ISC · CLASS 12 · POLITICAL SCIENCE

ISC Class 12 Political Science Guess Paper 2027

Time: 3 hours · Maximum marks: 80 · 28 questions

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Section A

Compulsory. Question 1 consists of sixteen subparts of one mark each: multiple-choice questions (including match-the-column, sequencing and statement-based items), assertion-reason questions and very short answer questions (fill in the blank / one word / short comment).

Q1. Which feature is common to both the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendment Acts? 1 mark

Q2. Identify the authoritative source used in the U.S to allocate and divide powers between the federal and the state governments? 1 mark
(a) The President of the United States
(b) The Constitution of the United States
(c) The Congress and the state legislatures
(d) The Supreme Court of the United States

Q3. Country X follows a constitution where the powers of the government are clearly written, and courts exercise the power to invalidate laws if they violate the constitutional provisions. 1 mark
Which feature of a constitution does Country X demonstrate?
(a) A written rigid constitution with judicial review
(b) A rigid constitution with the supremacy of the judiciary
(c) A written flexible constitution with judicial independence
(d) An unwritten and flexible constitution without judicial review

Q4. A parliamentary system is so called because in such a system, the real executive is embedded in the _____. 1 mark

Q5. Arrange the following stages in the correct order of passing a financial bill in the United States until it becomes a law. 1 mark
(P) Ratification of the financial bill by the US President
(Q) Introduction of the financial bill in the House of Representatives
(R) Passage of bill by the House of Representatives
(S) Bill goes to the Senate for amendment
Select the correct option from the following:
(a) (S), (R), (P) and (Q)
(b) (Q), (R), (S) and (P)
(c) (P), (Q), (R) and (S)
(d) (Q), (S), (R) and (P)

Q6. 'The Council of States shall not be subjected to dissolution, but as nearly as possible one-third of the members shall retire every second year.' (Source: The Constitution of India) 1 mark
Which doctrinal feature of the Council of States is highlighted in the above statement?

Q7. A state allows limited private economic activity and does not seek to control citizens' personal beliefs. It strictly suppresses political opposition and concentrates power in the executive. 1 mark
This political system is BEST categorised as:
(a) Communist
(b) Totalitarian
(c) Authoritarian
(d) Absolute monarchy

Q8. The Cabinet of a state in India attempted to mandate job reservations for locals in private companies. The proposed bill aimed to reserve 50% of management jobs and 70-75% of non-management roles in private industries for local candidates who possess proficiency in local language. 1 mark
Which political principle is reflected in the above situation?
(a) Sons of the Soil
(b) National integration
(c) Local Self Government
(d) Secularisation of politics

Q9. Given below are two statements marked Assertion and Reason. Read the two statements carefully and choose the correct option. 1 mark
Assertion: All democracies divide their geographic territory and population into several electoral constituencies.
Reason: In liberal democracies, elections for representatives are conducted only through the First Past the Post system.
(a) Both Assertion and Reason are true and Reason is the correct explanation for Assertion.
(b) Both Assertion and Reason are true but Reason is not the correct explanation for Assertion.
(c) Assertion is true and Reason is false.
(d) Both Assertion and Reason are false.

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Q10. Given below are two statements marked Assertion and Reason. Read the two statements carefully and choose the correct option. 1 mark
Assertion: The Venkatachaliah Commission (2002) emphasised that an inquiry into the 'basic structure' of the Indian constitution lay beyond the scope of its work.
Reason: The Constitution can be amended by majority of two-third of the members of both the Houses of the Parliament.
(a) Both Assertion and Reason are true and Reason is the correct explanation for Assertion.
(b) Both Assertion and Reason are true but Reason is not the correct explanation for Assertion.
(c) Assertion is true and Reason is false.
(d) Both Assertion and Reason are false.

Q11. Answer the following question in one word / phrase. 1 mark
A State that is free to run its own internal affairs and is independent of external control.

Q12. Which Article in the Constitution of India can be suspended during National Emergency? 1 mark

Q13. The Directive Principles of State Policy focus on improving living conditions and ensuring justice for all citizens. What does this reflect about their objective? 1 mark

Q14. Answer the following question in one word / phrase. 1 mark
The constitutional doctrine, which holds that the actions of the executive and legislative branches of government are subject to scrutiny and possible invalidation by the judiciary.

Q15. A two-party system ensures greater government stability than a multi-party system. Comment. 1 mark

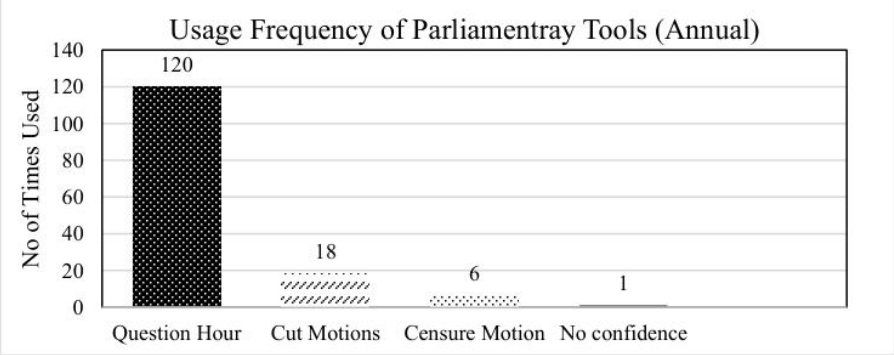
Q16. In the United States, if the President does not sign a bill within ten days of its passage by Congress, it automatically becomes a law. However, if Congress adjourns within the ten-day period and the President does not sign the bill, it dies. This is called the _____. 1 mark

Section B

Eight short answer questions of four marks each. Several are based on a source extract, table, graph, chart or picture with subparts. Internal choices are provided in three of these questions.

Q17. [context: extract from senate.gov on the Senate's power of 'advice and consent' on presidential appointments] 4 marks
'Eventually, they settled on the concept of a shared power - the President would make appointments with the 'advice and consent' of the Senate.' (Source: senate.gov, Constitution Day 2024: Senate's power of advice and consent on nominations)
(i) What is meant by the term 'shared power' in the context of appointments? [2]
(ii) How does the Senate's exercise of power of 'advice and consent' act as a check on the President's authority? [2]

Q18. [context: bar graph of hypothetical annual usage of parliamentary tools - Question Hour 120, Cut Motions 18, Censure Motion 6, No-confidence 1] 4 marks
Study the bar graph below that represents hypothetical data on the annual use of various parliamentary devices in a democratic legislature. Answer the following questions based on it.
(i) Which basic principle of parliamentary democracy is reflected in the above graph? Briefly discuss its relevance. [2]
(ii) Examine the purpose of the most frequently used parliamentary device. Why are the other parliamentary instruments used sparingly? [2]



Q19. State four constitutional provisions or conditions that ensure the independence of judiciary in India. 4 marks

Q20. Contrast the relationship between the Executive and the Legislature in the political systems of India and the United States. 4 marks

Q21. Elaborate on the two words that were added to the Preamble to the Constitution of India by the 42nd Amendment Act of 1976. 4 marks

Q22. [context: extract of Article 368 of the Constitution of India on Parliament's constituent power to amend the Constitution] 4 marks
"Notwithstanding anything in this Constitution, Parliament may, in exercise of its constituent power, amend by way of addition, variation or repeal any provision of this Constitution in accordance with the procedure laid down in this article."
(Source: The Constitution of India)
(i) Identify the Article of the Indian Constitution from where the above extract is taken. [1]
(ii) According to the given extract, which body is empowered to amend the Constitution? Explain the procedure followed for it. [3]

Q23. [context: extract from Article II, Section 3 of the US Constitution on the President's State of the Union message to Congress] 4 marks
Read the excerpt given below from the USA constitution and answer the questions that follow.
Article II: Section 3: He shall from time to time give to the Congress Information of the State of the Union, and recommend to their Consideration such Measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient; he may, on extraordinary Occasions, convene both Houses.
(i) Giving information to Congress and recommending measures for their consideration is a Legislative power of the President of the United States. Discuss why this is an important power in a Presidential system. [3]
(ii) State one other Legislative power of the President. [1]

Q24. Briefly explain any two ways in which regional aspirations affect Indian politics. 4 marks

Section C

Four long answer questions of eight marks each; the last is a case study / passage-based question with subparts. Internal choices are provided in two of these questions.

Q25. The United States follows a federal model, while the United Kingdom operates under a unitary system. Analyse how the distribution of power impacts the nature of polity in their respective political systems. 8 marks

Q26. Discuss the superior position of the Lok Sabha by explaining any four of its powers. 8 marks

Q27. Discuss any four rights conferred under the Right to Equality (Articles 14-18) in the Constitution of India. 8 marks

Q28. [context: a state restricts entry of women of a particular age group to sacred spaces; the Supreme Court by majority strikes down the practice as violating equal citizenship and dignity (Times of India, 29 September 2018)] 8 marks
Read the excerpt given below and answer the questions that follow.
A certain state in India restricted the entry of women to sacred spaces which was challenged by a group of petitioners. After extensive hearings, the Supreme Court, by a majority decision, held that the practice of denying entry to women of a particular age group could not be sustained in a democratic republic governed by the Constitution. The Court observed that social practices and traditions must conform to constitutional principles, and that exclusion based on biological characteristics undermines the idea of equal citizenship. It further stated that dignity, individual autonomy, and equal participation in public spaces are essential features of democratic governance.
(i) Which Fundamental Right and the corresponding Article can be inferred as being challenged in this case? [2]
(ii) A group of citizens approached the Supreme Court to challenge the exclusion.
(a) Which writ would be most suitable in this case and why? [2]
(b) Under which Fundamental Right can a citizen directly move to the Supreme Court for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights? [1]
(iii) How do mass protests and resistance to judicial decisions impact democratic institutions? [3]

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