



INDIAN SCHOOL SOHAR
UNIT TEST I (2018-19)
ENGLISH (Core) 301

No. of printed pages: 3

CLASS: XI
DATE: 24-05-2018

MAX. MARKS: 50
DURATION: 2 hrs

Instructions:

- *This paper consists of three sections: Section A, B and C. All the sections are compulsory.*
- *Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.*
- *Read these instructions carefully and follow them faithfully.*
- *Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.*

SECTION A - READING (10 Marks)

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

10 Marks

1. 'What is civil society?' has provoked innumerable answers, descriptions and definitions. It is suffice to say that the term includes a large chunk of social groups outside the State and the group is much bigger than the small spectrum the media is focusing on.
2. Much of India's lawmaking process has been outside the scrutiny of ordinary people. They are not framed by legislators or even senior bureaucrats but are often drafts prepared by babus (clerks). Sometimes, powerful business interests influence these laws (like the Special Economic Zone Act) and then they are passed in Parliament with little or no discussion. Sometimes, a popular public demand enters the discourse of a political party and takes the shape of policy and legislation. However, the desire of citizens to participate in the framing of law and policy has intensified over the years, and their voice needs to be included in democratic decision making.
3. With growing interest in governance, citizens may suggest policy and legislation and such deliberations will only strengthen the constitutional processes. Actual consultation on draft legislation and policy require detailed discussion of the principles, framework and formulation of specifics. These consultations will provoke multiple views and it is important for the institutional framework to assimilate and consider them.
4. Any group placing its views in the public domain cannot claim total representation. There will be criticism and those need to be resolved. However, assemblies of people can only support the need for legislation. Surveys and votes by raising hands are important to register support for the general idea but cannot be the basis for detailed drafting of a law and its constituent parts.
5. The principles and framework of any legislation must be debated and the erroneous conclusion that any difference of opinion is tantamount to mala fide intent needs to be questioned. It is in any case only of peripheral importance, as the issues themselves need to be addressed. This applies to laws made both by the formal and informal structures.
6. Many democracies in the world already have started placing policy and draft laws in the public domain before they are sent to the government, cabinet and then Parliament. The deliberative consultative process is for everyone but focuses more on people who are most affected by the legislation. The policy and the sharing of frameworks are followed by a draft of the bill itself. All this is done within a time frame. The nascent process of participation of citizens in shaping legislation in the last two decades will find systemic space and democratic credibility.

7. Today, Lokpal has become a phrase, a concept and almost a passion. But that apart, the unpacking of the concept and the understanding of the Bill, and its legal and administrative mechanisms are restricted to a few civil society and government groups. It is time for the interested groups to build a constituency of concerned people who will steer democracy in consonance with constitutional rights. What we need is a well- argued critique of the way we want change.
8. People must have the space to mobilize and protest. It is a constitutional right. But different processes need different platforms. The argument against corruption will stand or fall, not on the volume of our protest alone, but on the rigor of our proposals.
9. What we need is a transparent pre legislative process within the democratic framework. It is important that the pre legislative process is evolved and shaped in a synergetic manner. If it is properly institutionalized, it will not impinge on executive or legislative privilege. There should be a response to citizens’ desire to participate in framing legislation by creating platforms for institutionalized participation to deepen democratic processes.
10. India today is at a moment in history where a more complex political idiom is being evolved. This needs to be understood, nurtured and used for enriching our processes of making law and policy. It is a test of the maturity of a people, a polity and the underlying democratic mores of all of us.

(Source: The Hindustan Times)

1.1 On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option: **2**

- a) The author strongly supports the stand that any legislation must be subjected to wide:
 - i) publicity
 - ii) supervision
 - iii) public debate
 - iv) scathing criticism
- b) Over the year people’s voice has been sounding louder. This intends to make citizens a party in
 - i) passing the nation’s budget.
 - ii) catching culprits
 - iii) framing laws and policies
 - iv) boosting support in favor of opposition.

1.2 Answer the following questions briefly:

6

- a) Describe the term ‘Civil Society’.
- b) Describe India’s law making process?
- c) How can we fight corruption in an organized manner?
- d) What role can the citizens perform in the framing of laws?
- e) What will happen if there is Public participation in governance?
- f) What is the need of the hour for India today?

1.3 Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following:

2

- a) discourse (para 2)
- b) synergetic (para 9)

SECTION B - WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (15 Marks)

2. On behalf of the Principal of your school write a notice regarding implementation of new school uniform in your school. Mention the given guidelines for purchasing new uniform and relaxation given to students of some classes. Write the notice in not more than 50 words **4**

3. You are Varun/Varuna, a resident of M-204, Block-C, Dilshad Garden, MBA from Amity University; you come across an advertisement in The Times of India published by ICICI Bank, New Delhi. Write an application for the post of Business Development Manager, giving your complete bio-data. 6

4. Fill in the blanks by choosing the most correct option: 3

- a) Today, _____ people who enjoy winter sports is much greater than that of twenty years ago.
i) a number of
ii) many
iii) a great deal of
iv) the number of
- b) The dietary habits of a child often have _____ to do with that child's eating habits as an adult.
i) little
ii) whole
iii) Every
iv) a great amount
- c) Although _____ species of fox are reddish in color, _____ Arctic fox is often pure white.
i) any / the
ii) plenty / the
iii) all / an
iv) most / the

5. Rearrange the following words and phrases to form meaningful sentences: 2

- a) society/ is / discipline/of/ very/foundation/the
b) great importance/one of the/ essentials /it is / in all the spheres/and is of/of life

SECTION C – TEXTUAL QUESTIONS & LONG READING TEXT (25Marks)

6. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow: 4

*Now she's been dead nearly as many years
As that girl lived. And of this circumstance.
There is nothing to say at all.
Its silence silences.*

- a) How long has the poet's mother been dead?
b) What is the meaning of the word 'circumstance' in the poem?
c) Why is there nothing to say at all?
d) What silences the silence?

7. Answer the following in 30-40 words each: 3x3=9

- a) What are Mayday calls? Why was the ship getting no replies to its Mayday calls?
b) What points were put forward by Aram in defense of Mourad's act of stealing the horse?
c) The narrator visited Mrs. Dorling many years after the War. Why did she wait so long?

8. Answer the following in about 120-150 words: 6

Khushwant Singh's grandmother was emotionally attached to him. Support the statement with help of instances from the story 'The Portrait of a Lady'.

9. Answer the following in about 120- 150 words: 6

Compare and contrast the character of Mrs Dorling and Mrs S.

The End