

# **Guidelines for CBSE Proficiency Test in Social Science 2011**

This document provides some general guidelines for the CBSE Proficiency Test in Social Science to be held in May-June, 2011. It aims to introduce the test to students, teachers and all other stakeholders and explains the format of the question paper.

## **Contents**

General Information .....	2
General Instructions.....	3-4
Sample Questions .....	5-10
Solutions to sample questions .....	11

## General information

- The CBSE Proficiency Test in Social Science aims to test higher level competencies in the four key components of the subject- History, Geography, Political science and Economics. These include the ability to:
  - Comprehend key concepts and principles in each discipline.
  - Apply the above knowledge to understand relevant daily life situations,
  - Apply the above knowledge to new and unfamiliar situations,
  - Establish correlation between cause and effect.
  - Interpret numerical, visual and written sources.
  - Evaluate data and arrive at logical conclusions.
  - Differentiate between facts and opinions.
- The content level of the test is defined by the prescribed CBSE class IX and class X syllabus. The recommended textbooks for this content are NCERT textbooks in History, Geography, Political Science and Economics for classes IX and X.
- The questions in the test will not be based merely on recall of information.
- The maximum marks for the test will be 100 and the test will have duration of two and half hours.
- The question paper will be objective in nature; answers will be machine-readable. The paper will consist of multiple choice questions (MCQs) arranged in three sections based on the level of difficulty.
- The total number of questions in the actual question paper is **not** indicated by the number of questions in the sample given here.
- The distribution of marks among different types of questions is **not** indicated by the number of questions of each type in the sample given here.

## **General Instructions for actual question paper**

1. This Question paper consists of \_\_\_ pages and contains 60 multiple-choice in all.
2. All Questions are compulsory.
3. The questions are divided into three sections.
4. Section I consists of 32 questions (Q.No. 1-32) carrying 1 mark each.
5. Section II consists of 16 questions (Q.No. 33-48) carrying 2 marks each.
6. Section III consists of 12 questions (Qs. 49-60) carrying 3 marks each.
7. All three sections will have questions based on the History, Geography, Political Science and Economics components of the Social Science syllabus for Classes IX and X.
8. Negative Marking – Each incorrect answer will carry a penalty of one third of the weightage to the question.
9. For all types, an unanswered question earns no mark.

### **Instructions for writing on the Answer sheet**

- Use an HB pencil to fill the Answer sheet. DO NOT USE A PEN.
- If you want to change an entry after filling a bubble, erase the filled bubble cleanly and fill in the new bubble of your choice.
- Apart from filling in bubbles for answers and roll number, do not write anything else on the Answer sheet.
- You will be provided extra space in the question paper for rough work.

Roll Number: The following example illustrates the correct way of writing your Roll Number.

#### **Example:**

Suppose your roll number is 2093184.

Write it out in the box provided at the top of the grid in the Answer sheet. Then for every digit in the roll number, fill in the appropriate bubble in the corresponding column, as shown.

Roll Number

2	0	9	3	1	8	4
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5	5	5	5
6	6	6	6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7	7	7	7
8	8	8	8	8	8	8

9	9	9	9	9	9	9
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### Instructions for Writing on the Answer sheet (contd.)

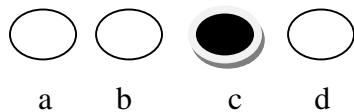
Multiple Choice Questions: The following example illustrates the correct way of answering a multiple choice question

#### Example:

Which of the following right was denied to women during the liberal movement of 1848?

- a) Forming Political Associations
- b) Holding political meetings
- c) Casting their vote in elections
- d) Applying for government jobs

Answer: The answer to this question is option (c). You have to mark it on the Answer sheet as shown.



## **Sample Questions**

This is a set of sample questions. It illustrates different types of questions to be expected in the actual Proficiency Test in Social Science and the methods of indicating the answers on the Answer sheet. This does not reflect total number of questions to be asked in the actual proficiency test.

### **Section I:**

#### **Multiple Choice questions**

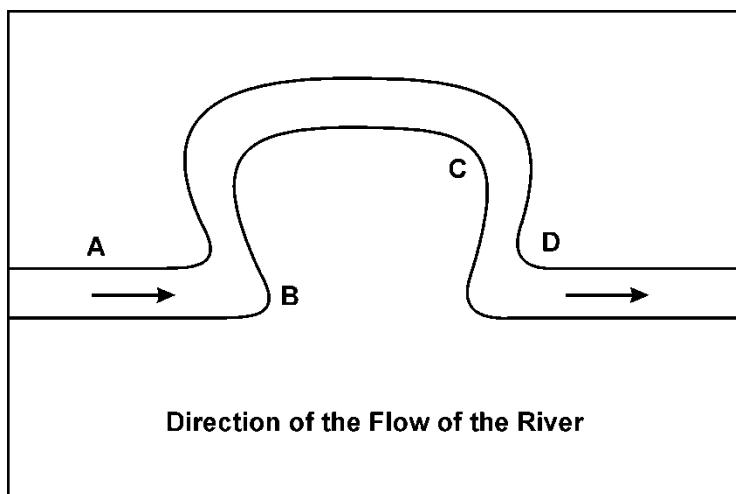
This section consists of 8 questions. A correct answer will earn 1 mark and un-attempted question will not earn any mark. 1/3 mark will be deducted for a wrong answer.

1. Which of the following statements is true of the Old Regime in France before 1789?
  - a) The members of the third estate did not own any land.
  - b) Only the richer section of the third estate owned land.
  - c) Only the peasants had to pay taille, a direct tax.
  - d) The third estate consisted of small peasants only.
  
2. The picture shows Sir M. Visveswaraya, a leading engineer –technocrat and the Dewan of Mysore state from 1912 to 1918. From this picture we can conclude that -----.



- a. Indians in early 20<sup>th</sup> century gave up wearing Indian clothes.
- b. Indians were forced to wear Western clothes by the British.
- c. Indians were influenced by Western style of clothing.
- d. Indians in early 20<sup>th</sup> century did not know how to wear a hat.

3. Study the diagram below and name the place where a cliff normally develops.



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

4. Devraj Singh wants to buy a farm land and grow Bt. Cotton in his farm. In which region he should buy the farm land, which will be most suitable for growing Bt. Cotton. Help him to select the region from the list of regions given below.

- a) Ganga Basin
- b) Brahmaputra Basin
- c) Western Ghats

d) Malwa Region

5. Which of the following is **not** a good argument in favour of democracy?

- a) People are free and equal in a democracy.
- b) Democracies resolve conflict in a better way than others.
- c) Democratic Government is more accountable to the people.
- d) Democracies are more prosperous than others.

6. “Pinochet’s military dictatorship came to an end after he decided to hold a referendum in 1988. He felt confident that in this referendum the people would say yes to his continuing in power”.

Which of the following options best summarizes the above mentioned passage?

- a) Referendum is vote by the electorate for continuing in power.
- b) It is a process by which law making process can be initiated by the electorate.
- c) It is direct vote in which an entire electorate is asked to either accept or reject a particular proposal.
- d) It is a vote by the electorate for the sudden overthrow of a government.

7. The “Green Revolution” was possible because of a combination of factors. Which combination according to you made it possible?

- a) HYV seeds, Irrigation, Labour and Capital
- b) Irrigation, HYV seeds, Fertilizers and Pesticides
- c) Machinery, HYV seeds, Fixed Capital and Human Capital
- d) Land, Labour, Physical Capital and Human Capital

8. How do we find out the average or the per capita income of a country?

- a) Income of the Country divided by earning members of the population.
- b) Income of the Country divided by total population.
- c) Income of the Country divided by male population.
- d) Income of the Country divided by female population.

## **Section II:**

This Section contains 4 questions. A correct answer will earn 2 marks. An unattempted answer will not earn any mark. 2/3 mark will be deducted for a wrong answer.

9. Refer to the given picture and answer the question below:



What do the letters dropping out of Napoleon's bag represent?

- a) Territories lost after the battle of Leipzig.
- b) Ideas of French Revolution being circulated in Europe.
- c) Expansion of French territories in Europe.
- d) Napoleon's military expeditions in Europe.

10. Given below are sets of rivers and tributaries:

<b>Rivers</b>	<b>Tributaries</b>
1. Yamuna	A-Subansiri
2. Krishna	B-Betwa
3. Godavari	C-Tunga
4. Brahmaputra	D-Indravati

Which two of the following pairs given below are correctly matched

- (a) 1 and B
- (b) 2 and C
- (c) 3 and A
- (d) 4 and C



11. What do these newspaper clippings have to say about efforts of decentralization in India?

- a) The Panchayati Raj system should be given more powers and made effective.
- b) The Panchayati Raj system should be given to the highest bidder.
- c) The Panchayati Raj system should be controlled by the state government.
- d) The Panchayati Raj system should reserve seats for women.

12. Which of the factors are facilitating globalization?

- a) Rapid improvement in technology.
  - b) Liberalization of trade and investment policies.
  - c) Pressures from international organizations, such as the WTO.
  - d) Deforestation and degradation of soil.
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- a) a, b, c
  - b) b, c, d
  - c) c, d, a
  - d) d, a, b

### Section III :

This Section contains 4 questions. A correct answer will earn 3 marks. An unattempted answer will not earn any mark. 1 mark will be deducted for a wrong answer.

13. This is an extract from the Lahore session of the Indian National Congress.

‘We believe that it is the inalienable right of the Indian people, as of any other people, to have freedom and to enjoy the fruits of their toil and have the necessities of life, so that they may have full opportunities of growth. We believe also that if any government deprives people of these rights and oppresses them, the people have a further right to alter it or to abolish it. The British Government in India has not only deprived the Indian people of their freedom but has based itself on the exploitation of the masses, and has ruined India economically, politically, culturally, and spiritually. We believe, therefore, that India must sever the British connection and attain Purna Swaraj or Complete Independence.’

Read the above source and answer the following question:

What was the key message of the Lahore session?

- a) Expression of resentment against British Exploitation
- b) Cancellation of Dominion status of India
- c) Demand for British to Quit India
- d) Declaration of Purna Swaraj as the key goal of the Congress.

14. Given below is a statement along with supporting arguments.

Statement: “Cotton textiles industry is the most important industry of India.”

Supporting arguments:

- a) It provides direct employment to more than 35 million people.
- b) It is an ancient industry
- c) Many more million people are employed indirectly in this industry.
- d) India produces best quality yarn in the world.
- e) It contributes about 17 percent to the country’s export earning.

Which three of the above arguments support the Statement most?

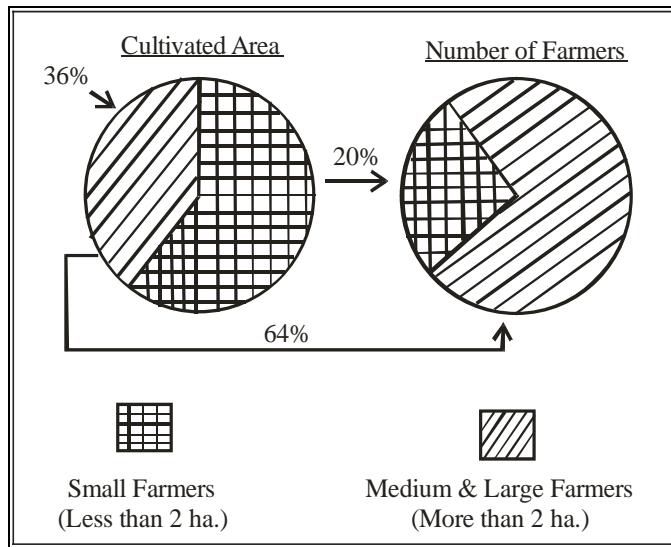
- a) b, d, e
- b) a, c, e
- c) c, d, e
- d) b, d, e

15. Different arguments are usually put forth in favour of and against power sharing. Identify those which are in favour of power sharing and select the answer using the code given below?

- a) Reduces conflict among different communities.
- b) Decreases the possibility of arbitrariness.
- c) Delays in decision making.
- d) Accommodates diversities.
- e) Increases instability and divisiveness.
- f) Promotes people participation.
- g) Undermines the unity of a country.

- a) a, c, e, f
- b) a, b, d, f
- c) a, b, d, g
- d) b, c, d, g

16. From the diagram below, choose the correct option.



- a) Smaller farmers have more cultivated land than large and medium farmers.
- b) Large and medium farmers have more cultivated land because they are more in numbers.
- c) Small farmers have more cultivated land as they are more in number.
- d) Medium and larger farmers have more land though less in numbers.

## Solutions to Sample Questions

1. b
2. c
3. b
4. c
5. d
6. c
7. a
8. b
9. a
10. a & b
11. a
12. a
13. d
14. b
15. b
16. a