

General Studies

FULL LENGTH TEST

(GS - 1)

Test Code - VR1051509

Evaluator Code:

Date of Assignment:

CQ:

NAME:

RESHMA NIVETHA R

Time allowed: 3 Hours

STUDENT ID.:

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Email:

UPSC ROLL NO.:

5 6 0 0 6 4 1

Submission

MOBILE NO.:

Date:

09-08-2025

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS*Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions!**There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH**.**All the questions are compulsory.**The number of marks carried by a question/ part is indicated against it. Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.*

Q No.	Marks	Q No.	Marks	Q No.	Marks
Q1	/10	Q8	/10	Q15	/15
Q2	/10	Q9	/10	Q16	/15
Q3	/10	Q10	/10	Q17	/15
Q4	/10	Q11	/15	Q18	/15
Q5	/10	Q12	/15	Q19	/15
Q6	/10	Q13	/15	Q20	/15
Q7	/10	Q14	/15	Total	/250

Instructions:-

- Legible Scanning:** Exercise due diligence in scanning your scripts for clear legibility.
- Submissions** marred by poor scanning, notably those with illegible sections or blackened pages due to improper scanning, risk being excluded from the evaluation process.
- Non-Adherence Consequences:** Failure to comply with the aforementioned instructions may lead to the disqualification of your submission.

For Student Only

Start Time -

End Time -

Mode of Examination

Online Offline

Receiving date -

Dispatch date -

Parameters		Good	Average	Needs Improvement
Conceptual Understanding				
Understanding Demand of Question				
Structure	Introduction			
	Body			
	Conclusion			
Presentation-Illustrations, flowcharts, diagrams, etc.				
Language and Handwriting				
No. of Questions Attempted				
Adherence to Word Limit: Yes/No				

Mentor's Feedback

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Evaluator/Reviewer Suggestions



👍👍 All the Best 👍👍

(Answer questions in NOT MORE than the word limit specified for each in the parenthesis. Content of the answer is more important than its length.)

1. Discuss how the Indus-Saraswati cultural zone simultaneously reflects patterns of similarity and distinctiveness. (10 marks, 150 words)

The Indus-Saraswati cultural zone flourished between 3300-1300 BC along the western frontier of Indian Peninsula.

Patterns of similarity

- ① Centralised planning with uniform brick sizes
- ② Grid layouts of town planning
- ③ Existence of citadels and lower town
- ④ Water management structures
 - ↳ Drains with opening
 - ↳ Wells
- ⑤ Pottery and amulet set identities for

trade ~~is~~ with Oman

Pattern of Distinctiveness

(A) Indus site

① Existence of great bath (community structure) → Mohenjodaro

② Growth of wheat

③ Bronze sculpture of Panung girl at Mohenjodaro

④ Bead factory @ Chanhudaro

(B) Saraswati site

① Dock yards exemplify international trade by At Lalal

② Three dice found differentiation at Dholavira

③ Stone plaques at dholavira

④ Extensive burials along Haryana-Uttar Pradesh belt

These zones together furnished laying the base for modern urban planning.

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2. Compare and contrast the Mauryan pillars with Achaemenian columns. What do these architectural forms reveal about their respective empires?

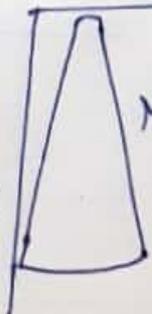
(10 marks, 150 words)

The Mauryan pillars developed as an extension of Achaemenian columns due to results of cultural exchange.

Similarities between pillars

- ① Built using stones
- ② Bottom up construction
- ③ Lotus sculpture part of pillars

Differences between pillars

Mauryan	Achaemenian
① Monolithic structures Lion pillar of Sarnath 	① Built through joining pieces of columns 
② Taper from bottom Monolithic	② Uniform thickness Joints

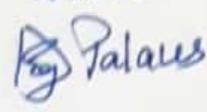
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③ Not part of stambha

④ Purpose → spread of Dhamma

⑤ Capitals ⇒ with animal figures at top

⇒ Bull in Ranapura

③ Part of structural building  Palaces

④ Purpose → structural support

⑤ No capitals → directly connected to arches



Architecture revealing about respective empires:-

Ⓐ Mayan

① Support to Buddhism

② Artistic excellence in animal sculptures

Ⓑ Archaemenian

① Sophisticated engineering knowledge

② Patronage to construction of exquisite buildings

These structures stand as a testament to the cultural legacy of the period.

Introduction	
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3. The Moderates succeeded in creating a national political platform, but failed in achieving concrete political gains. Do you agree? Substantiate.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Moderates such as Dadabai Naoroji, DE Wala dominated the congress during periods - 1885-1905

Failed in creating a national political platform:-

- ① Popularised congress as an Anti British agency
- ② Built tempo among masses by highlighting the inefficiencies of British policies
↳ Economic drain theory
- ③ Used peaceful demonstrations within the constitutional ambit
↳ 3P's - Prayer and Petition
- ④ Successfully lead the Swadeshi movement which decreased imports
- ⑤ Roped in younger generation
↳ Lal-Bal-Pal trio who led in future.

- ⑥ Called for British policy changes
- A) Expansion of councils
 - B) Reduction in revenue extraction
 - C) Providing civil rights
 - D) Simultaneous conduct of civil service.

However, failed to achieve concrete gains

- ① Disregarded role of masses - hence unable to take any drastic decisions
- ② Indian Councils Act 1892 was an eyewash with no real powers
 - ↳ No power to budget
- ③ Disillusioned by British interest - believed British were unaware of real conditions
- ④ Peaceful methods were used by British to manipulate through divide & rule policy:
Though they failed broadly, the stage set became useful for future movement.

Introduction

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Presentation

Marks

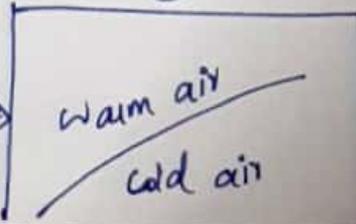
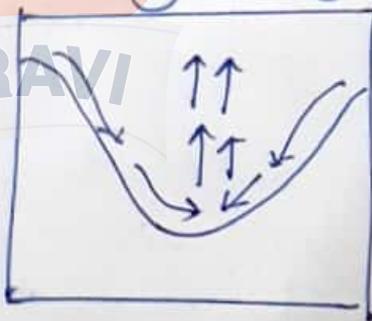
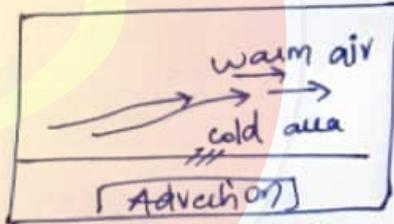
4. What is temperature inversion? Discuss conditions which are favourable for its genesis and its implications on urban air quality in Northern India.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Temperature inversion is an atmospheric phenomenon where warm air overlays the cold air

Condition favourable for inversion

- ① Nocturnal cooling
- ② Cloudless nights
- ③ Minimal wind
- ④ cold dry air
- ⑤ Long nights
- ⑥ Sinking of cold air along valley which pushes warm air upward
- ⑦ Advectional movement of air over cold area \rightarrow Tropical airmass moving over cold USA
- ⑧ Formation of front \Rightarrow warm air / cold air



Implication on urban air quality

- ① Formation of Fog
e.g. Delhi airport visibility reduced by 150 m
 - ② Pollution dome due to trapping of emissions \rightarrow Delhi
AQI > 400 during winters
 - ③ Atmospheric stability causes strong warm and cold waves
e.g. Heat waves with temperature $> 45^{\circ}\text{C}$
 - ④ Affects formation of clouds causing drought and less rainfall
- Reducing emissions and establishment of green structures can avert strong effects of temperature inversion



Introduction	
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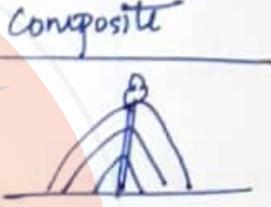
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5. Differentiate between shield volcanoes and composite volcanoes. What explains the absence of active volcanoes in peninsular India? (10 marks, 150 words)

Volcanoes are extrusive magmatic features formed by upwelling of magma along crustal boundary and intraplate hotspots

	Shield volcano	Composite
		
Type of magma	⇒ Basaltic magma with <u>low viscosity</u>	⇒ <u>Andesitic</u> volcano with <u>pyroclast</u> , ash layering
Formation	⇒ <u>fracture type</u> opening	⇒ <u>conduit</u> opening
Explosivity	⇒ <u>least explosive</u> due to <u>low viscosity</u>	⇒ <u>Highly explosive</u> by <u>veevisus</u>
Slope	⇒ <u>low slope angle</u>	⇒ <u>steep slopes</u>
Cooling	⇒ <u>slow cooling</u> travels long distance	⇒ <u>fast cooling</u>

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Example:
Mavna
Kea

Example:
Indonesian volcano

Absence of active volcano in Indian peninsula:-

- ① Distant from plate boundary
- ② No active intraplate volcanic hotpot such as Reunion hotpot which led to Devar lava flow
- ③ Atmospheric Lithological stability of Peninsular India
- ④ High elevation

The absence of volcano ensures crustal stability enabling long term planning without disaster vulnerability.

Introduction	
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Marks:	

6. Discuss how the geomorphology of India's eastern and western coasts influences the impact and vulnerability to tsunamis. (10 marks, 150 words)

The Eastern and Western coast form the backbone of blue economy, but differ in geomorphology and vulnerability to impacts.

Geomorphology

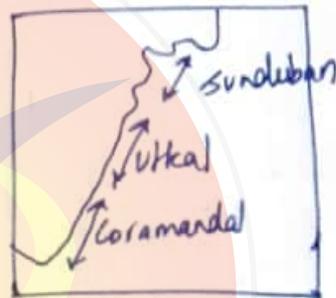
(A) Eastern coast

① Emergent coast

② Delta formation

↳ Sunduban delta formed by Ganga & Brahmaputra

③ Extensive continental shelf



(B) Western coast

① Submergent coast

↳ The tilting and submergence of western ghats

② Estuaries formed due to rift valleys and step



slopes

③ Less sediment load due to short distance of rivers prevent formation of sand bars, tombolo and pits

④ Extensive continental shelf in North and South

Impact and Vulnerability to Tsunami

① Mangroves along coastline act as buffer Pichavaram

② Extensive shelf reduces velocity of waves

③ Rich economic sources \Rightarrow Port, fishing \rightarrow causes Impact on Economy and population Kanyakumari destruction during 2004 Tsunami

④ Sand bars & shoal reduces velocity of waves

Establishment of Tsunami early warning system reduces vulnerability

Introduction	
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Marks:	

7. Explain the reasons behind the spatial shifts and the evolving global patterns of semiconductor manufacturing. (10 marks, 150 words)

Semiconductors form the backbone of manufacturing with spatial concentration in certain pockets

Reasons behind spatial shift



① Government policies driving investment

↳ PLI scheme of India drawing investment from Mitida

② Shifting towards cheap labour zones

↳ Establishment in Vietnam

③ Concentration in coastal zones due to high water availability

④ Research & development leads to inflow of FDI
↳ Japanese R&D

⑤ Shift in favour of raw materials
↳ Investment in Africa.

Reasons behind evolving global pattern

① Rising anti-china axis in global north favouring China+1 strategy
↳ Investment in India.

② Nearshoring to reduce supply chain disruption
↳ Covid-19 shortage

③ Changing geopolitical landscape → causes friendshoring
↳ American investment in Mexico

④ Global policies favouring green technology
↳ EV require semiconductor

India can leverage on this change through PLI - skill development and establishment of SEZ.

Introduction	
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Marks:	

8. How can gender-sensitive policies contribute to more inclusive and equitable regional development? (10 marks, 150 words)

Gender sensitive policies recognises and addresses specific gender needs thereby contributing to inclusivity

Gender sensitive policies contribute to inclusive & equitable development

(A) Education

- ↳ ① ensure access to education
- ↳ ② Scholarship for women in STEM
- ↳ ③ Prevent drop out rates
- ↳ ④ In tribal areas
- ↳ ⑤ Women empowerment through literacy
- ↳ ⑥ 43% women in STEM

(B) Healthcare

- ↳ ① Reduce MMR for better health outcomes
- ↳ ② Janani shaksha Yojana

C Employment

↳ ① Contribution to economic growth

↳ 5th SDG employs 10 more women

D Representation

↳ ① Affirmative actions ensure participation in governance

↳ 5b7 women in PRI (RBI report)

E Creating

ensures

mobility

safe spaces for women
economic & social

↳ Safe migration

transportation

promote

D Strict

promote

community

laws against discrimination

participation of LGBTQ+

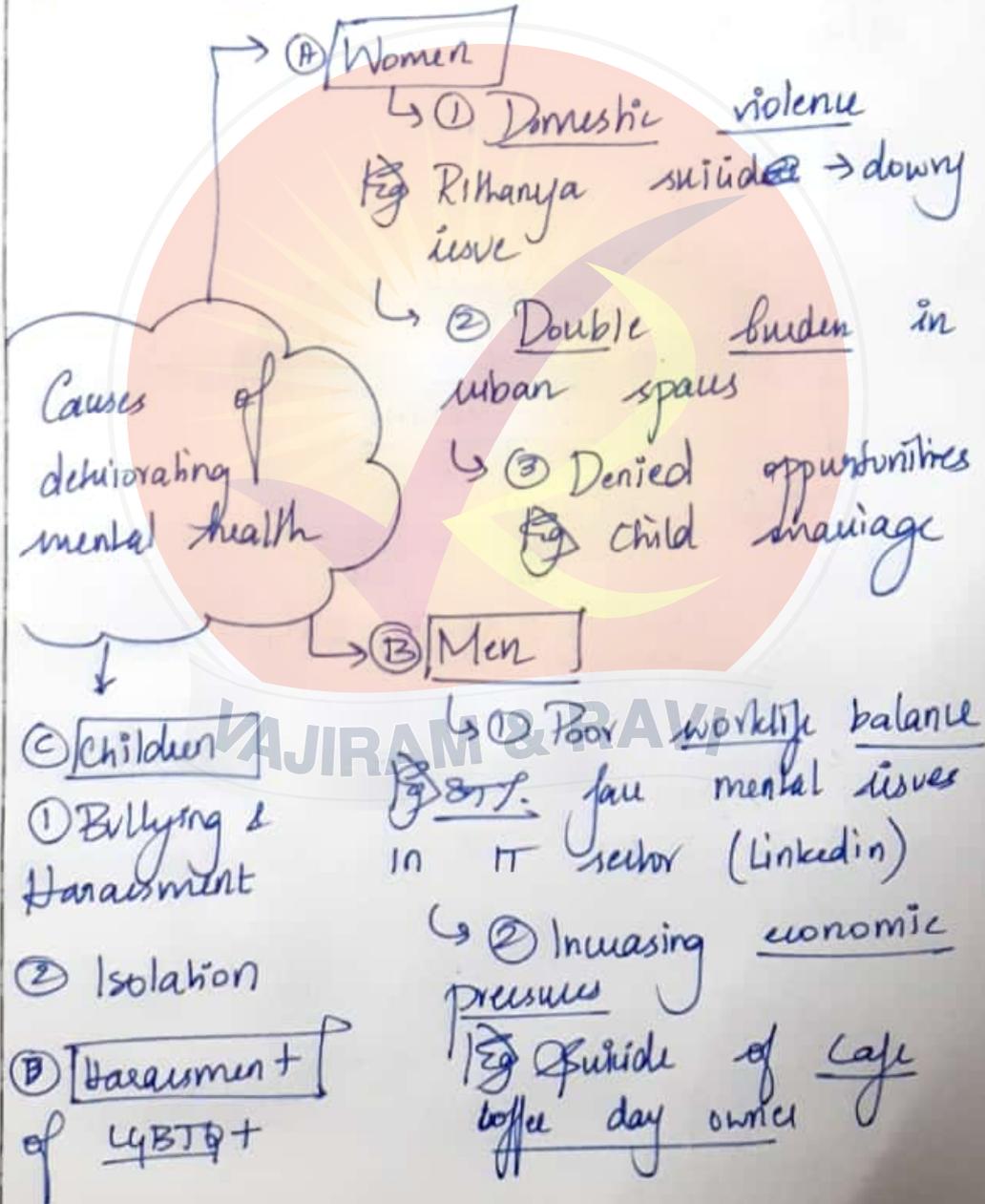
↳ Protection of Transgender Act

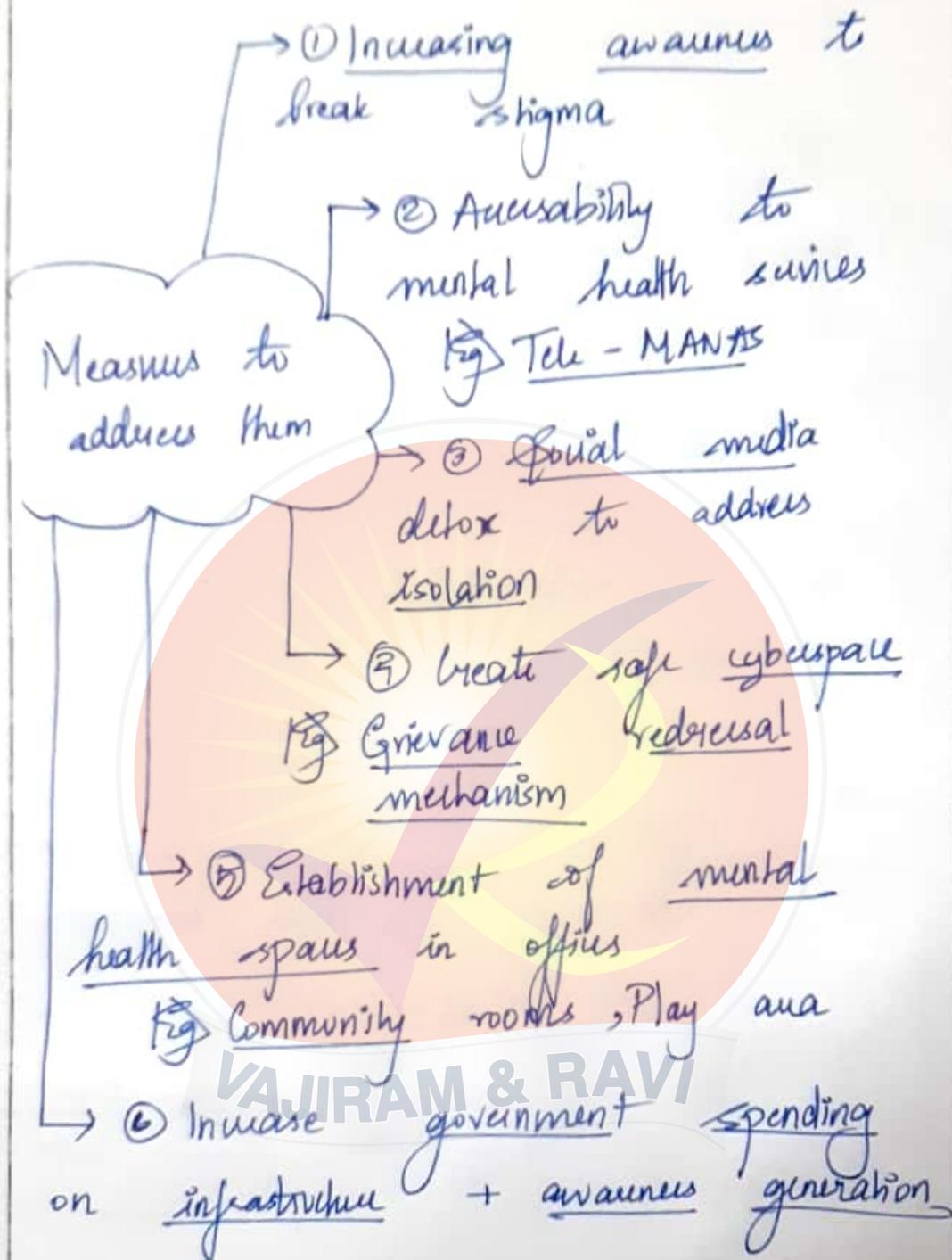
Inclusive development is the need for Vikshit Bharat

Introduction	
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Marks:	

9. Despite awareness around mental health, stigma continues to hinder emotional well-being in Indian youth. In this context, analyse the causes of deteriorating mental health and suggest measures to address them. (10 marks, 150 words)

Mental health affects 1 in 6 Indians (WHO) with 80% denying access due to stigma surrounding the issue.



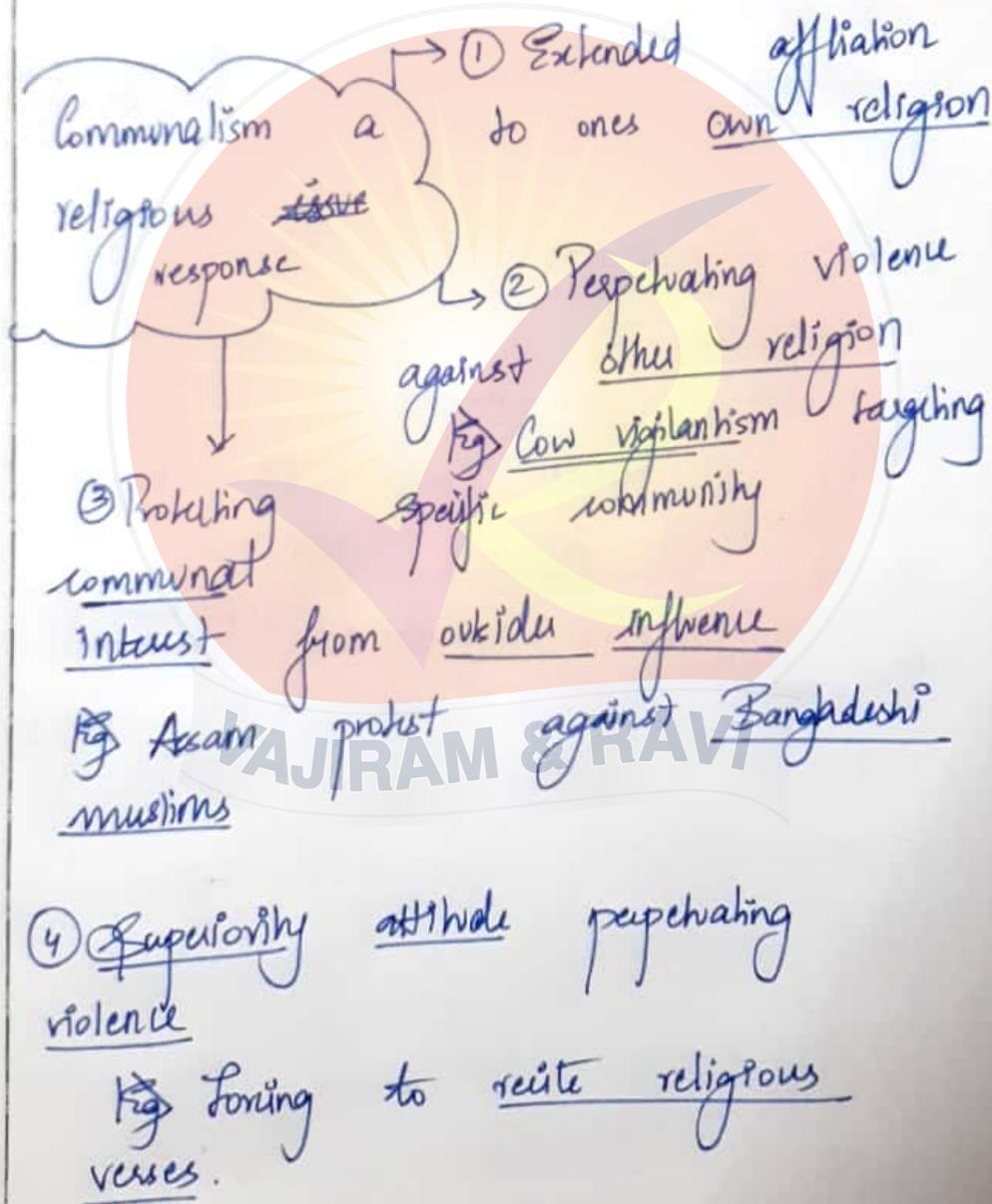


Mental peace translates to physical productivity & healthy individual

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Marks:	

10. Do you agree that communalism in India today is as much an economic response as a religious one? Argue. (10 marks, 150 words)

The antagonism practiced by members of one community against another is called communalism
- Ram Shuja



Communalism a economic response

① Fear of loss of jobs to migrants

Ex) Son of soil nativism

② Increasing inversion migrants causing demographic

Ex) Tripura demographic inversion

Thus communalism today is an expression of both religious & economic response with primary religious undertone.

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Marks	

11. In light of recent discoveries, critically discuss how Sangam literature enriches our understanding of ancient Indian history and offers an alternative perspectives beyond Indo-Aryan traditions. (15 marks, 250 words)

The recent discoveries at Keeladi has enriched the Sangam understanding providing insights into ancient history.

Sangam literature enriches understanding

① Tolkapiyam - a treatise on family grammar exemplify the antiquity of the language

② Provides details on city urban development

↳ Manimekalai on Madurai prosperity

③ Insights on genealogies are unearthed
↳ Muvendhar - Chera, Chola, Pandya.

④ Trade prosperity with neighbours
↳ Kalithogai on Kaveipattinam

put down

⑤ Details on agricultural development

↳ Mullai on farming land

⑥ Insights into diversified economy

↳ Kuvinjī → Forest resources

↳ Neithal → Fishing

↳ Palai → Dryland area engaged in Robbery.

⑦ Detail on prominent religious philosophies

↳ Sevakasinthamani on Saints

Challenges associated

① Loss of Literature

↳ Only Sholkapiyam from first & second Tamil Sangam exist.

② Prominent focus on kings and lifestyles → less details on day to day lives of commoners

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Alternative perspective beyond Indo-Aryan traditions

① Urban planning existence in South India

② Flourishing kingdoms before the invasion

③ Role of women in economy and society exemplify their freedom
③ Aravaiyal poetry.

④ Metallurgical knowledge
→ Sulphur
→ Gold ornaments
→ Pottery

⑤ Trade ties with European powers

⑥ Independent growth of Tamil language

The legacy left behind is unearthed through excavations instilling pride in our civilization.

Introduction

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Marks:

12. How did Gandhiji's methods of protest evolve between Non-Cooperation and Civil Disobedience? Examine the contextual factors influencing this shift. (15 marks, 250 words)

Gandhian method of struggle against the colonial exploitation underwent changes during 1920's - 30's.

Evolution of Gandhiji's method of protest

A) Non cooperation movement

- ① Hindu muslim unity was stressed
- ② Beginning of mass women participation
- ③ Lack of sufficient time to educate mass on nonviolence led to Chauri Chaura incident
- ④ External influence on freedom struggle.

B) The changes between NCM & CDM

- ① Disobedience to civil laws
[eg] 1928 Bardoli Satyagraha

② Educating the mass on form of struggle - Non violence

↳ Through provincial congress committee.

③ Demand for puna swaraj
↳ Lahore resolution.

④ Council entry was allowed through election participation

↳ Swarajist victory in election

⑤ Permanent inclusion of mass in freedom struggle

↳ Increased women participation -
Sarojini Naidu.

⑥ Use of common symbols as form of protest

↳ Fast during Dandi march.

Factors influencing the shift

① Several philosophies emerged within congress

↳ Socialism under Nehru, Council entry

- by Swrajist
- ② Arrival of Simon commission and non inclusion of Indians
 - ③ Death of Lala Lajpat Rai under British violence.
 - ④ The British rejection of Nehru report
 - ⑤ Rise of strong extremist energy in Congress
↳ Formation of Indian National Liberal Federation by Bose and Nehru
 - ⑥ Economic distress due to Great depression of 1929
 - ⑦ British rejection of Delhi manifesto

The evolution strengthened the struggle and laid foundation for Free India.

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13. India's intervention in the 1971 Bangladesh crisis marked a turning point in its foreign policy from non-alignment to regional assertiveness. Critically analyse.
(15 marks, 250 words)

The 1971 Bangladeshi war was a two front war fought between Indian and Bangladeshi forces on one side and Pakistan on the other.

Indian intervention a turning point

- ① Intervened in the sovereignty was between two countries
- ② Unidimensional support for liberation
- ③ Support to neighbours in terms of crisis
↳ Operation Cactus in Maldives
- ④ India housing Tibetan refugees
↳ Dalai Lama housed in Himachal Pradesh
- ⑤ Maintaining peace in neighbouring countries become necessary for

regional growth
→ IPKF in Sri Lankan civil war for
Tamilian cause

⑥ Growth of India's big brother image
→ Intervention in Nepal constitutional crisis

Not a turning point

① India maintains strategic non intervention until called for help
→ Sri Lankan call for Indian help in mediation

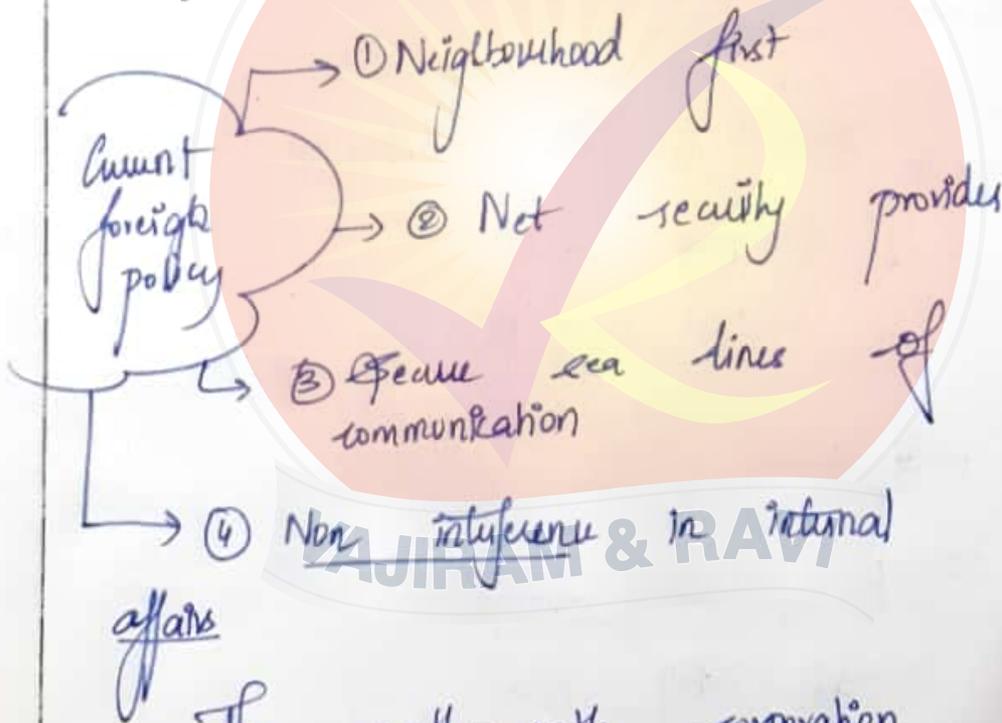
② India distaning from internal issues
→ The recent Bangladeshi crisis -
India maintains non intervention in internal affairs

③ Providing helping hand during disasters

Operation Brahma \Rightarrow Myanmar
earthquake.

④ Investments for regional growth
 \Rightarrow Highest FDI inflows into Nepal

⑤ Enhance regional connectivity
 \Rightarrow Ganga Vilas passes through Bangladesh



The south-south cooperation of today calls for combined growth of region rather than exclusiveness.

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14. The Great Depression not only deepened the economic vulnerability of Indian peasants but also reshaped colonial economic policies and nationalist resistance.
Comment (15 marks, 250 words)

The great economic depression of 1929 led to global economic slowdown emanating from America which affected Indian peasants and colonies

Deepened economic vulnerability of Peasants

- ① Reduced price realisation
↳ Cotton price drop
- ② Reduction in exports ↳ Grains
- ③ Increased poverty incidence
- ④ Rising rate of interest → poverty
↳ debt trap
- ⑤ Pushed to brink of famine
- ⑥ Excessive revenue demand to ease vulnerability

Reshaped colonial economic policies

- ① Change in tariff policies
 ↳ High tariff on Indian goods to boost one way free trade
- ② Increased borrowings from Britain
- ③ Reduced investments in economy
 ↳ Industries and agriculture
- ④ Violent attacks to reduce spread of violence
- ⑤ Increase in cheap agricultural exports to Britain

Reshaped nationalist resistance

- ① Led to civil disobedience movement
- ② 3 blocks rose with different interests
 - ↳ Gandhi (support war)
 - ↳ Nehru (conditional support)
 - ↳ Bose (violent uprising)

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③ Large scale participation of Indians due to increasing cost
↳ Patil satyagraha in Nakhas Pond, Tamil Nadu, Varanasi

④ Breakout of WW2 called for Indian support
↳ British policy appeasement through Deceitful devaluation

⑤ Framing of Delhi manifesto which was rejected

The Great depression became the turning point in global geopolitics as well as Indian resistance.

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15. What is the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC)? Discuss its role in maintaining global climate stability. What potential effect may it have on the Indian monsoon system? (15 marks, 250 words)

Atlantic meridional overturning circulation is a thermohaline circulation in the atlantic ocean driven by differences in density of water.



⇒ Surface waters warm and expand thus moving northward with the winds

⇒ Cold waters of poles sink thus replacing the warm current

Role in maintaining global climatic stability:-

- ① Transfer of excess heat from tropic to poles
- ② Maintain atmospheric heat balance
- ③ Drives ocean currents which affects local temperature
↳ Gulf stream ⇒ warming
Eastern America
- ④ Causes upwelling of water in tropics ⇒ maintain heat balance of ocean water + biodiversity
- ⑤ The mixing of warm and cold current causes fog & enriched water
↳ Grand bank of Newfoundland - fishing zone

Potential effect on Indian monsoon

- ① Alterations to SST due to slowing down melting by Greenland ice sheet melt
- ② Lower SST reduces monsoon intensity causing deficit rains
- ③ Affects the Indian ocean currents causing changes to monsoon wind flow
- ④ Affect subtropical westerly jet stream intensity \Rightarrow causing delay / early arrival
 \Rightarrow 2025 Early arrival - May 25
- ⑤ Disruption to westerly disturbance
- ⑥ Changes to Indian Ocean dipole.
Maintaining global temperatures with Paris limit limits the extremities of AMOC

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16. Discuss the comparative advantages and limitations of traditional weather prediction methods versus AI-enabled forecasting in India. How can Mission Mausam contribute to integrating traditional knowledge with modern techniques?
(15 marks, 250 words)

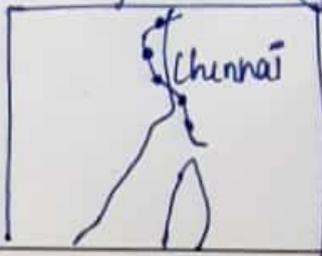
Mission Mausam is India's recent addition to weather prediction allowing for better forecast and reduced disaster vulnerability.

Traditional weather prediction

(A) Advantages

① Rely on realtime weather monitoring on cloud
 eg) Doppler weather data formation

② Direct SST analysis enables forecasting cyclone development
 eg) Buoys in Bay of Bengal

③ Satellite data allows monitoring direction and spread of cyclonic storm
 eg)  cyclone M. S. Hwang movement prediction

B Limitations

- ① Inability to predict long term weather effects \rightarrow Impending cyclones
- ② Provides post disaster alerts \rightarrow led to Wayand landslide
- ③ Lacuna in historical data analysis for prediction
- ④ Inaccurate prediction of cyclone movement

AI enabled forecasting

A Advantages

- ① Historical data analysis for better prediction
- ② GIS based monitoring \Rightarrow overlaying several maps
- ③ Accurate weather prediction enable better positioning of disaster personal & evacuation

ⓑ Limitations

- ① Lack of data availability
- ② Unpredictable → as weather is mix of several climatic factors
↳ Cyclone influenced by IOD, AMOC, WD, ENSO

Mission mausam an integration

- ① Improves accuracy of weather data.
- ② Expanding coverage of stations
↳ Landslide monitoring in Wayanad
- ③ Enables land zoning for better response
- ④ Reduces delay in information prediction
↳ More effective response to cloudburst

The advantages also enables India to become a net service provider in IOR.

Introduction

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Marks: