

Mindbenz Social Studies Olympiad (MSSO)

Sample Paper

Class - 8

Maximum Marks: 60

Time Allowed – 55 Minutes

Section: A Concept Check (10 Questions × 1 mark = 10 marks)

- 1. Which of the following best explains the term “drain of wealth” during British rule in India?**
 - A. Excessive internal trade between Indian provinces
 - B. British investment in Indian industries
 - C. Transfer of Indian resources and revenues to Britain without adequate returns
 - D. Illegal smuggling of Indian goods to Europe
- 2. Which of these was a primary motive behind the Permanent Settlement of Bengal introduced by Lord Cornwallis?**
 - A. To increase land ownership for Indian farmers
 - B. To create a loyal landed class that ensured fixed revenue
 - C. To promote tribal autonomy
 - D. To end zamindari practices
- 3. The Swadeshi movement was primarily associated with:**
 - A. Women’s education
 - B. Boycott of British goods and promotion of indigenous industry
 - C. Rise of tribal revolts
 - D. The Quit India movement
- 4. In the context of the Indian Constitution, the word ‘secular’ implies:**
 - A. State supports the majority religion
 - B. Citizens must follow one religion only
 - C. The State has no official religion and treats all equally
 - D. Religion controls the government
- 5. The resource curse in geography refers to:**
 - A. A country with no natural resources
 - B. Economic problems due to overreliance on abundant resources
 - C. Lack of skilled human resources
 - D. The curse of climate change

6. **Why is natural vegetation considered an indicator of a region's climate and ecology?**
A. It is always man-made and doesn't depend on nature
B. It reflects government policies
C. Plant types respond directly to temperature, rainfall, and soil
D. It depends only on altitude
7. **Which of the following is an example of a non-renewable resource?**
A. Solar Energy
B. Wind
C. Natural Gas
D. Tidal Energy
8. **Which of these documents is considered the soul of Indian democracy?**
A. Indian Penal Code
B. Fundamental Duties
C. Constitution of India
D. Directive Principles
9. **Which revolution is associated with tribal resistance in Central India during British rule?**
A. Kuka Movement
B. Santhal Rebellion
C. Wahabi Movement
D. Arya Samaj
10. **Which soil type is ideal for growing cotton in India?**
A. Red soil
B. Alluvial soil
C. Black soil
D. Laterite soil

Section: B Application Zone (10 Questions × 1 mark = 10 marks)

11. **Assertion (A):** Forests play a major role in maintaining ecological balance.
Reason (R): Forests release harmful gases that lead to climate change.
- A. Both A and R are true and R explains A
B. A is true, R is false
C. Both A and R are false
D. A is false, R is true

12. Identify the correct order of events in Indian history:

1. Revolt of 1857
 2. Arrival of East India Company
 3. Formation of Indian National Congress
 4. Civil Disobedience Movement
- A. 2, 1, 3, 4
B. 1, 2, 3, 4
C. 2, 3, 1, 4
D. 3, 2, 1, 4

13. Which institution acts as the guardian of the Constitution?

- A. Lok Sabha
B. Election Commission
C. Supreme Court
D. President of India

14. Match the following:

Column A (Resource)	Column B (Use)
a. Human Resource	1. Skilled labour
b. Water Resource	2. Agriculture
c. Soil Resource	3. Crops

- A. a-1, b-2, c-3
B. a-2, b-3, c-1
C. a-3, b-1, c-2
D. a-1, b-3, c-2

15. Which statement about tribal societies is incorrect?

- A. They often have unique languages and customs
B. Many tribes rely on forests and shifting agriculture
C. All tribal groups accepted British control peacefully
D. They played a role in India's freedom movement

16. Law and Social Justice ensures:

- A. Free market economy
B. Unequal justice based on power
C. Protection against exploitation
D. Minimum government interference

17. Which is a major challenge in urban local governance?

- A. Lack of Parliament participation
B. Excess rural workforce
C. Overcrowding and poor infrastructure
D. Absence of judiciary

18. The Economic Presence of Government is reflected in:

- A. Celebrating festivals
- B. Producing movies
- C. Running hospitals and railways
- D. Conducting sports tournaments

19. The Judiciary protects the rights of:

- A. Parliament
- B. Politicians
- C. Citizens
- D. Bureaucracy

20. Which body is responsible for elections in India?

- A. Supreme Court
- B. State Assembly
- C. President
- D. Election Commission

Section: C: Social Thinker's Challenge (20 Questions × 2 marks = 40 marks)

21. Which of the following leaders is most associated with reforms in women's education in colonial India?

- A. Raja Ram Mohan Roy
- B. Tipu Sultan
- C. Mangal Pandey
- D. Lord Dalhousie

22. Which law was passed in 2009 to promote free and compulsory education?

- A. Right to Education Act
- B. National Literacy Act
- C. Sarva Shiksha Yojana
- D. Education Equity Act

23. Which natural resource is most significant for industrial development?

- A. Wildlife
- B. Rivers
- C. Minerals
- D. Forests

24. In the context of rural society, a cooperative society is meant to:

- A. Profit from land trade

- B. Exploit small farmers
- C. Support mutual economic interests
- D. Replace village panchayats

25. Which part of the Indian Constitution contains the Directive Principles of State Policy?

- A. Part I
- B. Part II
- C. Part III
- D. Part IV

26. What makes black soil ideal for farming?

- A. High acidity
- B. Sandy texture
- C. Retains moisture and rich in nutrients
- D. Salinity

27. The Company Rule in India formally began after:

- A. Battle of Buxar
- B. Revolt of 1857
- C. Battle of Plassey
- D. Regulating Act of 1773

28. Human development index (HDI) does NOT include which of the following?

- A. Literacy
- B. Life Expectancy
- C. GDP
- D. Land Area

29. Which feature makes the Indian Constitution federal in nature?

- A. President as head of state
- B. Independent judiciary
- C. Universal adult franchise
- D. Division of powers between Centre and States

30. Which river is associated with the world's largest delta?

- A. Godavari
- B. Yamuna
- C. Krishna
- D. Ganga

31. Identify the pair that is correctly matched:

- A. Loamy Soil – Cotton
- B. Red Soil – Tea

- C. Alluvial Soil – Rice
- D. Laterite Soil – Wheat

32. Why were factories set up in rural India during colonial times?

- A. To support tribal artisans
- B. To reduce urban congestion
- C. To exploit local labor and raw materials
- D. For religious harmony

33. Which of these public facilities is not provided by the government?

- A. Drinking Water
- B. Health Centers
- C. Private Schools
- D. Sanitation

34. The term subsistence farming means:

- A. Commercial farming with surplus produce
- B. Farming for family use, not sale
- C. Organic farming
- D. Urban terrace farming

35. Who among the following fought for the upliftment of Dalits and social reform?

- A. Subhas Chandra Bose
- B. Lord Curzon
- C. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar
- D. Jawaharlal Nehru

36. In a democracy, citizen participation is essential to:

- A. Increase market control
- B. Promote monarchy
- C. Ensure accountability and good governance
- D. Avoid elections

37. Mixed economy means:

- A. Only private sector controls economy
- B. Only government owns all resources
- C. Both private and public sectors participate in the economy
- D. Total ban on imports

38. The main aim of public distribution system (PDS) is:

- A. Distribute luxurious goods
- B. Sell property
- C. Provide subsidised food to the poor
- D. Promote tourism

39. Who said “Freedom is my birthright and I shall have it”?

- A. Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- B. Mahatma Gandhi
- C. Jawaharlal Nehru
- D. Lala Lajpat Rai

40. Which article of the Constitution provides equality before law?

- A. Article 15
 - B. Article 19
 - C. Article 14
 - D. Article 17
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Answer Key

Section: A

- 1. C
- 2. B
- 3. B
- 4. C
- 5. B
- 6. C
- 7. C
- 8. C
- 9. B
- 10. C

Section: B

- 11. B
- 12. A
- 13. C
- 14. A
- 15. C
- 16. C
- 17. C
- 18. C
- 19. C
- 20. D

Section: C

- 21. A
- 22. A
- 23. C

- 24. C
 - 25. D
 - 26. C
 - 27. A
 - 28. D
 - 29. D
 - 30. D
 - 31. C
 - 32. C
 - 33. C
 - 34. B
 - 35. C
 - 36. C
 - 37. C
 - 38. C
 - 39. A
 - 40. C
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