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Class 9 — Social Science Map Work · MCQ Bank · Source-Based Questions · Model Paper

Companion volume to *MLI Class 9 Social Science — Understanding Society: India and Beyond*
CBSE Subject Code 087 · All 16 Themes

FACULTY: MISHRA SIR · CBSE SESSION 2026–27

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What this volume adds. The main MLI Social Science volume carries the study notes, exercise-style solutions and extra questions for all 16 themes. This companion supplies the four things a notes book does not: **map work**, an **objective (MCQ and assertion–reason) bank**, **source and case-based passages** of the kind the new competency paper sets, and a **full 80-mark model paper** with an answer key.

Why no maps are printed here: political outline maps of India must be exactly accurate, so use the official outline maps given by your school or the maps in your NCERT textbook. **How to use the map section.** Keep a blank political outline map of India and a blank world outline map beside you. Locate and label each item by hand — reading a map list never works, drawing it does. Items are grouped by theme so you can revise them chapter by chapter.

A note on accuracy. Parts of this material have been organised with the help of AI-based tools and thereafter reviewed by MLI faculty. Please report any error to your faculty so it can be corrected.

About Themes 10–16 (Part 2)

NCERT has published **Part 1 (Themes 1–9)** only; **Part 2 has not yet been printed**. Questions on Themes 10–16 in this volume are built from the **official CBSE curriculum document**, not from a printed textbook. When your school issues Part 2, cross-check the printed chapter names and section headings and report any difference to your faculty.

Assessment, as notified: Theory 80 marks + Internal Assessment 20 marks = 100. Internal Assessment: Periodic Assessment 5 · Multiple Assessment 5 · Subject Enrichment (interdisciplinary project) 5 · Portfolio 5. CBSE has noted that the detailed unit-wise course structure for Class IX is yet to be notified, so the marks split used in the model paper below is MLI's working estimate based on the instructional hours printed against each theme — roughly a quarter of the written paper to each of History, Geography, Political Science and Economics.

Contents

- 1** Map Work — India and the World, theme by theme
- 2** Objective Bank — 82 MCQs and Assertion–Reason items, all 16 themes
- 3** Source-Based and Case-Study Passages (8 sets)
- 4** MLI Model Question Paper — 80 marks, 3 hours, with answer key

SECTION 1

Map Work — India and the World

Grouped theme-wise · Locate and label on an outline map

How map questions are marked. A map item usually carries 1 mark for correct **location** and, where asked, 1 mark for correct **labelling**. If you cannot locate an item, most boards allow you to write the answer in the space provided instead — but you lose the location mark. Always use a sharp pencil, label horizontally, and add an index.

Themes 2 & 3 — Shaping of the Earth's Surface; Atmosphere and Climate

A. World outline map — locate and label

- The seven major tectonic plates: Pacific, North American, South American, Eurasian, African, Indo-Australian, Antarctic
- The **Pacific Ring of Fire** (shade the belt)
- The **Mid-Atlantic Ridge** — an example of a divergent boundary
- The **Himalayas** — an example of a convergent (collision) boundary
- The **San Andreas Fault**, California — an example of a transform boundary
- Equator, Tropic of Cancer, Tropic of Capricorn, Arctic Circle, Antarctic Circle, Prime Meridian

B. India outline map — locate and label

- **Mountains:** Karakoram range, Himadri (Greater Himalayas), Himachal, Shiwalik, Aravalli, Vindhya, Satpura, Western Ghats, Eastern Ghats
- **Peaks:** K2 (Godwin Austen), Kanchenjunga, Anaimudi
- **Plateaus and deserts:** Deccan Plateau, Chhota Nagpur Plateau, Malwa Plateau, Thar Desert
- **Plains:** Northern Plains, Coastal Plains (Konkan, Malabar, Coromandel, Northern Circars)
- **Islands:** Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep
- **Rivers:** Indus, Ganga, Brahmaputra, Yamuna, Narmada, Tapi, Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, Kaveri
- **Climate:** the Tropic of Cancer across India; Mawsynram/Cherrapunji (highest rainfall); Jaisalmer (lowest rainfall); the path of the Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal branches of the south-west monsoon

Themes 10 & 11 — Oceans and Life; Life on Earth

World map

- The five oceans: Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Southern, Arctic
- Major ocean currents: Gulf Stream, Labrador Current, North Atlantic Drift, Kuroshio, California Current, Benguela Current, West Australian Current
- Major seas and gulfs bordering India: Arabian Sea, Bay of Bengal, Gulf of Kutch, Gulf of Khambhat, Gulf of Mannar, Palk Strait
- Major biomes: tropical rainforest (Amazon, Congo, South-East Asia), savanna, desert (Sahara, Thar, Atacama), temperate grassland (Prairies, Steppes, Pampas), tundra, taiga

India map

- Major forest types: tropical evergreen (Western Ghats, north-east), tropical deciduous (central India), thorn forest (Rajasthan), mangrove (**Sundarbans**), montane (Himalayas)
- Biosphere reserves: Nilgiri, Sundarbans, Nanda Devi, Gulf of Mannar, Nokrek, Great Nicobar
- National parks and sanctuaries: Jim Corbett, Kaziranga, Gir, Kanha, Bandhavgarh, Ranthambore, Periyar

Themes 4, 5, 12 & 13 — History

World map — early civilisations

- Mesopotamia (Tigris–Euphrates), Egypt (Nile), China (Huang He), Indus Valley (Indus–Ghaggar/Hakra)
- Trade contact routes between the Harappan region and Mesopotamia (**Meluhha**), Dilmun and Magan

India map — sites and centres

- **Harappan sites:** Harappa, Mohenjo-daro (in present-day Pakistan — mark position only), Dholavira, Lothal, Rakhigarhi, Kalibangan, Banawali, Surkotada
- **Early historic:** Pataliputra, Taxila, Ujjain, Sarnath, Bodh Gaya, Lumbini, Vaishali, Rajgir, Sanchi
- **Ashokan inscription sites:** Girnar, Dhauli, Kalsi, Sannati
- **Later kingdoms and capitals:** Kanauj, Thanesar, Badami (Chalukyas), Kanchipuram (Pallavas), Thanjavur (Cholas), Madurai (Pandyas), Devagiri, Warangal, Delhi, Vijayanagara (Hampi)
- **Ports of the maritime trade:** Bharuch (Broach), Sopara, Muziris, Arikamedu, Tamralipti, Kaveripattinam

Themes 6, 7 & 14 — Political Science

India map

- All 28 States and 8 Union Territories with capitals
- New Delhi — seat of Parliament, the Supreme Court and the Election Commission of India
- State capitals that are also High Court seats in your region: Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh High Court), Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh High Court)

World map — for comparison of democratic systems

- India, United Kingdom, United States, Canada (first-past-the-post systems)
- Israel, the Netherlands, South Africa (proportional representation)
- Germany, New Zealand (mixed/hybrid systems)

Themes 8, 9, 15 & 16 — Economics

India map

- Major industrial and startup hubs: Mumbai, Delhi NCR (Gurugram, Noida), Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Chennai, Pune, Ahmedabad, Indore
- Major ports handling trade: Mumbai, Jawaharlal Nehru (Nhava Sheva), Kandla (Deendayal), Kochi, Chennai, Visakhapatnam, Paradip, Haldia, Tuticorin, Mangaluru, Mormugao
- Special Economic Zones and industrial corridors: Delhi–Mumbai Industrial Corridor
- Reserve Bank of India headquarters, Mumbai; the Bombay Stock Exchange and National Stock Exchange, Mumbai

Map practice questions

M1

3 Marks

On the outline map of India provided, locate and label: (a) Lothal (b) the Western Ghats (c) the river Godavari.

GUIDANCE

- **Lothal** — coastal Gujarat, near the Gulf of Khambhat; mark with a dot and label horizontally.
- **Western Ghats** — the continuous range running parallel to the west coast from just south of the Tapi to Kanniyakumari; shade the line, do not mark a dot.
- **Godavari** — rises near Nashik in the Western Ghats and flows south-east across the Deccan to the Bay of Bengal; trace the whole course, label along the river.

M2

3 Marks

On the outline map of the world, locate and label: (a) the Indo-Australian Plate (b) the Pacific Ring of Fire (c) the Mid-Atlantic Ridge.

GUIDANCE

- **Indo-Australian Plate** — shade the area covering the Indian subcontinent, the Indian Ocean and Australia; write the name inside the shaded area.
- **Ring of Fire** — a horseshoe belt around the rim of the Pacific, from New Zealand up through Japan and the Aleutians and down the west coast of the Americas.
- **Mid-Atlantic Ridge** — a line running roughly north–south down the middle of the Atlantic; label it as a divergent boundary.

M3

2 Marks

On an outline map of India, locate and label: A — the Harappan port site in Gujarat near the Gulf of Khambhat; B — the mineral-rich plateau of eastern India (Jharkhand).

A — Lothal B — Chhota Nagpur Plateau

SECTION 2

Objective Bank — MCQs and Assertion–Reason

Theme-wise · 82 items · Answers given inline

Themes 1–3 — Understanding Social Science; Earth's Surface; Atmosphere

#	Question	Answer
1	Social Science studies (a) only the past (b) only governments (c) people, places, society, culture and power (d) only maps	(c)
2	The outermost solid layer of the Earth is the (a) mantle (b) crust (c) outer core (d) inner core	(b) crust
3	The Himalayas were formed at a (a) divergent boundary (b) transform boundary (c) convergent boundary (d) passive margin	(c) convergent
4	The San Andreas Fault is an example of a (a) convergent (b) divergent (c) transform (d) subduction boundary	(c) transform
5	A landform made by river deposition is a (a) gorge (b) delta (c) waterfall (d) V-shaped valley	(b) delta
6	The instrument that records earthquake waves is a (a) barometer (b) seismograph (c) anemometer (d) hygrometer	(b) seismograph
7	The layer of the atmosphere in which almost all weather occurs is the (a) stratosphere (b) mesosphere (c) troposphere (d) thermosphere	(c) troposphere
8	The ozone layer lies in the (a) troposphere (b) stratosphere (c) mesosphere (d) exosphere	(b) stratosphere
9	Meteors burn up in the (a) troposphere (b) stratosphere (c) mesosphere (d) exosphere	(c) mesosphere
10	The most abundant gas in the atmosphere is (a) oxygen (b) carbon dioxide (c) nitrogen (d) argon	(c) nitrogen
11	The south-west monsoon reaches Kerala usually in (a) early April (b) early June (c) early August (d) early October	(b) early June
12	"Carbon footprint" measures (a) the area of forest lost (b) total greenhouse gases caused by an activity (c) rainfall in a year (d) the depth of soil	(b)
13	The line of latitude passing through the middle of India is the (a) Equator (b) Tropic of Capricorn (c) Tropic of Cancer (d) Arctic Circle	(c) Tropic of Cancer
14	A: The Himalayas are still rising. R: The Indo-Australian Plate continues to push into the Eurasian Plate. (a) Both true, R explains A (b) Both true, R does not explain A (c) A true, R false (d) A false, R true	(a)

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A: Temperature falls as one climbs the troposphere. **R:** The troposphere is heated mainly from below, by the Earth's surface.
(a) Both true, R explains A (b) Both true, R does not explain A (c) A true, R false (d) A false, R true

(a)

Themes 4, 5, 12 & 13 — History

#	Question	Answer
16	The Palaeolithic age is characterised by (a) farming (b) hunting and gathering with chipped stone tools (c) iron tools (d) city life	(b)
17	Agriculture and the domestication of animals began in the (a) Palaeolithic (b) Mesolithic (c) Neolithic (d) Chalcolithic age	(c) Neolithic
18	The Mesopotamians called the Indus region (a) Dilmun (b) Magan (c) Meluhha (d) Elam	(c) Meluhha
19	The Harappan site with a dockyard is (a) Kalibangan (b) Lothal (c) Banawali (d) Rakhigarhi	(b) Lothal
20	The Great Bath is at (a) Harappa (b) Dholavira (c) Mohenjo-daro (d) Surkotada	(c) Mohenjo-daro
21	The Harappan script (a) is fully deciphered (b) remains undeciphered (c) is the same as Brahmi (d) was written in Sanskrit	(b) undeciphered
22	Ashoka's inscriptions were mostly written in (a) Sanskrit (b) Prakrit in Brahmi script (c) Tamil (d) Persian	(b)
23	The <i>Arthashastra</i> is attributed to (a) Kalidasa (b) Panini (c) Kautilya (d) Banabhatta	(c) Kautilya
24	The Chola kingdom had its centre at (a) Madurai (b) Kanchipuram (c) Thanjavur (d) Badami	(c) Thanjavur
25	The Vijayanagara capital is today the site of (a) Hampi (b) Warangal (c) Devagiri (d) Golconda	(a) Hampi
26	The port of Muziris lay on the (a) Coromandel coast (b) Malabar coast (c) Konkan coast (d) Gujarat coast	(b) Malabar
27	The period 1000–1700 CE in Indian history is broadly called the (a) ancient (b) early historic (c) medieval (d) modern period	(c) medieval
28	A: Harappan cities were carefully planned. R: They had grid-pattern streets and covered drains. (a) Both true, R explains A (b) Both true, R does not explain A (c) A true, R false (d) A false, R true	(a)
29	A: We know little about ordinary Harappan people's beliefs. R: The Harappan script has not been read. (a) Both true, R explains A (b) Both true, R does not explain A (c) A true, R false (d) A false, R true	(a)

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Which of these is **not** a source for writing early Indian history? (a) inscriptions (b) coins (c) archaeological remains (d) modern newspapers

(d)

Themes 6, 7 & 14 — Political Science

#	Question	Answer
31	The word "democracy" comes from Greek words meaning (a) rule of one (b) rule of the few (c) rule of the people (d) rule of the wise	(c)
32	In a democracy the final decision-making power must rest with (a) the army (b) elected representatives (c) the judiciary (d) religious leaders	(b)
33	India follows which electoral system for the Lok Sabha? (a) proportional representation (b) first past the post (c) mixed system (d) single transferable vote	(b) FPTP
34	The Election Commission of India is established under (a) Article 324 (b) Article 14 (c) Article 370 (d) Article 21	(a) Article 324
35	The voting age in India was reduced from 21 to 18 by the (a) 42nd (b) 44th (c) 61st (d) 73rd Amendment	(c) 61st
36	NOTA stands for (a) No Other Ticket Allowed (b) None Of The Above (c) Notice Of Tabulated Answers (d) National Office of Transparent Administration	(b)
37	The Model Code of Conduct comes into force (a) on polling day (b) when the election is announced (c) after the result (d) only during counting	(b)
38	The Anti-Defection Law is contained in the (a) Fifth (b) Eighth (c) Tenth (d) Twelfth Schedule	(c) Tenth
39	A reserved constituency is one where (a) only some may vote (b) only SC/ST candidates may contest (c) no election is held (d) voting is compulsory	(b)
40	In Kautilya's thought, <i>danda</i> and <i>nyaya</i> together stand for (a) trade and tax (b) discipline/force and justice (c) land and sea (d) army and treasury	(b)
41	Proportional representation is used in India for (a) the Lok Sabha (b) State Assemblies (c) the Rajya Sabha and presidential election (d) panchayat elections	(c)
42	Which is not a feature of a democratic election? (a) universal adult franchise (b) a real choice of candidates (c) a single approved candidate (d) a free and fair process	(c)
43	A: Elections make governments accountable. R: Rulers must return to the voters at fixed intervals. (a) Both true, R explains A (b) Both true, R does not explain A (c) A true, R false (d) A false, R true	(a)

44	A: Under FPTP a party can win a majority of seats without a majority of votes. R: The winner in each constituency needs only the largest number of votes. (a) Both true, R explains A (b) Both true, R does not explain A (c) A true, R false (d) A false, R true	(a)
45	Authority is best described as (a) power backed by force alone (b) power that is accepted as legitimate (c) wealth (d) popularity	(b)

Themes 8, 9, 15 & 16 — Economics

#	Question	Answer
46	The central economic problem arises from (a) unlimited resources (b) scarcity relative to unlimited wants (c) too much money (d) too many goods	(b) scarcity
47	Opportunity cost is (a) the money price (b) the value of the next-best alternative given up (c) total cost (d) profit	(b)
48	The law of demand states that, other things equal, as price rises quantity demanded (a) rises (b) falls (c) stays the same (d) becomes zero	(b) falls
49	The demand curve normally slopes (a) upward left to right (b) downward left to right (c) vertically (d) horizontally	(b) downward
50	Market equilibrium occurs where (a) demand exceeds supply (b) supply exceeds demand (c) quantity demanded equals quantity supplied (d) price is zero	(c)
51	If demand rises while supply is unchanged, the equilibrium price will (a) rise (b) fall (c) not change (d) become zero	(a) rise
52	A factor of production is (a) land (b) labour (c) capital (d) all of these	(d) all of these
53	"Creative destruction" refers to (a) vandalism (b) new innovations displacing older products and firms (c) destroying surplus stock (d) closing a factory	(b)
54	MSME stands for (a) Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (b) Ministry of Small and Medium Exports (c) Major State Manufacturing Enterprises (d) Modern Skilled Manpower Establishment	(a)
55	Which is a government initiative to support entrepreneurship? (a) Startup India (b) Make in India (c) Digital India (d) All of these	(d)
56	Budgeting means (a) spending all income (b) planning income and expenditure in advance (c) borrowing (d) avoiding all expenses	(b)
57	An emergency fund is best described as (a) money kept for unexpected needs (b) a long-term investment (c) a loan (d) daily pocket money	(a)
58	Simple interest on ₹5,000 at 8% per annum for 2 years is (a) ₹400 (b) ₹800 (c) ₹1,000 (d) ₹1,600	(b) ₹800
59	A: Scarcity forces every society to make choices. R: Resources are limited while human wants are unlimited. (a) Both true, R explains A (b) Both true, R does not explain A (c) A true, R false (d) A false, R true	(a)

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A: A rise in the price of a substitute good raises the demand for a product. **R:** Buyers switch to the relatively cheaper option.
(a) Both true, R explains A (b) Both true, R does not explain A (c) A true, R false (d) A false, R true

(a)

Themes 1–9 — NCERT Textbook Topics (items 61–82)

#	Question	Answer
61	The five great elements of Indian thought are called (a) Saptanga (b) Panchamahabhutas (c) Ashramas (d) Ritus	(b)
62	Study of coins as a source of history is (a) epigraphy (b) numismatics (c) archaeology (d) genealogy	(b)
63	About 90% of the world's earthquakes occur in the (a) Mid-Atlantic Ridge (b) Ring of Fire (c) Deccan Plateau (d) Sahara	(b)
64	The safety rule during an earthquake is (a) Run and Jump (b) Drop, Cover and Hold On (c) Use the lift (d) Stand near windows	(b)
65	The word 'monsoon' comes from the Arabic word (a) mausim (b) monsun (c) masoon (d) mausam-e-baarish	(a)
66	A sea breeze blows (a) land to sea at night (b) sea to land by day (c) land to sea by day (d) sea to land at night	(b)
67	The Punjab floods of 2025 involved the rivers (a) Ganga, Yamuna (b) Satluj, Beas, Ravi (c) Narmada, Tapi (d) Godavari, Krishna	(b)
68	Tamil Nadu receives most rain from the (a) south-west monsoon (b) north-east monsoon (c) western disturbances (d) Loo	(b)
69	The Code of Hammurabi belongs to (a) Egypt (b) China (c) Mesopotamia (d) Harappa	(c)
70	Small stone tools of the Mesolithic age are called (a) megaliths (b) microliths (c) monoliths (d) handaxes	(b)
71	The Sudarshana lake is recorded in the (a) Nashik inscription (b) Uttaramerur inscription (c) Junagadh inscription (d) Hampi inscription	(c)
72	'Kosha' in the Saptanga theory means (a) fort (b) treasury (c) ally (d) army	(b)
73	The kudavolai system of selecting village committee members is known from (a) Uttaramerur (b) Junagadh (c) Lothal (d) Sanchi	(a)
74	Right to Education is in Article (a) 14 (b) 19 (c) 21A (d) 51A	(c)
75	Fundamental Duties are listed in Article (a) 32 (b) 51A (c) 324 (d) 368	(b)
76	Which is an indirect election? (a) Lok Sabha (b) Vidhan Sabha (c) Rajya Sabha (d) Gram Panchayat	(c)

77	The fourth factor of production that combines the other three is (a) land (b) labour (c) capital (d) entrepreneurship	(d)
78	A price ceiling set below equilibrium causes a (a) surplus (b) shortage (c) no change (d) fall in demand	(b)
79	A: Guilds in early India were trusted with money deposits. R: They were well-organised and paid regular interest. (a) Both true, R explains A (b) Both true, R does not explain A (c) A true, R false (d) A false, R true	(a)
80	A: We do not feel the pressure of the atmosphere. R: Air pressure is equal from all sides and balanced by pressure inside our body. (a) Both true, R explains A (b) Both true, R does not explain A (c) A true, R false (d) A false, R true	(a)
81	The National Emergency of 1975 was proclaimed under Article (a) 356 (b) 352 (c) 360 (d) 324	(b)
82	The media is called the (a) first (b) second (c) third (d) fourth pillar of democracy	(d)

SECTION 3

Source-Based and Case-Study Passages

8 sets · 4 marks each · The competency format of the new paper

How to attack a source question. Read the questions **first**, then the passage. Almost every sub-question is answerable from the passage itself — do not write everything you know about the topic. The last sub-part usually asks you to go beyond the source; that is where your notes are used.

S1 — Geography

4 Marks

Read the passage.

The Earth's rigid outer shell is broken into several large slabs that move a few centimetres each year over the softer layer beneath. Where two slabs move apart, molten rock rises and new crust is created. Where they move towards each other, one may bend beneath the other and a deep trench and a mountain chain appear. Where they slide past one another, neither creates nor destroys crust, but the friction builds up until it is released as an earthquake.

- (i) Name the three kinds of boundary described. (1)
- (ii) Which boundary type formed the Himalayas? (1)
- (iii) Give one example each of a divergent and a transform boundary. (2)

SOLUTION

- (i) Divergent (moving apart), convergent (moving towards) and transform (sliding past) boundaries.
- (ii) A convergent boundary — the Indo-Australian Plate colliding with the Eurasian Plate.
- (iii) Divergent: the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. Transform: the San Andreas Fault in California.

S2 — Geography

4 Marks

Study the data. Average annual rainfall: Mawsynram 11,870 mm · Mumbai 2,200 mm · Delhi 790 mm · Jaisalmer 150 mm.

- (i) Which place receives the highest rainfall? (1)
- (ii) Give one reason for Mawsynram's very high rainfall. (1)
- (iii) Explain why Jaisalmer receives so little, although it lies in the path of the monsoon. (2)

SOLUTION

- (i) Mawsynram.
- (ii) It lies in the funnel-shaped Khasi hills, which force the moisture-laden Bay of Bengal branch of the monsoon to rise sharply and shed almost all its moisture.
- (iii) The Arabian Sea branch of the monsoon runs roughly **parallel** to the Aravalli range rather than being forced to rise over it, so little orographic lifting occurs; by the time the winds reach the Thar they have also lost most of their moisture, leaving the region arid.

S3 — History

4 Marks

Read the passage.

At this site the excavators found a lower town of houses and workshops, and beside it a large brick-lined basin connected to a river channel. Beads of carnelian, weights of a standard set, and seals of the kind found far to the west were recovered from the workshops around it.

- (i) Name the most likely site. (1)
- (ii) What was the brick-lined basin probably used for? (1)
- (iii) What do the standard weights and the western seals together suggest about Harappan society? (2)

SOLUTION

- (i) Lothal, in Gujarat.
- (ii) A dockyard — for berthing boats and handling goods, linked to the river and thence to the sea.
- (iii) They point to organised **long-distance trade** with Mesopotamia and the Gulf, and to a society with **standardised measurement** and some central authority able to enforce a common system of weights across distant settlements.

Read the passage.

A ruler had his orders carved on rock faces and polished pillars across his realm, in the everyday language of the people rather than in the language of scholars, and placed them where travellers and traders would pass. The orders speak less of conquest than of the duty of officials, of care for the old and the sick, and of respect between people who follow different teachings.

- (i) Identify the ruler. (1)
- (ii) Why were the inscriptions written in Prakrit rather than Sanskrit? (1)
- (iii) What does the content of these orders tell us about his idea of kingship? (2)

SOLUTION

- (i) The Mauryan emperor Ashoka.
- (ii) Prakrit was the everyday spoken language, so ordinary people and traders could read or have read to them what the emperor wished them to know; Sanskrit was confined to the learned.
- (iii) Kingship is presented as a **moral duty** rather than merely military power — the ruler is responsible for the welfare of subjects, for the conduct of his officials, and for maintaining tolerance among different religious communities. Placing the orders on trade routes shows he intended them to be genuinely public, not ceremonial.

Read the case.

In a constituency of 10 lakh voters, party P wins 3,20,000 votes, party Q 3,10,000, party R 2,00,000 and the rest go to independents. Party P's candidate is declared elected.

- (i) Which electoral system is in use? (1)
- (ii) What percentage of the votes did the winner receive? (1)
- (iii) State one merit and one criticism of this system that the case illustrates. (2)

SOLUTION

- (i) First Past The Post (plurality) — the candidate with the largest number of votes wins, without needing an absolute majority.
- (ii) $3,20,000$ out of $10,00,000 = 32\%$.
- (iii) **Merit:** it is simple to understand and gives every area one clearly identifiable local representative, and usually produces a stable government. **Criticism:** the winner here is opposed by 68% of voters, so a large majority of the constituency is represented by someone they did not vote for.

Read the case.

Soon after a general election is announced, the ruling party's chief minister announces a new free-electricity scheme and holds a rally using government vehicles. A complaint is filed with the Election Commission.

- (i) Which set of norms has been violated? (1)
- (ii) Name two specific provisions breached. (2)
- (iii) Under which Article does the Election Commission derive its authority to act? (1)

SOLUTION

- (i) The **Model Code of Conduct**, which comes into force the moment an election is announced.
- (ii) A party in power may not **announce new schemes, projects or grants** once the election is notified; and it may not **use government vehicles, offices or funds** for campaigning.
- (iii) **Article 324** of the Constitution, which vests the superintendence, direction and control of elections in the Election Commission of India.

Study the schedule for onions in a local market.

Price (₹/kg): 20 → demand 500 kg, supply 200 kg · 30 → demand 400, supply 300 · 40 → demand 300, supply 300 · 50 → demand 200, supply 400.

- (i) State the equilibrium price and quantity. (1)
- (ii) What happens in the market at a price of ₹20? (1)
- (iii) A poor harvest cuts supply at every price by 100 kg. Explain the effect on the equilibrium price. (2)

SOLUTION

- (i) Equilibrium at **₹40 per kg, 300 kg** — the only price where quantity demanded equals quantity supplied.
- (ii) At ₹20 demand (500) exceeds supply (200), so there is a **shortage of 300 kg**; buyers compete and the price is pushed up towards ₹40.
- (iii) At ₹40 supply falls to 200 while demand stays 300, creating a shortage. Price rises until the two are equal again — at ₹50, supply is now $400 - 100 = 300$ and demand is 200, so the new equilibrium lies between ₹40 and ₹50, i.e. the **equilibrium price rises and the quantity traded falls**. This is why onion prices spike after a bad harvest.

Read the case.

Two friends start a venture making low-cost water filters. They put in ₹2,00,000 of savings, rent a small workshop, hire three workers and register as a micro enterprise. Within a year an established brand cuts its price sharply and their sales fall.

- (i) Identify the factors of production used. (2)
- (ii) Which government scheme is designed to support such a venture? (1)
- (iii) Name the economic idea illustrated by the established brand's response. (1)

SOLUTION

- (i) **Land** — the rented workshop space; **Labour** — the three workers and the founders' own effort; **Capital** — the ₹2,00,000 of savings and the equipment bought with it; **Entrepreneurship** — the founders' willingness to organise these and bear the risk.
- (ii) **Startup India** (alternatively, MSME registration benefits or Make in India).
- (iii) **Competition** in a market — and, if the new product eventually displaces the old one, **creative destruction**.

SECTION 4

MLI Model Question Paper — Social Science

80 marks · 3 hours · All 16 themes

MATH LOVE INSTITUTE — CLASS IX SOCIAL SCIENCE

Model Paper · Subject Code 087 · Session 2026–27 · Time: 3 hours · Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions

1. The question paper has six sections A to F. All questions are compulsory.
2. Section A — 20 objective questions of 1 mark each. Section B — 4 very short answer questions of 2 marks each.
3. Section C — 5 short answer questions of 3 marks each. Section D — 4 long answer questions of 5 marks each.
4. Section E — 3 source/case-based questions of 4 marks each. Section F — 1 map question of 5 marks.
5. Internal choice is provided in Sections B, C, D and F.
6. Attach the outline maps with your answer book. Write neatly and answer point-wise.

SECTION A — 20 × 1 = 20 marks

1. The layer of the atmosphere containing the ozone layer is (a) troposphere (b) stratosphere (c) mesosphere (d) thermosphere **1**
2. The Mid-Atlantic Ridge is an example of a (a) convergent (b) divergent (c) transform (d) collision boundary **1**
3. Which landform is formed by river **erosion**? (a) delta (b) floodplain (c) gorge (d) levee **1**
4. Carbon footprint is measured in units of (a) litres of water (b) hectares of land (c) carbon dioxide equivalent (d) rupees **1**
5. Agriculture first began in the (a) Palaeolithic (b) Mesolithic (c) Neolithic (d) Iron Age **1**
6. Meluhha was the Mesopotamian name for (a) Egypt (b) the Indus region (c) Persia (d) China **1**
7. The Great Bath has been found at (a) Lothal (b) Kalibangan (c) Mohenjo-daro (d) Dholavira **1**
8. The *Arthashastra* was written by (a) Kalidasa (b) Kautilya (c) Panini (d) Megasthenes **1**
9. The Chola capital was at (a) Madurai (b) Thanjavur (c) Kanchipuram (d) Badami **1**

10. The word democracy comes from Greek words meaning (a) rule of law (b) rule of the people (c) rule of the wise (d) rule of the rich **1**
-
11. The Election Commission of India is set up under Article (a) 14 (b) 21 (c) 324 (d) 368 **1**
-
12. EPIC stands for (a) Electors Photo Identity Card (b) Election Poll Information Centre (c) Elected Person's Identity Certificate (d) Electoral Polling Identity Code **1**
-
13. The Anti-Defection Law is in the (a) Eighth (b) Ninth (c) Tenth (d) Eleventh Schedule **1**
-
14. In Kautilya's framework *nyaya* stands for (a) force (b) justice (c) revenue (d) war **1**
-
15. The central problem of economics arises from (a) inflation (b) scarcity (c) unemployment (d) taxation **1**
-
16. Opportunity cost is (a) total expenditure (b) the next-best alternative forgone (c) profit earned (d) interest paid **1**
-
17. Market equilibrium is reached when (a) price is lowest (b) demand exceeds supply (c) quantity demanded equals quantity supplied (d) supply is highest **1**
-
18. MSME stands for (a) Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (b) Major State Manufacturing Establishments (c) Ministry of Small and Medium Exports (d) Modern Small Manufacturing Economy **1**
-
19. **Assertion (A):** Standardised weights are found across distant Harappan sites. **Reason (R):** A common system of weights made fair long-distance trade possible. **1**
(a) Both true, R explains A (b) Both true, R does not explain A (c) A true, R false (d) A false, R true
-
20. **Assertion (A):** Under FPTP, a party may win most seats without most votes. **Reason (R):** A candidate needs only more votes than any rival, not an absolute majority. **1**
(a) Both true, R explains A (b) Both true, R does not explain A (c) A true, R false (d) A false, R true
-

SECTION B — 4 × 2 = 8 marks

21. State any two differences between weather and climate. **2**
-
22. Why is the Harappan script called undeciphered, and what difficulty does this create for historians? **2**
OR Mention any two features of Harappan town planning.
-
23. What is a reserved constituency? Why does India have them? **2**
-
24. Distinguish between a want and a need, with one example of each. **2**
OR What is meant by an emergency fund, and why should a household keep one?
-

SECTION C — 5 × 3 = 15 marks

25. Describe the three types of plate boundary, with one example of each. 3

26. Explain any three factors that influence the climate of India. 3

OR Explain three ways in which an individual can reduce their carbon footprint.

27. Explain three changes that the shift from the Mesolithic to the Neolithic brought into human life. 3

28. What is the Model Code of Conduct? State any two of its provisions. 3

29. Explain, with a schedule or a diagram, how the equilibrium price is determined in a market. 3

OR Explain three resources an entrepreneur needs to start a small business.

SECTION D — 4 × 5 = 20 marks

30. Describe the five layers of the atmosphere, stating one important characteristic of each. 5

31. "The Harappan civilisation was an urban civilisation." Justify this statement with five points of evidence. 5

OR Describe five features of Ashoka's idea of governance as seen in his inscriptions.

32. Categorise the three types of electoral system, giving the working, one merit, one demerit and examples of each. 5

33. Explain five reasons why elections are essential in a democracy. 5

OR "Entrepreneurship drives economic growth." Explain with five points, referring to Indian government initiatives.

SECTION E — 3 × 4 = 12 marks (Source/Case-Based)

34. **Read the source.** A rock inscription at Junagadh records that the Sudarshana lake was built by Pushyagupta, governor of Chandragupta Maurya. Centuries later a storm broke its dam, and King Rudradaman had it repaired without burdening the people with extra taxes or forced labour. 4

(i) Name the lake mentioned. (1) (ii) What does its repair by a later king show about the duty of rulers? (1) (iii) Give two reasons why irrigation works were recorded in inscriptions. (2)

35. **Read the case.** In a village, the Gram Panchayat holds regular and special Gram Sabhas where villagers question its spending on schools and sanitation. A separate Mahila Sabha is held so that women can raise their issues, and SC and ST families take part in planning. 4

(i) Which body reviews the work of the Panchayat? (1) (ii) Name the democratic feature shown when villagers question spending. (1) (iii) State two ways in which this village makes democracy inclusive. (2)

36. **Read the passage.** In 2025 very heavy monsoon rain, made worse by western disturbances, swelled the Satluj, Beas and Ravi. Old embankments broke, fields and houses built close to the rivers were flooded, and silt had already reduced the capacity of rivers and dams. 4

(i) Name any two rivers that flooded. (1) (ii) State one natural cause of the flood. (1) (iii) State two human-made causes that made the flood worse. (2)

SECTION F — 5 marks (Map Work)

37. (a) On the given outline map of India, locate and label: (i) Lothal (ii) the Western Ghats (iii) the river Brahmaputra. (3)

(b) On the given outline map of the world, locate and label: (i) the Indo-Australian Plate (ii) the Pacific Ring of Fire. (2)

OR (b) On the given outline map of the world, locate and label: (i) the Gulf Stream (ii) the Sahara Desert. (2)

✓ Answer Key and Marking Guidance

Section E answers. Q34: (i) Sudarshana lake. (ii) Public works continued across reigns; the ruler's duty was people's welfare. (iii) Irrigation supported farming, the main source of revenue; they were major public works that rulers wished to be remembered for. **Q35:** (i) Gram Sabha. (ii) Accountability. (iii) Mahila Sabha for women; participation of SC and ST families in planning. **Q36:** (i) Any two of Satluj, Beas, Ravi. (ii) Very heavy monsoon rain / western disturbances. (iii) Weak old embankments; houses and farms on riverbanks; silting of rivers and dams.

Q	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Ans	b	b	c	c	c	b	c	b	b	b
Q	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Ans	c	a	c	b	b	b	c	a	a	a

Sections B–D — what earns the marks. Q21: any two of — weather is the state of the atmosphere at a place at a given moment, climate is the average over about thirty years; weather changes daily, climate is stable; weather is local, climate covers a larger region. Q23: definition (1) + purpose, fair representation for communities historically disadvantaged (1). Q25: one mark per boundary, each with example — divergent (Mid-Atlantic Ridge), convergent (Himalayas), transform (San Andreas Fault). Q28: definition (1) + two provisions (2). Q30: one mark per layer — troposphere (weather, temperature falls with height), stratosphere (ozone layer, stable, used by aircraft), mesosphere (meteors burn up, coldest), thermosphere (very hot, radio waves reflected from the ionosphere), exosphere (merges into space, satellites). Q31: five distinct pieces of evidence, each a separate point — grid-pattern streets, covered drainage, granaries and the Great Bath, standardised baked bricks and weights, craft specialisation and long-distance trade. Q32: FFTP, proportional representation and mixed — working, merit, demerit and example for each, 5 marks split across the three.

Map marking. 1 mark for each correctly located **and** labelled item. A correct location with a missing or illegible label earns half; a label written without the location earns nothing unless your school permits the "write in the space provided" alternative. Always attach an index.

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Class 9 Social Science — CBSE Session 2026–27

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