citizens. [3]

26. Explain the role played by Dr B. R. Ambedkar in the making of the Indian Constitution. [3]

OR

Why is Constitution considered the Supreme law?

27. Discuss the emergency power of the President of India. [3]

28. What are the examples of elected governments not protecting or even attacking the rights of their own citizens? Why do they do that? [3]

29. Explain the term 'unemployment' in the context of India. [3]

Section D

30. Describe the economic condition of Russia before 1905. [5]

OR

Explain any five effects of the Russian Revolution of 1917 over Russia.

31. Describe the role of rivers in the economic development. [5]

OR

Write down the features of Peninsular Rivers?

32. Write notes on: [5]
- a. Minimum support price
 - b. Buffer stock
 - c. Issue price
 - d. Fair price shops

OR

What is the 'rationing system'?

33. What powers are exercised by the Election Commission of India? [5]

OR

What is a Universal Adult Franchise? Why has it been adopted in India?

Section E

34. **Read the text carefully and answer the questions:** [4]

‘Good German’ children were subjected to a process of Nazi schooling, a prolonged period of ideological training. School textbooks were rewritten. Racial science was introduced to justify Nazi ideas of race. Stereotypes about Jews were popularised even through maths classes. Children were taught to be loyal and submissive, hate Jews, and worship Hitler. Even the function of sports was to nurture a spirit of violence and aggression among children. Hitler believed that boxing could make children iron-hearted, strong and masculine.

- (i) Why did Hitler focus on controlling the children and youth?
- (ii) Name the organizations formed to infuse **the spirit of National Socialism** among the German children and youth.
- (iii) What were the peculiar features of the Nazi worldview?

35. **Read the text carefully and answer the questions:** [4]

The Indian desert lies towards the western margins of the Aravali Hills. It is an undulating sandy plain covered with sand dunes. This region receives very low rainfall below 150 mm per year. It has arid climate with low vegetation cover. Streams appear during the rainy season. Soon after they disappear into the sand as they do not have enough water to reach the sea. Luni is the only large river in this region. Barchans cover larger areas but longitudinal dunes become more prominent near the Indo-Pakistan boundary.

- (i) Let's say you've recently traveled through the Indian desert. Give a non-Indian person a description of the desert. (Any two points)
- (ii) Define the term Barchans.
- (iii) Rina went on a vacation to a location where she went on a camel safari and camped out at night. She enjoyed the puppet show as well and saw many barchans. What place did Rina go to?

36. **Read the text carefully and answer the questions:** [4]

The most common form that democracy takes in our times is that of representative democracy. In the countries we call democracy, all the people do not rule. A majority is allowed to take decisions on behalf of all the people. Even the majority does not rule directly. The majority of people rule through their elected representatives. This becomes necessary because:

- a. Modern democracies involve such a large number of people that it is physically impossible for them to sit together and take a collective decision.
- b. Even if they could, the citizen does not have the time, the desire or the skills to take part in all the decisions.

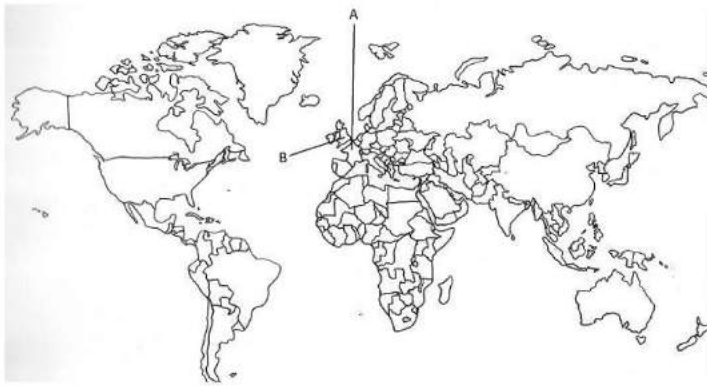
A democratic decision involves consultation with and consent of all those who are affected by that decision. Those who are not powerful have the same say in taking

the decision as those who are powerful. This can apply to a government or a family or any other organisation. Thus democracy is also a principle that can be applied to any sphere of life. It enables us to judge an existing democracy and identify its weaknesses. It helps us to distinguish between a minimal democracy and a good democracy. The most common form of democracy in today's world is ruled through people's elected representatives. But if the community is small, there can be other ways of making democratic decisions. All people can sit together and take decisions directly. This is how Gram Sabha should work in a village. No country is a perfect democracy. Every democracy has to try to realise the ideals of democratic decision-making. This cannot be achieved once and for all. This requires a constant effort to save and strengthen democratic forms of decision-making. What we do as citizens can make a difference to making our country more or less democratic. This is the strength and the weakness of democracy: the fate of the country depends not just on what the rulers do, but mainly on what we, as citizens, do. This is what distinguished democracy from other governments. Other forms of government like monarchy, dictatorship or one-party rule do not require all citizens to take part in politics. In fact most non-democratic governments would like citizens not to take part in politics. But democracy depends on active political participation by all the citizens. That is why a study of democracy must focus on democratic politics.

- (i) What is the basic sense behind a method of taking decisions in democracy?
- (ii) Why modern democracies are representative democracies?
- (iii) In the Indian political system, give an example of direct democracy.

Section F

37. i. Two places A and B have been marked on the given outline map of the world. [5]
Identify them and write their correct names on the lines drawn near them
A. North-Eastern region not affected by the Great Fear.
B. An axis power
- ii. On the outline map of India locate and label **ANY THREE** of the following with suitable Symbols.
- a. The Vindhya - Mountain Range
 - b. Kanha - National Park
 - c. Dachigam - Wildlife Sanctuaries
 - d. The Krishna - The Peninsular rivers



Answers

Section A

1. **(a)** Executive committee of five members
Explanation: Two elected legislative councils would appoint an executive committee of five members, called Directory which would finally run the government.
2. **(a)** Tertiary
Explanation: In case of the tertiary sector, various new services are now appearing like biotechnology, information technology and so on.
3.
(d) 37%
Explanation: 37%
4. **(a)** Both A and B are true
Explanation: The judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts are appointed by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister and in consultation with the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.
5.
(c)
Educated unemployment
Explanation: Urban areas have mostly educated unemployment
6.
(d) Were Muslim reformers in Russia
Explanation: Jadidists were the Muslim reformers within the Russian empire.
7. **(a)** Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Explanation: The plains have vast stretches of plain land. In contrast, the hilly region has a rugged terrain with mountains and valleys are common features.
8.
(d) To establish a dictatorship in Germany
Explanation: The Enabling Act passed on 3 March 1933, established a dictatorship in Germany. It gave Hitler all powers to rule by decree and without the consent of the Parliament.
9. **(a)** North – East trade winds
Explanation: During Winters the North-East trade winds prevail over the country. They blow from land to sea and hence, for the most part of the country, it is a dry season.
10.
(b) Sceptre
Explanation: Sceptre
11.
(b) A is true but B is false
Explanation: A.Right to freedom includes right to freedom of religion as well.Every person has a right to

profess, practice and propagate the religion he or she believes in.

B. Freedom to practice religion does not mean that a person can do whatever he wants in the name of religion. For example, one cannot sacrifice animals or human beings as offerings to supernatural forces or gods.

Hence A is true but B is false

12.

(d) Women

Explanation: A majority of women have meagre education and low skill formation.

13.

(c) iii, ii, iv, i

Explanation: iii. Jet streams formed over West Asia blow over east and effects West Asian countries.

ii. The dust storms create disturbance in the present winter weather of North India.

iv. Very high mountainous regions receive some rain which is useful to the Rabi crops.

i. Unseasonal rain damages crops.

14.

(b) Social Democratic Party

Explanation: In Germany, these associations worked closely with the Social Democratic Party (SPD) and helped it win parliamentary seats. By 1905, socialists and trade unionists formed a Labour Party in Britain and a Socialist Party in France.

However, till 1914, socialists never succeeded in forming a government in Europe.

15.

(d) RBI

Explanation: RBI is not playing any role in food security.

16.

(b) Disguised unemployment

Explanation: Disguised unemployment is also more prevalent in rural areas. In this form of unemployment, the number of people actually employed for any production is more than the actual requirement. For instance: A family has 8 working members. All of them are working on their farm. The size of the farm makes it possible to be efficiently managed by 5 persons only. The extra three persons are not contributing to any growth in productivity. They are working because they have no other gainful employment.

17. **(a) PMGY**

Explanation: PMGY (Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yozana) provide additional central assistance to states for basic services such as primary education, health, etc.

18.

(d) India's distance from Europe has been reduced

Explanation: India's distance from Europe has been reduced

19.

(c) NREGA

Explanation: NREGA programme of the government provides compensation to unemployed if he fails to get 100 days of employment for a year.

20.

(b) Reflects the quantities of goods which the wages will actually buy

Explanation: In 1904, the prices of essential goods rose so quickly that real wages declined by 20%. Also, the working conditions were very poor. Thus, workers demanded a reduction in working hours, an increase in wages, and improvement in the working conditions. Real wage reflects the quantities of goods that the wages will actually buy.

Section B

21. (i) 1.Lakshadweep, 2.Andaman and Nicobar group of islands.

(ii) 1.Russia, Canada, China, USA, Brazil and Australia. 2.Maldives, Sri Lanka.

22. A. It stands for Antyodaya Anna Yozana.

B. It was launched in December 2000.

C. Under the scheme one crore of the poorest among the BPL families covered under the targeted public distribution system were identified.

D. Poor families were identified and rice and wheat is given to them at very less rates.

OR

(i) Landlessness

(ii) Unemployment

(iii) Illiteracy

(iv) Child labour

(iv) Malnutrition

23. A. States like Punjab and Haryana have traditionally succeeded in reducing poverty with the help of high agricultural growth rates.

B. In comparison there has been a significant decline in poverty in Kerala, Jammu and Kashmir, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and west Bengal.

C. Recent estimate show while the all India HCR was 21.9% in 2011-12 states like Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Odisha had above all India poverty level.

24. A. Birth rate is a number of live births for every 1000 persons in a year. The high birth rate is responsible for increase in population.

B. Death rate is a number of deaths per thousand persons in a year. The main cause of the rate of growth of the Indian population has been the rapid decline in death rates. The death rate can be controlled by providing good medical facilities.

Section C

25. (i) Active Citizens: Only men above 25 years of age who paid taxes equal to at least 3 days of a labourer's wage were given the status of active citizens. Only they had the right to vote.

(ii) Passive Citizens: Whereas, the remaining men as well as all the women of France who were not entitled to vote were called Passive Citizens.

26. A. Upon India's independence on 15 August 1947, the new Congress-led government invited Ambedkar to serve as the nation's first Law Minister, which he accepted.

B. On 29 August, he was appointed Chairman of the Constitution Drafting Committee, and was appointed by the Assembly to write India's new Constitution. Several rounds of

thorough discussion took place on the Draft Constitution, clause by clause.

C Dr. B. R. Ambedkar was a social revolutionary thinker and agitator against caste divisions and caste based inequalities.

D. He played a very important role in the making of the constitution but had a different understanding of how inequalities could be removed.

E. He often bitterly criticized Mahatma Gandhi and his vision.

OR

The Constitution is the supreme law that determines the relationship among people living in a territory (called citizens) and also the relationship between the people and government.

A constitution does many things:

- First, it generates a degree of trust and coordination that is necessary for different kind of people to live together;
- Second, it specifies how the government will be constituted, who will have power to take which decisions;
- Third, it lays down limits on the powers of the government and tells us what the rights of the citizens are; and
- Fourth, it expresses the aspirations of the people about creating a good society.

27. The President of India can declare three types of emergencies: national, state and financial.

- i. The national emergency is caused by war, external aggression or armed rebellion in the whole of India or a part of its territory. In such an emergency, the Fundamental Rights of Indian citizens can be suspended.
- ii. State emergency is declared by the President due to the breakdown of constitutional machinery in a state.
- iii. When the financial stability or credibility of India is threatened, then the President of India may issue a proclamation of Financial emergency.

28. **Examples of elected governments not protecting or even attacking the rights of their own citizens are:**

- i. Ethnic massacre of Albanians in Kosovo.
- ii. A policy of apartheid in South Africa.
- iii. Rule of Augusto Pinochet in Chile.
- iv. Rule of Robert Mugabe in Zimbabwe.

These rulers wanted to hold power and keep the people under their control so that they would not oppose them and they could rule without problems.

29. **A. Unemployment:**

Unemployment exists when people who are willing to work at the going wages cannot find jobs.

B. It can be explained as below:

The workforce population includes people from 15 to 59 years. Therefore if people below 15 years and above 59 years do not have a job, they cannot be called unemployed.

In India, unemployment can be categorised as in rural and urban areas. Further, rural

unemployment includes seasonal and disguised unemployment and urban unemployment includes educated unemployment.

Section D

30. A. The beginning of the twentieth century, the vast majority of Russia's people was agriculturist. 85% of the Russian empire's population earned their living from agriculture.
B. Industries were found in pockets. Prominent industrial areas were St Petersburg and Moscow.
C. Craftsmen undertook much of the production, but large factories existed alongside craft workshop.
D. Many factories were set up in the 1890s, when Russia's railway network was extended, and foreign investment in industries increased.
E. Coal production doubled and iron and steel output quadrupled.

OR

- A. The Russian revolution put an end to the autocratic Tsarist rule in Russia. The ruling Romanov Dynasty was abolished.
B. The new Soviet Government announced its withdrawal from First World War.
C. It led to the establishment of world's first socialist government.
D. There took place nationalization or acquisition of all industries, private property, banks, mines, telephones, and railways etc. All these declared government property.
E. It led to the beginning of planned economic development under the leadership of Stalin.
F. Under the leadership of Stalin USSR became one of the Super Power of the World.
31. A. The areas along the banks of rivers have witnessed great cultural and economic progress since ancient times. Rivers are integral part of our folklore and folk songs.
B. Water from the rivers is basic natural resource, essential for human, agricultural and industrial activities.
C. Rivers and their associated alluvial soils provide the most productive agricultural lands of country. Irrigation and generation of hydraulic energy from rivers have been backbone of the development if an economy.
D. Industrial development has flourished along rivers as many industrial processes rely on water-as a raw material, as a coolant and for the generation of hydraulic energy.
E. Rivers provide primary channels of inland transportation, not only directly in the form of navigable waterways.
F. Using rivers for irrigation, is of special significance – particularly to a country like India, where agriculture is the major source of livelihood of the majority of its population.

OR

- A. The Peninsular Rivers are seasonal. They get supply of water from summer rainfall.
B. These rivers make waterfall and cataracts on the plateau. Hence these are useful for hydro-electric projects.
C. The Peninsular Rivers have small basins and small catchment areas. Therefore these do not have a large volume of water.

- D. These rivers flow through shallow river valley having straight courses.
- E. These rivers flow on rocky areas and are not used for navigation.
- F. These rivers do not bring fertile alluvium and do not form alluvium plains.

32. a. **Minimum Support Price (MSP)** - This is the pre-announced price at which the government purchases foodgrains particularly, wheat and rice from the farmer in order to create a buffer stock. This price is announced by the government every year before the sowing season to give incentive to the farmers to raise the production of the desired crop. The rising MSPs have raised the maintenance cost of procuring food grains by the government as well as induced farmers to divert land from production of coarse grains to the production of these crops.
- b. **Buffer Stock** - It is the stock of food grains particularly, wheat and rice which the government procures through the Food Corporation of India (FCI). The FCI purchases these cereals directly from the farmers of those states where they are in surplus. The price of these commodities is much before the actual sowing season of these crops. The food grains thus purchased by the FCI are kept in big granaries and are called Buffer Stock. Maintaining buffer stock is a step taken by the government in order to ensure food security in the country.
- c. **Issue Price** - In order to help the poor strata of the society, the government provides them food grains from the buffer stock at a price much lower than the market price. This subsidized price is known as the Issue Price.
- d. **Fair Price Shops** - The food grains procured by the government through FCI is distributed to the poor section of the society through ration shops. The Ration Shops are called Fair Price Shops because food grains are supplied to the poor through these shops at much reasonable and a fair price than the market price which is often high. Any family with a ration card can purchase stipulated amount of food grains, sugar, kerosene etc. every month from the nearby fair price shop.

OR

- (i) It was introduced in India in the 1940s after the Bengal Famine.
 - (ii) The rationing system was revived in the 1960s due to food shortage in India.
 - (iii) Due to high incidence of poverty in the mid-1970s reported by NSSO, three food intervention programmes were introduced:
 - (a) Public Distribution System (PDS) for food grains; already existed but strengthened later on.
 - (b) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) introduced in 1975 on an experimental basis.
 - (c) Food For Work (FFW) Programme launched in 2004 in 150 most backward districts of the country to intensify the generation of supplementary wage employment.
33. (i) The Election Commission (EC) controls the elections right from the announcement of the elections to the declaration of the result.
- (ii) It implements the Code of Conduct and punishes any candidate or party that violates it.
 - (iii) During the election period, the EC can order the government to follow some guidelines, to prevent the use and misuse of government power to enhance its chances to

win the elections or to transfer some government officials.

(iv) If the EC comes to know that the polling was not fair in some booths or even an entire constituency, they order a repoll.

OR

When the right to vote is given to every adult in a state, it is known as the Universal Adult Franchise.

Reasons for adopting in India:

In India, we have an indirect democracy and elections are held on the basis of Universal Adult Franchise. Elections are held regularly to elect the representatives

These elected representatives run the government. Every citizen of India, who is 18 years of age or above has the right to vote irrespective of his caste, religion, sex, etc. Everybody, whether he is rich or poor, young or old, man or woman, learned or illiterate should have an equal voice in our democracy. The principle of one person, one vote makes our government responsible to all citizens.

Section E

34. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

‘Good German’ children were subjected to a process of Nazi schooling, a prolonged period of ideological training. School textbooks were rewritten. Racial science was introduced to justify Nazi ideas of race. Stereotypes about Jews were popularised even through maths classes. Children were taught to be loyal and submissive, hate Jews, and worship Hitler. Even the function of sports was to nurture a spirit of violence and aggression among children. Hitler believed that boxing could make children iron-hearted, strong and masculine.

- (i) Hitler was fanatically interested in the youth of the country. He felt that a strong Nazi society could be established only by teaching children Nazi ideology. This required control over the child both inside and outside school.
- (ii) Youth organisations were made responsible for educating German youth in ‘the spirit of National Socialism’. Ten-year-olds had to enter **Jungvolk**. At 14, all boys had to join the Nazi youth organisation - **Hitler Youth**.
- (iii) Hitler’s worldview was synonymous with Nazi ideology. Some of its features were: Racial supremacy, the concept of Lebensraum, the spirit of National Socialism, they believed in strong leadership.

35. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

The Indian desert lies towards the western margins of the Aravali Hills. It is an undulating sandy plain covered with sand dunes. This region receives very low rainfall below 150 mm per year. It has arid climate with low vegetation cover. Streams appear during the rainy season. Soon after they disappear into the sand as they do not have enough water to reach the sea. Luni is the only large river in this region. Barchans cover larger areas but longitudinal dunes become more prominent near the Indo-Pakistan boundary.

- (i) Any two points
 - The Indian desert lies towards the western margins of the Aravali Hills.

- It is an undulating sandy plain covered with sand dunes.
 - This region receives very low rainfall below 150 mm per year.
 - It has arid climate with low vegetation cover. Streams appear during the rainy season.
 - Luni is the only large river in this region.
- (ii) A barchan or barkhan dune is a crescent-shaped dune. The term was introduced in 1881 by Russian naturalist Alexander von Middendorf, based on their occurrence in Turkestan and other inland desert regions.
- (iii) Jaisalmer
If you visit **Jaisalmer**, you may go to see a group of barchans.

36. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

The most common form that democracy takes in our times is that of representative democracy. In the countries we call democracy, all the people do not rule. A majority is allowed to take decisions on behalf of all the people. Even the majority does not rule directly. The majority of people rule through their elected representatives. This becomes necessary because:

- a. Modern democracies involve such a large number of people that it is physically impossible for them to sit together and take a collective decision.
- b. Even if they could, the citizen does not have the time, the desire or the skills to take part in all the decisions.

A democratic decision involves consultation with and consent of all those who are affected by that decision. Those who are not powerful have the same say in taking the decision as those who are powerful. This can apply to a government or a family or any other organisation. Thus democracy is also a principle that can be applied to any sphere of life. It enables us to judge an existing democracy and identify its weaknesses. It helps us to distinguish between a minimal democracy and a good democracy. The most common form of democracy in today's world is ruled through people's elected representatives. But if the community is small, there can be other ways of making democratic decisions. All people can sit together and take decisions directly. This is how Gram Sabha should work in a village. No country is a perfect democracy. Every democracy has to try to realise the ideals of democratic decision-making. This cannot be achieved once and for all. This requires a constant effort to save and strengthen democratic forms of decision-making. What we do as citizens can make a difference to making our country more or less democratic. This is the strength and the weakness of democracy: the fate of the country depends not just on what the rulers do, but mainly on what we, as citizens, do. This is what distinguished democracy from other governments. Other forms of government like monarchy, dictatorship or one-party rule do not require all citizens to take part in politics. In fact most non-democratic governments would like citizens not to take part in politics. But democracy depends on active political participation by all the citizens. That is why a study of democracy must focus on democratic politics.

- (i) A democratic decision involves consultation with and consent of all those who are affected by that decision.
- (ii) i. Modern democracies involve such a large number of people that it is physically impossible for them to sit together and take a collective decision.
ii. Even if they could, the citizen does not have the time, the desire or the skills to take part in all the decisions.
- (iii) Gram Sabha

Section F

37. i. A. France
B. England
ii.

