

GENERAL STUDIES

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INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS	
Q.No	Max.Marks	Marks Obtained		
1	10	04	1. Please write your Name, Email, UPSC Roll No. and Mobile number in the answer sheet	
2	10	05	2. There are 20 questions printed in English, all questions are compulsory	
3	10	04	3. The number of marks carried by a question or part is indicated against it.	
4	10	05	4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate (English), which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided.	
5	10	05	5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be struck off.	
6	10	05		
7	10	05		
8	10	05		
9	10	06	Any specific message from Educrat IAS Mentors/Evaluators with respect to your copy?	
10	10	05	Mentor's Remarks:	
11	15	06	Very Good. You have	
12	15	06	a high potential to	
13	15	05	clear the examination.	
14	15	07	keep it up. keep	
15	15	07	writing.	
16	15	07	All the Best.	
17	15	08		
18	15	07		
19	15	08	Start Time: 2:00 pm	End Time: 5:00 pm
20	15	07	Mode of Examination:	Online <input type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/>
Total Marks		117	TEST CODE:	Medium of Examination:



1. Describe the evolution and development of regional temple architecture of South India with special reference to Pallavas.
(Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

The South Indian temples follow Dravidan style of architecture.

Good introduction.

Evolution and development of regional temple architecture of south India

↳ Pallavas of Kanchipuram provided a major thrust to Dravidan architecture

2 major phases

Rock cut phase

Structural phase

a) Rock cut phase: most temples made by cutting rocks and caves.

eg: Durga temple of Kanchi
Ariyana's descent

b) Structural phase: proper use of lime and mortar for temple construction.

Rajasimha group

Nandivaraman group



Mahendra group

Pallava's temple Architecture

1

evolved in 4 stages as mentioned below

2 Rajasimha

a) Rajasimha group: early structural phase
eg: Mahabalipuram temple.

3 Narsimha

b) Nandivaramam phase: developed phase

4 Rajasimha

eg: vaikuntha perumal temple

5 Nandivarman

c) Krishna 1: Ellora temple cave 16

↓

Discuss in short with example.

single monolithic temple.

↓

This is the major demand of the question.

2) Chola empire: construction of Raya Gopurams and elaborate temples

eg: Raja Rajeshwar temple - biggest temple

3) Nayaka style: huge ornamentation on exterior eg: Madurai temple

4) Bhunjia style: Kachapghatas, multiple shrines like structure on the shikhara.

Overall, a good attempt. Please address the demand of the question.

The Dravidan architecture marks a local style development which lends stylistic diversity to Indian temples.

2. "Permanent Settlement disappointed many expectations and introduced there results that were not anticipated." Comment.
(Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

Permanent settlement was developed by Lord Cornwallis to tax agricultural lands in Bihar, Odisha and Bengal region

Good introduction

Major provisions

Zamindar made owner of land	10/11th of tax given to British	sunset law	tax permanent - not much changes.
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Expectations from the law:

- 1) Create Zamindars as a loyalist class to British
- 2) Fix a permanent source of revenue for British
- 3) Reduced burden on colonialist to collect taxes from multiple farmers

Good use of heading to address the demand of the question

Unexpected outcome

More points:

- Absentee Landlordism
- Impoverishment of peasantry
- Emergence of famine like situation.

- 1) It increased burden on peasants - tax imposed was very high
- 2) Land became alienable and transferable - non realisation of revenue led to land being taken from zamindars
- 3) Moneylenders becoming landowners - took over tenants land due to non payment of debt
- 4) Triple burden on farmers - of money-lenders, land owners and Britishers
- 5) Increased conflict: between latifials of zamindars and British officers
- 6) Decrease in land productivity as zamindars became rentiers

Nicely concluded

The Zamindari system proved to be detrimental to Indian agriculture causing depeasantisation.

3. "Weaving", says R.C. Dutt, "was the national industry of the people and spinning was the pursuit of millions of women." Indian textiles went to England and other parts of Europe, to China and Japan and Burma and Arabia and Persia and parts of Africa. Elucidate. (Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

Weaving was seen as the mainstay of Indian industry in pre independence era.

Alternatively, you can introduce with R.C. Dutt as an economic critique of the colonial rule.

Benefits of weaving:

- 1) Employment to millions of women
- 2) Use of natural resources efficiently
eg: cotton raw material was available
- 3) Added India's export

Also discuss about share of Indian textiles in Global Export.

However, Indian textiles went to England and other parts of world:

One way Free trade:

Indian cloth was imp. subject to heavy import duty. By 1700, virtually all textile exports had stopped to Europe.

- Overall, a good attempt.
But, try to explore more dimensions of trade to China, Japan, Burma, Persia, etc.
- 1) Industrial Revolution in England - machines replaced weavers, low cost of manufacturing textiles. India became an importer of finished goods and exporter of raw material.
- 2) Imperialist expansion in Africa and other parts
eg: slave labour cheaper - development of Opium
- 3) Heavy taxation on weavers: weavers had to pay taxes to Britisher without much income
- 4) Fraudulent contracts: British would purchase raw material at very low cost and sell finished products at high cost causing loss for weavers.

Nicely attempted

Thus, British policies and expansion shifted India's weaving industry to other areas of the world which replaced it by industrial production.

4. When corals are affected by stress it causes them to turn completely white. Explain the reasons of such an occurrence. (Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

Coral bleaching is the phenomenon by which corals lose their vibrant colour and become white. It is actually not the corals who lose their colour but the zooxanthellae which lives in a symbiotic relation with coral.

Good
Introduction

coral bleaching
Zooxanthellae lose their pigments
Zooxanthellae die.

Relevant
Points.

Reasons

- 1) Increasing sea surface temperature due to global warming. Corals are sensitive to temperature
- 2) Ocean acidification exposing corals to carbonic acid causing shell dissolution

3) Algal bloom: competition among zooxanthellae for sunlight and photosynthesis as algal bloom covers water surface and blocks sunlight penetration ✓

Freshwater Dilution

4) Changes in rainfall: corals need saline water. Increase in rain can decrease salinity ✓

5) Melting of glaciers: salinity reduced ✓

Marine transport and associated hazards

6) Pollution eg: oil spills can cause blockage of corals pores. ✓

Sedimentation,
Solar Irradiance

7) Extremely low tides: can reduce water availability for corals ✓

Way Forward
Preserve corals through technological advancement eg:
Great Barrier reef coral protection
Cryomesh ✓

Reduce overtourism ✓

Combat climate change ✓

Bioaccretion ✓

Corals host almost 25% of the world's biodiversity and hence should be preserved by all means ✓

(Multiplier effect of coral bleaching on Marine ecosystem)



5. The ideal solution of depleting ground water resources in India is water harvesting system. How can it be made effective in urban areas? (Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

Water harvesting system
in the practise of saving and collecting
rainwater. India is currently facing
water scarcity where more than ~50%
of districts being water stressed (Source?)

Good introduction with data.

India uses 1/4th of global
groundwater and hence it is depleting

Mention some more points showing that groundwater resources in India is depleting. You can quote the data of NRE Aayog / CGWA.

Water harvesting can help:

1) Rainwater availability during monsoons - both South west and North East

2) can effectively recharge aquifers data of through penetration

3) creating bunds can reduce run off.

Water harvesting can be made effective in urban areas too:

Very Good Point.
- Integrated urban water management system
Reuse of grey water after treatment
Overall, a good answer

- 1) Rooftop harvesting should be made mandatory - amend Building Code of India.
- 2) Reduce concretisation - create blue green infrastructure eg: parks etc
- 3) Planning of smart cities as sponge cities - various avenues for rainwater to percolate.
- 4) Policy initiatives: eg: Jal Shakti Abhiyaan to promote community participation
- 5) Establish model buildings eg: government offices, schools etc to have water harvesting structures.

India should use water harvesting method to create a Jal Andolan through Jan Andolan.



6. How do the melting of the Arctic ice and glaciers of the Antarctic differently affect the weather patterns and human activities on the Earth? Explain. (Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

Climate change is one of the top 5 threats to humanity according to WFP Global Risk Index ^{World Economic Forum}

One of the major impact of climate change is melting of glaciers.

Melting of Arctic

1) Melting of glaciers can cause increase in sea level - GLOF ^{Expand it}

2) Since Northern Hemisphere is more populated it can cause significant damage to life eg: more than 100 million people at risk due to GLOF

3) Increased melting will reduce albedo and thus increase global warming.

4) Diseases will increase eg: Zombie virus

5) Impact on research stations in Arctic
eg: Himadri

Very good introduction with relevant report

Some positive impacts: -
- opening up of new trade routes
- Exploration of natural resources

You have written a good answer. You just need to include some of the positive impacts on human life in both the regions.

~~Zombie virus~~

Melting of Antarctica

- 1) Significant rise in sea level
eg: Doomsday glacier in Wedell Sea
- 2) loss of biodiversity
eg: Emperor penguins to become extinct by 2100 due to melting
- 3) can impact wind pattern.
eg: reduced strength of west wind drift further accelerating melting

Way Forward

following rules of Arctic and Antarctic treaty.

Repairing ozone hole to prevent melting of ice eg: Montreal Protocol

Protect biodiversity eg: Marine Polar Sanctuary in Antarctica.

Glacier melting is one of the a tipping points and needs to be urgently controlled to prevent catastrophe.

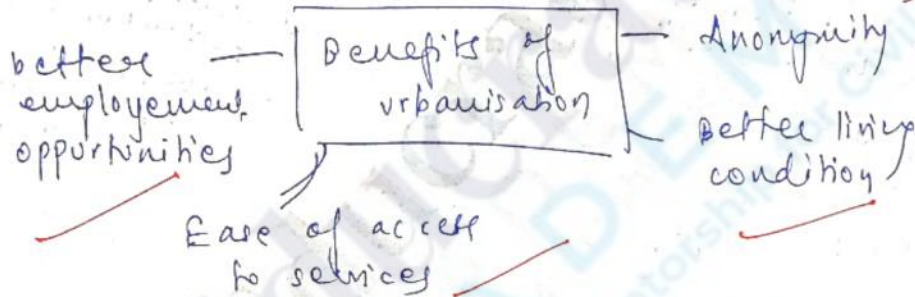
Good Conclusion



7. Discuss the challenges and potential solutions to address urban poverty in India, taking into account the socio-economic factors and policy interventions. (Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

According to Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, urban population of India is expected to grow to 40% by 2030.

Very good introduction



Good value addition

Challenges to address urban poverty

1) Uncontrolled migration: migration from villages has increased due to low employment opportunities in rural areas.

2) Socialistic goal: welfare for all prevents structural changes eg: slow demolition.

— Informal workforce
— Lack of access to basic facilities

- 3) Jobless growth: unemployment rate increased to 17% in 2022-23
- 4) Covid 19: it pushed 110 million people into poverty
- 5) Women's position: women's participation in labour force is quite low pushing them into poverty

- Creation of job opportunities by urban employment schemes on the lines of MGNREGS.

- Integrated urban development plan
- Development of Peri urban areas
- Extension of social security benefits.

Solutions

Employee

- Employer platforms like ASEM portal

Creating housing facilities for eg: PM Awas Yojana

Increase finances to municipalities eg: Municipal bonds

Promoting job growth eg: Gig economy

proper implementation of policies eg: retrofitting of slums

Reducing rural to urban migration.

Nicely concluded

Urban poverty is a major challenge in India's growth journey. It should be dealt with adequately through policy interventions.



8. Globalisation has changed the role of State. Critically evaluate its impact in the context of developing countries. (Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

Globalisation is the increasing interconnectedness among nations in political, social, economic and technological arena. It points to the creation of borderless world.

It has changed the role of state as its impacts are not confined to borders within nations.

Positive Impact

1) Employment opportunities have increased
eg: Global workers, MNCs etc

2) Women empowerment - addressing common issues across the world
eg: #MeToo

Negative impact

1) Reduction in state power
eg: Dependency of Sri Lanka on China

2) Women exploitation
eg: women mostly as low paid workers in MNCs

Good introduction.

Relevant points.



You can also mention about:-
- Erosion of Indian value system.
- Changing landscape of Indian family system.
- Increase of inequality.

- 3) Scientific revolution
eg: sharing of technological findings across the globe eg: India - US iceat
- 4) Multinational institutions for global stability
eg: UNO
- 5) Voice to voiceless
promotes mobilisation of people eg: George Floyd case
- 6) Dealing with new problems like COVID
eg: WORLD BANK to share data on covid.

- 3) A form of neo-colonialism i.e. a few global powers dominate eg: USA, Russia etc
- 4) Increased competition in agriculture eg: India farmers vs. MNC is large case
- 5) Creating new global problems
eg: COVID, Russia - Ukraine war.

You can consider re-phrasing your conclusion.

While globalisation has led to negative consequences, it has also promoted multiple positive benefits. It is the new world reality and must be encouraged to overcome hindrances



9. Do you see a perceptible decline in family as an institution? If yes, what are the underlying factors causing it? Analyse. (Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

In India - kinship and family are central features : David Mandelbaum

India has witnessed a shift from family to individuality in recent times.

- 1) Increase in nuclear families
- 2) single parent households are on the rise
- 3) Family connections replaced by friends.

Reasons

- 1) Urban Employment opportunities : jobs in cities lead to migration of men causing decline in families
- 2) Education : many individuals are travelling elsewhere for education.
eg: Brain Drain of India

You can use this notes without naming the person.

Relevant points.

- 3) Influence of western values : Increasing individualism, privacy needs etc lead people to changing houses eg: children living in different household in same city. ✓
- 4) Legislations : eg: easy divorce allows for exit from marriages. - decline in family. ✓
- 5) Technological innovation : connectivity provided due to internet has reduced fear of moving away from family. ✓

Family still exists

with surrogacy
family importance
is highlighted

demand for
marriage for
LGBTQ shows
family's resilience

joint families
still exist
in business
families.

Please do not restrict your thought to a specific group. Try to make it general

Good conclusion.

India has witnessed a shift in family's structure. The institution is not declining, rather taking new shapes. ✓



10. Do you think lack of development creates the breeding ground for regionalism? Substantiate. (Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

Regionalism is the ideology that glorifies one's own region and promotes the use of that region for sons of the soil only.

Good introduction with definition.

There are multiple factors for regionalism like:

intolerance / political interests / lack of awareness

However, lack of development creates a substantial ground for regionalism to breed:

↳ Scarcity of jobs: employment opportunities, if limited, will create regionalism. Demand that jobs be given to those who belong to that region only eg: Reservation in local jobs in Haryana

Good example

2) Resource scarcity: conflict between insiders and outsiders eg: Marathi-Sinhali conflict

3) Regionalism taking form of separation due to low development.
eg: Vidarbha region demanding separation from Maharashtra

Lack of development should be mentioned as a factor.

4) Stifling identity development can also cause alienation demanding separation eg: Dargeesing in West Bengal

Way Forward

promote employment and education

promote kaensuy
eg: Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat

Allow identity preservation eg: Jan Jatiya Diwas

Good use of the Government Scheme.

Good conclusion.

Regionalism can be a threat to national unity. It should be dealt with adequately to promote Inclusive Growth

11. "Please remember, in granting separate electorates, we are sowing dragon's teeth the harvest will be bitter." Comment. (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

Separate electorate was given to Muslims by the G.O.I ^{Government of India} Act 1909 also called Morley-Minto reforms.

Separate electorate:

It allows members of only one community to vote for seats reserved for that community. eg: Only Muslims can vote for seats reserved for Muslims.

Separate electorate was akin to sowing a dragon's teeth as its harvest was bitter.

It promoted divide and rule: It created a permanent gulf between Muslims and Hindus.

2) Opened a Pandora's Box:

Good explanation.

demands for separate electorate among Dalits, Sikhs, Anglo-Indians etc increased.

3) Distintegration of national unity:

GOI Act 1919 gave separate electorates to other communities like Europeans, Indian Christian etc thus dividing India along communal lines.

4) Promoted communal conflict:

This point is very similar to your 1st point

Muslims came to be viewed as separate entity. Muslim League seen as representative of Muslims while INC was seen as a Hindu Body.

5) Conditional unity: even in 1916

Good Point

Lucknow Pact, separate electorate was retained which reflected that the gulf cannot be closed early.

6) Promoted intolerance: eg:



Muslims peasants exploited by Hindu landlords - Hindu Muslim divide.

7) Reduced nationalist response to colonialism eg: Muslims participation in civil disobedience was low.

8) Separate electorate beginning of communal politics led to partition: the final stage of communalisation

~~Comm~~ Separate electorate created a permanent divide between Hindus and Muslims ^{various communities} which ultimately led to partition of the nation on communal grounds.

- Benefits of separate electorate limited to elites of certain communities.
- Acted as a breeding ground for the two-nation theory.

Very Good
Conclusion

12. A number of scholars considered Alexander as 'The Great', although long-term impacts of Alexander's invasion on India need to be re-evaluated. Comment. (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

Good introduction

Alexander was a Greek ruler who tried to invade India during the Maurya rule.

Good use of question to make heading

He is considered as 'Alexander the Great' by many as:

- 1) He had conquered major territories in Europe
- 2) His 19 month long expedition to India made him master of land west of Beas river.
- 3) He defeated rulers like Porus with his strong army.
- 4) He conquered almost 30 land to a great extent which he divided into 300 units.

- Rulers like Ambhi of Taxila surrendered without even fighting.

However, Alexander's invasion in India had a limited impact

- 1) He could not move beyond Beas river as his soldiers refused to fight with the Nanda army.
- 2) He divided his lands among 300 generals. After his death, these areas became independent.
- 3) Greek settlements in India were established even before Alexander, especially in North Western regions.
- 4) The Great Silk route provided enough contact with Greek - Alexander's invasion did not further these contacts.
- 5) No major inscriptions or literary works done by Alexander -

use adjectives like mighty army to stress upon your points.

Mention about defeat of Seleucis Nikator to Chandragupta Maurya.

Little impact on literary development of India

- 2) Even after Alexander's invasions, Indian population did not settle in Greece - not much contact.

Nonetheless, his invasions made India an attraction to the world.

- 1) Instability in Greece prompted local rulers to shift eastwards towards India

- 2) It established the right of Nanda army

- 3) Promoted exchange of ministers in royal court eg: Herodotus during Maurya rule

- 4) Opened great avenues for Greek-India battles eg: Sitacaus Nikator battle with Chandragupta Maurya

Due to strong power of Mauryans, Alexander's invasions did not create a significant impact on India.

Nicely attempted question

Megasthenes would be more appropriate.

Good.



13. "The tribal and peasant rebellion laid the foundation of the revolt of 1857." Comment. (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

The revolt of 1857, also called the sepoy mutiny, was preceded by various tribal and peasant rebellions which laid the foundation of the revolt.

Good introduction.

Tribal rebellions

1) Santal rebellion 1856: Santals fought against British for removal of taxes. Led by Bidhu and Kanku it led to creation of Santal Pargana and busted myth of white invincibility.

2) Munda revolt: led by Birsa Munda against oppressive taxation and decline in community ownership of land. It led to restoration of

Munde khuntkati system.

- 3) Pahariga rebellion led by Durjan Singh
- created Saman-i-koh area for
Pahariyas.

Peasant revolt:

- 1) Loss of land: Almost 21000 Awadh
taluqdars lost their land to Britishers
- 2) Oppressive taxation: zamindari and
ryotwari systems led to huge tax
burden on peasants.
- 3) Commercialisation of agriculture:
eg: forcing to grow cash crops and
imposing fraudulent contracts.

Both tribal and peasant
rebellion laid foundation of 1857
revolt as:

- 1) Tribal richies motivated sepoys to
take action against Britishers for
own benefits.



- 2) Most sepoys were farmers belonging from Awadh — the sepoys was a peasant in uniform → Good
- 3) losing identity of tribes eg: British interfering in religious matters eg: Widow remarriage act.
- 4) Restoration of agricultural land part of 1857 revolt eg: sepoys burnt books of moneylenders.

Thus, 1857 revolt was guided by peasant and tribal rebellions and focused on restoring traditional patterns.

The question was more about revolts. So, you can make a joint heading like Peasants and Tribal uprisings before 1857:

- Kuki Rebellion
 - Paikar Rebellion
 - San Ramosi uprisings.
- and mention about them.

14. What are the different types of plate tectonic boundaries? Also, mention various types of landforms associated with each type of plate boundary. (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

Good introduction with example

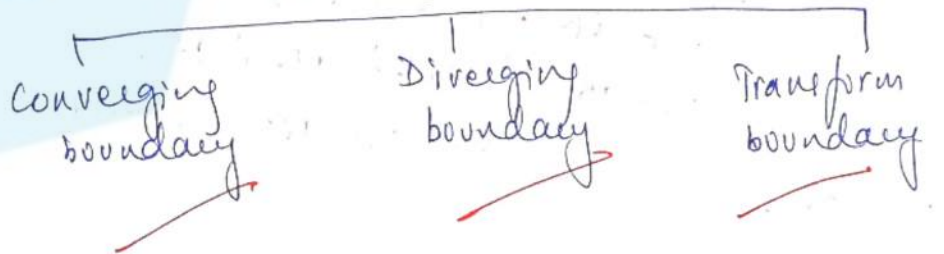
Plate tectonic theory is a theory to explain endogenic factors that causes formation and variations in landforms on the Earth's crust.

Good use of theories

It takes support of Arthur Holmes: convection theory and Sea floor spreading theory.

The Earth is divided into various plates which move over the asthenosphere. The movement and interaction causes landform formation.

Types of Plate tectonic boundaries





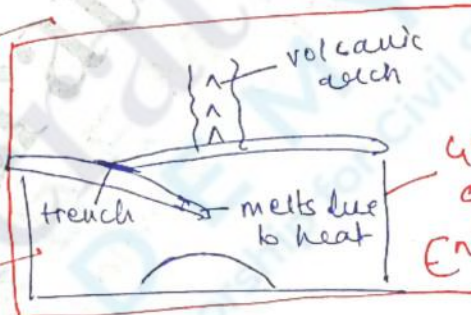
Converging boundary: when 2 plates meet due to falling and descending limbs. It can be:

Ocean-ocean convergence (o-o) Ocean-continental convergence (o-c)

Firstly mention in brackets, then use it later in your answer.

O-O convergence: the heavier ocean plate subducts forming:

1) Trench: the subducting slab creates a gap forming trench
eg: Mariana trench



Good use of diagram. Enclose it in a box.

2) Volcanic archipelago: subducting slab melts leading to andesitic eruption and accumulation eg: Aleutian islands

O-C convergence: both slabs buoyant hence no subduction

• forming of Fold Mountain eg: Himalayas

Good point.

Diverging boundary

Nicely attempted answer

C-C divergence

- formation of rift valley
eg: African rift valley

O-O divergence

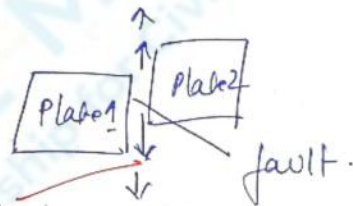
- formation of Mid Oceanic ridges eg:
Atlantic MOR

O-C divergence

Transform Boundary

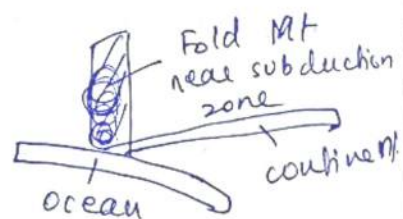
It does not lead to any interaction, the plates only slide against each other creating earthquakes rather than any landform.

- 2) Faults are created
eg: San Andreas fault



Convergence of O-C

- Creates Melange: accumulation of subduction material scraped
- 2) Chain of mountains
eg: Rockies



Good conclusion

• Plate movements provide explanation to various landforms. It is a theory in progress and yet to cover various aspects.

15. Which factors impact ocean currents formation and how do they influence climate in different regions of the world? (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

Ocean currents are swift moving narrow streams that are more perceptible near the coasts.

Good introduction.

Factors impacting ocean current formation

1) Latitude and Temperature: water near equator will lead to development of warm currents eg: Gulf stream while polar areas will have cold current eg: Labrador current

Relevant points.

2) Salinity and density: more saline and dense water will sink below while less dense water will stay above,

3) Winds: movement of wind determining direction of ocean currents
eg: West wind drift impacted by Westerlies.

4) Solar energy: water near equator expands due to heat, rises creating a gradient effect. Leads to counter-convection current.

5) Rotation of the Earth: Coriolis force pushes streams in Northern Hemisphere to in clockwise direction eg: North Atlantic Drift

6) Modifying factors: structure of landform can influence ocean current eg: Bifurcation of Tsushima and Kuroshio current due to Japan



Ocean currents influencing climate

(7) Increases aridity:

eg: Peruvian current in Patagonian desert.

2) Helps in agriculture: eg: Gulf stream maintaining adequate temperature

3) Balancing climate extremes
eg: North Atlantic drift melting snow in Meenaustrak region

4) Induces rainfall:
eg: Kuroshio current makes Japanese region warmer leading to rain throughout the year.

5) Supports climate system like monsoon eg: reversal of currents in Indian ocean during monsoons.

6) Mixing of current can create foggy conditions causing windrance in navigation eg: Kuroshio and Oyashio

Ocean currents influence and are influenced by climate. It is not a one way flow of impacts.

Also, you can mention about the effects of ocean currents on various phenomenon like AMOC, IOD, ENSO

Nicely Attempted question.

Nicely Concluded.

16. Examine the factors on which location of semiconductor and electronic chip making industry depend along with the major issues associated with the establishment of chip industry. (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

with the Industrial Revolution 4.0 coming into play, semiconductor and electronic chip making industry have emerged as the new oil.

Factors on which the ^{location} semiconductor and chip industry depend:

1) Government policy: government policies can allow establishment of such industries
eg: PLI scheme of India attracting manufacturing units.

2) Skilled population: the industry needs advanced science and technology and skilled labour force eg: USA.

3) Capital availability: it is a very capital intensive industry with a single fabrication plant costing millions of dollars. Thus capital should be adequate.

4) Water availability: chip manufacturing requires millions of litres of water
eg: china

Since it is a neither a weight losing nor a weight gaining industry, the above factors influence its location more than component part.

Good interpretation

Issues faced by semiconductor industry

1) Lack of capital: not all developing nations are capable of investing billions of dollars.

2) Water usage: in an already water stressed situation, over consumption of water by fabs present a challenge.

0.7% of
NTI Aayog
and Eco. Survey

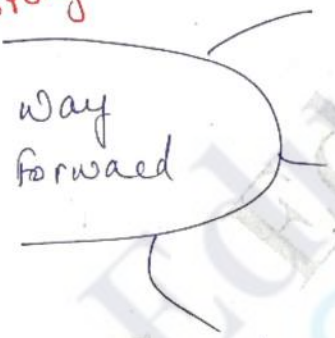
3) Low investment in R & D ^{Expand it.} eg: India
only spends 0.07% of GDP on R & D.

4) continued reliance on imports: few
global players like USA and China
dominate the market. Taiwan

5) Low STEM education: less focus
on scientific education pose hindrance
to its development.

Overall,
a good
answer.

Please
refrain from
quoting wrong
data.



promoting international
collaborations eg: ICET
initiative of India - US

encouraging government
policy incentives eg: PLI
scheme

Increasing R & D to 2%
of GDP in India.

India should not lag
behind world powers in semiconductor
industry. A indigenous development
will promote Atmanirbhar

Nicely
concluded

17. In the context of the recent floods in Delhi discuss the reasons behind urban floods and rainfall in India. How can we resolve the issue of urban flooding in India. (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

In the monsoon of 2023, Delhi witnessed unprecedented floods which led to loss of 7 lives. It points to the issue of urban floods in India — a calamity where loss of lives and property is increasing.

Good introduction

Source?

Major causes of urban floods and rainfall in India.

- 1) Increasing rainfall: India witnessed Triple dip La Nina.
- 2) Concretisation: prevents encroachment percolation of groundwater leading to floods.
- 3) Encroachment: converting wetlands,

fair points.

parks etc into concrete areas for roads, residential units. It decreases percolation of rain water to ground.

4) Breach in river water levels due to connecting flood plains into residential units. eg: Yamuna river water rise caused destruction of houses close to it.

5) Climate change: increasing greenhouse gas emission due to pollution, vehicular emission etc causes ^{urban} Heat Island effect increasing evaporation and subsequent rain.

6) Improper drainage eg: lack of drain connectivity, no timely de-blocking of drains etc.

Solutions to solve urban floods:

to create blue green infrastructure eg: parks, wetlands etc.

very good point.

- 2) Promote idea of sponge cities
eg: percolation of water at all levels
- 3) Mandatory rain water harvesting
in major buildings - amend
Building code of India.
- 4) Focus on building flood resilient
infrastructure eg: Bangladesh floating
hospital
- 5) Information dissemination and prediction
of rainfall patterns eg: iFlows
Mumbai
- 6) Focus on flood proofing in hotspots.
eg: raised pavements and shelter
houses
- 7) Promoting community participation
for evacuation eg: volunteer groups,
1st responders etc.

Urban flooding is a major
disaster in India. With increasing
urbanisation, city planning should be
re-evaluated to combat this disaster.

Well-
framed
Answer
Keep it
up.

Nicely
concluded

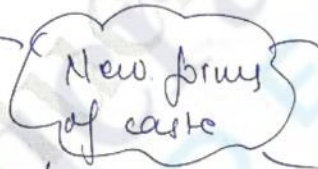
18. In recent years the caste system in India is assuming new identities. In this light discuss the importance and challenges posed by caste system. (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

Good introduction.

Caste system is a hierarchical system based on ascriptive identity of birth. While it is often seen as a traditional institution which is losing its importance, it has taken new forms.

Caste reservations

Caste political parties



Caste groups

Caste identity markers

Importance of caste:

- 1) Empowerment of lower castes:
Reservation on basis of castes has helped empower Dalit section
- 2) Sense of identity: caste still

is a major source of identity for people eg: Rajputs

- 3) Government policies for caste based discrimination removal eg: Prevention of Atrocities Act - it requires acknowledging caste existence
- 4) Solidarity: various caste come together under varna system for common demands eg: reservation for OBCs

You can also mention about the Rohini Commission report.

Challenges posed by caste system

- 1) Untouchability: It continues to be a stark reality even after Art 17.
- 2) Occupational segregation:
eg: 95% manual scavengers are Dalits.
- 3) Desanskritisation: caste identity being degraded for reservation

benefits eg: Jats recognised as OBC.

4) Increased caste conflicts eg:
Ranveer Sena

5) Women bear triple burden of caste,
class and gender.

eg: Honour killing of lower caste
women for being with other castes.

6) Promoting narrow interests hindering
national unity eg: Dalits not
seeing themselves as Hindu while
others not seeing them as Indians.

7) Increasing violence among castes
eg: Dalit lynched in Maharashtra.

Way
Forward

— caste identities should be
discouraged

— special benefits to lower
caste to promote equality,

caste continues to be resilient
in India. It cannot be done away
with but its negative impact should
be curbed.

Good
Answer

Nicely
Concluded

19. Paternity leave is an idea whose time has come, for both Indian men and women. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

Recently Kerala offered Paternity leave to its male employees in government services. Paternity leave simply means leave to father, paid or unpaid, to take care of newborn child. It is on the lines of maternity leave.

Good introduction.

Need of paternity leave

It will promote equal sharing of domestic responsibilities. It is father's duty too to take care of child.

Relevant points.

- 2) Promote gender equality between couple - both doing same tasks - against patriarchy.
- 3) Increase bond between

father and child. due to close contact in early years.

4) Improve maternal health :

mother gets to take rest after pregnancy as father can look after child

5) Reduce hiring bias against women - women not hired as ^{paid} maternity leave seen as loss by company. Paternity leave can reduce this biasness

6) Progressive ideology : it reflects that the world is moving towards a modern thought.

Challenges with paternity leave

It can create a dual burden on woman - take care of child and husband if husband does not cooperate.

Post-natal Care

Good Point

2) Men will not avail this as it is seen as a sign of 'weakness' - paternity leave seen as break.

Relevant points.

3) Skewed application: will such a leave be given to transgenderes and surrogate fathers.

4/4

way forward

Government should adopt a uniform policy on paternity leave.

Swiss model: 'dotted leave'

both parents given a fixed number of leave days and both can avail it according to their choice.

Good example.

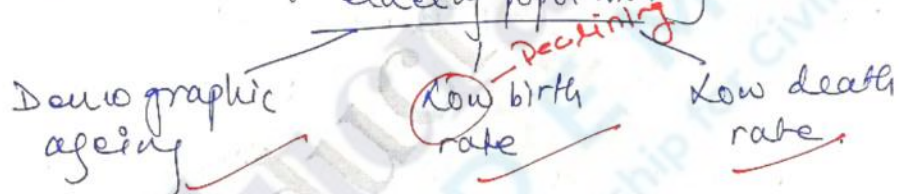
Paternity leave in India can go a long way in reducing the patriarchal stereotypes of child rearing as a female function. It should be encourage to achieve SDGs of gender equality.

Good use of SDG in conclusion.

20. Share of the elderly in India's population is growing fast and may reach 18% by 2036. What can be done to provide the elderly with a decent quality of life in the near future? (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

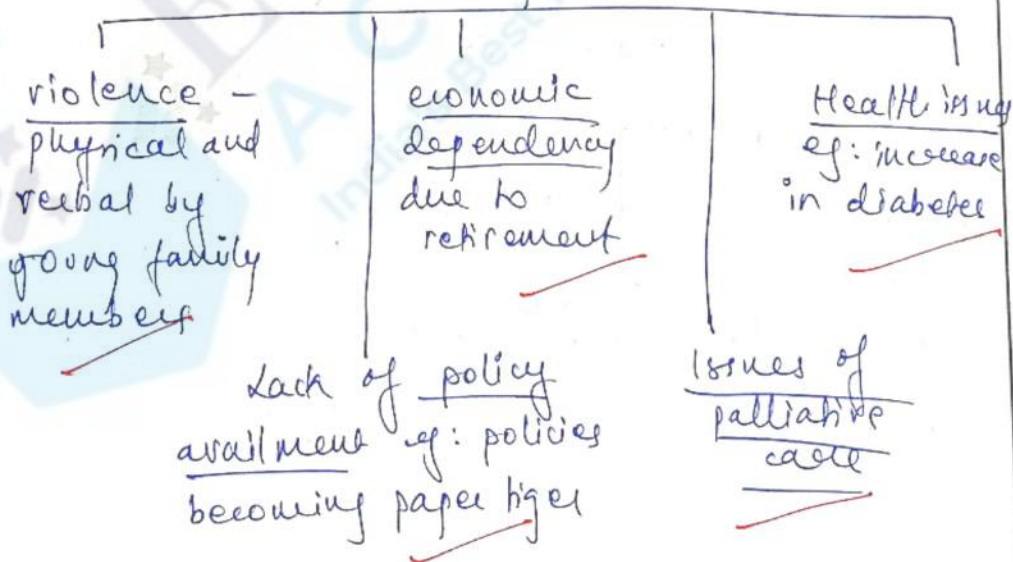
In India, the share of elderly stands near 9%. which is expected to rise to 18% by 2036.

Reasons for growth in elderly population



Issues faced by elderly

Good Points





Ways to improve quality of life of elderly

- 1) Policy implementation . eg: pension through Atal Pension Yojana.
- 2) Promoting adult literacy
eg: Padhna Likhna Abhiyaan.
- 3) Promoting skill development among elderly to reduce economic insecurity eg: Silver economy
- 4) Increasing retirement age in government services.
- 5) Developing policies to cater to their health needs
eg: Limbs policy for assisting devices.
- 6) Focus on palliative care
eg: shelter homes for elderly.

Good points.

Alternatively, you can break your answers into various parts focusing on different social indicators.

in every city.

7) Promoting community participation to care for elderly.
eg: Time savings: record time served by youngsters for elder care and allow them to encash this time of care in their old age - Switzerland

8) Ensuring nutritional needs of elderly eg: Poshan Vahikas in elderly homes.

9) Tax concessions to NGOs serving elderly.

Good Conclusion. India is going to face an demographic ageing in future. It is important to adopt policy measures now to ensure decent quality of life for the aged.