

# MATH LOVE INSTITUTE

Annual Examination 2025-26

Class: VII | Subject: Social Science (SET - 5)

Time: 3 Hours | Maximum Marks: 80

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<b>Student Name:</b>	_____
<b>Roll Number:</b>	_____
<b>Date:</b>	_____

## General Instructions:

1. All questions are compulsory.
2. The question paper is divided into 5 sections: A, B, C, D, and E.
3. Section A: Multiple Choice Questions (1 mark each) – 15 marks
4. Section B: Fill in the Blanks / True-False (1 mark each) – 15 marks
5. Section C: Short Answer Questions (2 marks each) – 20 marks
6. Section D: Long Answer Questions (3 marks each) – 15 marks
7. Section E: Map Work / Case Based Questions (3 marks each) – 15 marks
8. Write neatly and legibly. Marks may be deducted for illegible handwriting.
9. Read each question carefully before attempting.

**SECTION A – MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS (15 × 1 = 15 Marks)**

- Q1.** The Banjaras were known as: **[1 Mark]**
- (a) Settled agriculturists
  - (b) Trader-nomads
  - (c) Forest dwellers
  - (d) River fishermen
- Q2.** The caravan of the Banjaras was called: **[1 Mark]**
- (a) Tanda
  - (b) Jatha
  - (c) Misl
  - (d) Khel
- Q3.** Which tribe was very influential in Punjab during the 13th and 14th centuries? **[1 Mark]**
- (a) Bhils
  - (b) Gakkhars
  - (c) Khokhars
  - (d) Gonds
- Q4.** The forced labourers in the Ahom state were called: **[1 Mark]**
- (a) Paiks
  - (b) Kunbis
  - (c) Jagirdars
  - (d) Ijaradars
- Q5.** The Ahom state was located in: **[1 Mark]**
- (a) North-West India
  - (b) North-East India
  - (c) South India
  - (d) Central India

- Q6.** The Amazon Basin is located in which continent? **[1 Mark]**
- (a) Africa
  - (b) Asia
  - (c) South America
  - (d) North America
- Q7.** Which is the main food crop grown in the Amazon Basin? **[1 Mark]**
- (a) Wheat
  - (b) Rice (Paddy)
  - (c) Manioc (Cassava)
  - (d) Sugarcane
- Q8.** The Ganga-Brahmaputra Basin lies in which type of region? **[1 Mark]**
- (a) Tropical region
  - (b) Sub-tropical region
  - (c) Polar region
  - (d) Temperate region
- Q9.** Why is paddy grown in the Ganga-Brahmaputra plains? **[1 Mark]**
- (a) Because the region receives very little rainfall
  - (b) Because the region has flat, fertile land and receives high rainfall
  - (c) Because paddy does not need water to grow
  - (d) Because the soil is dry and sandy
- Q10.** Bromeliads are special plants found in the Amazon rainforest that: **[1 Mark]**
- (a) Store water in their leaves
  - (b) Produce large sweet fruits
  - (c) Grow only in cold climates
  - (d) Are carnivorous plants
- Q11.** Media is often called the \_\_\_\_\_ pillar of democracy: **[1 Mark]**
- (a) First
  - (b) Second
  - (c) Third
  - (d) Fourth

**Q12.** A balanced report in journalism means: **[1 Mark]**

- (a) A report that shows only one side of the story
- (b) A report that discusses all points of view and leaves it to readers to decide
- (c) A report that only covers entertainment news
- (d) A report that is written by the government

**Q13.** In a weekly market, goods are usually: **[1 Mark]**

- (a) More expensive than in malls
- (b) Branded and packaged
- (c) Cheaper and unbranded
- (d) Only available on weekdays

**Q14.** The Gond kingdom of Garha Katanga had how many villages according to Akbar Nama? **[1 Mark]**

- (a) 7,000
- (b) 70,000
- (c) 7,00,000
- (d) 700

**Q15.** What type of cultivation did the Gonds practice? **[1 Mark]**

- (a) Irrigation farming
- (b) Terrace farming
- (c) Shifting cultivation
- (d) Plantation farming

**SECTION B – FILL IN THE BLANKS / TRUE-FALSE (15 × 1 = 15 Marks)**

**Q16.** The Banjaras used to transport grain to city markets under Sultan \_\_\_\_\_ **[1 Mark]**

**Q17.** Ahom society was divided into clans called \_\_\_\_\_ **[1 Mark]**

**Q18.** The historical works written by the Ahoms were called \_\_\_\_\_ **[1 Mark]**

- Q19.** Smaller castes known as \_\_\_\_\_ emerged within the varna- [1 Mark]  
based system.
- Q20.** True or False: Tribal societies did not follow the social rules [1 Mark]  
prescribed by the Brahmanas.
- Q21.** The tropical region lies between \_\_\_\_\_ latitudes. [1 Mark]
- Q22.** True or False: The Amazon Basin receives very little rainfall [1 Mark]  
throughout the year.
- Q23.** The main cash crops grown in the Amazon Basin include coffee, [1 Mark]  
maize, and \_\_\_\_\_.
- Q24.** True or False: The canopy of the Amazon rainforest restricts sunlight [1 Mark]  
from reaching the ground.
- Q25.** Major cities on the River Ganga include Varanasi, Patna, and [1 Mark]  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- Q26.** True or False: Independent media means no one tells the media what [1 Mark]  
to include or exclude in news stories.
- Q27.** The word "media" is the plural form of \_\_\_\_\_. [1 Mark]
- Q28.** True or False: Weekly markets are usually open only one or two days [1 Mark]  
in a week.
- Q29.** Censorship is when the \_\_\_\_\_ prevents media from [1 Mark]  
publishing certain news.
- Q30.** True or False: The Gakkhars were powerful in Punjab during the 15th [1 Mark]  
and 16th centuries.

**SECTION C – SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (10 × 2 = 20 Marks)**

**Q31.** What kinds of exchanges took place between nomadic pastoralists and settled agriculturists? Give two examples of goods exchanged. **[2 Marks]**

**Q32.** Why were the Banjaras important for the economy? Explain with two reasons. **[2 Marks]**

**Q33.** How was the administration of the Ahom state organized? Mention the role of paiks. **[2 Marks]**

**Q34.** What changes took place in the varna-based society over time? **[2 Marks]**

**Q35.** Why are the rainforests of the Amazon Basin depleting? Give two reasons. **[2 Marks]**

**Q36.** Why is the Ganga-Brahmaputra Basin densely populated? Give two geographical reasons. **[2 Marks]**

**Q37.** How has television brought the world closer to us? Explain with one example. **[2 Marks]**

**Q38.** Why is it important for media to be independent? What happens when it is not? **[2 Marks]**

**Q39.** What is the difference between a weekly market and a permanent shop / mall? Give one advantage of each. **[2 Marks]**

**Q40.** In what ways was the history of the Gonds different from that of the Ahoms? Mention one similarity. **[2 Marks]**

**SECTION D – LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS (5 × 3 = 15 Marks)**

**Q41.** Explain how tribal societies changed after being organized into a state. How did the caste system absorb tribes? **[3 Marks]**

**Q42.** Describe the climate, vegetation, and wildlife of the Amazon Basin in detail. **[3 Marks]**

**Q43.** Explain how the Ganga-Brahmaputra Basin's varied topography affects the distribution of population. What crops are grown and why? **[3 Marks]**

**Q44.** Explain the role of media in a democracy. Why do most TV channels and newspapers belong to big business houses? How does this affect reporting? **[3 Marks]**

**Q45.** Describe the different types of markets (weekly markets, permanent shops, and malls). How do they differ in terms of price, goods, and accessibility? **[3 Marks]**

**SECTION E – MAP WORK / CASE BASED QUESTIONS (5 × 3 = 15 Marks)**

**Q46.** On the outline map of India, mark and label the following: **[3 Marks]**

1. Assam (location of the Ahom state)
2. River Ganga (from source to mouth)
3. Gondwana region (Central India)

**Q47. Case Study: The Ahom State** **[3 Marks]**

The Ahom people lived in the north-east of India, where the Brahmaputra river flows. The region received heavy rainfall. The Ahom state depended upon forced labour called paiks. A census of the population was taken, and each village had to send paiks by rotation. People from heavily populated areas were shifted to less populated places. By the first half of the 17th century, the administration became quite centralised. Ahom society was divided into clans called khels. A khel controlled several villages.

Answer the following:

1. Where did the Ahom people live and why was the region suitable for rice cultivation? (1 mark)
2. What were paiks and how was the paik system managed? (1 mark)
3. What were khels in the Ahom society? (1 mark)

**Q48. Case Study: The Banjaras – India's Trader Nomads**

**[3 Marks]**

The Banjaras were the most important trader-nomads in India. Their caravan was called a tanda. They bought grain where it was cheaply available and carried it to places where it was dearer. Under Sultan Alauddin Khalji, Banjaras transported grain to the city markets. Emperor Jahangir noted that Banjaras carried grain on their bullocks from different areas and sold it in towns. They also transported food grain for the Mughal army during military campaigns.

Answer the following:

1. What was a tanda? (1 mark)
2. What was the main business of the Banjaras? (1 mark)
3. How did the Banjaras help during Mughal military campaigns? (1 mark)

**Q49. Case Study: Media and Democracy**

**[3 Marks]**

Sunita is a student who reads two newspapers every morning – "News Today" and "India Daily". One day, both newspapers covered the same story about a factory closure. However, News Today focused on how the factory workers were blocking traffic, while India Daily focused on how thousands of workers would lose their jobs. Sunita noticed that neither newspaper gave a balanced report.

Answer the following:

1. What does a "balanced report" mean? (1 mark)
2. Why do you think the two newspapers reported the same story differently?  
(1 mark)
3. Why is it important for citizens to know both sides of a story? (1 mark)

**Q50. Case Study:** Deforestation in the Amazon

**[3 Marks]**

The Amazon rainforest is the largest tropical rainforest in the world. It is home to thousands of species of plants and animals. However, every year a large area of the Amazon rainforest is being destroyed due to deforestation. Farmers clear the forest by cutting and burning trees to get land for farming. Big companies also cut trees for wood and to build roads. When the trees are removed, the topsoil gets washed away by rain, and the land becomes barren.

Answer the following:

1. Give two reasons why the Amazon rainforest is being depleted. (1 mark)
2. What happens to the soil when trees are removed? (1 mark)
3. Why is the Amazon rainforest important for the environment? (1 mark)

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## DETAILED ANSWER KEY

### Class 7 Social Science Annual Exam 2025-26 (Set 5)

*All answers with marking schemes for comprehensive preparation*

#### SECTION A – ANSWERS TO MCQs (15 × 1 = 15 Marks)

##### Q1. Answer: (b) Trader-nomads

**Explanation:** The Banjaras were the most important trader-nomads in India. They moved from place to place buying and selling goods, especially grain, transporting them on their animals (bullocks).

*1 mark for correct option*

##### Q2. Answer: (a) Tanda

**Explanation:** The caravan of the Banjaras was called a "tanda". These tandas moved across regions carrying grain and other goods for trade.

*1 mark for correct option*

##### Q3. Answer: (c) Khokhars

**Explanation:** The Khokhar tribe was very influential in the Punjab region during the 13th and 14th centuries. Later, in the 15th and 16th centuries, the Gakkhars became more prominent in the same region.

1 mark for correct option

#### Q4. Answer: (a) Paiks

**Explanation:** In the Ahom state, forced labourers were known as paiks. Each village had to send a certain number of paiks by rotation to work for the state.

1 mark for correct option

#### Q5. Answer: (b) North-East India

**Explanation:** The Ahom people lived in the north-east of India, in the region where the Brahmaputra river flows. This area received heavy rainfall, which made it suitable for rice cultivation.

1 mark for correct option

#### Q6. Answer: (c) South America

**Explanation:** The Amazon Basin is located in the continent of South America. The equator passes through countries like Ecuador, Colombia, and Brazil in this basin.

1 mark for correct option

#### Q7. Answer: (c) Manioc (Cassava)

**Explanation:** Manioc, also known as cassava, is the staple food crop of the Amazon Basin. It grows underground. Other crops include tapioca, pineapple, and sweet potato.

1 mark for correct option

**Q8. Answer: (b) Sub-tropical region**

**Explanation:** The Ganga-Brahmaputra Basin lies in the sub-tropical region, situated between 10°N to 30°N latitudes. It is dominated by a monsoon climate.

1 mark for correct option

**Q9. Answer: (b) Because the region has flat, fertile land and receives high rainfall**

**Explanation:** Paddy (rice) requires a lot of water to grow. The Ganga-Brahmaputra plains provide flat, fertile alluvial land and receive high monsoon rainfall, making them ideal for paddy cultivation.

1 mark for correct option

**Q10. Answer: (a) Store water in their leaves**

**Explanation:** Bromeliads are special plants found in the Amazon rainforest that store water in the leaf-like structures around their base. Animals like frogs use these pockets of stored water to lay their eggs.

1 mark for correct option

**Q11. Answer: (d) Fourth**

**Explanation:** Media is often referred to as the "fourth pillar" of democracy. The other three pillars are the Legislature, the Executive, and the Judiciary. Media acts as a watchdog to keep the government accountable.

1 mark for correct option

**Q12. Answer: (b) A report that discusses all points of view and leaves it to readers to decide**

**Explanation:** A balanced report is one that presents all sides of a story without bias. It gives readers the information they need to form their own opinions, rather than pushing one particular viewpoint.

1 mark for correct option

**Q13. Answer: (c) Cheaper and unbranded**

**Explanation:** Goods in weekly markets are generally cheaper and unbranded compared to malls. This is because weekly markets have lower overhead costs and sell directly from producers or small traders to consumers.

1 mark for correct option

**Q14. Answer: (b) 70,000**

**Explanation:** The Akbar Nama (a history of Akbar's reign) mentions that the Gond kingdom of Garha Katanga had 70,000 villages, showing it was a large and powerful kingdom.

1 mark for correct option

**Q15. Answer: (c) Shifting cultivation**

**Explanation:** The Gonds practiced shifting cultivation. In this method, trees and bushes in a forest area are first cut and burnt, then crops are sown in the ashes. When the land loses fertility, a new plot is cleared.

1 mark for correct option

**SECTION B – ANSWERS TO FILL IN THE BLANKS / TRUE-FALSE (15 × 1 = 15 Marks)**

**Q16. Answer: Alauddin Khalji**

**Explanation:** Under Sultan Alauddin Khalji, the Banjaras were used to transport grain to the city markets. This helped maintain grain supply and control prices in the cities.

1 mark for correct answer

**Q17. Answer: Khels**

**Explanation:** Ahom society was divided into clans known as khels. Each khel controlled several villages and was an important unit of social and administrative organization.

1 mark for correct answer

**Q18. Answer: Buranjis**

**Explanation:** The Ahoms wrote historical works called Buranjis. These were chronicles that recorded the history, events, and rulers of the Ahom kingdom.

1 mark for correct answer

**Q19. Answer: Jatis**

**Explanation:** Smaller castes known as jatis emerged within the larger varna-based system. Many tribes and social groups were given the status of jatis when they joined the caste-based society.

*1 mark for correct answer*

#### Q20. Answer: True

**Explanation:** Tribal societies did not follow the social rules and rituals prescribed by the Brahmanas. Nor were they divided into numerous unequal classes. They retained their freedom and preserved their separate culture.

*1 mark for correct answer*

#### Q21. Answer: 10°N and 10°S

**Explanation:** The tropical region lies very close to the equator, between 10°N and 10°S latitudes. It is therefore also referred to as the equatorial region.

*1 mark for correct answer*

#### Q22. Answer: False

**Explanation:** This is false. The Amazon Basin receives plenty of rainfall throughout the year, which is why it has dense tropical rainforests. The high and consistent rainfall supports the growth of lush vegetation.

*1 mark for correct answer*

#### Q23. Answer: Cocoa

**Explanation:** The main cash crops grown in the Amazon Basin include coffee, maize, and cocoa. The staple food crop is manioc (cassava), along with tapioca, pineapple, and sweet potato.

*1 mark for correct answer*

#### Q24. Answer: True

**Explanation:** The dense canopy (treetops) of the Amazon rainforest restricts sunlight from reaching the ground. This makes the forest floor dark and gloomy, suitable only for shade-tolerant vegetation like mosses.

*1 mark for correct answer*

#### Q25. Answer: Kolkata (accept also: Allahabad / Kanpur / Haridwar / Rishikesh / Lucknow)

**Explanation:** Major cities on the River Ganga include Rishikesh, Haridwar, Kanpur, Allahabad, Varanasi, Lucknow, Patna, and Kolkata. These cities grew along the river due to water availability and fertile land.

*1 mark for correct answer (any valid city accepted)*

#### Q26. Answer: True

**Explanation:** Independent media means that no one – neither the government nor big business houses – tells the media what should be included or excluded in their news stories. This is essential for unbiased and truthful reporting.

*1 mark for correct answer*

#### Q27. Answer: Medium

**Explanation:** The word "media" is the plural form of "medium". It describes the various ways through which we communicate in society – including newspapers, TV, radio, and the Internet.

*1 mark for correct answer*

#### **Q28. Answer: True**

**Explanation:** Weekly markets are usually open only on one or two specific days of the week. Vendors set up their stalls on those days and pack up afterwards. This is why they are called "weekly" markets.

*1 mark for correct answer*

#### **Q29. Answer: Government**

**Explanation:** Censorship is when the government prevents media outlets from publishing or broadcasting certain news, scenes, or information. While sometimes used for national security, it can be a threat to democracy if misused.

*1 mark for correct answer*

#### **Q30. Answer: True**

**Explanation:** The Gakkhars became powerful in the Punjab region during the 15th and 16th centuries, after the Khokhars had been influential there during the 13th and 14th centuries.

*1 mark for correct answer*

**SECTION C – ANSWERS TO SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (10 × 2 = 20)**

### Q31. Answer: Exchange Between Nomadic Pastoralists and Settled Agriculturists

There was a regular exchange of goods between nomadic pastoralists and settled agriculturists:

- **Pastoralists gave:** Milk, wool, ghee, and other pastoral products to the settled agriculturists.
- **Agriculturists gave:** Grain, cloth, utensils, and other products to the pastoralists.

This exchange helped both groups meet their needs. Pastoralists did not grow crops, so they needed grain. Agriculturists did not raise animals, so they needed wool and dairy products. This mutual trade helped both communities survive and thrive.

*1 mark for naming what pastoralists gave, 1 mark for naming what agriculturists gave*

### Q32. Answer: Importance of the Banjaras for the Economy

The Banjaras were very important for the economy because:

- **Grain distribution:** They bought grain where it was cheaply available and carried it to places where it was dearer. This helped balance the supply of grain across different regions and kept prices stable in city markets.
- **Connecting regions:** As they traveled from place to place, they connected different parts of India, facilitating trade between distant regions. They also transported food grain for the Mughal army during military campaigns, showing their role in the national economy.

*1 mark for grain distribution role, 1 mark for connecting regions / military supply*

### Q33. Answer: Administration of the Ahom State

The Ahom state had a well-organized administration:

- **Paik system:** The Ahom state depended upon forced labour. These forced workers were called **paiks**. A census of the population was regularly taken to manage this system.
- **Rotation of labour:** Each village had to send a number of paiks by rotation to work for the state. People from heavily populated areas were sometimes shifted to less populated places to balance the labour force.
- **Centralisation:** By the first half of the 17th century, the administration became quite centralised, with the king at the top supported by powerful nobles.

*1 mark for explaining the paik system, 1 mark for explaining rotation/centralisation*

### Q34. Answer: Changes in the Varna-Based Society

Over time, the following important changes took place in the varna-based society:

- **Emergence of jatis:** Smaller castes known as **jatis** emerged within the larger varna-based system. Rather than the four varnas, jatis became the more important basis for social organization.
- **Absorption of tribes:** Many tribes and social groups were taken into the caste-based society and given the status of jatis. This happened with the active support of the Brahmanas.
- **Recognition of artisans:** Specialised artisans such as smiths, carpenters, and masons were also recognised as separate jatis by the Brahmanas.

*1 mark for explaining emergence of jatis, 1 mark for explaining absorption of tribes/artisans*

### Q35. Answer: Depletion of Amazon Rainforests

The rainforests of the Amazon Basin are depleting due to the following reasons:

- **Deforestation for farming:** Farmers practice slash-and-burn agriculture – they cut and burn large areas of forest to clear land for growing crops. This destroys the dense rainforest.
- **Industrial activities:** Large-scale developmental and industrial activities such as logging (cutting trees for wood), building roads, and mining have destroyed vast areas of rainforest.

**Consequence:** When the trees are removed, the topsoil is washed away by heavy rains, and the once lush green forest turns into a barren landscape with reduced soil fertility.

*1 mark for each valid reason explained*

### Q36. Answer: Why Ganga-Brahmaputra Basin is Densely Populated

The Ganga-Brahmaputra Basin is densely populated because of the following geographical reasons:

- **Fertile alluvial plains:** The rivers deposit rich alluvial (fertile) soil on the plains during floods. This makes the land extremely productive for agriculture, supporting a large population.
- **Abundant water supply:** The presence of major rivers like the Ganga and Brahmaputra and their tributaries ensures a consistent water supply for both drinking and irrigation. The monsoon climate also brings sufficient rainfall from mid-June to mid-September.

These factors together allow for intensive farming, support the growth of towns and cities, and create economic opportunities – all of which attract a large population.

1 mark for fertile plains, 1 mark for water supply / monsoon climate

### Q37. Answer: How Television Brought the World Closer

Television has brought the world much closer to us in the following ways:

- **Instant visuals from far away:** Television images travel huge distances through satellites and cables. This allows us to watch news and events happening in any part of the world from our own homes.
- **Global connection:** We can watch entertainment and news channels from other countries. For example, sitting in India, we can see live footage of events happening in the United States, Europe, or anywhere else in the world within seconds.

Television has made us feel like members of a larger global world by bringing distant events and cultures right into our living rooms.

1 mark for explaining satellite/cable technology, 1 mark for giving a valid example



### Q38. Answer: Importance of Independent Media

**Why independent media is important:**

- Independent media provides unbiased, truthful, and balanced information to the citizens. It acts as a watchdog – questioning government decisions, exposing corruption, and highlighting problems faced by common people.
- In a democracy, citizens make decisions (like voting) based on the information media provides. So the information must be reliable and fair.

**What happens when media is NOT independent:**

- When media is controlled by the government or big business houses, it fails to give a balanced report. It may only show one side of a story – the

side that benefits those who control it. This means citizens don't get the full truth and cannot make informed decisions, which weakens democracy.

*1 mark for explaining importance, 1 mark for explaining consequences of non-independence*

### Q39. Answer: Weekly Markets vs. Permanent Shops / Malls

Feature	Weekly Market	Permanent Shop / Mall
When open	Open only 1-2 days per week	Open every day
Price	Generally cheaper	Generally more expensive
Goods	Mostly unbranded, fresh produce, local items	Branded, packaged, variety of products
Location	Set up in open spaces, roads	Fixed location, built shops

**Advantage of weekly market:** Goods are cheaper and more affordable for poor people.

**Advantage of permanent shop/mall:** Available every day, wider variety of branded goods, and more convenient.

*1 mark for explaining weekly market, 1 mark for explaining permanent shop/mall with advantage*

### Q40. Answer: Gonds vs. Ahoms – Differences and Similarities

#### Differences:

- The Gonds lived in central India (Gondwana) while the Ahoms lived in north-east India (Assam region).

- The Gonds were completely conquered and annexed by the Mughals, whereas the Ahoms managed to reclaim their independence soon after being temporarily subdued.
- The Gonds practiced shifting cultivation, while the Ahoms were settled rice cultivators using advanced methods.

**Similarity:** Both the Gonds and the Ahoms started as small tribal communities and grew into powerful tribal states. Both modeled their kingdoms on other centralized states of the time.

*1 mark for differences, 1 mark for similarity*

## SECTION D – ANSWERS TO LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS (5 × 3 = 15 Marks)

### Q41. Answer: How Tribal Societies Changed After Being Organized into a State

When tribal societies were organized into states, they underwent major changes:

#### 1. Absorption into the Caste System:

- After being organized into a state, many tribes were gradually absorbed into the caste system. This happened with the active support of the Brahmanas, who helped integrate tribes into the existing social order.
- Tribes and social groups were given the status of **jatis** (castes) within the varna system. They were assigned a specific place in the social hierarchy based on their occupation or social standing.

#### 2. Loss of Equality:

- Formerly, tribal societies were more egalitarian – meaning all members had roughly equal standing. However, after being organized into states and joining the caste system, tribal societies gradually became divided into unequal social classes.

- Only the leading tribal families could join the ruling class or upper castes. The large majority of tribal people joined the lower jatis of caste society.

### 3. Changes in Social Structure:

- Specialised artisans from tribal communities – such as smiths, carpenters, and masons – were recognised as separate jatis by the Brahmanas.
- Some tribal leaders became powerful rulers who adopted the customs of settled kingdoms, including the varna system, to legitimize their rule.

### 4. Political Organisation:

- Tribal communities that formed states adopted more formal systems of governance – with kings, ministers, tax collection, and armies – replacing the simpler tribal decision-making systems.

*1 mark for explaining absorption into caste system, 1 mark for explaining loss of equality, 1 mark for other changes (social structure / political organisation)*



## Q42. Answer: Climate, Vegetation, and Wildlife of the Amazon Basin

### 1. Climate:

- The Amazon Basin has a **tropical climate** – it is hot and wet throughout the year.
- It receives very high rainfall consistently, with temperatures remaining high (around 25-30°C) all year round.
- There is very little difference between summer and winter temperatures.

### 2. Vegetation – The Rainforest:

- Because of abundant rainfall, the Amazon has the world's largest **tropical rainforest**.
- The trees form a thick **canopy** – a dense cover of treetops that blocks most sunlight from reaching the forest floor.

- The forest floor is dark and gloomy, with only shade-tolerant plants like mosses growing there.
- Special plants called **bromeliads** store water in their leaves. Animals like frogs use these pockets of water to lay their eggs.
- The rainforest has an incredibly rich variety of plant species – more than almost anywhere else on Earth.

### 3. Wildlife:

- **Birds:** The Amazon is home to colourful birds like **toucans** (with oversized bills), **humming birds**, and the **birds of paradise** with brilliantly coloured plumage. These birds make loud sounds in the forest.
- **Other animals:** The Amazon houses a wide variety of animals including monkeys, sloths, piranhas (aggressive fish), anacondas, and jaguars.
- The high biodiversity makes the Amazon one of the most important ecosystems on Earth.

*1 mark for climate description, 1 mark for vegetation/rainforest features, 1 mark for wildlife with examples*

## Q43. Answer: Topography, Population Distribution, and Crops in Ganga-Brahmaputra Basin

### 1. How Varied Topography Affects Population Distribution:

- The Ganga-Brahmaputra Basin has varied topography – it includes mountains, hills, plains, and the delta region.
- **Mountain areas:** The steep slopes of the Himalayas and hills have inhospitable terrain – it is difficult to farm and live there. Therefore, very few people live in the mountain areas of the basin.
- **Plain areas:** The vast flat plains provide the most suitable land for human habitation. The fertile alluvial soil and abundant water make these plains ideal for agriculture. So, population density is very high in the plains.

- **Delta region:** The Ganga-Brahmaputra delta (including Bangladesh) is also densely populated due to extremely fertile soil, but it faces challenges like flooding and cyclones.

## 2. Crops Grown and Why:

- **Paddy (Rice):** The main crop grown in the plains. Paddy needs a lot of water, and the high monsoon rainfall and flat fertile land make it ideal for cultivation.
- **Wheat:** Grown during the winter season when rainfall is lower.
- **Other crops:** Maize, sorghum, gram, millets, sugarcane, and jute are also cultivated depending on the season and local conditions.
- The fertile alluvial soil deposited by the rivers during floods replenishes nutrients in the soil, allowing multiple crops to be grown in a single year.

*1 mark for explaining mountain vs plain population, 1 mark for delta/other areas, 1 mark for crops with reasons*



## Q44. Answer: Role of Media, Business Ownership, and Its Effect on Reporting

### 1. Role of Media in Democracy:

- **Informing citizens:** Media provides news about events happening in the country and across the world, helping people stay informed.
- **Watchdog function:** Media acts as a watchdog – it criticises unpopular government policies, exposes corruption, and highlights problems faced by common people.
- **Platform for debate:** Media gives a platform for different opinions and viewpoints on important issues, helping citizens form their own judgements.
- **Setting agenda:** By choosing which stories to report, media influences what issues become important in public discussion.

## 2. Why Most TV Channels and Newspapers Belong to Big Business

### Houses:

- The technologies used by mass media – lights, cameras, sound recorders, transmission satellites, studio equipment – are very expensive and keep changing.
- A large number of employees work in a newsroom to produce news broadcasts and newspapers.
- Therefore, mass media needs a great deal of money to function. Big business houses have the resources to set up and run media organizations.

## 3. How This Affects Reporting:

- Media earns money mainly through **advertisements**. Companies pay media to show their ads. This creates a relationship where media depends on business houses for its income.
- Because of this dependence, it becomes difficult for media to report negatively about companies that advertise with them.
- Big business houses that own media channels may influence what stories are reported, focusing only on stories that benefit their business interests.
- This makes it difficult for media to be truly independent, and citizens may not get balanced or complete information.

*1 mark for role of media, 1 mark for explaining why business houses own media, 1 mark for effect on reporting*

## Q45. Answer: Types of Markets – Weekly Markets, Permanent Shops, and Malls

### 1. Weekly Markets:

- Weekly markets are set up on specific days of the week (usually one or two days) in open spaces or along roads.

- Vendors bring their goods – mostly fresh produce like vegetables, fruits, fish, as well as clothes, utensils, and other daily items.
- **Price:** Goods are generally cheaper because there are no overhead costs like rent for a permanent shop.
- **Accessibility:** They are found in most towns and villages, making them accessible to people in rural areas.
- **Limitation:** They are not available every day, so people cannot shop there at any time.

## 2. Permanent Shops:

- Permanent shops are fixed establishments that are open every day (or most days).
- They sell a variety of goods – some branded, some unbranded – in a fixed location.
- **Price:** Prices are generally higher than weekly markets because shopkeepers have to pay rent and other costs.
- **Accessibility:** They are available throughout the week, making shopping convenient at any time.

## 3. Malls (Shopping Malls):

- Malls are large, modern shopping centres with many shops under one roof.
- They sell mostly branded and packaged products – clothes, electronics, cosmetics, food items, etc.
- **Price:** Prices are the highest among the three types because of high infrastructure costs, branding, and overhead expenses.
- **Accessibility:** They are mostly found in big cities and towns. They offer a comfortable shopping experience with air conditioning, parking, and entertainment options.

**Key Difference:** As we move from weekly markets → permanent shops → malls, the prices increase but so do the variety, convenience, and comfort of shopping.

1 mark for weekly market description, 1 mark for permanent shop description, 1 mark for mall description with price/accessibility comparison

**SECTION E – ANSWERS TO MAP WORK / CASE BASED QUESTIONS (5 × 3  
= 15 Marks)**

**Q46. Answer: Map Work – India**

**Instructions for Map Marking:**

1. **Assam (Ahom State):** Mark and label the state of Assam in the north-east of India, along the Brahmaputra river.
2. **River Ganga:** Draw a line from the Himalayas (source – Gangotri glacier in Uttarakhand) flowing eastward through Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and into the Bay of Bengal (mouth near Kolkata/Bangladesh). Label it "River Ganga".
3. **Gondwana Region:** Shade and label the approximate area of central India covering parts of Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Jharkhand – the historical homeland of the Gond people.

**Map Drawing Tips:**

- Use pencil first, then pen for final marking.
- Label clearly in capital letters.
- Use different colours or symbols for each item to make them distinguishable.

1 mark for each correctly marked and labeled location (Total 3 marks)

**Q47. Answer: Case Study – The Ahom State**

**(i) Where did the Ahom people live and why was the region suitable for rice cultivation? (1 mark)**

The Ahom people lived in the **north-east of India**, in the region where the Brahmaputra river flows (present-day Assam). The region was suitable for rice cultivation because it received **heavy rainfall** and had abundant water from the Brahmaputra river, which provided ideal conditions for growing rice (paddy).

**(ii) What were paiks and how was the paik system managed? (1 mark)**

**Paiks** were **forced labourers** who had to work for the Ahom state. The paik system was managed as follows:

- A **census** of the population was regularly taken to know how many people were available.
- Each village had to send a number of paiks by **rotation** – meaning different people from the village took turns working.
- People from heavily populated areas were sometimes shifted to less populated places to balance the workforce.

**(iii) What were khels in the Ahom society? (1 mark)**

**Khels** were **clans** – groups of families related by blood – into which the Ahom society was divided. Each khel controlled several villages and was an important unit of social and administrative organization in the Ahom state.

*1 mark for each correctly answered sub-question*

**Q48. Answer: Case Study – The Banjaras**

**(i) What was a tanda? (1 mark)**

A **tanda** was the name given to the **caravan of the Banjaras**. It was a large group of Banjaras travelling together with their bullocks loaded with goods (mainly grain) as they moved from one place to another to trade.

**(ii) What was the main business of the Banjaras? (1 mark)**

The main business of the Banjaras was **buying and selling grain**. They bought grain where it was cheaply available and carried it on their bullocks to places

where it was dearer (more expensive), selling it there for a profit. They acted as important middlemen in the grain trade across India.

**(iii) How did the Banjaras help during Mughal military campaigns? (1 mark)**

During Mughal military campaigns, the Banjaras helped by **transporting food grain for the Mughal army**. Their experience in long-distance travel and their network of trade routes made them efficient suppliers of essential food provisions to the army while it was on the move.

*1 mark for each correctly answered sub-question*

#### **Q49. Answer: Case Study – Media and Democracy**

**(i) What does a "balanced report" mean? (1 mark)**

A **balanced report** is a news story that **discusses all points of view** of a particular issue and then **leaves it to the readers to make up their own minds**. It does not favour one side over another – it presents the facts from all perspectives fairly and neutrally.

**(ii) Why do you think the two newspapers reported the same story differently? (1 mark)**

The two newspapers reported differently because each one chose to focus on a **different aspect** of the story. News Today highlighted the **disruption caused by workers** (blocking traffic), while India Daily focused on the **human impact** (job losses). This can happen because:

- Each newspaper may have its own **editorial bias** or point of view.
- They may be influenced by their **owners or advertisers** who want certain aspects highlighted.
- Editors may choose the angle they think will be most **interesting or impactful** to their readers.

**(iii) Why is it important for citizens to know both sides of a story? (1 mark)**

It is important for citizens to know both sides because **people take action as citizens based on the information media provides**. If they only hear one side, they form a biased opinion. To make informed decisions – especially when voting or participating in public discussions – citizens need **complete, fair, and balanced information**. This is the foundation of a healthy democracy.

*1 mark for each correctly answered sub-question*



#### **Q50. Answer: Case Study – Deforestation in the Amazon**

**(i) Give two reasons why the Amazon rainforest is being depleted. (1 mark)**

Two reasons for the depletion of the Amazon rainforest:

- **Farming:** Farmers cut and burn large areas of forest (slash-and-burn method) to clear land for growing crops like tapioca and other food items.
- **Industrial activities:** Large companies cut down trees for timber (wood), build roads through the forest, and carry out mining activities – all of which destroy the rainforest.

**(ii) What happens to the soil when trees are removed? (1 mark)**

When trees are removed from the forest, the **topsoil gets washed away** when heavy rains fall. Trees normally hold the soil in place with their roots. Without the tree cover, rainwater flows over the bare land and erodes the fertile topsoil. This means the land **loses its fertility** and becomes barren – unable to support the growth of new trees or crops.

**(iii) Why is the Amazon rainforest important for the environment? (1 mark)**

The Amazon rainforest is extremely important for the environment because:

- It is the world's largest tropical rainforest and houses an incredible **diversity of plants and animals** (biodiversity) – many species found nowhere else on Earth.

- Trees absorb carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and release oxygen, making the rainforest a **massive carbon sink** that helps regulate the Earth's climate and reduces the effects of global warming.
- It influences weather patterns and rainfall in many parts of the world.

*1 mark for each correctly answered sub-question*

## Marking Summary

Section	Question Type	Total Marks
Section A	Multiple Choice Questions (15 × 1)	15 marks
Section B	Fill in the Blanks / True-False (15 × 1)	15 marks
Section C	Short Answer Questions (10 × 2)	20 marks
Section D	Long Answer Questions (5 × 3)	15 marks
Section E	Map Work / Case Based Questions (5 × 3)	15 marks
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>80 marks</b>

**END OF ANSWER KEY – SET 5**

**Total Marks: 80**

This is a comprehensive solved practice paper for Class 7 Social Science Annual Examination (Set 5).

Special focus on Tribes, Nomads & Settled Communities | Amazon & Ganga-Brahmaputra Basin | Media & Markets.

Study thoroughly and understand all concepts.

For doubts and queries, contact: **Math Love Institute**

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This paper (Set 5) covers: History (Ch-5 Tribes, Nomads & Settled Communities – Banjaras, Ahoms, Gonds, Khokhars, Gakkhars, Varna-Jati changes) | Geography (Ch-6 Amazon Basin & Ganga-Brahmaputra Basin – Climate, Vegetation, Wildlife, Crops, Population) | Political Science (Ch-6 Understanding Media – Democracy, Independence, Balanced Reporting, Censorship | Ch-7 Markets Around Us – Weekly Markets, Shops, Malls) |

Combined Syllabus: PT-II + Annual Examination 2025-26

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