

Sociology Paper II

Time Allowed: Three Hours | Maximum Marks: 250

Question Paper Specific Instructions

- There are EIGHT questions divided in TWO SECTIONS.
- Candidate has to attempt FIVE questions in all.
- Questions no. 1 and 5 are compulsory and out of the remaining, any THREE are to be attempted choosing at least ONE question from each section.
- The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
- Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.
- Attempts of questions shall be counted in sequential order. Unless struck off, attempt of a question shall be counted even if attempted partly.

SECTION A

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| 1 | Write short answers with a sociological perspective on the following, in about 150 words each: | 50 |
| 1(a) | Write a critique of the structural and functional perspective used by M.N. Srinivas in the understanding of Indian society. | 10 |
| 1(b) | Which is more significant, the principle of 'hierarchy' or the principle of 'difference', in intercaste relations in the present day? | 10 |
| 1(c) | What are the distinct features of Islam as practised in India, and how have they changed over time? | 10 |
| 1(d) | How have the struggles against untouchability changed their forms and perspectives from Gandhian to Ambedkarite positions? | 10 |
| 1(e) | Write a short note on 'changing means of production and increased rural poverty.' | 10 |
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| 2(a) | The main objectives of socio-religious movements during the colonial rule in India were reforming and synthesizing Hinduism. Write on any two such important movements. | 20 |
| 2(b) | Discuss Yogendra Singh's thesis on Modernisation of Indian Tradition, and evaluate its applicability in the present day context. | 20 |
| 2(c) | What are the changes in the cultural and structural aspects of the caste system since independence? | 10 |
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| 3(a) | Indebtedness is one of the serious issues leading to farmers' suicides. Discuss reasons and suggest solutions. | 20 |
| 3(b) | Clarify the distinction between 'household' and 'family' and evaluate whether joint families have completely disintegrated. | 20 |
| 3(c) | Compare the North Indian Kinship System with the South Indian Kinship System. | 10 |
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| 4(a) | Explain the concepts of 'dominant caste' and 'vote bank', giving examples from specific regions. | 20 |
| 4(b) | What is the nature of religious change among tribal communities? Illustrate with two examples from colonial and post independence times. | 20 |
| 4(c) | Compare the pressing problems of a dalit poor family living in an urban slum with a similar type of family living in a rural setting. | 10 |

SECTION B

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| 5 | Write short answers with a sociological perspective on the following, in about 150 words each: | 50 |
| 5(a) | What are the reasons for the escalation of violence against women in the public domain? | 10 |
| 5(b) | Write a note on Education and Equality in India. | 10 |
| 5(c) | Give an account of the problems relating to the "creamy layer". | 10 |
| 5(d) | Do you agree that the issue of child labour raises questions about and beyond the informal sector? Give reasons. | 10 |
| 5(e) | What are the emerging concerns on women's reproductive health? | 10 |
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| 6(a) | Discuss some of the striking issues of development induced imbalances that need urgent attention. | 20 |
| 6(b) | Examine the impact of heritage tourism on urban socio-spatial patterns in India. | 20 |
| 6(c) | What are the causes and solutions for the low female sex-ratio in the 'DEMARU' States of Punjab, Haryana, Himachal and Gujarat? | 10 |
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| 7(a) | Despite gains from the women's movement and state policy of women empowerment, gender equality is far from achieved. Identify two major challenges that prevent this goal from being reached. | 20 |
| 7(b) | To what extent does nation building depend on strengthening of pluralities in Indian society? | 20 |

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| 7(c) | Explain the issues relating to ethnicity and sub-ethnicity. | 10 |
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| 8(a) | What is Cultural Revivalism? Give some examples from performing arts, language dissemination and arts and crafts in recent times. | 20 |
| 8(b) | What, according to you, are the two fundamental axes of social discrimination in Indian society? Are they changing? | 20 |
| 8(c) | Why have we started using another category of tribes called the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)? Why are they so called? | 10 |
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Typeset by UPSC Gurus from the official UPSC question paper. The official bilingual paper is available at upsc.gov.in.