

ICSE 2025 EXAMINATION
Sample Question Paper – 1
History & Civics

Time: 2 Hours

Max. Marks: 80

General Instructions:

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

PART - I

(Attempt all questions from this part)

QUESTION 1.

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

(i) On April 10, 2023, the Rajya Sabha held elections for its Presiding Officer. What information about the Presiding Officer's election can we infer from this?

- (a) The Presiding Officer is elected by the Lok Sabha members.
- (b) The Presiding Officer is nominated by the Prime Minister.
- (c) The Presiding Officer is elected from among the members of the Rajya Sabha.
- (d) The Presiding Officer is appointed by the President of India.

Answer: (c) The Presiding Officer is elected from among the members of the Rajya Sabha.

(ii) Given below are the details of a few Indian citizens:

Person	Age [in years]	Description

P	42	Has served as a Union Minister for 10 years
Q	38	Is a reputed businessperson
R	49	Has taken up citizenship of Australia
S	35	Is a member of the Legislative Assembly

Select the person who fulfills the eligibility criteria to become the Vice-President of India.

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

Answer: (a) P

(iii) On which date was the Indian Independence Bill approved by the British Parliament?



- (a) 15th July 1947 (b) 15th August 1947
(c) 26th January 1947 (d) 2nd October 1947

Answer: (a) 15th July 1947

(iv) In 2023, the Prime Minister of India introduced a new policy aimed at improving rural infrastructure. The policy was formulated by the Cabinet and approved by the Parliament.

Which function of the Prime Minister is highlighted in this case?

- (a) Administrative function (b) Legislative function
(c) Judicial function (d) Financial function

Answer: (b) Legislative function

(v) Welby Commission : 1895 : Indian Council Act

- (a) 1890 (b) 1893
(c) 1894 (d) 1892

Answer: (d) 1892

(vi) Which among the following are the federal features of Constitution of India?

- P. Dual Government
Q. Bicameralism
R. Consolidation of powers
S. Combined Judiciary

Codes

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

Answer: (b) P and Q

(vii) Read the following statements regarding Swadeshi.

- A. Radicals asked people to use only Swadeshi Goods.
B. Use of Swadeshi Goods was promoted to encourage Indian Industries.

- (a) B contradicts A
(b) B is the reason for A
(c) A is true, but B is false
(d) A and B are independent of each other

Answer: (d) A and B are independent of each other

(viii) The government of Country Y has imposed a law similar to the Rowlatt Act introduced in 1919. Which of the following is most likely to be affected by this law?

- (a) Freedom of the press (b) Equal rights for women
(c) Land reforms (d) Agricultural subsidies

Answer: (a) Freedom of the press

(ix) The citizens of Country X are facing increased military threats from neighboring countries. The government decides to allocate a major portion of the national budget to military development. Being a follower of the Armament Race policy before World War I, which of the following is the government NOT likely to approve?

- (a) Increasing military personnel
- (b) Developing advanced weaponry
- (c) Engaging in diplomatic negotiations for peace
- (d) Building stronger fortifications along the border

Answer: (c) Engaging in diplomatic negotiations for peace

(x) The person in the below image played a crucial role in beginning of Revolt of 1857. Identify the personality.



- (a) Kuwar Singh
- (b) Tantya Tope
- (c) Nana sahib
- (d) Mangal Pandey

Answer: (d) Mangal Pandey

(xi) Identify the ODD ONE OUT from the following provisions of the Mountbatten Plan:

- (a) Partition of British India into two dominions
- (b) Conducting referendums in certain regions
- (c) Princely states must join either India or Pakistan
- (d) Continuation of British sovereignty over India

Answer: (d) Continuation of British sovereignty over India

(xii) Rahul is a follower of Subhas Chandra Bose and his ideology. His town faces heavy taxes imposed by the British government. What action is Rahul MOST likely to support, according to the objectives of the Forward Bloc?

- (a) Submit a petition to the British Parliament for tax reduction
- (b) Organize an armed rebellion to remove British officials
- (c) Write a letter requesting British authorities to reconsider the taxes
- (d) Encourage locals to boycott British goods and services

Answer: (d) Encourage locals to boycott British goods and services

**(xiii) Read the description and identify the person –
He led the March on Rome in 1922, establishing a totalitarian regime in Italy,
and became the face of Fascism.**

- (a) Francisco Franco
- (b) Adolf Hitler
- (c) Benito Mussolini
- (d) Vladimir Lenin

Answer: (c) Benito Mussolini

(xiv) Which event does this cartoon likely represent?



- (a) The Quit India Movement
- (b) The Partition of India
- (c) India gaining independence in 1947
- (d) The Jallianwala Bagh Massacre

Answer: (c) India gaining independence in 1947

(xv) Identify the cities most affected by post-World War I territorial rearrangements :

- (a) Vienna, Budapest
- (b) Berlin, Paris
- (c) London, Tokyo
- (d) Warsaw, Rome

Answer: (a) Vienna, Budapest

(xvi) Which of the following scenarios describes the President's financial powers?

- (a) The President can introduce a Money Bill in Parliament.
- (b) The President submits the Union Budget to Parliament.
- (c) The President gives assent to Money Bills passed by Parliament.
- (d) The President dissolves the Lok Sabha when a Money Bill fails to pass.

Answer: (c) The President gives assent to Money Bills passed by Parliament.

2. Read the extract below and answer the questions that follow:

The Indian National Congress was founded in 1885 to address the concerns of Indians under British rule.

(i) Who founded the Indian National Congress? What were its objectives?

Answer: The Indian National Congress was founded by Allan Octavian Hume in 1885. Its objectives included representing Indian interests to the British government, promoting political rights and reforms, and striving for self-governance and the welfare of Indians under British rule.

(ii) Which category of leader is being discussed in the following cases:

- (a) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- (b) Dadabhai Naoroji

Answer: (a) Bal Gangadhar Tilak: Tilak is categorized as a radical nationalist leader. He believed in assertive and direct actions to demand Indian self-rule. Tilak advocated for the use of mass protests, such as the celebration of Ganesh festivals, to mobilize people. He also stressed the importance of self-reliance and independence from British rule, often through confrontational methods.

(b) Dadabhai Naoroji: Naoroji is categorized as a moderate leader. He believed in gradual reform and constitutional methods to achieve Indian rights and self-governance. Naoroji is best known for his work as the first Indian to be elected to the British Parliament and for his efforts to raise awareness about the economic exploitation of India under British colonialism.

(iii) Imagine you were a member of the early Congress. Mention two issues you would have raised.

- Answer:**
- (a) Economic exploitation by the British.
 - (b) Lack of Indian representation in governance.

(iv) Give two reasons why the early Congress adopted a moderate approach.

Answer: The early Congress adopted a moderate approach to avoid confrontation with the British and to work within the existing framework for reforms and gradual political change.

(v) Mention any two leaders of the early Congress

Answer: (a) Dadabhai Naoroji
(b) Surendranath Banerjee

(vi) Name any two methods used by the early Congress to express their demands.

Answer: The early Indian National Congress used petitions and resolutions to express their demands, advocating for reforms and highlighting the grievances of Indians under British rule.

(vii) Mention the year when the Indian National Congress was founded.

Answer: The Indian National Congress was founded in 1885.

PART - II

SECTION - A

(Attempt any three questions from this section)

3. The First War of Independence, also known as the Revolt of 1857, was a major uprising against the British rule in India. It marked a significant point in Indian history, laying the groundwork for the future freedom struggle. With reference to this, answer the following questions:

(i) What were the political causes of the First War of Independence? Mention any three.

Answer: The political causes of the First War of Independence include:

1. **Doctrine of Lapse:** The British annexation of Indian states, including Jhansi and Satara, led to widespread resentment.
2. **Interference in Indian Royalty:** The British interfered in the traditional rights of Indian rulers and nobles, which angered them.
3. **Annexation of Awadh:** The British annexation of the powerful kingdom of Awadh in 1856 stirred widespread discontent among the local population and soldiers.

(ii) How did the socio-religious factors contribute to the outbreak of the revolt?

Answer: The socio-religious factors played a significant role in the outbreak of the Revolt of 1857. The introduction of reforms like the Doctrine of Lapse, the banning of Sati, and the promotion of Christian missionary activities angered many Indians. Additionally, the perceived threat to Hindu and Muslim religious practices, such as the use of pig and cow fat in rifle cartridges, heightened communal tensions, fueling widespread resentment against British rule.

(iii) The consequences of the revolt were far-reaching. Analyse this statement by stating any four consequences of the First War of Independence.

Answer: Consequences: The British Crown took direct control over India, ending the rule of the East India Company.

The Indian army was reorganized to prevent future revolts.

The policy of annexation was discontinued, and princely states were assured their sovereignty. Indian representation in legislative councils was introduced, though minimal.

4. The Non-Cooperation Movement marked a significant phase in India's freedom struggle. With reference to this movement, answer the following questions:

(i) What techniques were employed during the Non-Cooperation Movement? Mention any two of them.

Answer: The Non-Cooperation Movement mass movement initiated by Gandhiji.

The techniques used in Non-Cooperation Movement were

1. Boycott of government school, colleges and law courts.
2. Surrendering of titles.
3. Boycott of election and other government functions.
4. Boycott of foreign goods.
5. Adoption of Swadeshi.

(ii) How was the Non-Cooperation Movement different from the previous movements? Mention any three key points of difference.

Answer: The Non-Cooperation Movement (1920-1922) differed from previous movements in several ways:

1. **Mass Participation:** Unlike earlier movements, which were limited to elites, this movement involved people from all sections of society, including peasants, workers, and students.
2. **Non-Violence:** It emphasized non-violence (ahimsa) as the central strategy, whereas earlier movements had seen occasional violent outbreaks.
3. **Boycott of British Institutions:** It focused on boycotting British goods, services, and institutions, including schools and courts, aiming to weaken British rule through non-cooperation.

(iii) Explain why the Khilafat Movement got associated with the Non-Cooperation Movement. Mention any four demands of the Khilafat Movement.

Answer: The Khilafat Movement got associated with the Non-Cooperation Movement because both aimed at challenging British colonial rule. The Khilafat Movement was a response to the disintegration of the Ottoman Empire and the British treatment of the Caliph. It sought the restoration of the Ottoman Caliph's authority.

Four demands of the Khilafat Movement were:

1. Restoration of the Caliph's authority.
2. Protection of Muslim holy places.
3. Opposition to the dismantling of the Ottoman Empire.
4. Rejection of British interference in Muslim affairs.

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

The 158th birth anniversary of the freedom fighter Lala Lajpat Rai, was celebrated with full honour at his birthplace Dhudike village of Moga, Saturday. Rai was born at the house of his maternal grandparents in Dhudike on 28th January, 1865. Punjab Cabinet Minister Aman Arora accompanied by MLA Nihal Singh Wala Manjit Singh, Bilaspur and MLA Dharamkot Devinderjit Singh Laddi Dhose paid rich tributes to Rai at his memorial established at Dhudike village.

(i) What was the above personality was popularly known as? Which newspapers were started by above personality? Name any three works of the above personality.

Answer: Lala Lajpat Rai was popularly known as Punjab Kesari or the Lion of Punjab. He was a prominent freedom fighter and played a significant role in India's independence movement. He started several newspapers, including:

1. Arya Gazette
2. Vande Mataram (an Urdu daily)
3. The People (a weekly newspaper)

Three notable works authored by Lala Lajpat Rai are:

1. Unhappy India
2. The Story of My Deportation
3. England's Debt to India

(ii) Mention any three major contributions of Lala Lajpat Rai to India's freedom struggle, highlighting his role in the political, social, and educational spheres. How did his efforts impact the nationalist movement and inspire future generations?

Answer: Lala Lajpat Rai made significant contributions to India's freedom struggle in various spheres:

1. **Political Leadership:** As a prominent member of the Indian National Congress and part of the Lal-Bal-Pal trio, he advocated for self-rule and actively participated in movements like the Swadeshi Movement, mobilizing public support against British policies.
2. **Social Reforms:** He worked tirelessly for social justice, founding the Hindu Orphan Relief Movement and fighting against untouchability, promoting equality and welfare for marginalized communities.
3. **Educational Initiatives:** Lajpat Rai established institutions like the Dayanand Anglo-Vedic School in Lahore, emphasizing modern education and nationalist ideals.

His efforts inspired future generations by instilling a sense of patriotism and encouraging active participation in the nationalist movement, influencing leaders like Bhagat Singh and fostering a spirit of resistance against colonial rule.

(iii) Identify the methods of struggle adopted by the moderates and the radicals.

Answer: The methods of struggle adopted by the Moderates and Radicals during India's freedom struggle were distinct:

1. **Moderates:** The Moderates, led by figures like Dadabhai Naoroji and Gopal Krishna Gokhale, focused on constitutional methods. They employed

petitions, peaceful protests, and negotiations with the British government to advocate for political reforms and greater autonomy. Their approach emphasized dialogue and cooperation, aiming to achieve change through moral pressure and public opinion.

2. Radicals: In contrast, the Radicals, represented by leaders like Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Lala Lajpat Rai, adopted more assertive tactics. They promoted mass mobilization, boycotts of British goods, and direct action through movements like the Swadeshi Movement, believing that stronger measures were necessary to challenge British authority effectively.

6. Look the picture carefully. Explain the following related questions.



(i) Identify the event in the above picture and explain the main cause of this event.

Answer: The image depicts the Simon Commission, a British commission formed in 1927 to review the constitutional reforms in India. The main cause of this event was the growing Indian nationalist movement and the increasing demand for greater self-governance. The British government, facing pressure from both within and outside India, decided to establish this commission to assess the political situation and recommend future reforms. However, the commission was boycotted by Indian leaders due to its all-white membership, further escalating tensions and fueling the nationalist movement.

(ii) Mention any three important points to analyse the political, social, and economic impact of the event depicted in the picture on both national and international levels.

Answer: The image depicts the Simon Commission, which was a British commission formed in 1927 to review the Government of India Act of 1919. The commission, which consisted solely of British members, was met with widespread protests in India due to its lack of Indian representation.

Here are three important points to analyze the political, social, and economic impact of the Simon Commission on both national and international levels:

1. **Political Impact:** The Simon Commission's exclusion of Indians from its membership fueled the Indian independence movement. The widespread protests and boycotts against the commission united various Indian political groups and strengthened their resolve for self-governance. The commission's report also led to the Government of India Act of 1935, which granted limited self-governance to some provinces in India.
2. **Social Impact:** The Simon Commission's arrival in India sparked a wave of social and political mobilization. The "Simon Go Back" protests brought together people from different backgrounds and communities, fostering a sense of national unity. The commission's recommendations also had implications for social reforms, such as communal representation and women's rights.
3. **Economic Impact:** The Simon Commission's recommendations had a significant impact on the Indian economy. The Government of India Act of 1935 introduced reforms that aimed to promote economic development and industrialization in India. However, the global economic depression of the 1930s and the ongoing political tensions also affected India's economic growth.

(iii) Explain the sequence of events that followed as a direct consequence of this incident, highlighting the key actions taken by the involved parties and the broader outcomes.

Answer: Austro-Hungarian Ultimatum: Austria-Hungary issued an ultimatum to Serbia, with strict demands. When Serbia could not meet all the demands, Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia on July 28, 1914.

Activation of Alliances: Russia backed Serbia, leading Germany to support Austria-Hungary. Soon, France and Britain joined in, triggering World War I.

Global War: The war escalated quickly, involving most of Europe and other nations around the world. It led to widespread destruction, massive loss of life, and the collapse of major empires by the time it ended in 1918.

7. The Great War of 1914 was not due to any single cause, but due to the accumulation of explosive material for many years. With reference to this, answer the following questions.

(i) Explain briefly the Balkan Tension.

Answer: The Balkan Tension refers to the complex political and ethnic struggles in the Balkan Peninsula in the early 20th century. Various ethnic groups, including Serbs, Croats, and Bosnians, sought independence from the Austro-Hungarian and Ottoman Empires. The decline of the Ottoman Empire further intensified nationalist movements. The tensions reached a peak with the Balkan Wars (1912–1913), where Balkan states fought to expand their territories, leading to increased hostilities between Serbia, Austria-Hungary, and other European powers, contributing to the outbreak of World War I.

(ii) Explain briefly about the militant or intense nationalism.

Answer: Militant nationalism, also known as aggressive nationalism, is a form of nationalism characterized by fervent patriotism and an aggressive foreign policy. It often involves a belief in the superiority of one's nation and a willingness to use military force to achieve national goals. This ideology can lead to a sense of national superiority and a desire to dominate other nations. It can also lead to a rejection of international cooperation and a preference for unilateral action.

(iii) (a) State any two terms of the Treaty of Versailles that helped to weaken the military power of Germany

(b) Discuss briefly the division of Europe into two hostile groups.

Answer:

(a) Two terms of the Treaty of Versailles that weakened Germany's military power were:

1. **Reduction of the German Army:** The treaty severely limited the size of the German army, restricting it to a small force for defensive purposes only.
2. **Prohibition of a German Air Force:** The treaty banned Germany from having an air force, further crippling its military capabilities.

(b) Europe was divided into two hostile groups, the Triple Alliance and the Triple Entente, due to a complex interplay of factors:

1. **Nationalism:** Intense nationalistic feelings among European powers led to rivalry and competition for dominance.

2. **Imperialism:** The scramble for colonies and spheres of influence exacerbated tensions and created animosity between nations.
3. **Militarism:** A build-up of military forces and arms races fueled distrust and fear among European countries.

Alliance System: The formation of opposing alliances, the Triple Alliance (Germany, Austria-Hungary, Italy) and the Triple Entente (France, Russia, Great Britain), further solidified the division and heightened the risk of conflict.

SECTION – B

(Attempt any two questions from this section)

8. The Supreme Court is the highest court of justice in India and holds significant authority in safeguarding the Constitution and fundamental rights.

(i) What is the composition of the Supreme Court? Mention the qualifications required for the appointment of a judge of the Supreme Court.

Answer: The Supreme Court of India consists of the Chief Justice of India (CJI) and a maximum of 34 other judges, including the CJI. The composition is decided by the President of India.

To be appointed as a judge, a person must:

1. Be a citizen of India.
2. Have held a judicial office in India for at least 10 years, or be an advocate in the Supreme Court or a High Court for at least 10 years.
3. Be of sound mind and have the required legal qualifications, as prescribed by the Constitution. The President makes the appointments based on recommendations from the collegium.

(ii) The Supreme Court has original, appellate, and advisory jurisdiction. What is meant by original jurisdiction? Explain the appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court.

Answer: Original jurisdiction refers to the authority of the Supreme Court to hear and decide cases for the first time, without them being heard in any lower court. This jurisdiction mainly covers disputes between the government of India and one or more states, or between two or more states.

Appellate jurisdiction allows the Supreme Court to hear appeals against judgments of lower courts, including high courts. It can review cases related to civil, criminal, or constitutional matters. The Supreme Court may also transfer cases from one high court to another and has the power to give final judgments in such appeals.

(iii) Mention any four functions of the Supreme Court.

Answer: The Supreme Court of India performs several key functions:

1. **Judicial Review:** It ensures laws and executive actions comply with the Constitution, striking down any unconstitutional law or policy.
2. **Guardian of Fundamental Rights:** It protects citizens' fundamental rights by adjudicating cases of violation and issuing writs.
3. **Appellate Jurisdiction:** It hears appeals from lower courts in both civil and criminal matters, ensuring justice is served.
4. **Advisory Role:** The President can seek the Supreme Court's opinion on matters of law or public importance, providing guidance on constitutional matters.

9. The Governor is the nominal head of a state, holding a position similar to that of the President at the central level. With reference to this, answer the following questions:

(i) The Governor is the nominal head of the state and cannot act independently.

Mention any three legislative powers of the Governor which justify the nominal position.

Answer: The Governor holds a nominal position and cannot act independently, as their powers are exercised on the advice of the Council of Ministers. Three legislative powers that justify this nominal position are:

1. **Summoning and Proroguing the Legislature:** The Governor can summon and prorogue the state legislature, but this is done on the advice of the Chief Minister.
2. **Dissolution of the Legislative Assembly:** The Governor can dissolve the Legislative Assembly, again acting on the advice of the Chief Minister.
3. **Assent to Bills:** The Governor's role in giving assent to bills passed by the legislature is largely ceremonial, as refusal can only be done under specific

circumstances, and most often, the assent is given on the advice of the Council of Ministers.

(ii) Mention any three financial powers of the Governor.

Answer: The Governor holds several financial powers in a state:

1. **Money Bills:** The Governor must approve the introduction of money bills in the state legislature, which pertain to the state's expenditure and revenue. The bill can only be introduced after the Governor's recommendation.
2. **Annual Budget:** The Governor presents the state budget in the legislative assembly. This budget outlines the state's financial plans, allocations, and priorities.
3. **Contingency Fund:** The Governor can authorize advances from the state's contingency fund for urgent, unforeseen expenditures, subject to legislative approval.

(iii) Describe the procedure of removal or impeachment of the Governor.

Answer: The Governor can be removed from office through a process of impeachment. This process is initiated by either the Legislative Assembly or the Legislative Council of a state. A resolution for impeachment must be passed by a special majority in the concerned house, and then it must be approved by a simple majority in the other house. If both houses pass the resolution, the Governor is removed from office.

10. The Union Legislature of India, comprising the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, is the law-making body of the country. It plays a vital role in shaping the legal and administrative framework of the nation. The Parliament also exercises control over the Union Executive through various means like the Question Hour and no-confidence motions.

With reference to the Union Legislature, answer the following questions:

(i) Who is the presiding officer of the Lok Sabha?

Mention any two qualifications required for membership of the Lok Sabha.

Answer: The presiding officer of the Lok Sabha is the Speaker. The Speaker is responsible for maintaining order during proceedings, ensuring the rules of procedure are followed, and representing the House in all external matters.

Two qualifications required for membership of the Lok Sabha are:

1. **Citizenship:** A candidate must be a citizen of India.

2. Minimum Age: A candidate must be at least 25 years old.

Additionally, the candidate should not hold any office of profit under the Government of India or any State Government, as per the requirements for Lok Sabha membership.

(ii) Under Article 79, the Parliament consists of the President, the Lok Sabha, and the Rajya Sabha. Justify this statement with any three points.

Answer: Under Article 79 of the Indian Constitution, the Parliament consists of the President, the Lok Sabha, and the Rajya Sabha. Here are three justifications for this statement:

1. Constitutional Structure: Article 79 explicitly defines the composition of Parliament, making it a bicameral legislature with the Lok Sabha (House of the People) and the Rajya Sabha (Council of States), with the President as its head.
2. Role of the President: The President is an integral part of Parliament, as no bill can become a law without the President's assent, thus playing a vital legislative role.
3. Checks and Balances: The President, Lok Sabha, and Rajya Sabha together ensure a balance of power, with the President ensuring constitutional adherence, and the two houses representing diverse interests.

(iii) Explain the following terms:

- (a) Question Hour
- (b) Adjournment Motion

Answer: (a) Question Hour:

Question Hour is an essential parliamentary procedure in India, where members of Parliament (MPs) ask questions to the Union Executive (the government) about its policies, decisions, and actions. It is held during the first hour of every sitting in both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. The purpose is to ensure accountability and transparency of the government, allowing MPs to seek information about various governmental functions. Questions can be oral, where the minister responds verbally, or written, where responses are provided in writing. Question Hour is vital for upholding democratic principles, as it offers MPs a platform to scrutinize the executive and highlight any issues or concerns regarding the functioning of the government.

(b) Adjournment Motion:

An Adjournment Motion is a motion used by members of Parliament to draw the attention of the house to an urgent matter of public importance, often related to a specific government action or failure. The motion is typically moved to suspend the normal business of the house to discuss the issue at hand. If accepted, the House adjourns temporarily for the discussion. However, the motion requires the support of at least 50 members in the Lok Sabha to be admitted. The Adjournment Motion aims to address matters that require immediate attention, thus providing a mechanism for MPs to challenge the government's actions or inaction on critical issues.