



Indian School Al Wadi Al Kabir

Mid-Term Examination (2026-27)

SOCIAL SCIENCE (087)

SET 1

Marking Scheme

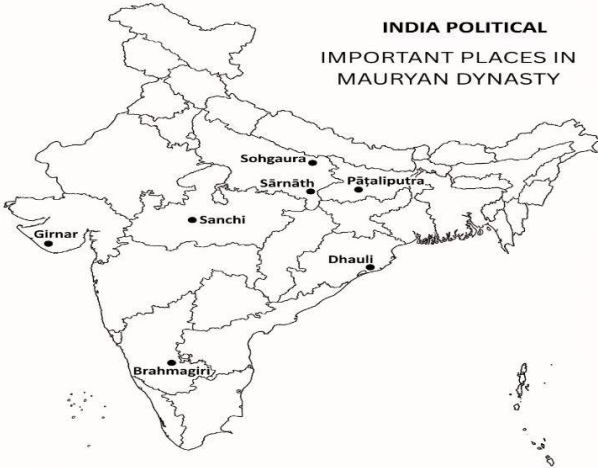
Class: VII

Date: 15.09.2026

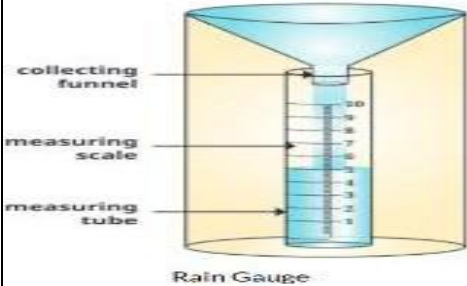
Maximum Marks: 80

Time Allowed: 2½ Hours

	SECTION – A HISTORY (20 Marks)	Marks
	Multiple Choice Questions	
1	What does the Latin word ‘imperium’ mean? B. Supreme power	1
2	Match the following and choose the correct option: C. a-iii, b-v, c-iv, d- i, e- ii.	1
3	Assertion (A) and Reason(R) Assertion (A): Magadha became powerful due to its geographical advantages. Reason (R): The Ganga plains offered fertile land and abundant resources. C.(A) is true, but (R) is false.\ A. Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).	1
4	What was the main language of Ashoka’s edicts? C. Prakrit	1
	Short answer-based questions: (2 marks)	
5	What was the significance of the Kalinga War in Ashoka's reign? • Transformation of Ashoka: The massive loss of life and suffering deeply moved Emperor Ashoka, leading him to abandon military conquests (<i>Digvijaya</i>). • Adoption of Dhamma: Ashoka embraced the path of spiritual/moral victory (<i>Dhammavijaya</i>) and devoted his life to non-violence (<i>Ahimsa</i>), justice, and public welfare. • Spread of Buddhism: It inspired Ashoka to convert to Buddhism and spread its teachings across India and foreign lands. (Any 2)	2
6	What is the importance of Brahmi script in Indian history? • Mother of Indian Scripts: Brahmi is the ancestor of almost all modern South Asian scripts, including Devanagari, Bengali, Tamil, Telugu, and Gurmukhi. • Historical Documentation: It was the primary script used by Emperor Ashoka for his rock and pillar edicts, providing crucial historical records of ancient India. • Decipherment Key: Deciphered by James Prinsep in 1837, it opened up the rich history of the Mauryan Empire and early Indian epigraphy. (Any 2)	2
7	Read the given text and answer the following questions:(1+1=2) The Mauryan rulers developed roads and used messengers to send orders across the empire. This helped them to stay connected with distant provinces. Quick communication ensured that officials	2
	followed the emperor’s instructions. It also helped in maintaining law and order. Ans: 7.1(a) How were messages sent across the Mauryan Empire? • Through a network of royal messengers (dutas) traveling swiftly along developed roads, alongside an efficient intelligence/spy network. 7.2(b) How did roads help in administration? • Roads connected the imperial capital with distant provinces, facilitating quick movement of troops, officials, messengers, and royal orders to maintain law and order.	

	Short answer-based questions:(3 Marks)	
8	How did Kautilya contribute to the system of governance? • Authored the Arthashastra: He wrote a landmark treatise on statecraft, economics, military tactics, and administration. • Architect of the Empire: As the chief advisor to Chandragupta Maurya, he helped overthrow the Nanda dynasty and established a disciplined administrative system. • Statecraft & Economics: He outlined structured taxation systems, foreign policy guidelines, law and order enforcement, and the duties of an ideal king.	3
	Long answer -based questions:(4 Marks)	
9	Explain the factors that helped the growth of kingdoms into large empires in ancient India(1+1+1+1=4) • Agricultural Surplus: Fertile river valleys (like the Ganga plains) yielded high crop production, sustaining large armies and urban centers. • Mineral Resources: Access to iron ore deposits (such as in Magadha) enabled the mass production of superior weapons and tools. • Centralized Governance: Development of strong administration, professional armies, and organized taxation systems. • Strategic Location: Control over major trade routes allowed rulers to generate revenue through trade tariffs.	4
10	MAP SKILL-BASED QUESTION (3 marks) (1+1+1=3) On the given political map of India, locate and label the following important places associated with the Mauryan Empire: A) Sanchi B) Girnar C) Brahmagiri	3
		

	SECTION B	
	(GEOGRAPHY 30 Marks)	
	Multiple Choice Questions	
11	The instrument used in the image is used to indicate: C. Wind direction	1
12	The Himalayas are often called the ‘Water Tower of Asia’ because they C. Store snow and feed major rivers	1

13	Which organization issues weather forecasts in India? B. IMD	1												
14	Match the following and choose the correct option: B. a-iii, b-iv, c-i, d-ii	1												
15	Assertion (A): The troposphere is the layer where weather occurs. Reason (R): The troposphere is the lowest layer of the atmosphere. A. Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).	1												
16	India is called a mini- continent because it B. Contains diverse landforms and climates	1												
Very Short answer-based questions:(2 Marks)														
17	Distinguish between Western Ghats and Eastern Ghats.	2												
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Feature</th><th>Western Ghats</th><th>Eastern Ghats</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Continuity</td><td>They are continuous and can be crossed only through passes</td><td>They are discontinuous and irregular, dissected by rivers (Any 2)</td></tr> <tr> <td>Height</td><td>They are higher (average elevation 900.-1600m)</td><td>They are lower (average elevation approx.600m)</td></tr> <tr> <td>Observing the behaviour and movement of animals and birds</td><td>Parallel to Western coast along the Arabian sea</td><td>Parallel to Eastern coast along the Bay of Bengal.</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Feature	Western Ghats	Eastern Ghats	Continuity	They are continuous and can be crossed only through passes	They are discontinuous and irregular, dissected by rivers (Any 2)	Height	They are higher (average elevation 900.-1600m)	They are lower (average elevation approx.600m)	Observing the behaviour and movement of animals and birds	Parallel to Western coast along the Arabian sea	Parallel to Eastern coast along the Bay of Bengal.	2
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18	Why is weather forecasting important for farmers? Mention two traditional methods of predicting weather. (1+1/2+1/2=2)	2												
	- It helps them plan when to sow seeds, irrigate crops, apply fertilizers, and harvest on expected rainfall. - Observing the behaviour and movement of animals and birds - Studying the appearance and shapes of clouds or the moon.													
19	Explain the role of the Aravalli Hills in the geography of India. The Aravalli Range is one of the oldest fold mountain systems in the world. Its roles include: Climate Barrier: It acts as a barrier for the rain-bearing monsoon winds, causing the area to its west (Thar Desert) to remain arid while the east receives more rain. Water Divide: It acts as a water divide between the Indus and Ganga river systems. Mineral Wealth: It is exceptionally rich in minerals like copper, zinc, and marble. (Any 2)	2												
Short answer-based questions:(3 Marks)														
20	Draw and label the Rain gauge.	3												
														

21	Describe the three main ranges of the Himalayas and mention the key features of each range.(1+1+1)	3												
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22	India has a great variety of physical features. Describe any three major geographical features of India. - India has a wide variety of geographical features, including: - The Himalayas in the north, which protect the country from cold winds and give rise to rivers. - The Northern Plains, which are fertile and support agriculture. - The Thar Desert in the west, which has a dry climate. - The Peninsular Plateau in the south, rich in minerals and forests. - The Coastal Plains and Islands, which support fishing, trade, and tourism. - Major Rivers like the Ganga, Yamuna, Brahmaputra, Godavari, and Krishna, which are crucial for irrigation, drinking water, and transportation. (Any 3)	3
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23	How do weather predictions help us prepare for events like heavy rain, storms, drought and heat waves? Weather predictions give us advance information about upcoming weather events, which helps us	3
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	prepare and stay safe. For example: - Heavy Rain: Predictions warn us to carry umbrellas, avoid flooded areas, and protect our homes from water damage. - Storms: We can secure loose objects, stay indoors, and prepare emergency kits with food, water, and medicines. - Drought: Farmers can plan irrigation and water storage to save crops, and people can conserve water. - Heat Waves: We can stay hydrated, avoid going out during peak heat, and use fans or coolers to stay comfortable. (Any 3)	
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24 Read the given text and answer the following questions: (1+1+1=3)

A weather station in a hill town records daily weather data using different instruments. One day, the maximum temperature is 30°C and the minimum temperature is 18°C. The barometer shows a reading of 990 millibars. The anemometer records strong winds, and a rain gauge measures 25 mm of rainfall. People in the area feel breathless while climbing uphill.

24.1 Which instrument is used to measure rainfall and in what unit is it measured?

(1/2+1/2=1)

- Instrument: Rain gauge
- Unit: Millimeters (mm)

24.2 Why do people feel breathless at high altitudes?

- Lower atmospheric pressure: Air pressure decreases as altitude increases.
- Thin air: The air molecules (including oxygen) are spread further apart.
- Less oxygen per breath: Because the air is less dense, your body inhales fewer oxygen molecules with each breath, making breathing harder during physical exertion. **(Any 1)**

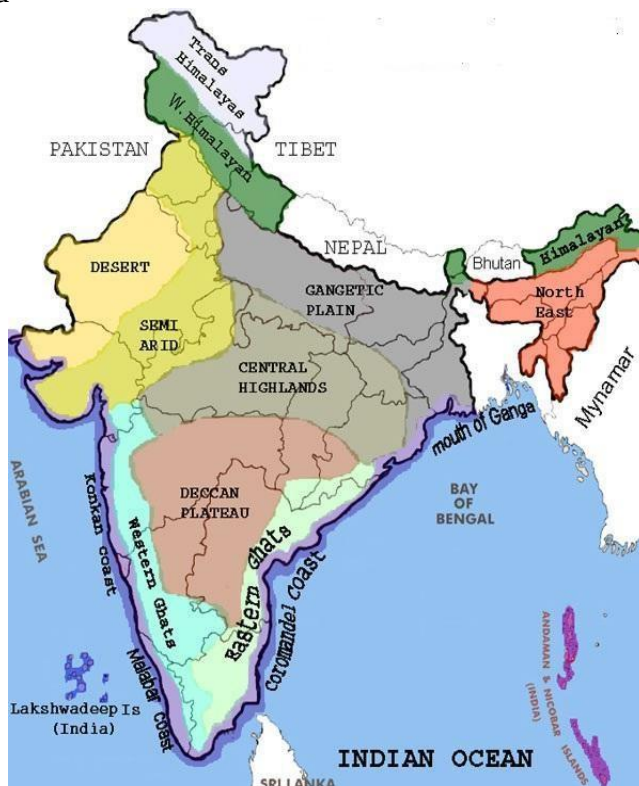
24.3 Name the instrument used to measure wind speed.

- Anemometer

25. MAP SKILL-BASED QUESTION (3 marks) (1+1+1=3)

On the given outline map of India, locate and label the following:

- A. Arabian Sea
B. Bay of Bengal
C. Deccan Plateau



	SECTION C CIVICS (15 marks)		
	Multiple Choice Questions		
26	Identify the form of government shown in the given image. C. Representative Democracy		1
27	Which of the following is not a feature of democracy? C. Hereditary rule		1
28	Match the following and choose the correct options: C. a-ii, b-iii, c-iv, d-i		1
29	Identify the incorrect statement about dictatorship. C. Multiple political parties are allowed to compete freely		1
30	In which year was Adolf Hitler appointed as Chancellor of Germany? B. 1933		1
	Very Short answer-based questions: (2 Marks)		
31	What is the main function of the legislature, and what is it called in India and the USA?(1+1=2) - The legislature is the body of the government which is responsible for making laws. It is known by different names in different countries. - In India, it is called Parliament; in the USA, it is called Congress. *In most democracies, it has two houses, the Upper House and the Lower House.		2
32	What are possible hurdles in a democracy in achieving its values and ideals? How can they be overcome? Democracies often face challenges; some common hurdles include: <u>Corruption</u>: Affects the functioning of democratic institutions. <u>Political Instability</u>: Frequent changes in leadership or government. <u>Inequality</u>: Economic and social disparities can prevent equal participation and access to opportunities. <u>Weak Institutions</u>: Lack of strong, independent institutions can lead to abuses of power and erosion of democratic norms. (Any 2)		2
	Short answer-based questions:(3 Marks)		
33	Differentiate between the direct and representative democracy? (1+1+1=3)		3
	Direct Democracy	Representative Democracy	
	1.The citizens of a country are directly responsible for all the rules, regulations and functions.	1. This is the form of democratic government in which the people elect their representatives through universal adult franchise, just like in India.	
	2. They participate in all the decisions directly.	2.In this form of democracy, the people do not directly govern, but the government is always accountable to the people.	
	3. The limitation of this form of government is that it is very hard to carry out in practice, particularly in larger countries	3. Elections are an integral part of representative democracy through which people can express changes in their choices as well.	
	4. Example Switzerland-	4.Example-India, USA.	
	(Any 3)		

34	Read the given text and answer the following questions:(1+1+1=3) King Chandrapriya wanted to build a temple, but a cobbler’s hut stood in the way. When the builders complained, the King said they should have asked the cobbler first. The cobbler said the hut meant everything to him, just like the palace meant to the king. He agreed to move only if the king personally asked. The king did so and gave him money. The cobbler praised the king’s fairness. 34.1 What good qualities did the king show in this story? The king showed many good qualities such as fairness, humility, respect, kindness, and commitment to dharma (justice and righteousness).He did not allow the builders to remove the cobbler’s hut without permission. Instead, he respected the cobbler’s feelings showing that he was a just and compassionate king. .(Anything related to this explanation) 34.2 Why was the cobbler’s hut important to him? What does this tell us? The cobbler’s hut was important to him because it was like a mother to him and very precious, filled with emotional value and memories, just as the king’s palace was valuable to the king. .(Anything related to this explanation) 35.3 What would have happened if the king forced the cobbler to move? If the king had forced the cobbler to move, the cobbler would have felt great pain, sadness, and injustice. It would have caused him misery because losing one’s home is deeply hurtful. This also would have shown that the king did not follow dharma or justice, and people might have lost respect and trust in him.(Anything related to this explanation)	3												
	SECTION D ECONOMICS (15 marks)													
	Multiple Choice Questions													
35	In the Barter System, what does “double coincidence of wants” mean? A. Both people must want what the other is offering	1												
36	Which of the following is an example of money acting as a “store of value”? B. Saving money for future use.													
37	There are two statements marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Choose your answer as per the options given below: Assertion (A): Coins were one of the earliest forms of money used in ancient times. Reason (R): Rulers controlled the minting and issuing of coins for transactions. A. Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).	1												
38	What do people exchange at the Junbeel Mela in Assam? B. Local products like roots, vegetables, and fruits	1												
	Very Short answer-based questions: (2 Marks)													
39	What are the main differences between coins and paper money? (1+1=2) <table><tr><td>Feature</td><td>Coins</td><td>Paper Money</td></tr><tr><td>Material</td><td>Made of metals (copper, nickel, etc.).</td><td>Made of specialized paper or polymer.</td></tr><tr><td>Durability</td><td>Highly durable; lasts for decades.</td><td>Less durable; wears out or tears easily.</td></tr><tr><td>Value</td><td>Usually used for smaller denominations.</td><td>Usually used for higher denominations.</td></tr></table> (Any 2)	Feature	Coins	Paper Money	Material	Made of metals (copper, nickel, etc.).	Made of specialized paper or polymer.	Durability	Highly durable; lasts for decades.	Less durable; wears out or tears easily.	Value	Usually used for smaller denominations.	Usually used for higher denominations.	2
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40	What were the limitations of the barter system? (1+1=2) • Difficulty in finding double coincidence of wants • Lack of a common measure of value	2												

	• Issues with divisibility • Difficulties in portability • Problems with the durability of goods (Any 2)	
	Short answer-based questions: (3 Marks)	
41	Explain the role of digital money in modern economies. Give three examples. Digital money refers to any form of currency or payment that exists purely in electronic form. Its roles include: • It enables to make easy transactions across the globe, reducing the time and cost associated with physical cash and traditional banking. • It facilitates e-commerce and mobile banking, allowing people to manage finances and make purchases from anywhere. • It often involves encrypted systems and digital ledgers (like blockchain), which can provide better security and a clearer audit trail than physical cash. • It can provide banking services to “unbanked” populations through simple mobile phone technology. • Examples -UPI,G-PAY,CREDIT CARD/DEBIT CARD (Any 3)	3
	Long answer-based questions: (4 Marks)	
42	What are the basic functions of money? (1+1+1+1=4) Money serves four primary functions in an economy: • Medium of Exchange: It is used to buy and sell goods and services, eliminating the need for a "double coincidence of wants." • Measure of Value (Unit of Account): It acts as a standard scale for measuring the relative worth of different items. • Store of Value: It can be saved and retrieved in the future while maintaining its purchasing power. • Standard of Deferred Payment: It allows for contracts and loans to be settled at a later date using a stable unit.	4