

Political Science & International Relations
Crash Course & Test Series - 2021

Test 05

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Max Marks: 250

Name SAMYAK JAIN.
 Test Date 14-12-21
 Email Address _____
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Instructions:

1. There are EIGHT questions divided in TWO SECTIONS and candidate has to attempt five questions in all.
2. Question Nos. 1 and 5 are compulsory and out of the remaining, any three are to be attempted choosing at least ONE question from each section.
3. Content of the answer is more important than its length.
4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of the booklet in the space provided.
5. Content of the answer is more important than its length.
6. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
7. All parts of the question should be written at one place itself.
8. Write the test in exam atmosphere.
9. **Filling all the details in BLOCK LETTERS is mandatory.**

S. No.	a	b	c	d	e	Total
1						
2				X	X	
3				X	X	
4				X	X	
5						
6				X	X	
7				X	X	
8				X	X	
Grand Total						

	Poor	Average	Good	Very Good	Excellent
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Understanding of Questions					
Structure & Flow					
(a) Introduction					
(b) Conclusion					
(c) Overall					
Subject Knowledge					
Presentation					
(a) Underline					
(b) Paragraph					
(c) Overall					

Overall Remarks:

Dear Student,

All the best for next test...!!!



Philosophical approach to the study of politics. Comment (10 Marks)

The philosophical approach is one of the oldest approaches to the study of politics. During the ancient times, politics was considered as a sub realm of philosophy itself.

Plato is considered as the 'father of Political Philosophy'. Philosophical approach is normative in nature and talks about ideals of liberty, equality, justice etc.

It is idealist in nature and talks about "what ought to be" rather than "what is". It is highly prescriptive in nature.

Drawbacks -

It has been criticised by behaviouralists like David Easton for being "armchair theories". They do not contribute to real ideas and dwell in utopia. They do not take into account empirical evidences and are unscientific.

Although political philosophy was in decline after 2nd world war, there is a revival, especially in John Rawls' Theory of Justice in 1971.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	
Overall Remarks :	

Que.1(b)

Highlight the difference between Sex and Gender. (10 Marks)

The rise of feminism, especially Radical feminism during the 1960s brought to light the difference between sex and gender.

Susan Moller Okin in her book "The second sex" talks about women not just being the other sex, but also the secondary sex.

She further differentiates between sex and gender. Sex is a biologically assigned whereas gender is a social construct. For eg. female stereotypes such as physical weakness, weak in STEM is due to gender construct.



Radical feminists such as Kate Millet and Betty Friedan talk about sisterhood and homogeneous families to break patriarchy and gender constructs.

In contemporary times too, the difference between sex and gender is manifested in differential pay, glass ceiling, skewed sex ratio etc.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	
Overall Remarks :	

Buddha was more a spiritual
philosopher than a political philosopher.
But certain characteristics of Buddhist
political thought can be derived from
his ideas.

Buddhism believes in social
contract theory of state. Men choose
the noblest amongst them to be king.
It talks about justice and equality
of caste, gender etc.

Its ideas on justice include
distributive and reformative justice.
Buddhism talks about idea of world
monarch which is compatible with
its non-violent tradition.

Kings rule territory while monarch rules heart through Dhamma.

Further, more additions, in the Buddhist political thought were done by Ashoka like :

- 1) King must be just, benevolent, kind.
- 2) He should ban animal cruelty.
- 3) He should send envoys to neighbouring countries for peace.

In present context, Buddhist political thought can be guiding light for world peace.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	
Overall Remarks :	

John Rawls' is considered as one of the greatest philosophers of 20th century. In his Theory of Justice, he provides the idea of 'overlapping consensus'

According to him, rational people with apparently different conceptions of justice will be able to arrive upon an 'overlapping consensus'

It is the basic minimum commonality that can be found in various ideas of justice. ~~based~~ It is required to establish a tolerant, harmonious and just society.



According to Rawls, overlapping consensus is a basic and distinctive feature of "Political Liberalism". He says that overlapping consensus is not based on a negotiable contract, but out of reflexive equilibrium in men.

The principle of overlapping consensus appeals to the inherent sense of morality present inside humans.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	
Overall Remarks :	

Critically examine the concept of Asian Values. (10 Marks)

Asian values have been propounded by Lee Kuan Yew and Mahatma Mohammed as an alternative to Western civilizational values. These are values such as communitarianism, tolerance, multiculturalism, discipline, semi-authoritarianism etc.

Asian values oppose individualism, utilitarianism and believe that societies in East are not aggregate of individuals. According to Bhikhu Parekh, a man is embedded in his culture and it is impractical to remove him from it. It is not possible to respect a man but not extend same respect to his culture.



Lee Kuan Yew feels that solidarity, semi-authoritarianism, discipline are better for development as seen in case of China.

Asian values have been criticised by Amartya Sen who says that democracy is the optimum way for development, even in Asia.

Therefore, there are various ideas upon Asian values and its relevance and implementation remains contested idea.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	
Overall Remarks :	

How the concept of minimal state differs from the concept of welfare state? Discuss the future of Neo-liberal state. (20 Marks)

liberalism is an ideology that believes that man is moral and rational. Keeping man at centre, it believes in social contract as the genesis of state.

Concept of minimal state

It originated from the negative conception of liberty. It believes that state is required to provide security and convenience to man.

The state is thus nightwatchman or minimal state. According to Thomas Friedman, John Locke, state



is a referee rather than a captain.

It takes inspiration from Bentham's idea of utilitarianism.

Minimal state ~~go~~ led to increasingly labour exploitation and atrocities on poor, which gave way to communism.

Concept of welfare state

welfare state was a liberal response to the rising tide of communism. It is also known as positive liberalism.

Its major proponents include T. H. Green, Laski, J. S. Mill etc.

welfare state works towards redistribution of capitalist gains

towards the benefit of weaker
sections of society. It believes in
positive discrimination and affirmative
action.

Yet, welfare state has often been
termed as a nanny state. According to
Habermas, a legitimation crisis is
bound to occur in a welfare state
as it works on two contradictory

principles:

- 1) capitalism in economy.
- 2) socialism in politics.

Neo-liberalism and its future

Since the end of cold war,
neo-liberal state has seen a marked
expansion across the globe.

Yet according to scholars, the
neoliberal state is in crisis. Eg. The



2008 Global Financial Crisis and Greece sovereign debt crisis.

There is a rising tide of protectionism across Europe. eg. Brexit, US-China trade war, represents the breakdown of global liberal order. 0

On the other hand, neo-liberal state provides the best chance to collaborate on global threats like climate change etc.

The neoliberal state thus has future relevance.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	
Overall Remarks :	

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"Plato's communism is a heroic remedy for a desperate evil, the union of political power and economic temptation in the same hands." Explain. (15 Marks)

Plato is often called as Father of Political Philosophy. He analysed the situation of Athens and gave his theory of communism to make Athens an ideal state.

According to Plato, corruption is the root cause behind Athens being "city of the rich and poor". He thus focussed his ideas upon rooting out the evil i.e. economic greed among political class.

Plato's Theory of Communism.

He divided the society into

guardian class - ruler and soldier
and trader class. For guardian class,
he proposes communism of family
as well as property.

For trader class, he does not
propose communism as they are
men of appetite.

Idea of Philosopher King.

According to Plato, a ruler who
is reluctant to rule is more desirable
than one who is eager to rule. He
proposes Philosopher King / Queen as an
absolute monarch to rule.

Philosopher King is a man of
reason but ~~not free from~~ not ~~even~~ not
safeguarded from even the remotest

possibility of economic temptation,
communism of property and family is
required.

Aristotle criticises Plato on the fact
that he disregards the best practicable
for the best. Philosopher King is a
utopia. Family and property are
time tested institutions and source
of motivation.

Plato's communism is a remedy
for political and economic power
misuse, presents a unique method for
tackling corruption.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	
Overall Remarks :	

Critically examine the possible implications of Gandhi's views on the relationship between religion and politics. (15 Marks)

Gandhiji believed in religion as being an intricate part of people's lives in India. He was himself inspired from his mother and Bhagwad Gita in religion and applied that in politics.

Gandhiji believed in the continuity of means and ends. Thus, religion according to him was an essential part of politics.

"Politics without principle" is one of his seven sins. The influence of religion in his politics could be



seen during the withdrawal of
non-cooperation movement, his
method of satyagraha, truth and
non-violence.

Implications of his views

On the positive view, religion
can instill the much needed ethics
and ~~norms~~ morals in politics.

Religion makes politics more
inclusive as per the principle of
Sarvodaya, Antyodaya.

On the negative side, it has
been seen time and again that
religion has been used to flare up
politics of identity and passion.

It has led to communalisation of Indian ~~society~~ politics. For eg. Pakistan was created on communal lines.

A moderated use of religion in politics in present times can help resolve various issues like corruption, defection, criminalisation of politics etc.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	
Overall Remarks :	

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Discuss the features of Asymmetrical federalism in Indian constitution. (10 Marks)

According to K.C. Wheare, India is quasi-federal in nature. It not only has a unitary bias but also asymmetrically among the units of federation.

Features of Asymmetrical Federalism

- 1) Fifth and sixth schedule provide greater autonomy for the administration of tribal areas in some districts of country.
- 2) Special Status to States under Art. 370, 371 shows asymmetrically

among the units .

3) Differential representation of states in Parliament - LOK SABHA and RAJYA SABHA .

Asymmetrical federalism in Indian constitution not only incorporates its varied heritage and diversity , but also provides the necessary flexibility for tackling various internal challenges .

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	
Overall Remarks :	

Elaborate the role of supreme court as a conscience keeper of Indian constitution. (10 Marks)

The constitution of India envisages a free and independent judiciary, ~~her~~ with its apex as the Supreme Court. The supreme court is not only the protector of citizens rights but also the guardian of the constitution.

Dating back to 1970s, in the Keshwanand Bhatti judgement, SC gave the Basic structure doctrine. According to scholars, this has protected the essence of SOVEREIGN, SOCIALIST, SECULAR, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC of India.

In Judina Satwney judgement, it defined principles of affirmative action in our welfare state. In SR Bommai case, SC laid principles of federalism. It gave rights to LGBTQ community in NLSA judgement.

Justice P N Bhagwati democratised judicial system by introducing PILs.

However, there is need for increased transparency, accountability, credibility, speedy justice.. When only can Supreme court can continue the chemotherapy of Indian politics. Cyendra Baxi

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	
Overall Remarks :	

The Dalit perspective on Indian National Movement is the sub-altern perspective.

It was first given by Jyotiba Phule who said that - "Peshwa Raj is worse than British Raj". Dr.

B. R. Ambedkar is one of the leading proponents of Dalit perspective.

He never joined Congress and was a contemporary critic of Gandhi. He opposed civil Disobedience and Quit India Movement, supported Partition and joined British Defence Council during World II.

In the South, Dalit perspective is given by EV Ramaswamy Naiker a.k.a. Periyar. The left Congress and called it an Assembly of Brahmins. He joined the Justice Party and later started the DK party.

Thus, there were multiple strands of freedom struggle and Congress did not represent the sole struggle for freedom.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	
Overall Remarks :	

Highlight the role women in Freedom Struggle. (10 Marks)

In the 19th century, reformers like Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar etc. worked towards the upliftment of women.

However, before entry of Gandhi on stage, the role of women was limited to the elite classes. Eg. Rani Lakshmi Bai, Begum Hazrat Mahal, Savitri Bai Phule, Lady Tata etc. Their work was limited towards education, widow remarriage and fighting social evils.

In the Gandhian phase, the Indian freedom struggle saw the mass participation of women. Gandhian



believed in the immense capacity of women to sacrifice for nation. Their role expanded to participation in protests, picketing, manches etc. During the civil disobedience movement, Sarojini Vaidya led several movement against salt factories. Women like Usha Mehta, Anand Kay Ati, Kalpana Dutta started underground activities. The role of women in freedom struggle gave them confidence and brought them into social sphere ensuring their empowerment.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	
Overall Remarks :	

Indian parliament is in a state of decline. Comment. (10 Marks)

India chose a Parliamentary form of government with a bicameral legislature. This is also a basic structure of constitution, yet in recent decades, is in a state of decline.

State of decline

- 1) Rise of money and muscle power during elections. eg. ~~CNN~~
- 2) Lack of constructive role by Opposition.
- 3) Misuse of anti-defection law.
- 4) Politicisation of post of Speaker.
- 5) Rise of coalition politics.
- 6) Plebiscitisation of Indian politics, rise of caste, religion, identity in politics etc.



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1) Dysfunctional Parliamentary Committee
eg. Only 14% of bills referred to PSCs
in 16th Lok Sabha.

According to Hamid Ansari,
there is a decline in role of
Parliament, — "debates are rare,
informed debates are rarer."

Electoral reforms, strengthening
anti-discretion law, depoliticisation
of speaker can help reviving the
much needed role of Parliament in
India.

Understanding of Questions

Structure and Flow

Subject Knowledge

Presentation

Overall Remarks :

Trace the trajectory of UCC debate in India. Do you think Uniform Civil Code is suitable for the country which pride itself on the Idea of "Unity in Diversity". (20 Marks)

Uniform civil code is a western concept in which the state is allowed to interfere in the domestic and personal sphere of individuals except their right to freedom of conscience.

Trajectory of UCC debate in India.

In the constituent Assembly,

UCC was one of the most contented topic of debate. Members like Raj Karami Amrit Kaur wanted UCC to be implemented.

On the other hand, leaders like Usmail Begh, Pooken Salih.

were apprehensive about the intentions behind UCC. they wanted their interests to be safeguarded.

Ultimately, it found place in Directive Principles of State Policy through Article 44.

In later decades, supporters of UCC believed in the Hobbesian idea of law being the command of the sovereign. This monistic theory demands UCC to be implemented and all religious codes to be brought under purview of state.



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On the contrary, scholars like Nivedita Neuman believe that VCC is not about sovereignty, but is about high politics. It asserts the dominance of majority on minority.

According to Flavia Agnes, the idea of VCC is based on the myth of supremacy of Hindu personal laws. This may not always be the case. Eg. in Islam, rights of second wife is protected.

According to Zoya Hassan, there needs to evolve a bolder conception of secularism in India. Therefore, as seen above, VCC

is a highly contested concept both in theory and practice.

the issue needs to be properly debated in public forums before being implemented.

Furthermore, Indian conceptions and innovations in VCE (like in secularism) can be useful in its implementation.

thus, a dialogue among communities is required before implementing VCE.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	
Overall Remarks :	

Que.7(b)

Highlight the contours of the right to privacy given by supreme court in Putta Swamy Case. What concerns emerge with respect to the future of India's democracy due to software's like Pegasus. (15 Marks)

In the landmark K.S. Putta Swamy judgement, the supreme court has declared Right to Privacy as a Fundamental Right under Art. 21.

Contours of the right to Privacy.

Supreme court recognised individual privacy as one of the key pillars of a functional democracy. It differentiates a liberal state from a totalitarian state.

The Right to Privacy gains even more importance in the digital

era with issues such as data, identity theft etc. In the Aadhar case as well, the Supreme Court upheld Right to Privacy. and mandated that Aadhar data not be disclosed to private entities. It can also be used for welfare schemes.

At the societal level, SC has upheld Right to Privacy in decision making such as choice of sexual orientation, partner (in Hadiya case),

However, Right to Privacy is not absolute in nature. The text

of proportionality and necessity is applicable in determining surveillance; rational necessity etc.

Recently, there have been allegations of undermining citizen's privacy by use of software pegasus. It raises concerns like.

- (i) Threat to freedom of speech and expression.
- (ii) Hobbesian state
- (iii) Poor accountability of state to citizens.

To protect future of democracy, we need safeguards to citizen's privacy like Data Protection Bill as per BN Srikrishna committee.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	
Overall Remarks :	

Que. 7(c)

How caste census is linked to Politics of distributive Justice in India. What are the various dimensions of debates within India's reservation policy. (15 Marks)

According to Christophe Jaffrelot, caste forms the mosaic of Indian politics. Recently, there have been demands of including caste census along with the decadal census.

~~As~~ Since caste has led to traditionalisation of modernity and modernisation of tradition (Rudolph and Rudolph), it is important for distributive justice.

It has also become important in accessing secular benefits like education, employment etc. (Rajni Kothari). Therefore, there is now

Increasing horizontal competition amongst castes for a greater backward status.

Supporters of caste census feel that it will not only provide data on caste, but also degree of socio-economic backwardness. Thus, distributive justice will be aided.

Debate within India's Reservation Policy

1) Reservation for what?

According to SC, it is not a poverty alleviation scheme, but needs poor representation.

2) Reservation for whom?

Although SC, STs are well defined, OBCs is a political construct open to

demands

- 3) Reservation fill when?
Being extended every 10 years.
- 4) Reservation in private sector.
- 5) Reservation in promotions.
According to SC, it is allowed subject to criteria in Nagaraj 2006.
- 6) Reservation and meritocracy-

As ~~stated~~ implied by Mr. Yogendra Yadav, there needs to be renew and better parameters for gauging socio-economic backwardness and reservation in the country.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	
Overall Remarks :	

Que. 8(a)

Discuss the changing Trends in India's electoral behaviour on the basis of the recent elections at the national and state level. How does the understanding of the changing trend in the Electoral behaviour is key to understand countries democratic trajectory in the long run. (20 Marks)

The study of voting behavior and patterns during elections is known as saifology. The past decade has seen change in electoral behavior, both at the centre and state level.

Changing trends in electoral behaviour.

India has seen an overall upturn in voter turnout across urban and rural segments. The participation of women has also increased.

Although Nilam Vaishnava from Carnegie Foundation notes that it is

difficult to determine voting behavior in a situation with more than three variables (like caste, ethnicity etc.).

However, Prof. M.P. Singh has analysed some broad trends behind voting behaviour:

1) According to him, the role of dynasty has declined, due to rise of civic consciousness among voters.

2) Charismatic leadership is preferred by voters.

Besides, Lokniti CDS has identified following trends:

1) Caste and religion remain prominent factors.

2) Use of money and liquor does not impact electoral behaviour.

3) Corruption is no longer a burning issue.

4) Anti-incumbency is not a factor.

the movement from 'identity' to

'identity +' politics has been observed by

Yogendra Yadav. Voters today look

for good governance, development and

welfare schemes in addition to identity

Understanding country's democratic trajectory

the upick in voter turnout points

towards an increasing belief in electoral

system, hence trust in democracy.

At the same time, plebiscitarian

of democracy with caste, religion, etc.

has given greater voice to marginalised sections through representation.

Some political pundits also predict threat to democracy owing to rise of conservatism, rightism, majoritarianism.

However, one should not forget the words of Prof. M.P. Singh that "the success of Indian democracy lies in the extraordinary common sense shown by ordinary voters."

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	
Overall Remarks :	

Que. 8(b)

To interfere with Freedom of Speech and Expression is the worst form of "Tyranny". In the context of the statement do you think that there is strong case to question the continuation of sedition law in India. (15 Marks)

The Constitution of India provides the Fundamental Right of Freedom of Speech and Expression under Art. 19(1)(a). Art 19(2) provides some restrictions on it, sedition is not one of them.

The misuse or overuse of sedition law - see Sec 124A of IPC.. has been an issue of concern in India. Once imposed upon Gandhi and Tilak, it is now being used to muzzle dissent and freedom of speech.

Even the Allahabad High Court in 1967, passed judgement to strike down sec 124A; due to the low conviction rate. However it is a colonial legacy and even UK has repealed the same.

The law serves as a purpose to harrass citizens and political opponents by denying government jobs, passport etc.

However, SC had overturned the Allahabad HC judgement but said that the provision to be used liberally. In Rathoant Singh vs. State of Punjab case, SC held that raising

slogans that don't incite violence,
criticism cannot be regarded as
Sedition.

In conclusion, the law commission
upheld sedition ^{law} given the internal
and external security challenges. But
implementation needs to consider
guidelines under Kedarnath case 1962.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	
Overall Remarks :	

Que. 8(c)

Though the constituent assembly has given special focus to the inter-state water disputes yet it has overlooked the political ramifications of inter-state boundary dispute in context of the smooth functioning of India's cooperative federalism. Discuss. (15 Marks)

Indian federalism has been described as an 'indestructible union of destructible states'. Ever since independence, water disputes and border disputes have been a source of tension in our cooperative federalism.

Special focus on inter-state water disputes-

- 1) Water is a state subject in Schedule VII, but 'inter-state water bodies' as in concurrent list:-
- 2) Art. 262 provides for inter state Water Tribunals.
- 3) Inter state water disputes can also

resolved under Art-131 - original

jurisdiction of Supreme Court.

Eg. the Cauvery River Tribunal,
recent 2019 amendment for Permanent
Water Tribunal.

Overtaking the boundary disputes:

the boundary disputes among
states like Belgaum (between
Maharashtra, Karnataka), Chandigarh
(Haryana and Punjab) still persist.

there are no special mechanisms,
entries in Schedule VII, provisions
for Parliament to deal with these
challenges. This hampers India's
cooperative federalism eg. recent
disputes in Assam - Meghalaya border.



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Provisions for cooperative federalism

like Art-263 - Inter State Council,

Statutory provisions like Zonal Council,

executive mechanisms like Niti Aayog

can be remodelled. This will not

only help resolve inter state water

and border issues, but also strengthen

cooperative federalism for 'Team India'