O. P. JINDAL SCHOOL, SAVITRI NAGAR
Half Yearly Examination - (2026 – 2027)

Class / Section: VII ( ) **MM: 50**
Subject: Social Science **Time: 2 Hrs.**
Name: _____ **Roll No.:_____**

General Instructions:
This question paper is divided into four sections – A, B, C and D.
All questions are compulsory.
Marks for each question are indicated against it.
Case-based questions carry the marks indicated against each sub-question.

SECTION A – HISTORY (12 Marks)

1. Why can divisions within a society sometimes lead to inequality? (1)

(a) Social groups prevent people from having occupations.
(b) Some groups acquire more wealth, power or influence than others.
(c) All groups always receive exactly the same resources.
(d) Divisions automatically make every society unequal.

2. A mahājanapada issued its own coins, but coins from neighbouring regions were also used and exchanged in trade. What does this most strongly suggest? (1)

(a) Each mahājanapada was economically isolated.
(b) Coins could only be used inside the kingdom that issued them.
(c) Economic exchange could take place across political regions.
(d) Trade between different regions had completely stopped.

3. The chapter says that the varṇa-jāti system was more flexible in earlier periods but became more rigid over time. What important social lesson can be drawn from this? (1)

(a) Social systems never change once they are established.
(b) Inequality is unavoidable and cannot be reduced.
(c) A system that provides stability can never create problems.
(d) Social systems can change over time and may become more unequal or discriminatory.

4. Why were the janapadas and mahājanapadas an important development in India's early history? (3)

5. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:
"However, at least two mahājanapadas, Vajji (or Vṛijji) and the neighbouring Malla, had a different system: the sabhā or samiti had more power and took important decisions through discussion, and, if necessary, through vote. Surprisingly, this included the selection of the rājā! This means that those mahājanapadas, which were called gaṇas or sanghas, were not monarchies—their functioning might be called democratic, since members of the assembly were the ones to select the ruler and take major decisions. In fact, scholars have often called them 'early republics', as they are indeed one of the earliest such systems in the world."

5.1 Suppose the assembly discussed an important matter but did not reach agreement. According to the passage, what could happen next? (1)

(a) The rājā would automatically make the decision.
(b) The matter could be decided through a vote.
(c) The assembly would lose its power permanently.

(d) The decision would be passed to a neighbouring mahājanapada.

5.2 Which combination of features best supports the description of Vajji and Malla as having a democratic system? (1)

(a) A rājā + hereditary rule
(b) Assembly discussion + selection of the ruler by assembly members
(c) A rājā + military power
(d) Neighbouring mahājanapadas + a sabhā

5.3 What kind of different system did Vajji and Malla have? (2)

6. On the political map of India, mark and label the following: (2)

(i) Magadha
(ii) Malla

SECTION B – GEOGRAPHY (13 Marks)

7. In 1984, when Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister of India, asked Rakesh Sharma, the first Indian astronaut to go into space, how India looked from space, he replied, "Sāre jahān se achchha." What does this response best highlight? (1)

(a) India's geographical diversity and the sense of unity across its different regions
(b) India's geographical features are the same everywhere
(c) India's development is concentrated only in its cities
(d) India's geography has little influence on its identity

8. Why was Project Tiger important for the conservation of the tiger? (1)

(a) It encouraged people to keep tigers as domestic animals.
(b) It supported the return of tigers to their natural habitats after their numbers had declined greatly.
(c) It focused only on increasing the number of animals in zoos.
(d) It replaced natural habitats with artificial ones.

9. Water is scarce in the Thar Desert. What does the practice of reusing water after rinsing utensils best demonstrate? (1)

(a) Water can be used responsibly and efficiently in regions where it is scarce.
(b) Water is available in plenty in desert regions.
(c) Reusing water is unnecessary when rainfall is low.
(d) People in deserts do not need to conserve water.

10. Why is the southern part of India called a peninsular plateau? (2)

11. "There are also cold deserts, and we have one in India." Explain about this desert. (3)

12. Despite having different regions, how has geography helped unite people of India? (5)

SECTION C – POLITICAL SCIENCE (13 Marks)

13. A government creates a new rule, puts it into practice and ensures that people follow it.

Which sequence of functions is represented here? (1)

(a) Executive → Legislative → Judicial
(b) Legislative → Executive → Judicial
(c) Judicial → Executive → Legislative
(d) Legislative → Judicial → Executive

14. In a parliamentary democracy, which statement best explains the relationship between the executive and the legislature? (1)

(a) The executive works completely independently of the legislature.
(b) The executive is also part of the legislature and is accountable to it.
(c) The president is directly elected by the people and does not need legislative confidence.
(d) The executive cannot be removed under any circumstances.

15. Which statement best describes the usual difference between the Lower House and the Upper House? (1)

(a) The Upper House is always more powerful than the Lower House.
(b) Both Houses are always formed only through nomination.
(c) The Lower House is generally more powerful and is directly elected in most countries.
(d) The Lower House is formed only through nomination.

16. What do you mean by an independent judiciary? (2)

17. What do you mean by the principles of equality and freedom in a democracy? (2)

18. What are possible hurdles in a democracy in achieving its values and ideals? How can they be overcome? (3)

19. Explain the fundamental rights of citizens in India. (3)

SECTION D – ECONOMICS (12 Marks)

20. What is the key difference between the barter system and transactions commonly made today? (1)

(a) Barter involves direct exchange of goods or services, while today people commonly use coins, notes and digital methods for transactions.
(b) Barter always involves mobile phones, while modern transactions use goods.
(c) Barter uses coins and notes, while modern transactions require direct exchange.
(d) There is no difference between the two systems.

21. Why is double coincidence of wants a major difficulty in the barter system? (1)

(a) Both people must want each other's goods and be able to offer what the other wants.
(b) Both people must use the same amount of money.
(c) Goods must always be exchanged in equal physical quantities.
(d) Goods must be stored for a long period before exchange.

22. Two people agree to exchange wheat for another good, but they cannot decide how much wheat should be exchanged for it. Which limitation of barter does this situation illustrate? (1)

(a) Portability
(b) Durability
(c) Common standard of value
(d) Double coincidence of wants

23. Explain the following terms: (2)

(a) Divisibility
(b) Portability

24. How has money as a medium of exchange transformed over time? (3)

25. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

"It is said that 'necessity is the mother of invention.' As the types and numbers of things that were being exchanged grew, and the distances across which barter was beginning to take place became longer, it became clear that there was a need for a different system. A common medium of exchange would make trade easier and so, money came into existence. As more and more people began to use it for transactions—buying and selling goods and services—it became the accepted method of payment.

As we saw in the farmer's story above, he could not store the wheat for long as it would rot or get eaten by rats. If the farmer uses money instead of wheat as a medium of exchange, he can keep the money for a longer time and use it for making purchases later. So, money acts as a store of value that can be used later. Isn't it fascinating!"

25.1 What development created the need for a different system of exchange? (1)

(a) The types and numbers of things exchanged increased and trade covered longer distances.
(b) People stopped exchanging goods and services.
(c) Wheat became easier to store for long periods.
(d) Barter became completely impossible in every situation.

25.2 Which situation best demonstrates the function of money described in the passage? (1)

(a) A farmer stores wheat until it rots.
(b) A person keeps money after receiving it and uses it later to purchase something.
(c) Two people exchange goods directly without using money.
(d) A trader refuses to accept any form of payment.

25.3 Why did the limitations of storing certain goods make money more useful as a medium of exchange? (1)

(a) Money eliminated the need for storing anything.
(b) Money could only be used immediately after receiving it.
(c) Money had to be exchanged directly for wheat.
(d) Money could be kept for longer without the same problem of rotting or being eaten by rats.

25.4 Which statement best captures the two functions of money explained in the passage? (1)

(a) Money makes exchange easier and can also be kept for use in future purchases.
(b) Money is useful only for storing goods.
(c) Money makes barter more complicated and reduces trade.
(d) Money can be used only for buying agricultural products.

***** End of Question Paper *****