CLASS XII
POST MID-TERM EXAMINATION 2024-25
SUBJECT: SOCIOLOGY [039]
SET B
SOLUTIONS/ MARKING SCHEME

SECTION A
[SECTION A comprises OTQ carrying 1 mark each]

1. In which stage of demographic transition are the birth rate and death rate high?
   a. Second
   b. First
   c. Third
   d. Transitionally

2. ASSERTION (A): Demographic data are important for the planning and implementation of state policies specially those for economic development and general welfare.
   REASON (R): The Indian census is the largest exercise in the world, it gives us information about our own country which helps the government to process acts and policies.
   a. Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
   b. Both A and R are true and R is not the correct explanation of A
   c. A is true but R is false
   d. A is false but R is true

3. Match the social movements listed in List I with the types in List II.

List I		List II	
A	Dharma Sabha	I	Reform Movement
B	Chipko Movement	II	Counter movement
C	Bardoli Satyagraha	III	Peasant Movement
D	Right to Information	IV	Ecological movement

   a. A-I, B-II, C-III, D-IV
   b. A-IV, B-III, C-II, D-I
   c. A-II, B-IV, C-III, D-I
   d. A-II, B-I, C-IV, D-III

4. Which of the following is an example of social change?
   a. Swadeshi movement
   b. Chartism
   c. Women empowerment
   d. Industrial Revolution

5. Who among the following put forth the convergence thesis?
   a. Emile Durkheim

b. Karl Marx
c. Clark Kerr
d. Max Weber

6. ASSERTION (A): The contractual workers are freer in an industrial society.
   REASON (B): In the past, agricultural labourers were tied to their landlord by debt. Now, however, by moving to casual industrial work, while they are still in debt, they are not bound by other social obligations to the contractor.
   a. Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
   b. Both A and R are true and R is not the correct explanation of A
   c. A is true but R is false
   d. A is false but R is true

7. British colonialism was based on _____ system.
   a. Socialist
   b. Capitalist
   c. Communist
   d. Religious

8. Identify the incorrect pair:
   a. Sanskritisation- Kumud Tai
   b. Westernisation- Abanindranath Tagore
   c. Modernisation- North America
   d. Secularisation- Ravi Verma

9. Which of the following is not associated with seasonal labour?
   a. They mostly belong to drought prone areas
   b. They are not paid minimum wage
   c. Lack of job security
   d. They are bonded

10. ASSERTION (A): In rural areas, there is a complex relationship between caste and class. This relationship is not always straightforward. And that there is a correspondence between caste and class as one moves down the hierarchy. In many areas this is broadly true but not exactly.
    REASON (R): In most areas the highest caste, the Brahmins, are not major landowners, and so they fall outside the agrarian structure although they are a part of rural society. In most regions of India, the major landowning groups belong to the upper castes.
    a. Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
    b. Both A and R are true and R is not the correct explanation of A
    c. A is true but R is false
    d. A is false but R is true

11. Identify the incorrect fact about the Third Gender.
    a. Third gender refers to that social category of persons who are neither male nor female.
    b. This category presents the persons having alternates of both genders–male and female.
    c. The identification of oneself as third gender is based on self-understanding

d. **The Third Gender is yet to get legal recognition in India**

12. An authoritarian state is the opposite of which type of state?
    a. Imperial state
    b. Democratic state
    c. Colonial state
    d. Autocratic state

13. Which is the main function of the civil society?
    a. To provide economic suggestions to the government
    b. To ally with the opposition
    c. To control the ruling government
    d. **To keep a check on the ruling government.**

14. Person from a well-off family can afford expensive higher education. Someone with influential relatives and friends may – through access to good advice, recommendations or information – manage to get a well-paid job. Which concept is being talked of?
    a. **Forms of capital by Bourdieu**
    b. Resources by Bourdieu
    c. Ideal types by Max Weber
    d. deal Types by Bourdieu

15. The basis of patriarchy is _____.
    a. Inheritance
    b. Dominance
    c. Residence
    d. Size

16. Which of the following reasons are responsible for the invisibility of the caste system in the upper castes and upper middle class?
    a. Policy of reservation
    b. Education and Employment in Private Sector
    c. Developmental policies of the post-colonial era
    d. Their lead over the rest of society (in terms of education) did not ensure protection from serious competition

SECTION B

[SECTION B comprises questions carrying 2 marks each]

17. Sometimes economically prosperous families decide to have fewer children – often only one or two now – they may also wish to choose the sex of their child. Draw inferences from this statement.

a. This becomes possible with the availablity of ultra-sound technology, although the government has passed strict laws banning this practice and imposing heavy fines and imprisonment as punishment.
b. It is striking that the lowest child sex ratios are found in the most prosperous regions of India. According to the Economic Survey for a recent year, Maharashtra, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh and

Delhi are having high per capita income and the child sex ratio of these states is still low. So the problem of selective abortions is not due to poverty or ignorance or lack of resources.

18. Elucidate on the characteristics of new social movements.
    a. New social movements comprise non-party political formations in order to put pressure on the state from outside.
    b. The 'new' social movements were not about changing the distribution of power in society but about quality-of-life issues such as having a clean environment.
    c. Many of the new social movements are international in scope. What is significant, however, is that the old and new movements are working together in new alliances such as the World Social Forum.
    d. New social movements are not just about 'old' issues of economic inequality. Nor are they organised along class lines alone. Identity politics, cultural anxieties and aspirations are essential elements in creating social movements and occur in ways that are difficult to trace to class-based inequality.

19. Evaluate the presence of private companies in India after the adoption of the policy of liberalization.
    a. Private companies, especially foreign firms, are encouraged to invest in sectors earlier reserved for the government, including telecom, civil aviation, power, etc.
    b. Licenses are no longer required to open industries.
    c. Foreign products are now easily available in Indian shops. As a result of liberalisation, many Indian companies— small and large, have been bought over by multinationals.
    d. At the same time some Indian companies are becoming multinational companies. An instance of the first is when, Parle drinks was bought by Coca Cola. Parle's annual turnover was ` 250 crores, while Coca Cola's advertising budget alone was ` 400 crores. This level of advertising has naturally increased the consumption of coke across India replacing many traditional drinks.

20. "If capitalism became the dominant economic system, nation states became the dominant political form." What comprised the political form.
    a. That we all live in nation states and that we all have a nationality or a national citizenship may appear natural to us today. Before the First World War passports were not widely used for international travel, and in most areas few people had one.
    b. Nation state pertains to a particular type of state, characteristic of the modern world. A government has sovereign power within a defined territorial area, and the people are citizens of a single nation. Nation states are closely associated with the rise of nationalism.

21. "The varied social reform movements did have common themes. Yet there were also significant differences." Comment on the differences.
    a. For some the concerns were confined to the problems that the upper caste, middle class women and men faced. For others the injustices suffered by the discriminated castes were central questions. For some social evils had emerged because of a decline of the true spirit of Hinduism. For others caste and gender oppression was intrinsic to the religion.

b. Likewise Muslim social reformers actively debated the meaning of polygamy and purdah. For example, a resolution against the evils of polygamy was proposed by Jahanara Shah Nawas at the All India Muslim Ladies Conference.

22. Write the disadvantages of contract farming.
    a. It can lead to greater insecurity as farmers become dependent on these companies for their livelihoods.
    b. Contract farming of export-oriented products such as flowers and gherkins also means that agricultural land is diverted away from food grain production.
    c. Contract farming has sociological significance in that it disengages many people from the production process and makes their own indigenous knowledge of agriculture irrelevant.
    d. In addition, contract farming caters primarily to the production of elite items, and because it usually requires high doses of fertilisers and pesticides, it is often not ecologically sustainable.

23. How does the state accommodate regional sentiments?
    a. In India this is done by Constitutional provisions defining the powers of the States and the Centre. There are lists of 'subjects' or areas of governance which are the exclusive responsibility of either State or Centre, along with a 'Concurrent List' of areas where both are allowed to operate.
    b. The State legislatures determine the composition of the upper house of Parliament, the Rajya Sabha.
    c. In addition there are periodic committees and commissions that decide on Centre-State relations. An example is the Finance Commission which is set up every ten years to decide on sharing of tax revenues between Centre and States. Upto 2017, each Five Year Plan also involved detailed State Plans prepared by the State Planning Commissions of each state.
    d. The Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council includes State members.

24. Who are Dalits?
    a. The ex-untouchable communities and their leaders have coined another term, 'Dalit', which is now the generally accepted term for referring to these groups.
    b. In Indian languages, the term Dalit literally means 'downtrodden' and conveys the sense of an oppressed people.
    c. It received wide currency during the caste riots in Mumbai in the early 1970s. The Dalit Panthers, a radical group that emerged in western India during that time, used the term to assert their identity as part of their struggle for rights and dignity.
    d. It is the struggle for being touched.

25. "It was pointed out that the tribe-peasantry distinction did not hold in terms of any of the commonly advanced criteria: size, isolation, religion, and means of livelihood." Give any TWO explanations for the statement.
    a. Some Indian "tribes" like Santhal, Gonds, and Bhils are very large and spread over extensive territory.
    b. Certain tribes like Munda, Hos and others have long since turned to settled agriculture.
    c. Hunting gathering tribes, like the Birhors of Bihar employ specialised households to make baskets, press oil etc.

d. It has also been pointed out in a number of cases, that in the absence of other alternatives, "castes" (or non-tribals) have turned to hunting and gathering

SECTION C

[SECTION C comprises questions carrying 4 marks each]

26. Examine the demerits of unorganised sector.
    a. First, it means that very few people have the experience of employment in large firms where they get to meet people from other regions and backgrounds.
    b. Here personal relationships determine many aspects of work. If the employer likes you, you may get a salary raise, and if you have a fight with him or her, you may lose your job.
    c. Since very few people are members of unions, a feature of the organised sector, the unorganised or informal sector workers do not have the experience of collectively fighting for proper wages and safe working conditions. Very few Indians have access to secure jobs with benefits. The rest are forced to depend on their children in their old age.
    d. The government has laws to monitor conditions in the unorganised sector, but in practice they are left to the whims and fancies of the employer or contractor.

27. Significantly the colonial administrators were clear that harsh measures were taken against the labourers to make sure they benefited the planters. Name these harsh measures.
    a. Since Assam was sparsely populated and the tea plantations were often located on uninhabited hillsides, bulk of the sorely needed labour had to be imported from other provinces.
    b. But to bring thousands of people every year from their far-off homes into strange lands, possessing an unhealthy climate and infected with strange fevers, required the provision of financial and other incentives, which the tea-planters of Assam were unwilling to offer.
    c. Instead, they had recourse to fraud and coercion; and they persuaded the government to aid and abet them in this unholy task by passing penal laws.
    d. Official reports show how the colonial government often used unfair means to hire and forcibly keep labourers. And clearly acted on behalf of the British planters. From fictional and other accounts we get a glimpse of what life was for planters in this industry

28. Elucidate on secularization of caste.
    a. Politics is a competitive enterprise, its purpose is the acquisition of power for the realisation of certain goals, and its process is one of identifying and manipulating existing and emerging allegiances in order to mobilise and consolidate positions.
    b. The important thing is organisation and articulation of support, and where politics is mass-based, the point is to articulate support through the organisations in which the masses are to be found.
    c. It follows that where the caste structure provides one of the principal organisational clusters along which the bulk of the population is found to live, politics must strive to organise through such a structure.
    d. Politicians mobilise caste groupings and identities in order to organise their power.

29. Categorise the structure of agrarian society of India.
    a. Because agricultural land is the most important productive resource in rural areas, access to land shapes the rural class structure. Access to land largely determines what role one plays in the process of agricultural production.
    b. Medium and large landowners are usually able to earn sufficient or even large incomes from cultivation (although this depends on agricultural prices, which can fluctuate greatly, as well as other factors such as the monsoon).
    c. Agricultural labourers are more often than not paid below the statutory minimum wage and earn very little. Their incomes are low. Their employment is insecure. Most agricultural labourers are daily-wage workers. And do not have work for many days of the year. This is known as underemployment.
    d. Tenants (cultivators who lease their land from landowners) have lower incomes than owner-cultivators. Because they have to pay a substantial rent to the landowner – often as much as 50 to 75 per cent of the income from the crop.

30. Elucidate on the factors required to build an enduring state-nation.
    a. Explicit efforts are required to end the cultural exclusion of diverse groups … and to build multiple and complementary identities.
    b. Such responsive policies provide incentives to build a feeling of unity in diversity
    c. Citizens can find the institutional and political space to identify with both their country and their other cultural identities
    d. To build their trust in common institutions and to participate in and support democratic politics.

31. How did internal colonialism hamper the development of the tribes?
    a. After the Independence of India in 1947 the government's monopoly over forests continued. The policy of capital-intensive industrialisation adopted by the Indian government required mineral resources and power-generation capacities which were concentrated in Adivasi areas.
    b. Adivasi lands were rapidly acquired for new mining and dam projects. In the process, millions of adivasis were displaced without any appropriate compensation or rehabilitation. Justified in the name of 'national development' and 'economic growth', these policies were also a form of internal colonialism, subjugating adivasis and alienating the resources upon which they depended.
    c. Projects such as the Sardar Sarovar dam on the river Narmada in western India and the Polavaram dam on the river Godavari in Andhra Pradesh displace hundreds of thousands of adivasis, driving them to greater destitution.
    d. These processes continue to prevail and have become even more powerful since the 1990s when economic liberalisation policies were officially adopted by the Indian government. It is now easier for corporate firms to acquire large areas of land by displacing adivasis.

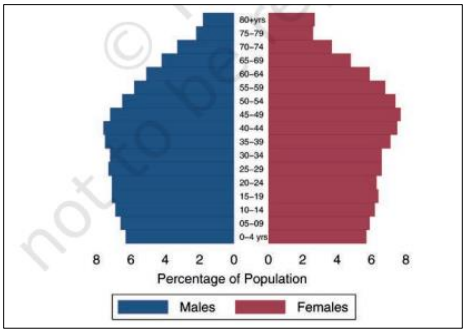
32. Write how caste was influenced by the economic changes.
    a. Modern industry created all kinds of new jobs for which there were no caste rules. Urbanisation and the conditions of collective living in the cities made it difficult for the caste-segregated patterns of social interaction to survive.
    b. Modern educated Indians attracted to the liberal ideas of individualism and meritocracy, began to abandon the more extreme caste practices.

c. Recruitment to industrial jobs, whether in the textile mills of Mumbai (then Bombay), the jute mills of Kolkata (then Calcutta), or elsewhere, continued to be organised along caste and kinship based lines.
d. The middle men who recruited labour for factories tended to recruit them from their own caste and region so that particular departments or shop floors were often dominated by specific castes.

SECTION D

[SECTION D comprises questions carrying 6 marks each]

33. Based on the graph below, answer the following question:



a. Examine the implication of the bulge in the graph. 4

I. The bulge implies falling dependency ratio. This is what is referred to as the 'demographic dividend'. Changes in the age structure due to the demographic transition lower the 'dependency ratio', or the ratio of non-working age to working-age population, thus creating the potential for generating growth.
II. The demographic advantage or 'dividend' to be derived from the age structure of the population is due to the fact that India is (and will remain for some time) one of the youngest countries in the world.
III. This implies a large and growing labour force, which can deliver unexpected benefits in terms of growth and prosperity.
IV. The 'demographic dividend' results from an increase in the proportion of workers relative to non-workers in the population

b. Does it help the economy? Present the facts critically. 2

I. This potential can be converted into actual growth only if the rise in the working age group is accompanied by increasing levels of education and employment. If the new entrants to the labour force are not educated then their productivity remains low. If they remain unemployed, then they are unable to earn at all and become dependents rather than earners. Thus, changing age structure by itself cannot guarantee any benefits unless it is properly utilised through planned development.
II. The real problem is in defining the dependency ratio as the ratio of the non-working age to working-age population, rather than the ratio of non-workers to workers. The difference between the two is determined by the extent of unemployment and underemployment, which keep a part of the labour force out of productive work. This difference explains why some countries are able to exploit the demographic advantage while others are not.

34. Enlist the contemporary issues of women's social movements. Examine how men may also feel constrained by the dominant gender identities.
    a. There were new issues that were focussed upon. For instance, violence against women. Over the years, there have been numerous campaigns that have been taken up.
    b. Application for school forms have both father's and mother's names. This was not always true. Likewise, important legal changes have taken place thanks to the campaign by the women's movement.
    c. Issues of land rights, employment have been fought alongside rights against sexual harassment and dowry.
    d. For instance, men in patriarchal societies feel they must be strong and successful. It is not, manly, to express oneself emotionally.
    e. A gender-just society would allow both men and women to be free.
    f. This of course rests on the idea that for true freedom to grow and develop, injustices of all kind have to end.

35. A) Sub-contracting is widespread. Is it beneficial to the workers? State reasons for the same. 2
    B) Discuss the working conditions of mines. 4

    A)
    a. Many contractors do not maintain proper registers of workers, thus avoiding any responsibility for accidents and benefits.
    b. After mining has been finished in an area, the company is supposed to cover up the open holes and restore the area to its earlier condition. But they don't do this.

    B)
    a. Workers in underground mines face very dangerous conditions, due to flooding, fire, the collapse of roofs and sides, the emission of gases and ventilation failures.
    b. Many workers develop breathing problems and diseases like tuberculosis and silicosis.
    c. Those working in overground mines have to work in both hot sun and rain, and face injuries due to mine blasting, falling objects, etc.
    d. The rate of mining accidents in India is very high compared to other countries.