



SHUBHRA RANJAN

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PSIR Answer Writing Module 2023

Test 2

Time Allowed: 1 Hour 30 Minutes

Max Marks: 120

Name: RISHABH CHOUDHARY

Test Submission Date: 20/11/22

Email Address: _____

Instructions:

1. All questions are compulsory.
2. All questions are for **15 marks** each.
3. Word limit for each question is **200 words**.
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. **Filling all the details in BLOCK LETTERS is mandatory.**

Q. No.	Marks	Q. No.	Marks
Q1		Q5	
Q2		Q6	
Q3		Q7	
Q4		Q8	
Total Marks:		Evaluator Code:	

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



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	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,

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



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Que.1

Inspired by philosophy, Hannah Arendt warned against the dangers of philosophy obfuscating the plurality and reality of our shared world. Comment (200 words, 15 Marks)

Hannah Arendt is one of the rare political thinker in the creed of philosophers dominated by man, she had been credited for giving critique and explanation of totalitarianism.

Hannah arendt was inspired by Aristotle's idea that Reality and idea coexists and constantly shape each other.

she had given the concept of Phenomenology where she states that the experience is prior to essence.

The concern of Arendt was that she had seen ideology reaching to the



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extent that had corrupted the rational
thinking of Man in Hitler's Germany.

Hannah Arendt in her book critiqued
the need of ideology and put a
great emphasis on revival of public
sphere by reclaiming lost space due to

total control of state.

According to her, the ideology which
had resulted into a totalitarian state
could be only fought by revival of

public sphere where people discuss and
deliberate on issues rather than blindly
accepting the dominant ideology.



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She often goes on to propose that civil disobedience in case of differing public view then a state is ~~is~~ total under totalitarian leader.

In contemporary time we can see that due to rising focus on ideology of consumerism there had been widespread Natural disasters in environment, communities and wildlife.

The Recent ~~the~~ environment Activism movements in Europe, win-af ~~of~~ left in Brazil which Vouched for protection of democracy and Amazon's Rainforest is an example of Hannah's View in practice.

In modern time the idea of civic Republicanism and Revival of Public sphere is crucial to deal with problems of Humanity like climate change, terrorism, extremism and war in Ukraine.



Que.2

"Politics is the place and activity of shared communication based on the distinct perspectives of equal human beings". HANNAH ARENDT.
Comment (200 words, 15 Marks)

hannah Ardent in her book 'Human condition'
had provided with the critique of Modernity
which had reduced Man to only economic
sphere.

for Arden't man perform two action
i.e). Vita-contemplative that is the act
of thinking and 2) vita-Active that
is the act of working.

she further explained that man perform
three type of Action, that is 1) Labour for
substance of basic Needs, 2) work for
economic well being in public sphere and
3) Action that is participation in public
sphere about the Policies of society.



Her ideas reflect that 'Action' is most important of all human Activities, for a man participation in the civic affair Actively and working towards a shared goal for society is quintessential.

She emphasise on humans to work towards consensus to resolve disputes in public sphere by deliberation.

Her ideas primarily came from her lived experience in Hitler's germany so much so that she wrote in her Articles 'Eichmann in Jerusalem' that how loss of conscience can led to moral deterioration of whole society,



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she stated that without public discourse and people participating to form their own's opinion based on deliberation there would always be fear of rise of totalitarianism to rise.

Though she is criticised by some scholars for reducing all Importance to public sphere and not giving due credit to other human Activities. but her lived experiences might have made her justify so.

Today there is need to emphasise more reviving the public sphere and working towards more participative and deliberative democracy.



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Que.3

Gramsci saw capitalist state as being made up of two overlapping spheres, a political society and a civil society. Elucidate (200 words, 15 Marks)

Gramsci is referred as most original political thinker of 20th century so much so that he is referred as father of Neo-Marxism.

Gramsci's main concern was that why revolution is not happening in the industrialised economies like Britain of 20th century as predicted by Marx?

His analysis in his work - 'The Prison Notebook' gives insights on the fact that culture plays a crucial role and Bourgeois don't only rule by coercion but rather by manufacturing consent.



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Gramsci shows that the Hegemony of Capitalist is formed by two spheres —

he first explains that civil

society works toward Manufacturing Consent

through organic intellectuals so much so that

the ideology of capitalism becomes common-sense.

workers don't hate the capitalist system per se but rather they hate the fact that they are not one themselves.

His second stage is explained by a coercive state that acts in capitalist's aid when the ideological Hegemony is broken in order to crush the rebellion, and even provide cession for the release of tension.

Gramsci had then devised an strategy of war of position to first challenge the Hegemony of capitalist by forming counter Hegemony through own organic indivi intellectuals.

Then he moved to an war of Manoeuvre that is of direct Action against state to grab the system and establishing the hegemony of Proletariat.

Gramsci's ideas were employed by Bipin Chandra in form of Gandhi's Action in Indian war of Independence by Non-cooperation Movement and Quit-India Movement.

Gramsci had Reformed Marxism to the extent that it divided Marxism in two streams and conflicting ideas. He would be revered for his

analysis on superstructure for understanding of capitalist systems.



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Que.4

"Gramsci gives us, not the tools with which to solve the puzzle, but the means with which to ask right kinds of questions". STUART HALL. Comment. (200 words, 15 Marks)

Gramsci had been called the theoretician of superstructure, his work reflects deep sense of introspection and analysis about how Hegemony is created and how about to deal with that to overcome deep rooted challenges.

In his work — 'The Prison Notebooks'

Gramsci starts by asking probably right kind of questions like why revolution is not coming as suggested by Marx in well developed British society?, why there is lack of subjective Realisation



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of workers about their own exploitation in such systems? and what are the causes that exists behind forming hegemony of one form of ideology over other?

To his credit, his question involve a sense of introspection and that had led to division of Marxism itself. So much so that it started to become self contradictory (between orthodox and Neo-Marxism) and conflicting (between structuralist and non-structuralist).

his analysis also had been inspiration for devising strategy for Indian freedom struggle by gandhiji and other political leaders of the time.

As seen from Gandhi's satyagrah and non-cooperation movement to be an war of position against british hegemony of patronistic despotism.

Later on when he was successful in organising masses that had become class for itself he used War of Manoeuvre in form of Quit india movement.

Gramsci would be surely revered for his contribution towards devising strategy to counter hegemony of bourgeois but that would be an ~~anti~~ myopic assessment of Gramsci.

His most profound contribution towards world would be to have a critical thinking capacity and Asking the Right question to get the Right Answers.



Que.5

"Religion is the opium of masses". - MARX. Discuss (200 words, 15 Marks)

Karl Marx is not just being referred as a political philosopher but a revolutionary who had given most profound critique of capitalism.

Marx in his work on Historical Materialism has analysed how history change and stated that - 'history is all hitherto time is the history of class struggle'.

he stated that history change with the change in the relation to means of production that makes economy as a base structure for him

over which all other structure are based upon.

he analysed that Religion plays a role of superstructure to suppress the consciousness of masses and provides a way to live through idealistic ideals whereas there exist lack of Morality in the Religious institution which preaches Religion.

he warned masses to avoid religion for Realisation of their true exploitation done in the Capitalist Societies.

In order for masses in form of proletariat in a Capitalist societies to become a class for themselves



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they have to form up ~~for~~ against all institutions of bourgeois and those patronaged by them.

Marx suggest for violent overthrow of bourgeois, state and institution of religion to establish ~~communism~~ communism.

Marx had been criticised for reducing religion to only a puppet of economic class..

Gramsci had criticised Marx to be an economic reductionist stating that culture is as important in forming hegemony of bourgeois.

Marx had become inspiration for many communist Regime in Modern times where state Absolutism is established without recognition of religion in any public sphere.



Que.6

Marxism consists of three ideas: Theory of history, Critique of capitalism and a vision of ideal society. Evaluate. (200 words, 15 Marks)

Karl Marx on whose ideas the theory of marxism is based on had given revolutionary ways to interpret history, understand capitalism and what to do about it to establish an Ideal society.

'All history is hitherto history of class struggle' - Marx had devised this idea in of Historical Materialism, where he states that in all hitherto history that had been two classes i.e. Revolutionaries (the one being exploited) and Reactionaries (they are exploiters) and the relation with means of production had changed the course of history between the two classes.



The dominant class is the one that had control to the Means of Production.

In Capitalism, Marx stated that the Bourgeois class that controlled the economy are exploiting the Proletariat. where Bourgeois take hefty profits, proletariat get mere wages. and in order to ~~max~~ maximise the wide profit margin, bourgeois try to shrink the wages as little as they can.

In his later work referred as Mature Marx's 'Communist Manifesto' he provides for the view of ideal society based on socialism where everyone will contribute towards society as per their capacity and



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Would review as per one's needs. The end state of Marx socialism is communism that is the state of complete harmony without classes and class struggle.

he termed this an end of history as there would be no further class conflict and exploitation, this idea of Marx was inspired by Hegel's theory of history where higher truth ultimately prevails over lower truth.

Marx ideas have been criticised on many grounds but mostly concerned with their implementation that had led to totalitarian regimes in certain parts of world.

Most profound contribution of Marx is his incisive critique of capitalism, Thomas Pridem as states — there is always need of a ideology to justify the inequality in a system.



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Que.7

"The only freedom which deserves the name is that of pursuing our own good in our own way..." - I.S. MILL. Comment (200 words. 15 Marks)

Ans - It is said that if anyone is liberal that is mill for his thoughts on freedom and propounding the rights of Individuals.

'over himself and his ~~soul~~ soul, man is sovereign' - Mill

Mill had been the father of liberal ideas and Individual freedom, in his book - 'On freedom' Mill states that every man has three unalienable rights that can not be taken by state without due cause, that are Right of speech and expression, right to form associations between like minded people and right to decide one's own good.



Mills had advocated that for each man most satisfying & task is to explore one's own self. that requires freedom over one's action and conscience.

Mills had advocated the need of absolute rights of individuals and any state in ~~at~~ no circumstances denies man such right without due cause.

Mills had been criticised for being inconsistent thinker because on one hand he propound for right of every man and on other he Vouch for paternalistic despotism of british rule in colonies. where he says that the lack of



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democratic culture would result into
Anarchy.

he for the same had also been regarded
as a reluctant democrat.

Jsmill had been an inspiration for the
Modern political thought and reforming
liberalism that at one point being reduced
to 'pig's philosophy' by high focus on utility



Que.8

Mill was a champion of democracy who failed to bring the idea of democracy to its logical conclusion. Critically examine (200 words, 15 Marks)

Mill is often regretted to being a reluctant democrat because of the fact that he was not in support of democracy in colonies.

Mill in his book - 'on democracy' gives an detailed explanation on ~~Republic~~ democratic spirit and its importance in civic sphere of life.

Mill stated that speaking is an virtuous gift of man, no animal can speak only man has the ability to convey his thought in a way for others to understand



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and comprehend.

for that he ~~championed~~ championed the ideals of democracy and stated what kind of democratic government we require in his book 'on government' where he had given absolute right of speech & expression, association and own's good for each man in a democratic system.

But for mill - democracy was a product of prolonged struggle for centuries and should not be given to societies that lack democratic culture.

he stated that it is quintessential for democracy to survive, and for its



Survival it should be introduced after establishing democratic culture.

he is criticised on this aspect often termed as 'reluctant democrat' because of his stance of British rule in colonies. he stated that for barbarians despotism is right.

Mills is also criticised on being unfair to Poor by giving ideas of Proportional Representation and weighted Voting. where he proposed for more than Numerical strength to Capitalist and restricted right to franchise to Poor and weaker sections.

Mills ideas were reformative for the time of widespread inequality in society, till today his ideas holds relevance in modern liberal democratic discourses.