

ICSE Board
Class VIII History & Civics
Sample Paper – 1 Solution

Answer 1

- a) Rangoon
- b) Holkars
- c) Debendranath Tagore
- d) Punjab
- e) British
- f) 1784
- g) Red Shirts
- h) Second
- i) Lord Curzon
- j) 40

Answer 2

Column A	Column B
(a) Treaty of Amritsar	(4) Signed between British and Ranjit Singh
(b) Lord Minto	(6) Governor General of India (1807 – 1813)
(c) Treaty of Lahore	(7) 1846
(d) Akali movement	(8) Launched by Sikh reformers
(e) Nadir Shah	(2) Turk from Khurasan
(f) Invaded Mysore in 1771	(1) Marathas
(g) English – official language of India	(10) 1844
(h) Doctrine of Lapse	(5) Jhansi
(i) Carnatic	(3) Coromandel Coast
(j) Abraham Lincoln	(9) 16 th President of Unites States

Answer 3

- a)** (i) Lord Lytton
- b)** (iii) 1764
- c)** (iv) Dalhousie
- d)** (ii) Fort William
- e)** (i) A post-dated cheque
- f)** (iv) Force/Eagerness
- g)** (ii) 25
- h)** (i) 16th century
- i)** (iii) Annie Besant
- j)** (ii) South Carolina

Answer 4

a)

(i) The clauses of the Subsidiary Alliance system were as follows:

1. The troops of the English East India Company would be permanently deployed in the territories of the Indian rulers.
2. The said rulers would bear the expenses of such a force. The payment could be made to the Company in cash or kind, or by ceding parts of the territory.
3. It would be compulsory for Indian rulers to have a British Resident at their court.
4. The rulers would not be allowed to employ the services of any non-British Europeans and would have to relieve those who were already employed.
5. Any alliance with other powers was forbidden without the consent of the Company.
6. The Indian rulers would have to recognise the suzerainty of the British.

(ii) Following were the disadvantages of the Subsidiary Alliance system for the Indian rulers:

1. Under this system, the Indian rulers had to let go of their independence and accept the suzerainty of the English East India Company.
2. As a result of the payment of subsidies, the Indian states gradually became poor. This led to the collapse of administration in many cases, which gave the Company an excuse to annex the state.
3. The Company allegedly provided the Indian rulers with patronage and protection from enemies. With the need to militarily protect their lands from external aggression gone (at least on paper), many Indian rulers indulged themselves and neglected the welfare of their subjects.

b)**(i)** Important features of the land revenue settlements:

1. The land revenue settlements gave birth to a new social class of landlords who were loyal to the British Government.
2. The British Government was assured of a fixed flow of revenue income without the hassle of the collection process.
3. The new *zamindari* system gave impetus to absentee landlordism which resulted in the creation of many intermediaries between the state and the cultivator.
4. As a result of this process, there came into being a class of moneylenders which was seen as corrupt and exploitative.

(ii) The negative impact of land revenue settlements:

1. As a result of the settlements, land turned into a commodity which could be sold.
2. The zamindari class exerted excessive pressure on the peasantry in order to earn more.
3. Peasantry was forced to pay revenue even in times of famine. If it was not paid, the peasants were evicted from their lands.
4. Neither the British Government nor the zamindars were concerned about the welfare of the peasantry.
5. As a result of all of these processes, there developed a class of landless peasants.
6. The moneylenders too caused problems by lending at very high interest rates and pushing the peasants into debt.
7. Over cultivation of land often led to regular famines.

c)

(i) In 1774, representatives from all the British colonies in America met in the city of Philadelphia and requested the British monarch King George III to withdraw the stringent taxes levied on them. However, the king refused to grant this request. On the flip side, he declared this request as an act of rebellion and declared war on the colonists. This started the American War of Independence. In its first engagement, British soldiers clashed with the American belligerents. The colonists united to organise their own army and choose George Washington as their Commander-in-Chief.

(ii) The British colonies settled on the East Coast of North America were making huge profits as a result of the successful trade and abundantly available natural resources. However, the British Government felt that the profits should go to its own coffers and hence levied heavy taxes on the colonists. By doing this, it was attempting to put economic restrictions on the conduction of trade in the

colonies. The British expected the colonists to cough up the funds for the defense of their territories. In return, the colonists expected to get representation in the British Parliament. Hence, the real issue here was not the high taxes but the lack of representation in the British legislature. It was because of this that the colonists raised the slogan 'No taxation without representation'.

d)

- (i)** The Company administration introduced the new Enfield rifle whose cartridge had a greased paper cover. It had to be bitten off before it could be loaded into the rifle. A rumour that the cover contained cow and pig fat started doing rounds among Indian soliders. The cow was sacred to the Hindus, and the pig was taboo for the Muslims. As a result, both the religious groups felt insulted and cheated. The cartridge incident proved to be the final straw as the sepoys were already seething with discontent because of a variety of other social, economic and political policies of the British Government. Finally, on 29 March, 1857, Mangal Pandey, a sepoy at the Barrackpore cantonment, refused to use the cartridges. As a result, he was hanged to death. The news spread like wildfire and on 9 May, 85 soldiers at Meerut too refused to use the new equipment. They were court-martialled and sentenced to 10 years. To further buttress the point, they were stripped in front of their colleagues and thrown into jail. This resulted in the other sepoys rising in revolt. They ransacked the jail and freed their comrades and even cut off the telegraph lines to Delhi. Even the European officers were not spared and their houses were set on fire. Thus began the revolt of 1857.
- (ii)** Like any other major historical event, there are different interpretations of the revolt of 1857. While the European historians see it as a sepoy mutiny, the Indian historians term it as the 'First War of Independence'. The Indian historiographers eulogise the Hindu-Muslim unity which was achieved by the rebels who came together with the common goal of driving out the British from India. Those who became rebels actually shared the realisation of a sort of patriotic nationalism. The revolt may have been kickstarted by the mutiny of the sepoys against their military masters; however it soon turned into a popular uprising wherein a large number of civilians too joined the ranks with them in order to uproot the British yoke.

e)

(i) The Arya Samaj was founded in the year 1875 by Swami Dayanand Saraswati. Dayanand Sarawswati was committed to fighting against the evils of child marriage and caste system. He also fought against the concept of idol worship and promoted the recognition of equal rights for men and women in all spheres of life. Based on his ideological tenets, several Dayanand Anglo-Vedic schools were set up by his followers. The curriculum taught in these schools was an amalgamation of traditional Indian teachings and Western scientific knowledge.

(ii) The beliefs of Swami Vivekananda can be listed out as follows:

1. He believed in the essential and timeless unity of religions and their teachings.
2. He stressed on the importance of religious tolerance, universal brotherhood, peace and universal harmony.
3. He condemned the rigidities of the caste system in India. He also spoke out against social and economic inequalities, ritualism and superstitions existing in the Indian society.
4. He advocated the regeneration of the Indian civilisation through self-realisation and responsible behavior.
5. He vociferously spoke about the upliftment of women in India.

PART II – Civics

Answer 1

- a)** Dhaka
- b)** Poland
- c)** Saddam Hussein
- d)** Hyderabad
- e)** Deforestation
- f)** Government
- g)** UNICEF
- h)** Nuclear arms
- i)** Interdependence
- j)** 1974, 1979

Answer 2

- a) (ii) 50
- b) (iv) All of the above
- c) (i) European Union
- d) (ii) SAARC
- e) (ii) The Silk Route
- f) (iii) Food for Work Programme
- g) (iii) Franklin D. Roosevelt
- h) (i) USA and USSR
- i) (iv) 35 thousand
- j) (i) 1919

Answer 3

a)

- (i) Globalisation is a process in which all the nations having interdependent economies come close to each other. In other words, the world has become a smaller place wherein the distance between people and countries is overcome by technology.

Important characteristics of globalisation:

- It has made the world a smaller place by overcoming the distance between countries and people.
- It involves the removal of trade barriers and restrictions.
- It encourages liberalisation, privatisation and free market economies.
- It ensures the breaking down of tariff barriers and allows free flow of raw materials and goods across borders.
- It promotes trade and healthy competition for mutual benefit.
- It has led to the formation of various economic organisations such as European Union (EU) and Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN).

- (ii) Though globalisation has many positives, it also has some possible dangerous effects too:

1. The most visible drawback is the creation of a wide gap between the rich and the poor.
2. Globalisation brings in disparity between the developing and developed nations.
3. It can result in the economic ruin of less-developed countries. Example: When there is competition between a foreign company and a local company, the latter is mostly considered inferior (can be in terms of turnover, quantity or quality) to the former and this leads to the local company being closed down. This can be understood with the following example; the toy industry in India is facing stiff competition from the

Chinese toy industry which will eventually lead to the disappearance of Indian toys from the market.

4. Globalisation leads to cultural domination of the powerful developed countries over the developing countries. Example: Imitation and acceptance of ideas and knowledge adopted from developed countries will culturally destruct the weaker countries.

Economic depression in a developed country can lead to adverse reactions in developing nations.

b)

- (i)** The Atlantic Charter was a statement which pledged to continue anti-war efforts. It was signed and agreed by President Roosevelt of the United States and Prime Minister Churchill of Great Britain at their first wartime conference on 14 August 1941.

Objectives of the Atlantic Charter:

1. To maintain international peace and security
2. To encourage international cooperation in different spheres of social, economic and cultural developments
3. To develop friendly relations among various nations on the principles of right and self-determination
4. To recognise the fundamental rights of all the people.

- (ii)** The Preamble outlines the various objectives of the UN such as:

1. To maintain international peace and security
2. To develop friendly relations among the nations on the basis of equality and self-determination
3. To admire international laws and treaties
4. To attain international cooperation in solving social, economical, cultural and humanitarian problems
5. To promote human rights and fundamental freedom for people all over the world
6. To succeed in saving the generations from devastation of wars
7. To become a common platform for various nations to solve and coordinate their activities for achieving the objectives of the UN

c)

- (i)** Acid rain is rain is acidic in nature due to the presence of certain pollutants in the air. The pollutants notably include excessive amounts of sulphur and nitrogen.

Acid rain is considered to be harmful because of the following reasons:

- The pollutants present in the air can cause respiratory diseases or can worsen the health of patients with respiratory disorders.
- It causes the release of aluminium in the soil and makes it difficult for trees to take up water.

- It contaminates lakes and seas and increases their acidity.
- It also damages various objects such as buildings, monuments, cars and statues.
- Also, chemicals in the rain spoil stone statues and make them look old and worn out.

(ii) Noise pollution is defined as an unwanted sound which is released into the environment, disturbing human beings and having an adverse effect on their psychological and mental well-being.

Three sources of noise pollution are:

- (a) Machines and gadgets which are used at home and in the neighbourhood. These include generators, water pumps, washing machines, loudspeakers etc.
- (b) Factories which have drilling, cutting, crushing and grinding machines.
- (c) Transport and traffic—roads, railways and airways. These include jet planes, railway junctions, motor vehicles etc.

d)

(i) A foreign policy is a plan of action adopted by a nation to maximise its national interest in external affairs.

Basic principles of India's foreign policy:

- Promotion of world peace and panchsheel
- Racial equality
- Non-Alignment and peaceful coexistence
- Abolition of imperialism and colonialism, and freedom of all nations

(ii) Objectives of SAARC:

- Improvement in the quality of life of people of South Asia by increasing economic cooperation.
- Promotion of social progress and cultural development in South Asia.
- Increase in the pace of economic growth in these regions.
- Non-interference in the internal affairs of other nations.
- Though the cooperation was slow among these nations earlier, SAARC has been able to make developments which include:
 1. Formation of South Asian Games to promote friendship and goodwill among the member nations. These are held by them in turns and take place every two years.
 2. Establishment of a programme called SAVE (SAARC Audio-Visual Exchange Programme) to develop a cultural link between the member nations. It was launched in 1987 to make people aware of each other's culture and the problems and needs of the region. This programme is broadcasted on the first day of every month.

3. Signing of the South Asian Preferential Trade Agreement to facilitate and promote regional economic cooperation among member states in April 1993.
4. Signing of South Asian Free Trade Area took place in January 2004 for creation of the free trade region within South Asia.

Answer 4

1. The effect depicted in the image is the greenhouse effect.
2. The greenhouse effect is a natural process which warms the Earth's surface. Greenhouse gases act like a glass roof and trap the various gases released from industries. This can result in global warming.
3. Various consequences of the greenhouse effect are
 - a. Increase in the rise of the sea level and flooding because of the melting of ice caps at the poles.
 - b. Increase in temperature in Africa and parts of Asia making life difficult in these regions.
 - c. Depletion of the Earth's ozone layer because of the usage of chemicals (CFCs) in refrigerators and fire extinguishers.