

Political Science & International Relations

Crash Course & Test Series - 2021

Test 7

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Max Marks: 250

Name Samyak Jain
Test Date 16/12/21
Email Address _____
UPSC Roll No 0886777

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						

For any issue related to PSIR Test Series, write only at nsirtestseries@shubhrranjan.com



SHUBHRA RANJAN

Always Ahead

25, Pusa Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi 110005. ☎ 011 45612719

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

Overall Remarks:

Dear Student,

Comment on the following in about 150 words each :

Que.1 (a)

Post Behaviouralism is not the negation of behaviouralism rather its corrective. (10 Marks)

Ans.

Post-behaviouralism as a movement in political science started in the 1960s when the apparent failures of behavioural approach started to surface. Its major proponents include David Easton who is also associated with behavioural movement.

According to David Easton, scientists sitting in their ivory towers have spent too much time perfecting their techniques and have lost touch with ground realities. Post-behaviouralism expands on behaviouralism in two ways:

1. It focuses on action
2. Essentiality of research



It is not a negotiation of behaviourism as it does not abandon scientific techniques and verifiable research in its methodology. It treats politics as an applied science rather than purely a theoretical science. Hence, it brings in the much needed corrections in behaviourism.

Que.1(b)

Neo-liberal perspective of state. (10 Marks)

Ans.

State forms the core focus of political science. Neo-liberal perspective considers it as a necessary evil.

It comes from the social contract tradition and also considers society as an aggregate of individuals.

It takes cue from negative liberalism and believes in rolling back of the state in most spheres. It considers state as a referee rather than a captain. State should only provide security and ensure fair competition.

It is also known as market fundamentalism as it believes that market alone has the capacity to satisfy all the needs of man. Its



major proponents include Milton
Friedman etc. It was introduced
as thatcherism in UK and Reaganism
in US. Thus, it is also associated
with right wingism.

It has been criticised for being
too exploitative especially of the
poor countries by the richer countries.

Concept of original position. (10 Marks)

John Rawls considers justice as fairness.
He has given the concept of original position as a thought experiment to explain his theory.

In this experiment: individuals that are moral and rational are sent behind a thick veil of ignorance.

In this position they do not know any particulars about themselves nor about the society which is to emerge out of their decisions. Rawls has called this position as original position.

Benefits of original position:

It removes any prejudices and allows objective decision making.



According to Rawls, they choose the following principles to establish justice in lexical order:

1. Liberty
2. Equality
3. Difference principle.

The concept of original position has been criticized by

Amartya Sen as impracticable.

Robert Nozick on the other hand

proposed thin veil of ignorance

rather than a thick one.

Que.1(d)

End of ideology thesis. (10 Marks)

Ans. The cold war saw the greater clash of two conflicting ideologies in the form of Capitalism and Communism. However, a brief easing of tensions during the de-tente period led scholars like Daniel Bell to propose the End of ideology ~~exists~~ thesis.

According to Daniel Bell, ideology in that age has been relegated to the back burner and other factors like economy and trade have finally taken the front seat in international relations.

The end of ideology thesis proposed that going ahead a nation's ideology would not matter in its international engagements. Its relations will be more pragmatic than ideological.

However, the end of ideology thesis was not able to sustain for long as tensions between the two super powers heated up again in 1970s leading to proxy war in Afghanistan.

Saptanga Theory. (10 Marks)

Kautilya is often considered as the father of Indian realism and one of the earliest scholars on geo-politics between nations. He gave the Saptang theory to explain the seven key attributes of power that a wise king must consider before launching an attack.

These are:

1. King or Habhi is the centre of power.
2. Amateya (or ministers) as well as spies to gather info and consultations,
3. Dug or fort of king.
4. Tanpada: the village or kingdom where subjects live.



5. Bal : Army's Brute force.
6. Kosh : treasury of the king
7. Mithra : Ally of the king who may help him during the wartime.

A word by Kautilya, a wise king must not only consider his own several elements but also he well informed about these elements of his enemies.

Compare the Normative approach with the empirical approach.
Which approach is more suitable for political science? Give reasons.
(20 Marks)

Political science can be studied from various perspectives and approaches

The normative and empirical are two such approaches that belong to the traditional branch of such approaches. Both of them were extensively practiced in Europe up till second world war.

Normative Approach :

It is also known as the philosophical approach to political science. It studies normative issues such as liberty, equality, justice etc.



It focuses upon what ought to be rather than what actually is. It is highly perspective in nature. Plato is considered as one of earliest proponents of this approach. John Rawls, Robert Nozick are some of the contemporary followers of this approach.

Plato used the deductive method for this approach. It draws conclusions and then looks for evidence in nature to support their arguments.

Empirical Approach:

This approach focuses upon empirical observations for drawing

Conclusions about political science.

It is inductive in nature-

It is highly descriptive in nature unlike normative approach. It only focuses upon the empirical facts and reality and does not indulge into the realm of what ideal situation ought to be.

It is considered more scientific and rational as it is rooted in reality.

Criticisms:

Both these approaches have been criticized for being open-chair

Theories by behaviouralists.

They are ethno-centric in nature
and highly colloquial in their approach.

Their scope is limited to Europe.

The better approach to Political science:

A combination of both these
approaches is needed in reality to
understand political science. While
one must not lose sight of empirical
evidences, it is also important to
have certain ideals in order to
create a better society.

Both these theories have contribu-
ted immensely to the understanding
of politics. The Indian Constitution guar-
antees the ideas of justice, equality etc.
from normative approach. It also is
rooted in realities of social discrimination
untouchability etc. present in Indian society
and hence makes arrangements for their
correction as well.

Que.3(b)

"Fascism is the destruction of Liberal ideas in the interest of those who own the instruments of economic power"- Laski. Comment. (15 Marks)

Ans

Laski was a social liberal who opposed fascism as it was against the basic tenants of liberalism. Fascism as an ideology gained prominence in Europe during the inter-war period.

Fascism is not even considered an ideology but a hodge-podge of ideas. It is propaganda. It takes inspiration from Plato, Aristotle, Hobbs and Heagel.

Fascism = Destruction of liberal ideas

It does not provides any rights to citizens as contemplated under liberalism. It only gives them duties.



Moreover, it demands their strict allegiance to state and crushes freedom of speech and expression which forms the bedrock of liberalism.

Hitler and Mussolini also considered democracy as an instrument for the weak and have abolished it in their countries after gaining power. Hence, the idea of social contract, of gaining the consent of the governed was also discarded.

In the interest of economically powerful:

It is against communism and promotes private industries. Hitler even gave special concessions in taxes etc. to promote such industries.

It also takes away socio-political rights of poor and marginalised citizens (like Jews in Germany) in order to use them as cheap labour for factories.

It promotes war as an heroic endeavour which profits the economically powerful.

It is due to all these that today, fascism is condemned as an anti-ideology. It is a bad word in politics, often used to target political opponents.

Que.3(c)

Draw parallels between the Arthshastra tradition of Kautilya and the realist tradition of Machiavelli. (15 Marks)

Ans.

Kautilya and Machiavelli are considered to be as two of the greatest scholars of realist tradition who lived during the pre-modern age.

Although, they lived centuries apart, there are certain parallels in their thoughts.

Parallels in Arthashastra and
The Prince

Apart from belonging to the realist tradition, both of them also discourse upon the ideal king that should lead his subjects.

Both of them permit the use of religion for political purposes.

They both give a list of dos and

doubts for the king in public life.

Both of them also have deliberated upon the methods and ideas of welfare and are not opposed to moral and amoral ways of victory.

It is perhaps due to these similarities that Jawaharlal Nehru called Kautilya as the Machiavelli of the East in his book Discovery of India... Yet there are certain differences amongst them as well:

For Machiavelli Prince is above morality and religion whereas Kautilya does not keep the king above Dharma. The Prince is written in European Context while Asthashastra is written in the Indian Context.



Moreover, Kautilya was able to bind his king in Chandragupta Mauya while Maehiavelli could never bind his prince during his lifetime.

Thus, there are many parallels and some differences in the approaches of the two. Both of them remain relevant in today's context especially in the South Asian continent.

Answer the following in about 150 words each:

Que.5(a)

Radical humanist perspective of National Movement. Comment (10 Marks)

Ans.

The radical humanist perspective on national movement is given by the words of TAN Roy, DDU, JP Herryaw etc. This perspective kept human at the centre of its focus. Freedom of human was more important than freedom of any nation or country.

MHRoy criticized Gandhi as the leader of bourgeois class and represents a bourgeois party. According to him, nationalism suppresses humans. There is a need to build a cosmopolitan union of liberated human beings.



It talked about grass roots democracy which is a highly decentralised form of power. Creation of self-sufficient villages and the upliftment of the most marginalised was the main principles of this philosophy.

The 73rd and 74th amendments can be said to be a step in this direction, although its full achievements still remains a distant dream.



Compare the strategies of Extremists with that of Moderates. (10 Marks)

The Indian national congress during the early decades of 20th century was split between extremists and moderates as two sets of leaders.

They differed greatly in terms of their strategies and approaches.

Moderates strategies:

They believed in the goodness of British rule and thought that it was good for development of Indian society.

They used only constitutional methods for their goals. They took the recourse of prayers, petitions and protests.



Extremists strategies:

They did not harbour any good notions about the British raj and wanted to drive Britishers out of India. They were also dissatisfied with the methods adopted by moderates.

They called for direct action against British like strike, hartals, boycott etc. They were less adverse to use of violence.

It were these differences that led to the swar split in 1907, impacting the national movement for almost a decade.

Write short note on the Relevance of Rajya Sabha. (10 Marks)

India has adopted a bicameral system of legislature with the Council of States or Rajya Sabha forming the upper house. It is also known as 'assembly of elders'.

It provides check for hasty legislation by Lok Sabha apart from providing a second opinion. For this reason it is called as Peter Sobér while hs as Peter double.

It strengthens federalism by giving representation to states at union level. Moreover, many notions of the parliament like legislation on state list, impeachment of vice President, new all india services etc. can only be initiated in Rajya Sabha.



on the other hand, it does not
enjoy equal footing with hole sabha
in the passage of money bills,
no confidence motion etc. It has
been criticized as house for
electorally discarded leaders.

Yet its relevance remains
as it provides route for subject
experts to become ministers
who may find winning a direct
election difficult.



Que.5(d)

Write about the relationship between Judicial review and the Doctrine of Basic Structure. (10 Marks)

Ans

Although the phrase Judicial Review is no where mentioned in Constitution, it is implicit through articles 13, 32, 131, 136, 142, 226.

It refers to the power of judiciary to revise its earlier judgements and even overturn them if required. It was applied in the Keshava-nanda Bharti case 1973, in which the SC overturned its earlier judgement in Golak Nath case and came out with the doctrine of basic structure.

Basic structure doctrine limits the scope of government to amend the constitution.

In the past, the power of judicial review has been further used to expand the doctrine of basic structure as seen in Maiwera Mills case, Maneka Gandhi case etc.

As mentioned by Upendra Bakshi the judiciary has done the chemotherapy of the highly carcinogenic Indian position. The power of judicial review and innovation of basic structure has surely helped in this.

Comment on Fundamental Duties under Article 51A of the Indian Constitution. (10 Marks)

The provision of fundamental duties under article 51(A) was inspired from the constitution of USSR.

The original constitution did not contain them but were added by the 42nd amendment during the Emergency.

Originally 10 in number, the 11th one was added through 88th amendment in 2002.

They have been criticized as duties are generally the feature of totalitarian regimes. Moreover, they were added at a time



When entire opposition was in jail without necessary debate in parliament.

But they have sewed a constructive purpose in Indian Polity. They have strengthened out commitment towards Constitution and its ideals. They are progressive in nature as they seek to promote scientific temper and shun practices derogatory to women.

It is due to these factors that they have now become one of the basic features of the Indian Constitution as declared by the Supreme Court.

What do you understand by the phenomenon of the Decline of Parliament? What are the reasons behind? Suggest a way forward. (20 Marks)

India has chosen a democratic form of polity with a parliamentary system of governance, as seen in UK. Although, the parliament is arguably the most important institution in Indian democracy, its relevance and effectiveness has been declining in the past decades.

Reasons behind decline of Parliament in India:

1. Plebiscitisation of politics, rise of caste, religion, ethnicity etc.
2. lack of constructive role played by opposition. Due to highly adversarial politics, they oppose even

the good bills of government.

3. Rise of Coalition politics, each party pushing above its weight.
4. lack of capacity in parliamentarism to perform their assigned duty.
5. Politicisation of post of speaker.
6. Misuse of anti-defection law to curb internal dissent.
7. lack of electoral reforms, increasing use of money and muscle power to win elections.
8. Dysfunctional committees like PAC, ethics committee etc.
9. Misuse of parliamentary privileges by members.
10. Executive over reach for example rise of law making through the ordinance route etc.

Suggestions to curb it:

The World Bank in its reports has given the following parameters to judge the quality of parliament:

1. Financial cost of convening parliament.
2. Whether members themselves follow laws made by them.
3. Effectiveness of the institution and its efficiency.
4. Impact on minds of public.
5. Sustainability in long run.

Some key measures include:

1. Electoral reforms to curb use of money and muscle power in elections.
2. Build capacity of members through periodic workshops.
3. Strengthen anti-defection law.

Apart from these measures, the idea of opposition days where the agenda is set by the opposition for a few days as seen in UK must be explored. It will give opposition some space and reduce the adversarial nature of politics.

Que.6(b)

The frequent interventions by judiciary sometimes borders on judicial adventurism, tend to weaken the functioning of the other two branches of government. Comment. (15 Marks)

Ans.

The constitution of India envisages an independent judiciary in order to maintain its federal nature and democracy.

In the words of PB Mehta, judiciary in India is a highly paradoxical, self perpetuating and politicised institution. It has therefore, interfered in the working of other two branches of government.

Reasons for interference:

1. Constitution envisages an active judiciary which can interfere to safeguard rights.
2. Slow working of other two branches of government.

3. Post-democratic nature of India
polity in which judiciary enjoys
a lot of respect in the eyes of
people. (P B Mehta)

Judicial adventurism:

It was first seen in Keshava-
nanda Bhairasa in which SC brought
the meta-physical concept of basic
structure doctrine. It can also be seen
in the four judges case and Indira
Sawhney judgement.

More recently, it has been seen
in Rafael Case in which SC became
the arbitrator on the case.

Further more, the appointment
of committees like the one to monitor
pollution in Delhi and on farm bills
issues by SC also points to adventurism.

Weakening of other branches:

It not only slows their work but also makes them reactio- nary in nature. In many cases the guidelines made by SC have acted as the law itself for example, Vishaka guidelines etc.

The judiciary has also streng-
thened the spirit of democracy in India
through its judgements. It has enacted
several provisions of directive princi-
ples through liberal interpretation
of Article 21. It has provided legiti-
macy to transgenders and taken up
issues of common people through
PILs example, migrants issue diviy
Corona.

Hence, judiciary remains an
effective institution.

Que.6(c)

Explain the linkages between caste system and OBC politics in India. What is the current trend of the role of caste in Indian elections? (15 Marks)

Ans.

According to Cristophe Jefferlot

caste forms the mosaic of politics in India. It is the social division of labour seen throughout ages in Indian society.

India has seen a modernisation of traditional and tradition-alisation of modernity (Rudolph and Rudolph). The reservation policy of government has changed the traditional caste structure and has created class with in caste.

As Rajni Kothari mentions, due to politicization of caste, it is now required to access secular benefits like education, employment etc. there is now an increasing horizontal competition between caste

for backward status..

Although, SC and ST have historical significance, OBC is a political creation. With the addition of more and more castes in this bracket it is now as good as open category.

Distributive and populous politics combined with plebiscitation of voters has led to leaders promising OBC status for more and more castes.

Current trend of caste in elections:

According to Yogendra Yadav,

Voters in India have moved from identity to identity + Politics.

They are looking for good governance,



development, welfare schemes etc. in addition to identity while voting.

According to a survey by Lokniti CSDS, caste and religion still remains as one of the key factors for voters in India. On the other hand, according to Milan Krishnan, it is not possible to determine the casual factor behind voting preferences in case of more than three variables.

It is rightly said by PB Mehta that voters in India do not caste their vote, they vote their caste.

"The Indian federal structure is largely symmetric albeit with some asymmetric features." Comment. Do you think federalism has a critical role in democratizing the political process and strengthening the union in India? (20 Marks)

According to KC Veer, Indian Constitution is quasi-federal in nature as it depicts a strong unitary bias. It has both symmetrical and asymmetrical features.

Symmetrical features:

All states draw their authority from the constitution. There is similar system of state government headed by CTA in all states.

Moreover, the appointments such as governor, all India services etc. are also common to all states.

They enjoy equal voting rights in 9th ST Council.



Asymmetrical features:

Some of these include:

1. Schedules 5 and 6 for governance of tribal districts present in some states in India.
2. Special status to some states through Article like 370 and 371.
3. Unequal distribution of seats in Rajya Sabha.

According to Cunha Mersdel,

Indian Constitution is a product not of optimism but of fear. Asymmetrical federalism hence not only assimilates diversity but also provides flexibility to deal with unilateral challenges.

Strengthening of Union by Federalism

Federalism has succeeded in providing people centric governance. It has provided proper representation to each citizen in the country at various levels.

It has successfully targeted regional aspirations, linguistic challenges and demands for auto-
nomy. The division of states for linguistic, regional and administrative purposes has resulted in good governance hence legitimizing the government.

Federal structure has proved indispensable while tackling communalism in Punjab and North-
East misadventures. The revolution



01 Tamil Nadu issue in 1954
presents one of the earliest
examples of positive federalism.

Various bodies like Sarkaria
and Pauli Commission have been
setup from time to time to
report on the betterment of
federal structure. Their reports
have served a constructive purpose.

Que.7(b)

"Slowly but steadily, women elected to Panchayats are asserting themselves and giving a new thrust to the grass root governance in India." Substantiate. (15 Marks)

Ans:

The 73rd and 74th amendments were revolutionary in nature as they for the first time provided women reservation at all levels of Panchayats. The purpose was to empower women and bring their perspective in governance and policy-making. However, even after three decades of the reforms the results have been mixed.

Assertive role of women in Panchayats:

As depicted by Usha Thorat, the Panchayats with higher participation of women have performed better as compared to other Panchayats.

Women have actively taken-up issues like water, sanitation and

education through panchayats. The recent Jal Jeevan Mission acknowledges this and has made women an integral part of Pani Samitis to be set-up for each village.

The story of woman sarpanch from AP is note worthy who has been working towards water management and has been awarded by UN as well.

Shortcomings :

The problem of Pati panchayat is prevalent in many villages as shown by Sudha Pai. The women representation is only a token while the actual decisions are taken by the men of the village.

Way Forward :

There is a need to build Capacities in women to understand their responsibilities and perform upto the standards.

Moreover, an attitudinal change needs to be brought about in the thinking of rural men. Strong legislation against Pati Panchayats must be enacted by all states.

The representation of women in Parliament is stuck at 14%. This shows the need for reservation of women in panchayats to improve their representation. It now needs to be matched by equally bold steps to realize the substantive aspect of it.

Que.7(c)

Critically assess the circumstances under which ethnicity can become a source of conflict with reference to any two case studies from India. (15 Marks)

Ans.

Ethnicity is a type of social grouping based on common heritage, culture, language etc. India is a highly ethnically diverse country.

If not properly managed, ethnicity can become a source of conflict in the following circumstances:

1. Relative isolation and ignorance by the mainland India. For example, the 1919 insurgency was rooted in neglect from union government and a feeling of relative isolationism.
2. Lack of respect to local customs and imposition of majoritarian cultures. For example, the 1949 insurgency was directed against



the assimilation tactics of the Centre. It was therefore resolved through giving it greater autonomy through article 371(A) for its customary laws.

3. Uneven development and a culture of scarcity which was created especially by the developmental strategies adopted immediately after independence. For example, the demand for separate homelands.

4. Subjective realization of objective deprivation by rise of charismatic leaders.

Conflict resolution:

According to scholars, the government of India is willing to listen to demands of autonomy as long as it is not unconstitutional or secessionist in nature.

The constitution provides enough scope through asymmetrical federalism to resolve such conflicts.

Government is more likely to listen to peaceful demands. Violence against the state will be met by more violence by the state.

Most of the leaders have been assimilated in mainstream politics and their cadres in the local politics.

At the end, as Rajni Kothari said, this has not become major problem because of overlapping identities and ethnicities in India.