

UNDERSTANDING SOCIAL SCIENCE
Class 09 - Social Science (Understanding Society)

Time Allowed: 1 hour and 30 minutes

Maximum Marks: 163

1. What defines the ideals of justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity in India's public life? [1]
 - a) Ancient religious scriptures.
 - b) International human rights declarations.
 - c) Historical traditions and customs.
 - d) The Indian Constitution.
2. Beyond culture, what other aspects does diversity shape in India? [1]
 - a) Only artistic expressions and culinary traditions.
 - b) Primarily international trade agreements.
 - c) Only environmental conservation efforts.
 - d) Questions of language policy, access to public services, employment, and representation.
3. A village council implements a new policy that provides additional educational support, such as free tutoring and specialized learning materials, only to children from families below the poverty line and those with documented learning disabilities. This policy most directly embodies which guiding value in Social Science? [1]
 - a) Equity
 - b) Sustainability
 - c) Diversity
 - d) Inclusivity
4. What was a significant outcome of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act? [1]
 - a) It strengthened Panchayati Raj, decentralisation, wider participation.
 - b) It centralized all power within the national government.
 - c) It established a completely new electoral system without local governance.
 - d) It abolished all forms of local self-government.
5. Which Fundamental Duty supports the approach of scientific temper and inquiry? [1]
 - a) To safeguard public property and abjure violence.
 - b) To cherish and follow the noble ideals that inspired our national struggle for freedom.
 - c) To develop scientific temper, humanism, and the spirit of inquiry and reform.
 - d) To protect and improve the natural environment.
6. Which of the following is NOT one of the two closely related aspects of human life that Social Science studies? [1]
 - a) Family life and community living
 - b) People and their relationships

- c) Systems and institutions
d) Sticks, stones, stars, and physical objects

7. What is an Indian perspective of development concerned with regarding its benefits? [1]
a) Who gains, who is excluded, and impact of prices, wages, services.
b) Only the overall national economic growth figures.
c) Solely the increase in foreign investments.
d) The construction of luxury infrastructure projects only.

8. Which of the following is explicitly mentioned as a guiding framework for public life in India? [1]
a) Ancient legal codes
b) Religious scriptures
c) The Indian Constitution
d) International treaties

9. What is the core idea behind 'Sustainability' as a guiding value in Social Science? [1]
a) Prioritizing industrial growth over environmental protection.
b) Maximizing resource extraction for immediate economic gain.
c) Focusing on local resource management without considering global impacts.
d) Using resources wisely so that present and future generations can meet their needs.

10. What is a distinguishing characteristic of Indian secularism? [1]
a) It grants preferential treatment to certain religious groups.
b) It mandates a state religion.
c) It strictly separates religion from all aspects of public life.
d) It ensures religious freedom and equal respect for all faiths.

11. What does a grounded understanding of India involve regarding diversity, equality, and dignity? [1]
a) Focusing solely on eliminating all differences among communities.
b) Valuing diversity alongside equality and dignity.
c) Ignoring diversity to promote national uniformity.
d) Prioritizing economic growth over social equality.

12. Which of the following is a core discipline commonly organized within Social Science at the school level? [1]
a) Geography
b) Chemistry
c) Physics
d) Biology

13. What does understanding governance in India involve? [1]
a) Focusing solely on the judicial system.
b) Only knowing the names of national leaders.
c) Studying only the history of ancient empires.
d) Decision-making and citizen participation.

14. What does studying Social Science from an Indian perspective attempt to understand? [1]
a) Economic development models from other countries and their application in

India.

- b) Only India's ancient history and philosophical texts.
- c) India as it is, with its unique experiences and realities.
- d) Universal sociological theories without specific cultural context.

15. According to James High, Social Science is defined as bodies of learning and study that recognize the simultaneous and mutual action of what two types of stimuli in producing social relations? [1]

- a) Cultural and environmental stimuli b) Economic and political stimuli
- c) Historical and geographical stimuli d) Physical and non-physical stimuli

16. What approach does an Indian perspective stress when examining social issues? [1]

- a) Scientific temper and the spirit of inquiry, looking for evidence and multiple causes.
- b) Promoting stereotypes and single-story explanations.
- c) Reliance on traditional narratives and folklore.
- d) Acceptance of rumours without critical evaluation.

17. Which statement best describes the approach of Social Science? [1]

- a) It only describes social phenomena without seeking causes or consequences.
- b) It mostly relies on personal opinions and assumptions.
- c) It solely focuses on individual human behavior without considering societal structures.
- d) It is a careful, organised, and systematic study of society, collecting information and building explanations.

18. What did the freedom struggle shape regarding ideas in India? [1]

- a) The adoption of a largely isolationist foreign policy. b) An exclusive focus on individual wealth accumulation.
- c) It shaped ideas of rights, justice, citizenship, and democracy. d) Only the concept of a centralized monarchy.

19. Why is local self-government considered especially important in India? [1]

- a) It only addresses religious matters. b) Local needs like water, sanitation, roads, planning.
- c) It is solely responsible for national defense. d) It primarily deals with international negotiations.

20. How did colonial rule influence modern India? [1]

- a) It entirely erased India's cultural heritage.
- b) It introduced a purely egalitarian society with no social divisions.
- c) It shaped land systems, education, transport, industries, and inequality.
- d) It established a strong democratic government from its inception.

21. Match the items in List I with those in List II. [1]

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List I	List II
(A) Diversity	(I) Fairness in opportunities
(B) Inclusivity	(II) Respecting differences
(C) Sustainability	(III) Welcomed, respected, participate fully
(D) Equity	(IV) Wise resource use

a) A-I, B-II, C-III, D-IV

b) A-IV, B-I, C-II, D-III

c) A-III, B-IV, C-I, D-II

d) A-II, B-III, C-IV, D-I

22. Match the items in List I with those in List II.

[1]

List I	List II
(A) Geography	(I) Resource management
(B) History	(II) Earth as home
(C) Political Science	(III) Past, social changes
(D) Economics	(IV) Government, laws, rights

a) A-IV, B-I, C-III, D-II

b) A-I, B-IV, C-II, D-III

c) A-II, B-III, C-IV, D-I

d) A-III, B-II, C-I, D-IV

23. Match the items in List I with those in List II.

[1]

List I	List II
(A) People and their relationships	(I) Schools, markets, banks
(B) Systems and institutions	(II) Society is not fixed
(C) Social science process	(III) Family life, community living
(D) Understanding society	(IV) Asks questions, collects information

a) A-III, B-I, C-IV, D-II

b) A-I, B-II, C-III, D-IV

c) A-IV, B-III, C-II, D-I

d) A-II, B-IV, C-I, D-III

24. **Assertion (A):** Inclusivity only aims to prevent bullying in classrooms.

[1]

Reason (R): It primarily focuses on ensuring equal participation and access to public facilities for all members, including marginalized groups.

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.

25. **Assertion (A):** Equity in society implies treating everyone identically, irrespective of their starting conditions.

[1]

Reason (R): It acknowledges existing disadvantages, such as poverty or discrimination, requiring additional support for fair opportunities.

a) Both A and R are true and R is the

b) Both A and R are true but R is not the

correct explanation of A.

correct explanation of A.

c) A is true but R is false.

d) A is false but R is true.

26. **Assertion (A):** Social Science is a collection of entirely distinct, non-overlapping disciplines. **[1]**
Reason (R): Understanding real-life issues often requires integrating insights from multiple disciplines like Geography, History, Economics, and Political Science.

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.

27. **Assertion (A):** Social Science consistently asks 'why' events happen and 'what their effects are'. **[1]**
Reason (R): It solely relies on personal opinions and assumptions to build explanations about societal patterns.

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.

28. **Assertion (A):** Indian secularism ensures state fairness to all faiths in a democracy. **[1]**
Reason (R): This approach is crucial when examining minority rights and public order.

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.

29. What is the role of diversity as a guiding value in strengthening social harmony? **[2]**

30. Describe the fundamental principle that guides economic decisions in both individual and societal contexts, considering limited resources. **[2]**

31. Explain how the concept of equity differs from equality in the context of Social Science values. **[2]**

32. How do human relationships in a community contribute to the subject matter of Social Science? **[2]**

33. Describe the key aspects encompassed by India's diversity beyond just cultural differences. **[2]**

34. How does an Indian perspective on social issues encourage scientific temper and discourage reliance on rumors or stereotypes? **[2]**

35. Describe how environmental challenges in a region can intricately connect with issues of survival and fairness. **[2]**

36. Explain the significance of historical understanding in comprehending India's modern institutions and identities. **[2]**

37. Outline the central concerns of Political Science in deciphering how communities are governed. **[2]**

38. How does Social Science promote inclusivity within society? **[2]**

39. How do environmental issues in India often intertwine with questions of survival, justice, and social inequality? **[2]**

40. How do the various disciplines of Social Science interconnect to provide a holistic understanding of real-life issues? **[2]**

41. Explain the underlying purpose of economics in analyzing human and societal resource management despite unlimited wants. **[2]**

42. Explain the significance of history in shaping our understanding that contemporary societal **[2]**

structures and practices have evolved over extended periods.

43. Describe how political understanding fosters responsible citizenship beyond mere electoral participation. [2]
44. Discuss how economic life and development in India influence individual choices and access to opportunities, highlighting uneven benefits. [2]
45. How does the national constitution provide a foundational framework for individuals' interactions within public life? [2]
46. Explain how a country's geographical features influence its approach to social studies. [2]
47. Outline why a singular academic discipline cannot fully encompass the complexities of human society. [2]
48. Elaborate on how History contributes to understanding the present state of society. [2]
49. Explain the significance of understanding societal systems and institutions within the context of Social Science. [2]
50. Explain the importance of local self-government in relation to the everyday lives of citizens. [2]
51. Explain how India's diverse nature influences various policy areas beyond just cultural descriptions. [2]
52. Summarise the primary focus of Geography as a discipline within Social Science. [2]
53. Explain how social decisions can impact a vast number of individuals, necessitating specific fields of study to analyze these collective arrangements. [2]
54. In what ways do environmental factors profoundly influence livelihoods in India? [3]
55. What historical elements significantly shaped present-day institutions and identities in India, influencing its modern formation? [3]
56. In what ways does Social Science go beyond simply chronicling societal events to explore their underlying causes and subsequent impacts? Explain this analytical depth. [3]
57. Articulate how the interconnectedness of geographical, economic, political, and historical factors contributes to a comprehensive understanding of complex social issues. Use an illustration. [3]
58. What are some common forms of work in India, and what are their typical characteristics regarding income and job security? [3]
59. How does an Indian perspective on social science approach the examination of societal issues, particularly in contrast to unverified claims? [3]
60. Discuss how the study of Social Science helps individuals recognize that societal structures are fluid and subject to human agency, thereby fostering responsible citizenship. [3]
61. How does Political Science contribute to an individual's understanding of governance and civic participation? Provide examples of its relevance to daily life. [3]
62. Describe the core methodological approach of Social Science in investigating societal phenomena. How does it distinguish itself from reliance on mere personal beliefs or preconceptions? [3]
63. Which constitutional amendment significantly advanced decentralization and public participation, particularly for previously marginalized groups? [3]
64. **Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow:** [4]
Social Science serves as a structured, systematic study of human relationships and institutional arrangements, utilizing empirical evidence rather than personal assumptions. At the school level, this vast domain is organized around four distinct yet overlapping core disciplines: Geography,

History, Political Science, and Economics. Geography examines the Earth as the human home, analyzing how physical landscapes and resources dictate regional livelihoods. History charts societal evolution over time, illustrating how past struggles forge modern democratic values like justice and equality. Political Science investigates governance mechanisms, legal structures, civil rights, and state responsibilities to ensure equitable public participation. Meanwhile, Economics focuses on how societies manage finite resources to satisfy infinite needs, examining production, employment, and market prices. While each discipline possesses unique inquiries, real-world crises cannot be understood in isolation. Complex social issues demand an interconnected, interdisciplinary lens that blends these diverse fields to formulate balanced, comprehensive solutions for human welfare and societal advancement.

Questions

- a. Identify the specific social science discipline that focuses on how societies manage finite resources to satisfy infinite needs. **(1)**
- b. What foundational requirement distinguishes the formal study of Social Science from simple personal opinions or assumptions? **(1)**
- c. Analyze why complex real-world crises cannot be solved by a single core discipline without using an interdisciplinary lens. **(2)**

65. **Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

[4]

Modern India cannot be understood in isolation from its history, as contemporary institutions, legal debates, and identities are deeply rooted in the past. Colonial rule left an indelible mark on the nation by reshaping land revenue frameworks, formal education, transportation networks, and industrial structures, which inadvertently created durable patterns of regional inequality. Conversely, the Indian freedom struggle acted as a crucible for modern civic values, forging a collective commitment to democratic governance, citizen rights, and social justice. Today, this democracy operates through a layered constitutional system that stretches dynamically from village councils to the national parliament. Local self-government plays a transformative role in this architecture by bringing vital decision-making power directly to the people to manage daily necessities like drinking water, sanitation, and local roads. The historic 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act significantly strengthened these Panchayati Raj Institutions, accelerating political decentralization and legally securing representation for historically marginalized groups to ensure that democracy is reflected in daily institutional accountability.

Questions

- a. Which specific historic legislative act legally strengthened local self-government institutions across rural India? **(1)**
- b. Name two structural systems reshaped by colonial rule that left lasting patterns of regional inequality in India. **(1)**
- c. Analyze how the decentralization of political power to village councils improves the daily institutional accountability of public governance. **(2)**

66. **Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

[4]

Economic and environmental realities in India are inextricably linked, heavily influencing personal choices, regional mobility, and overall human development. The natural environment dictates daily survival; monsoons drive agricultural cycles, river systems feed vital irrigation networks, and

forests sustain biodiversity alongside local tribal economies. Consequently, ecological disruptions like deforestation, acute water scarcity, and pollution are fundamentally questions of social justice, as resource-poor communities often live in highly vulnerable areas and lack alternatives when crops fail. Economic life reflects these vulnerabilities, featuring a vast spectrum of work from traditional fishing and farming to modern retail and digital services, though a massive portion of the population remains dependent on precarious, informal, or seasonal jobs. While development brings infrastructural improvements like electricity and digital connectivity, its benefits are unevenly distributed across social groups. Economic migration highlights these structural imbalances, as individuals relocate to improve incomes, subsequently placing immense pressure on urban housing, sanitation, and public utilities.

Questions

- a. Which recurring natural weather phenomenon heavily dictates agricultural cycles and daily economic survival in India? **(1)**
- b. State two infrastructure benefits brought by developmental progress that unfortunately remain unevenly distributed across social groups. **(1)**
- c. Analyze why ecological disruptions such as deforestation and severe water scarcity are fundamentally issues of social justice. **(2)**

67. **Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow:** **[4]**

Economic and environmental realities in India are inextricably linked, heavily influencing personal choices, regional mobility, and overall human development. The natural environment dictates daily survival; monsoons drive agricultural cycles, river systems feed vital irrigation networks, and forests sustain biodiversity alongside local tribal economies. Consequently, ecological disruptions like deforestation, acute water scarcity, and pollution are fundamentally questions of social justice, as resource-poor communities often live in highly vulnerable areas and lack alternatives when crops fail. Economic life reflects these vulnerabilities, featuring a vast spectrum of work from traditional fishing and farming to modern retail and digital services, though a massive portion of the population remains dependent on precarious, informal, or seasonal jobs. While development brings infrastructural improvements like electricity and digital connectivity, its benefits are unevenly distributed across social groups. Economic migration highlights these structural imbalances, as individuals relocate to improve incomes, subsequently placing immense pressure on urban housing, sanitation, and public utilities.

Questions:

- a. Name three vital natural resources or elements mentioned that directly shape rural livelihoods and economic survival. **(1)**
- b. Explain why environmental issues such as deforestation or water scarcity are viewed as challenges of social justice. **(1)**
- c. Analyze how the phenomenon of labor migration demonstrates the necessity of using an interdisciplinary lens to study social issues. **(2)**

68. **Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow:** **[4]**

Modern India cannot be understood in isolation from its history, as contemporary institutions, legal debates, and identities are deeply rooted in the past. Colonial rule left an indelible mark on the nation by reshaping land revenue frameworks, formal education, transportation networks,

and industrial structures, which inadvertently created durable patterns of regional inequality. Conversely, the Indian freedom struggle acted as a crucible for modern civic values, forging a collective commitment to democratic governance, citizen rights, and social justice. Today, this democracy operates through a layered constitutional system that stretches dynamically from village councils to the national parliament. Local self-government plays a transformative role in this architecture by bringing vital decision-making power directly to the people to manage daily necessities like drinking water, sanitation, and local roads. The historic 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act significantly strengthened these Panchayati Raj Institutions, accelerating political decentralization and legally securing representation for historically marginalized groups to ensure that democracy is reflected in daily institutional accountability.

Questions:

- a. Which specific constitutional amendment strengthened local self-government in India and promoted wider participation for historically excluded groups? **(1)**
 - b. Describe how the Indian freedom struggle influenced the foundational ideas of the modern nation-state. **(1)**
 - c. Analyze why local self-government is considered a more effective measure of true democracy than merely holding regular national elections. **(2)**
69. Explain how Social Science extends beyond mere description to inquire into the causes and consequences of societal phenomena. Provide an example to illustrate this investigative depth. **[5]**
 70. List the constitutional ideals from the Preamble that are closely connected to the guiding values developed by social science. **[5]**
 71. Analyse the interconnectedness between environmental challenges and socioeconomic disparities. Provide a detailed explanation of how issues like deforestation or water scarcity disproportionately impact vulnerable populations and necessitate integrated policy responses. **[5]**
 72. Describe the interwoven nature of Social Science disciplines when addressing real-life issues. Use an environmental situation to demonstrate how multiple perspectives are integrated. **[5]**
 73. What is the primary distinction Charles Beard makes between human affairs and inert objects when defining social science? **[5]**
 74. Assess how deeply rooted historical events and philosophical movements have shaped contemporary debates and policies concerning social equality and national cohesion within a diverse society. Provide specific examples of how past influences manifest in current legal frameworks or public discourse. **[5]**
 75. Discuss how the understanding gained from Social Science empowers individuals to become responsible citizens. How does it link societal structures with personal agency? **[5]**

Solution
UNDERSTANDING SOCIAL SCIENCE
Class 09 - Social Science (Understanding Society)

1. **(d)** The Indian Constitution.
Explanation:
The ideals of Justice, Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity are enshrined in the Preamble of the Constitution of India. These principles guide India's public life, governance, and democratic system.
2. **(d)** Questions of language policy, access to public services, employment, and representation.
Explanation:
India's diversity influences many aspects of society beyond culture. Differences in language, religion, ethnicity, and region affect language policies, access to education and public services, employment opportunities, political representation, and social inclusion.
3. **(a)** Equity
Explanation:
Equity means fairness in opportunities and outcomes, recognizing that some individuals face disadvantages and require additional support to have a genuine chance. Providing targeted support to children from low-income families and those with disabilities aligns directly with this principle, as it aims to address existing disparities.
4. **(a)** It strengthened Panchayati Raj, decentralisation, wider participation.
Explanation:
The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 gave constitutional status to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and strengthened local self-government in rural areas. It promoted decentralisation of power, regular elections to Panchayats, and greater participation of citizens, including reservations for women and disadvantaged groups.
5. **(c)** To develop scientific temper, humanism, and the spirit of inquiry and reform.
Explanation:
Article 51A of the Constitution of India lists the Fundamental Duties. One of these duties is:
"To develop scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform."
This duty encourages citizens to think critically, seek evidence, question assumptions, and support social progress through reason and inquiry.
6. **(d)** Sticks, stones, stars, and physical objects
Explanation:
Charles Beard distinguished human affairs from 'sticks, stones, stars and physical objects' when defining Social Science. The two aspects Social Science studies are 'People and their relationships' and 'Systems and institutions'.
7. **(a)** Who gains, who is excluded, and impact of prices, wages, services.
Explanation:
An Indian perspective of development looks beyond overall economic growth. It examines who benefits from development, who may be left out, and how factors such as wages, prices, education, healthcare, and other public services affect people's opportunities and quality of life. Development is therefore linked to equity, inclusion, and social justice.
8. **(c)** The Indian Constitution

Explanation:

The text states, 'India's Constitution is central to understanding public life because it defines the ideals of justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity and sets out how institutions should function in a democracy.'

9.

(d) Using resources wisely so that present and future generations can meet their needs.

Explanation:

Sustainability means using resources wisely so that both present and future generations can meet their needs.

10.

(d) It ensures religious freedom and equal respect for all faiths.

Explanation:

A key feature of Indian secularism is that the state does not favor any particular religion and seeks to ensure equal respect and fair treatment for all religions. It protects individuals' freedom to practice, profess, and propagate their faith while maintaining equality among different religious communities.

11.

(b) Valuing diversity alongside equality and dignity.

Explanation:

A grounded understanding of India acknowledges its rich diversity while ensuring that equality, dignity, and justice are protected for all people. It involves understanding how social institutions, laws, and everyday practices can support fair treatment and respect for everyone.

12. **(a)** Geography

Explanation:

At the school level, Social Science typically includes subjects such as History, Geography, Political Science (Civics), and Economics. Geography studies the Earth's physical features, environment, and human activities, making it a core social science discipline.

13.

(d) Decision-making and citizen participation.

Explanation:

Understanding governance in India involves learning how decisions are made and carried out at the local, state, and national levels, as well as understanding the role of citizens in a democracy through voting, participation, accountability, and civic engagement.

14.

(c) India as it is, with its unique experiences and realities.

Explanation:

The text explains: 'When we study Social Science from an Indian perspective, we try to understand India as it is, with its unique experiences and realities.'

15.

(d) Physical and non-physical stimuli

Explanation:

James High defined Social Science as 'bodies of learning and study which recognise the simultaneous and mutual action of physical and non-physical stimuli which produce social relations'.

16. **(a)** Scientific temper and the spirit of inquiry, looking for evidence and multiple causes.

Explanation:

An Indian perspective, as reflected in the values of the Constitution, emphasizes scientific temper, critical thinking, and the spirit of inquiry. When examining social issues, it encourages looking at evidence, facts, and multiple causes rather than relying on assumptions, stereotypes, or unverified claims.

17.

(d) It is a careful, organised, and systematic study of society, collecting information and building explanations.

Explanation:

Social Science studies society in a careful, organised, and systematic way. It does not rely only on personal opinions or assumptions. It asks questions, collects information, compares evidence, and builds explanations.

18.

(c) It shaped ideas of rights, justice, citizenship, and democracy.

Explanation:

The Indian freedom struggle was not only a movement for independence but also a movement that shaped important ideas about rights, justice, equality, citizenship, and democracy. Leaders and citizens demanded political participation, civil liberties, and self-government, which later influenced the values of the Constitution of India and India's democratic system.

19.

(b) Local needs like water, sanitation, roads, planning.

Explanation:

Local self-government (such as Panchayats and Municipalities) is important because it allows decisions to be made closer to the people affected by them. It helps address everyday local issues like drinking water, sanitation, roads, waste management, and local development planning, while encouraging citizen participation in governance.

20.

(c) It shaped land systems, education, transport, industries, and inequality.

Explanation:

Colonial rule had a significant impact on modern India. It introduced and reshaped land revenue systems, expanded modern education, developed railways and transport networks, influenced the growth of industries, and affected social and economic inequalities. Many of these changes continued to shape India after independence.

21.

(d) A-II, B-III, C-IV, D-I

Explanation:

- (A) Diversity → (II) Respecting differences
Diversity refers to the presence and acceptance of differences in culture, language, religion, and other social characteristics.
- (B) Inclusivity → (III) Welcomed, respected, participate fully
Inclusivity ensures that all individuals feel valued and can participate equally in society.
- (C) Sustainability → (IV) Wise resource use
Sustainability involves using natural and human resources responsibly to meet present needs without harming future generations.
- (D) Equity → (I) Fairness in opportunities
Equity means providing fair access, support, and opportunities according to people's needs and circumstances.

22. **(c)** A-II, B-III, C-IV, D-I
Explanation:
A-II, B-III, C-IV, D-I
- (A) Geography → (II) Earth as home
Geography studies the Earth, its physical features, environment, and human interactions with it.
 - (B) History → (III) Past, social changes
History examines past events and how societies have changed over time.
 - (C) Political Science → (IV) Government, laws, rights
Political Science focuses on governance, political institutions, laws, rights, and citizenship.
 - (D) Economics → (I) Resource management
Economics studies the production, distribution, and management of resources to satisfy human needs.
23. **(a)** A-III, B-I, C-IV, D-II
Explanation:
A-III, B-I, C-IV, D-II
- A. **People and their relationships** → (III) **Family life, community living**
Social Science studies how people interact within families and communities.
- B. **Systems and institutions** → (I) **Schools, markets, banks**
Institutions are organized systems that help society function, such as schools, markets, and banks.
- C. **Social science process** → (IV) **Asks questions, collects information**
Social Science uses inquiry, observation, and evidence to understand society.
- D. **Understanding society** → (II) **Society is not fixed**
Society changes over time due to human actions, ideas, and social developments.
24. **(d)** A is false but R is true.
Explanation:
Inclusivity is broader than simply preventing bullying in classrooms. It aims to ensure that all people, including marginalized groups, are welcomed, respected, and able to participate fully in society. This includes equal access to education, public services, opportunities, and decision-making processes. Therefore, the assertion is false, while the reason correctly describes the wider goal of inclusivity.
25. **(d)** A is false but R is true.
Explanation:
Equity does not mean treating everyone identically. It means providing support according to people's needs and circumstances so that everyone has a fair chance to succeed. Therefore, A is false, while R is true because equity recognizes disadvantages such as poverty or discrimination and seeks to address them.
26. **(d)** A is false but R is true.
Explanation:
Social Science disciplines are interconnected, not completely separate. Real-life issues such as poverty, migration, or environmental problems often require knowledge from Geography, History, Economics, and Political Science together. Therefore, A is false, while R is true.
27. **(c)** A is true but R is false.
Explanation:

Social Science seeks to understand why events happen and what effects they have by asking questions and analyzing evidence. It does not rely solely on personal opinions or assumptions; instead, it uses facts, data, and systematic inquiry. Therefore, A is true and R is false.

28. **(a)** Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.

Explanation:

The passage explains that Indian secularism's distinctiveness lies in state's fair treatment of all faiths while protecting religious freedom. It then states this becomes important for minority rights, establishing R as the reason for the importance of A.

29. Diversity, as a guiding value, strengthens social harmony by fostering recognition and respect for inherent differences among people, such as language, religion, and culture. By appreciating this variety and challenging stereotypes, it cultivates a wider sense of belonging and promotes fraternity, ensuring that all citizens are treated with dignity and mutual respect.
30. Economics is centered on managing scarce resources to fulfill unlimited human needs. It explains how individuals and societies make choices regarding the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services based on income, costs, demand, and resource availability.
31. Equity in Social Science values recognizes that individuals start from different positions and therefore require varied support to achieve fair opportunities and outcomes. Unlike equality, which suggests identical treatment for all, equity provides additional assistance to address historical disadvantages, disabilities, or lack of access, ensuring everyone has a genuine chance to thrive.
32. Human relationships are a central part of Social Science because they shape how people live, work, cooperate, and interact within society. Social Science studies these relationships to understand social structures, institutions, cultures, communities, and patterns of behavior.
33. India's diversity extends beyond culture to include differences in language, religion, ethnicity, region, social groups, and economic conditions. It also influences issues such as education, employment, access to public services, political representation, and equal opportunities, making diversity an important social, economic, and political concern.
34. An Indian perspective promotes scientific temper and inquiry by advocating for questioning rumors, stereotypes, and simplistic explanations. It encourages seeking evidence and multiple causes for social issues, aligning with fundamental duties that emphasize developing humanism and a spirit of reform.
35. Environmental challenges like deforestation or water scarcity disproportionately impact vulnerable communities, linking directly to their survival and raising questions of social justice and equity.
36. Historical understanding is vital for grasping how past events, like colonial rule, shaped contemporary institutions such as land revenue systems and education. The freedom struggle influenced modern ideas of rights and democratic governance, demonstrating that current debates have deep-rooted historical origins.
37. Political Science centrally concerns itself with the mechanisms of governance. It focuses on governmental institutions, the formulation and execution of laws, the rights and responsibilities of citizens, and the diverse forms of public participation. This discipline provides insights into how societies establish order and make collective decisions, fostering informed citizenship.
38. Social Science promotes inclusivity by fostering an understanding of how diverse groups coexist and identifying barriers like discrimination and prejudice. It highlights the importance of equal participation, ensuring access to shared spaces and resources for everyone, including marginalized groups, and actively working to remove obstacles to full societal engagement.
39. Environmental issues like deforestation and water scarcity impact communities disproportionately. Those with fewer resources are often more vulnerable, lacking alternatives when livelihoods are affected. Addressing these issues necessitates linking them with work, poverty, public policy, and long-term sustainability planning.
40. The disciplines of Social Science interconnect by offering complementary perspectives on complex real-life issues. For example, understanding urban floods requires geographical analysis of water systems, historical context of city development, economic assessment of damages and poverty, and political insight into disaster management. This combined approach fosters a comprehensive understanding that no single discipline can provide alone.

41. Economics studies how people and societies make choices regarding the allocation of limited resources to satisfy unlimited needs. It clarifies the processes of production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services, and how livelihoods are sustained under these constraints.
42. History reveals that present-day institutions and societal norms are not instantaneous but are products of long-term developments. It demonstrates how past events and ideas, such as freedom struggles, have historically influenced the formation of modern frameworks.
43. Political understanding equips citizens to comprehend how governmental decisions are made and how they can engage with public issues. It highlights that democracy involves ongoing participation, awareness of rights and duties, and holding institutions accountable, not solely voting.
44. Economic life dictates choices, livelihoods, and opportunities, with many in India relying on informal work and uncertain incomes. While development can offer improvements, its benefits are often unequally distributed across regions and social groups, raising questions about who gains and who remains excluded.
45. The Constitution of India provides a foundation for public life by defining the rights, duties, and responsibilities of citizens. It establishes principles such as justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity, guiding how people interact with one another and with institutions while ensuring fairness, dignity, and democratic participation.
46. A country's geographical features, such as mountains, rivers, climate, and natural resources, influence how people live, work, and interact. They affect agriculture, settlement patterns, transportation, culture, and economic activities. Therefore, social studies examines geography to understand the relationship between people and their environment.
47. Human life involves interconnected aspects like community living, environmental dependence, economic activities, and governance. A single subject would offer an incomplete view; thus, social science integrates various disciplines to provide a holistic understanding.
48. History contributes to understanding the present by elucidating how current societal structures, institutions, and practices have evolved over time. By exploring past social, cultural, and political developments, it reveals that contemporary society is a product of long-term processes, allowing for a deeper appreciation of democratic values and institutional foundations.
49. Understanding societal systems and institutions is crucial because these organized structures, such as government, law, and markets, dictate how society functions. They determine resource allocation, public service provision, and the protection of rights and duties, thus profoundly influencing daily life and societal operations.
50. Local self-government brings decision-making closer to people, addressing daily needs like water, sanitation, and local infrastructure, fostering direct citizen participation in governance.
51. India's diversity impacts language policy, access to public services, employment opportunities, and political representation. It dictates how different communities coexist, and sometimes, leads to prejudice or exclusion, necessitating efforts to ensure equality and dignity for all citizens.
52. Geography, as a Social Science discipline, primarily focuses on the Earth as the human habitat. It examines physical features like landforms and climate alongside how people inhabit diverse environments and utilize natural resources. This dual focus highlights the intricate relationship between human life and physical conditions, influencing everything from agriculture to industry.
53. Individual actions can create far-reaching ripple effects across communities, influencing aspects like safety, livelihood, and well-being. This interconnectedness necessitates a scientific study of collective living to comprehend the dynamics of shared existence.
54. Environmental factors such as monsoons critically affect agriculture, while rivers support irrigation and transportation. Forests, in turn, sustain both biodiversity and local economies. These natural elements intricately shape livelihoods, with environmental issues often intertwining with questions of survival and social justice for various communities.
55. Colonial rule profoundly influenced India's land revenue systems, education, transportation, industries, and patterns of inequality. Concurrently, the freedom struggle played a crucial role in forming concepts of rights, justice, and citizenship, fostering a commitment to democratic governance, thereby shaping modern Indian identity and institutions.

56. Social Science moves beyond mere description by intensively investigating the 'why' and 'what if' of societal phenomena. It actively seeks to uncover the causal factors and consequences behind events, identifying recurring patterns. For example, it analyzes why certain regions develop faster or why specific forms of labor are more valued, delving into the deeper mechanisms of society rather than just recounting facts.
57. A comprehensive understanding of social issues requires examining the interconnectedness of geographical, economic, political, and historical factors. For example, rural poverty may be influenced by poor soil and climate (geography), lack of jobs and income (economics), inadequate government policies (politics), and historical inequalities. Studying these factors together helps explain the root causes of problems and supports the development of effective and inclusive solutions.
58. Work in India spans diverse sectors including agriculture, fishing, crafts, manufacturing, construction, transport, retail, and services. A significant portion of the workforce relies on seasonal or informal employment, often characterized by uncertain incomes and limited job security, directly influencing daily choices and opportunities.
59. An Indian perspective on Social Science emphasizes scientific temper, critical thinking, and the spirit of inquiry when examining societal issues. It encourages the use of facts, evidence, research, and logical analysis to understand social realities. Unlike unverified claims, rumours, or stereotypes, this approach seeks reliable information and considers multiple causes and perspectives. As a result, it promotes informed decision-making and a deeper understanding of social problems.
60. Social Science demonstrates that society isn't static but is continuously shaped by human choices, actions, and collective efforts. It reveals that rules, institutions, and traditions are created by people and can therefore be improved upon. This understanding empowers individuals to make informed decisions and actively contribute to societal progress, cultivating responsible citizenship aware of their role in shaping the community.
61. Political Science elucidates the mechanisms of governance, including law-making, government operations, and citizens' rights and duties. It's relevant daily when individuals use public services like roads or engage in voting. This understanding cultivates informed, responsible citizens aware of their rights, responsibilities, and the importance of active participation in the democratic process to ensure inclusivity and equity.
62. Social Science investigates societal phenomena through a systematic, evidence-based, and scientific approach. It relies on observation, data collection, research, analysis, and critical inquiry to understand social issues and human behavior. This method distinguishes itself from personal beliefs, assumptions, or prejudices by emphasizing facts, objectivity, and multiple perspectives. As a result, Social Science provides more accurate and reliable explanations of social realities and helps develop informed solutions to societal problems.
63. The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act significantly strengthened Panchayati Raj Institutions, marking a major stride toward decentralization and expanded public participation. This act included provisions specifically supporting the representation of community groups that had been historically excluded, bringing decision-making closer to local needs and daily life.
64. a. The specific core social science discipline that focuses on how human societies manage finite resources to satisfy infinite needs is Economics.
b. The formal study of Social Science is distinguished from personal opinion by its systematic reliance on empirical evidence, organized data, and structured inquiry.
c. Real-world crises are multi-dimensional and interconnected. For instance, an economic collapse has geographical causes, historical roots, and requires political solutions. Using only one discipline leaves blind spots, whereas an interdisciplinary lens blends fields to create comprehensive, lasting welfare solutions.
65. a. The specific legislative measure that strengthened local self-government institutions across rural India is the historic 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, which formalized Panchayati Raj Institutions.
b. Two major structural systems altered by colonial rule that established durable regional inequalities were land revenue frameworks and industrial or transportation networks.
c. Transferring power to village councils brings decision-making directly to ordinary citizens. This allows local communities to manage immediate necessities like water and roads themselves. Because local

leaders live alongside residents, it creates immediate accountability, ensuring public institutions answer directly to marginalized groups.

66. a. The recurring natural weather phenomenon that heavily dictates agricultural cycles and daily economic survival across India is the seasonal monsoon.
- b. Two significant infrastructural developments whose benefits remain unevenly distributed across different social groups are electricity and digital connectivity.
- c. Ecological disruptions are social justice issues because resource-poor populations depend directly on nature for survival. When deforestation or water scarcity occurs, wealthier classes can purchase alternatives, but marginalized communities face immediate crop failure and displacement without safety nets, increasing poverty.
67. a. The three vital natural elements are monsoons, which directly dictate agricultural productivity; river systems, which provide essential irrigation and transport networks; and forests, which simultaneously support regional biodiversity and sustain local economies through the provision of essential forest produce.
- b. Environmental degradation is a social justice challenge because ecological hazards affect communities unevenly. Disadvantaged populations frequently reside in vulnerable geographical zones and possess very few financial reserves or livelihood alternatives when local water sources become polluted or when seasonal crop cycles fail entirely.
- c. Labor migration cannot be understood through a single academic discipline because it simultaneously involves geography, history, economics, and political systems. The geographical movement of people alters regional demographics and strains urban planning. Economically, it represents a search for better wages due to agricultural shifts, while historically, migration patterns track older trade routes. Politically, it forces municipalities to re-evaluate policy decisions regarding housing, water access, and public welfare, proving that social challenges require an integrated approach.
68. a. The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act strengthened local self-government by empowering Panchayati Raj Institutions. This landmark legislation accelerated political decentralization across rural India and included mandatory provisions that legally secure representation and leadership roles for communities that were historically marginalized and excluded.
- b. The Indian freedom struggle was instrumental in shaping the ethical foundation of the modern nation. It forged deep societal commitments to democratic governance, defined the scope of citizen rights, and established a collective focus on justice that continues to inspire current legal debates regarding national integration.
- c. While national elections provide citizens with a periodic political voice, local self-government transforms democracy into a continuous, everyday practice. It brings critical decision-making power directly down to the grass-roots level, allowing ordinary citizens to manage immediate survival needs like sanitation, safe drinking water, and road planning. By decentralizing authority through Panchayati Raj Institutions, it establishes direct accountability and ensures that historically excluded groups actively participate in the development of their own immediate neighborhoods.
69. Social Science goes beyond simply describing societal occurrences; it actively investigates the underlying reasons and subsequent effects. It seeks to uncover patterns and causal links. For instance, instead of merely stating that some regions develop faster, Social Science questions why this disparity exists, exploring potential geographical, economic, political, or historical factors contributing to uneven development. Similarly, it examines why certain communities might lack access to essential resources like clean water or why particular forms of work receive greater societal valuation. This analytical depth helps to connect diverse factors for a more holistic understanding of complex social situations.
70. The guiding values developed within social science are closely connected with the constitutional ideals stated in the Preamble. These ideals serve as foundational principles for examining society and making daily decisions. Specifically, social science values align with the ideals of justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity. These constitutional tenets provide a framework for understanding fairness, individual freedoms, equitable treatment for all members of society, and the promotion of a shared sense of belonging and respect among citizens. Social science reinforces these ideals through its analytical and normative approaches.

71. Environmental challenges and socioeconomic disparities are deeply intertwined. For instance, deforestation leads to loss of livelihoods for forest-dependent communities, while water scarcity primarily affects those with fewer resources, forcing them into vulnerable areas or compromising health. These issues exacerbate poverty by reducing agricultural yields, increasing health burdens, and limiting economic opportunities. Integrated policy responses are essential, linking environmental protection with poverty alleviation, public health initiatives, and long-term sustainable planning. Such policies must include measures for equitable access to resources, disaster preparedness, and alternative livelihood options for affected communities to genuinely address the root causes of vulnerability.
72. Social Science disciplines are deeply interconnected, becoming most meaningful when integrated to address complex real-life issues. No single subject can fully explain societal problems; they necessitate combined thinking. For instance, when examining urban flooding, Geography contributes by explaining rainfall patterns, river systems, land use, and drainage, providing the physical context. History offers insights into the city's development, settlement patterns, and past land management practices, revealing long-term vulnerabilities. Economics analyzes the damage to livelihoods, rebuilding costs, and how poverty exacerbates vulnerability. Political Science clarifies the government's role in disaster management, public safety, and urban planning. This demonstrates that Social Science is not isolated subjects but a unified approach to comprehending reality.
73. Charles Beard described social science as a "body of knowledge and thought pertaining to human affairs as distinguished from sticks, stones, stars and physical objects." His definition emphasizes that social science focuses exclusively on the complexities and dynamics of human existence, interactions, and societal structures. He draws a clear line by stating that its subject matter is not the inanimate or natural world, but rather the realm of human activity, thought, and organization. This distinction underscores the anthropogenic focus of social science, setting it apart from disciplines that study the physical environment or natural phenomena.
74. Historical events, particularly colonial rule, profoundly influenced current land tenure, education, and economic disparities, contributing to existing inequalities. The struggle for independence also instilled ideals of justice, rights, and democratic governance, which form the bedrock of today's commitment to these values. Present debates on equality and development draw directly from these historical foundations, seen in land reform movements, educational policies aimed at inclusion, and legal protections against discrimination. Understanding these historical influences is crucial for evaluating the effectiveness and challenges of current social and economic policies.
75. Social Science helps individuals become responsible citizens by developing an understanding of society, governance, rights, duties, and social relationships. It enables people to recognize how institutions such as family, schools, government, and the economy influence their lives. At the same time, it shows that individuals are not merely shaped by society but can also contribute to social change through informed choices and active participation. By studying issues like equality, justice, diversity, and democracy, citizens learn to think critically, respect others, and make responsible decisions. Thus, Social Science links societal structures with personal agency by explaining how people both influence and are influenced by the social systems in which they live.