



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR
ASSESSMENT 1 (Class XII)
Sociology (Code:039)

Class: XII
Date:24/09/2026

Time: 3 Hours
Max. Marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. The question paper is divided into four sections. There are 35 questions in all. All questions are compulsory.
2. Section A includes question Nos. 1-16. These are MCQ type questions. As per the question, there can be one answer.
3. Section B includes question Nos.17-25. These are very short answer type questions carrying 2 marks each. Answer to each question should not exceed 80-100 words. There's an internal choice in question no.23. Answer any one question.
4. Section C includes question Nos. 26-32. They are short answer type questions carrying 4 marks each. Answer to each question should not exceed 150-200 words. There's an internal choice in question no.31. Answer any one question.
5. Section D includes question Nos. 33-35. They are long answer type questions carrying 6 marks each. Answer to each question should not exceed 500 words each.
6. There are 6 printed sides in this question paper

	SECTION A	16
1.	Assertion (A): Kerala's projected age structure for 2026 resembles that of developed countries, with higher proportions in older age groups. Reason (R): Uttar Pradesh's projected age structure for 2026 shows a narrower base in younger age groups than Kerala's a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A. b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A. c) A is true, but R is false. d) A is false, but R is true.	1

2.	Match the social reformer in List 1 with their contribution in List 2 <table><tr><th>List 1- Social Reformer</th><th>List 2- Contribution</th></tr><tr><td>I) Ayyankali</td><td>i) Gave the watchword ‘One caste, one Religion, One God for all Man’</td></tr><tr><td>II) Jyotiba Phule</td><td>ii) Leader of the lower caste movement in South India</td></tr><tr><td>III) Periyar</td><td>iii) Worked towards Social justice for low caste people</td></tr><tr><td>IV) Sri Narayana Guru</td><td>iv) Dalits for the freedom to walk on the roads</td></tr></table> Choose the correct series of options: a) I-iv, II- iii, III- ii, IV- i b) I-i, II- ii, III-iv, IV- iii c) I-ii, II-iv, III-i, IV- iii d) I-iii, II-i, III-iii, IV- ii	List 1- Social Reformer	List 2- Contribution	I) Ayyankali	i) Gave the watchword ‘One caste, one Religion, One God for all Man’	II) Jyotiba Phule	ii) Leader of the lower caste movement in South India	III) Periyar	iii) Worked towards Social justice for low caste people	IV) Sri Narayana Guru	iv) Dalits for the freedom to walk on the roads	1
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3.	Social exclusion refers to the ways in which the individuals are cut off from the full involvement of the society: Choose the inappropriate option: a) Social exclusion is structural not accidental. b) It is involuntary. c) No differentiation exists among castes. d) Social exclusion is not desirable											
4.	Capitalism emerged as the dominant economic system in the wake of various structural changes that occurred in India under the colonial rule. It was characterized by: a) Government ownership of means of production b) Private ownership of means of production organized to accumulate profits	1										

	c) Equal distribution of wealth d) Absence of market systems	
5.	Assertion (A): Indian rituals continue to thrive despite the global trend of secularization. Reason (R): This is because many Indian rituals fulfil secular functions like networking, status display, and social cohesion, in addition to their religious meaning. a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A. b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A. c) A is true, but R is false. d) A is false, but R is true.	1
6.	What is a significant social consequence of the 'commercialisation' of agriculture and the shift towards cash crops? a) A return to traditional hereditary labour relationships. b) Increased security for small farmers against market fluctuations. c) Greater dependence of farmers on global market prices and institutional credit. d) The total disappearance of the dominant caste system.	1
7.	 The adjoining cartoon primarily satirizes the approach to population control in rural areas as: a) Dependence on voluntary migration rather than birth regulation b) Over-reliance on health infrastructure c) Effective integration of education and family planning d) Technology solutions to fertility decline	1

8.	Assertion (A): A significant yet paradoxical change in the caste system in the contemporary period is that it has tended to become 'invisible' for the upper castes, urban middle and upper classes. Reason (R): Caste plays no part in people's private lives a) Both A & R are true and R is the correct explanation of A b) Both A & R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A c) A is true but R is false d) A is false but R is true	1
9.	Sociologist M. S. A. Rao described three distinct kinds of urban impact on rural villages in India. Which of the following correctly represents those three types? a) (i) Villages with high rates of overseas or urban migration where migrants send money home and invest locally; (ii) Villages near industrial towns experiencing land acquisition, inflow of migrant labour, and increased market activity; (iii) Villages on the periphery of expanding metropolitan cities facing absorption or partial land use for urban purposes. b) (i) Villages undergoing agricultural mechanization leading to caste displacement; (ii) Villages experiencing Green Revolution inequalities; (iii) Villages impacted by caste-based landholding patterns. c) (i) Villages transformed by tourism and heritage industries; (ii) Villages near national highways benefiting from trade; (iii) Villages with high female out-migration to urban centers. d) (i) Villages integrated into global agribusiness exports; (ii) Villages dominated by colonial market systems; (iii) Villages organized around local caste patronage systems	
10.	Assertion (A): The Green Revolution led to an increase in the use of agricultural laborers in regions where it was successful. Reason (R): The shift from mono-cropping to multi-cropping and the need for intensive cultivation increased the demand for seasonal labor. a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A. b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A. c) A is true, but R is false. d) A is false, but R is true.	1
11.	Assertion (A): Sanskritization reinforces gender roles that limit women's freedom and opportunities. Reason (R): It encourages women to remain confined to traditional roles	1

	such as mother, daughter, or sister, while offering more liberal options to men through modernization. a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A. b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A. c) A is true, but R is false. d) A is false, but R is true.	
12.	Assertion (A): At different periods of history protest movements arose against caste, gender and religious discrimination. Yet prejudices remain and often new ones emerge. Reason (R): Legislation alone is unable to transform society or produce lasting social change. A constant social campaign to change, bring awareness and sensitivity is required to break them. a) Both A&R are rue and R is the correct explanation of A b) Both A&R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A c) A is true, but R is false d) A is false, but R is true	1
13.	How does the patrilineal kinship system typically affect rural women's access to land in India? a) It grants them equal ownership rights in practice. b) It excludes them from land ownership despite legal provisions for equality. c) It ensures they are the primary decision-makers in agriculture. d) It provides them with land only if they belong to a dominant caste.	1
14.	Assertion (A): Matriarchy, unlike patriarchy, has been a theoretical rather an empirical concept Reason (R): There's no historical or anthropological evidence of matriarchy- i.e. societies where women exercise dominance a) Both A & R are true and R is the correct explanation of A b) Both A & R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A c) A is true but R is false d) A is false but R is true	1

15.	Disabled persons are often “disabled” primarily because: a) They are lazy b) They avoid work c) Their impairment prevents success in society d) Society’s failures to accommodate their needs	1								
16.	The 'Land Ceiling Acts' were intended to redistribute surplus land to landless families. However, they often proved 'toothless' because: a) There was no surplus land available in India. b) Landowners used loopholes and strategies to escape the law. c) The productivity of the land was too low to redistribute. d) The SC and ST families refused to accept the land.	1								
	SECTION B	18								
17.	What is meant by ‘dependency ratio’ and what does it indicate? Ans: The dependency ratio is a measure comparing the portion of the population which is composed of dependents (i.e. elderly people who are too old to work and children who are too young to work) with the portion that is in the working age group, generally defined in the age group of 15-64 years. This ratio is usually expressed as a percentage.	2								
18.	<table><tr><td>CASTE</td><td>TRIBE</td></tr><tr><td>-Based on the notion of purity and pollution</td><td>Kinship based mode of social organization</td></tr><tr><td>Believes in Religion (oral and written)</td><td>Do not practice religion with a written text</td></tr><tr><td>Hierarchical system</td><td>Egalitarian system</td></tr></table> State the difference between caste and tribe.	CASTE	TRIBE	-Based on the notion of purity and pollution	Kinship based mode of social organization	Believes in Religion (oral and written)	Do not practice religion with a written text	Hierarchical system	Egalitarian system	2
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19.	In post -independent India, what were the significant achievements of Adivasi movements? Ans: In post- independent India, the most significant achievements of Adivasis movements include the attainment of statehood for Jharkhand and Chattisgarh which were originally part of Bihar and Madhya Pradesh respectively.	2								
20.	Define nation-states Ans: A nation is a large-scale community consisting of different communities. A state on the other hand refers to an abstract entity consisting of a set of political-legal institutions claiming control over a	2								

	particular geographical territory and people living in it. Nation -states are thereby communities that have a state of their own in the modern world.	
21.	Explain De-industrialization that resulted from structural changes in the colonial period. Ans. De-industrialisation refers to the decline or removal of industrial and manufacturing activity in a region. In colonial India, British industrialisation led to the decline of traditional Indian industries. For example, competition from Manchester textiles caused the decline of India's cotton and silk exports, leading to the decline of traditional centres such as Surat and Masulipatnam, while cities like Bombay and Madras grew.	2
22.	Explain Westernization Ans: M.N Srinivas defined westernization as "the changes brought about in Indian society and culture as a result of over 150 years of British rule, and the subsequent changes occurring at different levels i.e. technology, institutions, ideology and values". So, from this, it is clear that the concept of westernization includes the changes which came in institutions, ideology etc. of Indian society and which took place due to political and cultural contacts with western countries. While the lower caste sought to be sanskritized, the upper castes sought to be westernized.	2
23.	What are the various occupations followed in rural society? Ans: Although agriculture is the single most important source of livelihood for the majority of rural population, many other activities that support agriculture and rural life are also a source of livelihood for people in rural India. For example, potters, carpenters, weavers, ironsmiths and goldsmiths. Rural life also supported many specialists such as story tellers, astrologers, priests, oil pressers and water-distributors. OR How did the Green Revolution benefit Indian agriculture initially? Ans: The Green Revolution was a government programme of agricultural modernization. Initially it benefitted the Indian agriculture by: increased agricultural productivity due to the new technology and self-sufficiency in food grain production for the first time in decades.	2

24.	Mention two broad sets of issues that were most important in giving rise to tribal communities Ans: The two-broad set of issues that were most important in giving rise to tribal communities in India are as follows: - Issues relating to control over vital economic resources like land and specially forests. - Issues relating to matters of ethnic- cultural identity.	2
25.	<i>Scholars have agreed that all major social institutions and especially the institution of caste underwent major changes during the colonial period. In fact, some scholars argue that what we know today as caste is more a product a colonialism than of ancient Indian tradition.</i> Explain the above statement. The British administrators tried to understand the complexities of caste in an effort to learn how to govern the country efficiently. The 1901 census under the direction of Herbert Risley was particularly important as it sought to collect information on the social hierarchy of caste i.e. the social order of precedence in particular regions, as to the position of each caste in the rank order. The counting of caste and the officially recording of caste made this institution of caste identity become more rigid in India.	2
	SECTION C	
26.	What was the impact of British industrialization on Indian industries? Impact of British industrialization on Indian industries is as follows: -British industrialization led to deindustrialization in some sectors -Old urban centres declined: Just as manufacturing boomed in Britain, traditional exports of cotton and silk manufactures from India declined in the face of Manchester competition. - Further decline of cities such as Surat and Masulipatnam while Bombay and Madras grew.	4

	-Unlike Britain where the impact of industrialization led to more people moving into urban areas, in India the initial impact of the same British industrialization led to more people moving agriculture.	
27.	Why did Malthus believe that catastrophic events like famines and epidemics that cause mass deaths were inevitable? Ans. English political economist Thomas Robert Malthus argued that human population tends to grow at a much faster rates than the rate at which means of human subsistence (land, agriculture) can grow. He said population rises in geometric progression whereas agricultural production can only grow in Arithmetic progression. Malthus believed that positive checks to population growth in the form of famines and diseases, were inevitable. These are nature's way of dealing with the imbalance between food supply and increasing population. In addition to this there are also 'preventive checks' like postponing marriage or practicing abstinence and celibacy. Through preventive checks Malthus explained humanity could voluntarily reduce population growth. According to him, the positive checks are extremely painful and difficult. Although it helps to achieve a balance between population and subsistence by increasing the death rate.	4
28.	What is communalism and state how it is a threat to the Indian state. Ans. Communalism refers to the use of religious identity for political purposes. It is primarily a political phenomenon, and being religious or devout does not necessarily make a person communalist. 1. Aggressive Political Identity: Communalists develop an aggressive religious identity and may condemn or attack those belonging to other identities. 2. Religious Identity as Primary: Communalism makes religious identity override other identities and presents large, diverse religious communities as homogeneous groups. 3. Communal Violence: Communalism can result in violence and riots, such as the Anti-Sikh riots of 1984 and the Gujarat riots. 4. Religious Pluralism: Despite communal tensions, India has a long tradition of religious pluralism and syncretism, reflected in the devotional traditions of the Bhakti and Sufi movements. Thus, communalism is a political use of religious identity that threatens social harmony, while India's pluralistic traditions promote peaceful coexistence.	4

29.	Highlight the sources of conflict between National Development and Tribal Development National development projects such as large dams, factories and mines have often been undertaken at the expense of tribal communities. The major sources of conflict are: 1. Displacement and loss of livelihood: Tribals have paid a disproportionate price for development and have lost access to forests and natural resources on which they depend. 2. Private property: The introduction of private property adversely affected the traditional community-based collective ownership of tribal communities. 3. Migration of non-tribals: Large-scale migration threatens tribal culture, identity and control over local resources. 4. Assertion of tribal identity: Tribal movements have emerged to resist exploitation and demand greater control over economic resources, cultural identity and political autonomy.	4
30.	Write a short note on Secularization of caste In traditional India, the caste system was closely linked to religious beliefs, especially the ideas of purity and pollution. Caste determined social status, occupations and social interactions. With modernisation and political change, the role of caste has changed. Caste associations and caste-based political parties have emerged to represent the interests and demands of different caste groups and put pressure on the state. This changing role of caste is called the secularization of caste. Politicians use caste identities and groupings to mobilise people and gain political support. Thus, caste has gradually moved beyond its traditional religious role and acquired social and political functions.	4
31.	What kinds of provisions have been provided to the SC and ST's by the state? Ans: After independence there were many state and non-state initiatives to address the issue of Caste discrimination. The details of reservations provided by the state to the SC's and ST's are as follows: - Reservation of seats in the state and central legislatures. - Reservation of jobs in Government services. - Reservation of seats in educational institutions. - Abolition of untouchability Article 17 - Caste Disabilities Removal Act 1850	4

	- Scheduled castes and Scheduled Tribes (prevention of atrocities) Act 1989. OR Explain the meaning of the term untouchability along with its various dimensions Untouchability is an extreme form of caste-based discrimination in which certain castes, considered outside the caste hierarchy, face social and ritual restrictions based on the idea of purity and pollution. It varies across regions and social contexts. Its major forms are: 1. Exclusion: Lower castes may be denied access to common water sources, temples, religious worship, social ceremonies and festivals. 2. Humiliation and Subordination: They may be forced to perform degrading or subordinate roles and publicly humiliating acts. 3. Exploitation: They may face forced or poorly paid labour, denial of economic rights and confiscation of property. Thus, untouchability involves social exclusion, humiliation and economic exploitation of disadvantaged castes.	
32.	What does the term cultural diversity mean? Why are states often suspicious of cultural diversity? Ans: The term diversity implies differences rather than inequalities. Cultural diversity refers to the presence of different social groups and communities with distinct cultural identities. Diversity indicates differences, not inequalities. 1. Different Cultural Identities: Cultural diversity includes differences based on language, religion, sect, ethnicity, race and caste. 2. Nation-Building: States seek to establish political legitimacy and national unity through policies of assimilation and integration. 3. Fear of Fragmentation: States are often suspicious of cultural diversity because they fear that strong linguistic, ethnic or religious identities may lead to social fragmentation and weaken national unity.	4

	4. Political Challenge: Accommodating diverse identities can be politically difficult. Therefore, some states may attempt to suppress or ignore such identities in the political sphere. Thus, cultural diversity enriches society, but managing diverse identities while maintaining national unity remains a major challenge for the state.																																					
	SECTION D																																					
33.	CHART 1: BIRTH AND DEATH RATE IN INDIA 1901-2001 <table border="1"> <caption>Data for Chart 1: Birth and Death Rate in India 1901-2001</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Birth Rate (per 1000 population)</th> <th>Death Rate (per 1000 population)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1901-11</td><td>50</td><td>44</td></tr> <tr><td>1911-21</td><td>49</td><td>48</td></tr> <tr><td>1921-31</td><td>47</td><td>38</td></tr> <tr><td>1931-41</td><td>46</td><td>32</td></tr> <tr><td>1941-51</td><td>40</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>1951-61</td><td>43</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>1961-71</td><td>42</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>1971-81</td><td>39</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>1981-91</td><td>30</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>1991-96</td><td>29</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>1996-2001</td><td>24</td><td>9</td></tr> </tbody> </table> Source: National Commission on Population, Government of India. website: http://populationcommission.nic.in/facts1.htm# Based on the graph above, answer the questions below: a) Explain birth rate and death rate (2mks) Birth rate: It refers to the total number of births in a particular area, which can be the entire country, a state or any territorial unit during a specific period. Birth rate gets significantly affected by Age of marriage, infertility, climatic conditions, social condition, religious beliefs and education. Death rate: It is the number of deaths per thousand persons in a year in a particular area, which can be the entire country, a state or any other territorial unit.	Year	Birth Rate (per 1000 population)	Death Rate (per 1000 population)	1901-11	50	44	1911-21	49	48	1921-31	47	38	1931-41	46	32	1941-51	40	28	1951-61	43	23	1961-71	42	19	1971-81	39	15	1981-91	30	10	1991-96	29	9	1996-2001	24	9	6
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	b) Refer to the graph showing the death rate in the decade of 1911-1921 and comment on what happened during this phase? What was the principal reason for the decline in the death rate after 1921 (2marks) The principal reasons for the decline in the death rate after 1921 were increased levels of control over famines and epidemic diseases. The latter cause was perhaps the most important. The major epidemic diseases in the past were fevers of various sorts, plague, smallpox and cholera. But the single biggest epidemic was the influenza epidemic (Spanish flu) of 1918-19, which killed as many as 125 lakh people, or about 5% of the total population of India at that time. c) Give reasons why it is relatively easier to bring down the death rate as compared to the birth rate (2marks) Causes of slow birth rate: Birth rate is relatively slow while the death rate can be brought down at much faster rate for the following reasons: •Public health measures and medical advancement can control the death rate immediately. Everybody wants good health and wants to live a long life. Because of the love for life everybody adopts all medical and technological measures with high level of motivation. Birth rate continues to be high because it is related to attitude, beliefs and values of people. Birth rate is related to religious beliefs and by and large it is socio-cultural phenomena which is significantly slow to change.	
34.	What are the major issues taken up by the women's movement over its history? Ans. Women's inequality is socially constructed, not natural — highlighted by scholars and social reformers. The "women's question" became prominent in the 19th century. Reformers and Their Contributions Raja Rammohun Roy - Worked to reform society, religion, and the status of women in Bengal. - Led the campaign against Sati, the first women's issue to gain major public attention. - Bramho Samaj (organization he set up) Jyotiba Phule - Belonged to a socially excluded caste. - Fought caste and gender discrimination.	6

	○ Founded the Satyashodhak Samaj focusing on truth-seeking and social equality. 3. Sir Syed Ahmed Khan ○ Worked for reform within Muslim society. ○ Supported girls' education, but within the home environment. 4. Dayanand Saraswati (founded the Arya Samaj) ○ Promoted women's education. ○ Advocated a curriculum including religious instruction, housekeeping, handicrafts, and child-rearing. 5. Justice M.G. Ranade ○ Actively supported widow remarriage. 6. Writers like Tarabai Shinde who wrote <i>Stree Purush Tulana</i>, critiquing double standards in male-dominated society. Begum Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain wrote an interesting short story, 'Sultana's Dream' in 1915 where there was a role reversal (men and women) in a magical world. Women's Issues in the 1970s and Beyond 7. In the 1970s, women's issues resurfaced strongly — including rape in police custody, dowry deaths, and gender injustice. 8. New challenges today include social bias against the girl child and a sharply declining sex ratio.	
35.	In your opinion, has the linguistic reorganization of states helped or harmed India? Ans. In my opinion it has helped India- let me explain. Language, rather than religion, has been one of the most powerful bases for the formation of ethno-national identities in India. The reorganisation of states on linguistic lines strengthened both regional identities and national unity. 1. Role of Language: Language promotes communication and helps in more effective administration. It also provides a strong basis for regional and cultural identity. 2. States Reorganisation Commission (SRC): The recommendations of the SRC were implemented on 1 November 1956, leading to the reorganisation of states largely on linguistic lines. 3. Potti Sriramulu's Movement: In 1953, Potti Sriramulu died after a prolonged fast demanding a separate state for Telugu-speaking people. His death triggered widespread protests and led to the creation of Andhra Pradesh.	6

	4. Formation of Linguistic States: The events surrounding Sriramulu's movement led to the formation of the SRC, which gave formal approval to the principle of linguistic states in 1956. 5. Regional and National Identity: Linguistic states demonstrated that regional identity and national identity can coexist. A person can simultaneously be a Kannadiga and an Indian, Bengali and an Indian, or Tamil and an Indian. 6. National Integration: The reorganisation of states accommodated linguistic diversity within the federal structure and strengthened the unity of the Indian nation-state. Conclusion: Thus, linguistic reorganisation helped India accommodate its immense diversity while maintaining national unity and integration.	
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