

Half Yearly Examination 2025-26

Class – VIII

Subject – History & Civics

Time : 2:00 hrs.

M.M.80

- Instructions:-** 1. Read the question paper carefully.
2. You will be not allowed to write to write during 15 minutes. This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.
3. All sub-sections of each question must be answered in correct order.
4. Map to be supplied for the paper. It should be attached firmly with answer sheet.

Section – A [52 Marks]

Q1. Choose the correct options :-

10

1. The invention that improved agriculture productivity was -
(a) Power loom (b) Spinning Jenny (c) Horse hoe (d) flying shuttle
2. The British parliament passed the stamp act in -
(a) 1776 (b) 1775 (c) 1765 (d) 1756
3. The battle that marked the end of Napoleon's reign was -
(a) Battle of Paris (b) Battle of Waterloo (c) Battle of Austerlitz (d) Battle of Eiba
4. Who took away the famous Kohinoor diamond and the Peacock Throne -
(a) Aurangzeb (b) Nadir Shah (c) Muhammad Shah (d) Ahmad Shah
5. The Battle of Plassey was fought in -
(a) 1757 (b) 1775 (c) 1772 (d) 1764
6. The British collected land revenue in -
(a) Cash (b) kind (c) gold (d) silver
7. He introduced the railways in India -
(a) Lord Dalhousie (b) Lord Cornwallis (c) Lord William Bentic (d) Lord Irvine
8. This system was introduced in parts of Bombay and Madras presidencies.
(a) Mahalwari (b) Ryotwari (c) Zamindaari (d) Zagirdari
9. The Third Battle of Panipat was fought in -
(a) 1761 (b) 1762 (c) 1739 (d) 1724
10. The speech that is considered as one of the greatest speeches of Abraham Lincoln is
(a) Florida speech (b) Gettysburg speech (c) Georgia speech (d) Virginia Speech

Q2. Answer in one word.

5

- (1) When was the Declaration of Independence adopted ?
- (2) Which novel provided the literary impetus to the American civil war ?
- (3) Who granted a Coat of Arms to the English East India company to show that they had her royal patronage ?
- (4) Who introduced Permanent Settlement ?
- (5) Who popularised the 'Drain of wealth' theory ?

Q3. Study the picture and answer the questions that follow.

- (a) Who was Shah Alam II ?
 (b) Explain the term 'Diwani'.
 (c) What led Shah Alam II to grant the Diwani to the British ?



Q4. Assertion – Reason Type Questions.

In the questions below, two statements are given. Tick the correct options.

- Assertion (A) : The British government imposed many new taxes on the American colonies.
 Reason (R) : The British government imposed these taxes to fund their war against Napoleon Bonaparte.

(a) A is true, but R is false.
 (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
 (c) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
 (d) A is false, but R is true.
 - Assertion (A) : The Mughal Empire faced an economic crisis in the 18th century.
 Reason (R) : The nobles became King – makers in the eighteenth century.

(a) A is true, but R is false.
 (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
 (c) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
 (d) A is false, but R is true.
 - Assertion (A) : Under the Doctrine of lapse, the British annexed the kingdom of Jhansi.
 Reason (R) : Under the Doctrine of Lapse, the British annexed Indian Kingdoms on the pretext of misrule.

(a) A is true, but R is false.
 (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
 (c) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
 (d) A is false, but R is true.
 - Assertion (A) : The British encouraged the production of cash crops such as wheat and rice.
 Reason (R) : The profit margin from the sale of cash crops was greater than that of food crops.

(a) A is true but R is false.
 (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
 (c) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
 (d) A is false, but R is true.
- Q5. Give reasons for the following. (any two)**
- (a) The annexation of Awadh caused a lot of unrest among the Indian soldiers in the British army.
 (b) The southern States resented protective tariffs.
 (c) Louis XVI and Maria Antoinette were unpopular among the people.

- Q6. High Order Thinking Questions. (Do any two) 3x2=6
- Why do historians divide history into three periods?
 - The prime minister represents the country at international conferences. Why do you think this power is exercised by the Prime Minister?
 - Why did the members of the Third Estate demand the introduction of 'One man, one vote' as a voting system in the Estates – General?
- Q7. Answer the following questions. (any three)
- Write reference to the modern period, discuss the following. 4
 - Primary sources
 - Reformation
 - With reference to the decline of the Mughal Empire, discuss the following. 4
 - Foreign invasions
 - Aurangzeb's policies
 - With reference to slavery in the south, discuss the following. 4
 - The importance of the Emancipation Proclamation
 - Treatment of slaves
 - Discuss two reasons for the decline of traditional Indian textile industries. 2
 - Write two factors that contributed to the British success in India. 2
- Q8. Project Work. 5

SECTION – B [28 Marks]

- Q9. Fill in the blanks. 5
- The draft of a proposed law is called a _____.
 - Monday bills are introduced in _____ only.
 - The civil servants are selected by the _____.
 - The president can be removed by the process of _____.
 - The vice president is the ex-officio chairperson of the _____.
- Q10. Define the following. (Any two) 4
- Summon
 - A vote of no confidence
 - Contingency Fund of India.
- Q11. Answer the following questions (do any three). 3x3=9
- Write any three executive powers of the president of India.
 - Write about any three powers of the Prime Minister.
 - What are ordinary bills?
 - What are the eligibility criteria for becoming a member of the Rajya Sabha?
- Q12. Match the column - 5
- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| (a) Repeal | A group of parties forming the government |
| (b) General election | A law or regulation |
| (c) Ordinance | House of the people |
| (d) Coalition | Secret ballot |
| (e) Lok Sabha | To officially undo a law |
- Q13. Locate the following on the map of India. 1/2 marks are allotted for the answer and 1/2. 5
- Marks are allotted for marking them on the map.
- Hyder Ali and Tipu Sultan ruled over this Kingdom.
 - The city where the Fort William College was set up in 1801.
 - China Qilich Khan carved out this state in 1724.
 - Mohammed Shah appointed Saadat Khan as the governor of this region.
 - The place where French East India company set up its base.