

Entrance Examination - 2026

Ph.D. (Political Science)

F-13

Time: Two Hours

Marks: 70

Hall Ticket No.:

General Instructions

1. Write your Hall Ticket Number on the OMR Answer Sheet given to you and in the space provided above.
2. This question paper consists of 70 multiple choice questions and is divided into two parts: Part-A and Part-B. Questions in Part A relate to Research Methodology and questions in Part B relate to different areas of Political Science.
3. There is no negative marking. Each correct answer will carry 01 mark.
4. Answers are to be marked on the OMR Answer Sheet following instructions provided thereupon.
5. Handover the OMR Answer Sheet at the end of the examination to the invigilator.
6. No additional sheet(s) will be provided. Rough work can be done on the question paper itself or in the space provided at the end of this booklet.

PART A

1. Which of the following argues that the social world is a mind-independent, objective reality that exists independently of our knowledge of it?
 - A. Interpretivism
 - B. Postmodernism
 - C. Positivism
 - D. Social constructivism
2. A distribution can have more than one:
 - A. Mode
 - B. Mean
 - C. Median
 - D. None of the above
3. Fill in the blanks.

Although research questions typically concern a _____, a research study typically examines a _____.

 - A. Sample, Population
 - B. Statistic, Sample
 - C. Population, Sample
 - D. Parameter, Population
4. Fill in the blanks.

A descriptive question might ask what proportion of males and females say they would vote for a Democratic or a Republican candidate in the next US presidential election. In contrast, an explanatory question might ask _____ the women say they will vote for a Democratic candidate in the next US presidential election.

 - A. if
 - B. when
 - C. why
 - D. how often
5. What is the correct distinction between a hermeneutics of faith and a hermeneutics of suspicion?
 - A. First aims to restore meaning to a text and the latter attempts to decode meanings that are disguised.
 - B. First aims at giving credence to motives and intentions and the latter gives credence to authorial intention.
 - C. Both A and B are correct.
 - D. Neither A nor B are correct.

6. Which of the following statements with respect to Louis Althusser's materialism are true?
- I. History is open-ended therefore not amenable to scientific inquiry.
 - II. History is open-ended nevertheless amenable to scientific inquiry.
 - III. Dispensing first-causes makes explaining change impossible for a scientific theory.
 - IV. Dispensing first causes while simultaneously explaining change should be the aim for a scientific theory.
- A. I and IV are true
 - B. II and III are true
 - C. I and III are true
 - D. II and IV are true
7. Which of the following is the most correct statement about Phenomenology as a research method?
- A. It focuses on cultural groups through participant observation.
 - B. It analyses data from a population at a specific point in time.
 - C. It focuses on an individual's subjective experiences of the world.
 - D. It focuses on measurable indicators of social phenomena.
8. For a question to be a research question, it needs to:
- A. Articulate a rationale for pursuing research on the question in terms of its significance for a broad issue or area of interest within our field
 - B. Formulate the question so that it is researchable, so that it can be answered through research
 - C. The question has not already been definitively answered.
 - D. All of the above
9. A sample of $n = 25$ scores has a mean of $\bar{x} = 11$. If each score in the sample is multiplied by 6, the new mean would be
- A. 66
 - B. 11
 - C. 06
 - D. 150
10. The following refers to a common methodological problem in comparative research. It relates to the failure to see what is distinctive or different about a particular case. It can also arise when a case is studied in isolation and not compared to others. Deep knowledge of a particular case(s) can mean that some things become so familiar as to be part of the furniture, rather than questions of active reflection.
- What is the problem being referred to in the above paragraph?
- A. False exceptionalism
 - B. False universalism
 - C. The too few cases/too many variables problem
 - D. Selection bias

11. A research design primarily helps a researcher to _____.
- A. sort only data collection tools and procedures
 - B. carry out data analysis and surmise the findings
 - C. set out a plan and a logical structure of research
 - D. only specify a test to confirm or disconfirm hypotheses
12. Snowball sampling is used when:
- A. Difficult to locate population
 - B. Randomization is feasible
 - C. Need of representative data
 - D. Require to minimize bias
13. Which concept is being referred to in the following?
- “Social positions are relational and it is the contradiction and collaboration between these that shape everyday social life. Locating the formation of subjectivities within the various processes of the everyday enables an examination of the multiple ways in which variations between different social categories are organized and ordered.”
- A. Universalism
 - B. Intersectionality
 - C. Discrimination
 - D. Social inclusion
14. In J.L. Mackie’s analysis of causation, the INUS condition is used to explain causal complexity. Which of the following best illustrates an INUS condition in practice?
- A. A single spark is always sufficient to cause a fire, regardless of other conditions.
 - B. The presence of flammable material is both necessary and sufficient for fire, independent of other factors.
 - C. Oxygen alone is a sufficient condition for fire, making other factors redundant.
 - D. A spark, combined with oxygen and flammable material, causes a fire, though none of these alone is sufficient.
15. The feminist Marxist method seeks to analyze the relationship between gender and class. Which of the following best reflects its methodological orientation?
- A. It treats patriarchy as a distinct system of domination, occasionally intersecting with but largely independent of capitalism.
 - B. It foregrounds the ways in which capitalist production and reproduction are inseparable from patriarchal relations, making gender and class mutually constitutive.
 - C. It emphasizes economic exploitation as the primary axis of oppression, with gender inequality understood as a secondary effect.
 - D. It interprets gender relations primarily through cultural and ideological practices, while leaving economic structures in the background.

Read the table below carefully and answer the questions from 16 to 19.

The table presents current and one-year-ahead consumer sentiments on various parameters from the Urban Consumer Confidence Survey (latest round vs previous round).

Main Variables	Current Perceptions		One year ahead Expectations	
	Jan-26	Mar-26	Jan-26	Mar-26
Economic Situation	-3.5	-8.6	29.3	23.1
Employment	-6.3	-9.1	33.0	25.2
Price Level	-81.2	-85.2	-75.2	-76.7
Income	3.3	3.0	50.1	48.4
Spending	78.0	78.4	80.0	81.2
Consumer Confidence Index	98.1	95.7	123.4	120.2

16. Which of the following options is correct?
- Regarding current perceptions with respect to spending, we see Positive Sentiments with signs of deterioration compared to last round.
 - Regarding one year ahead expectation with respect to price level, we see Negative Sentiments with signs of deterioration compared to last round.
 - A is true, B is false.
 - A is false, B is true.
 - A and B are true.
 - A and B are false.
17. Which of the following options is correct?
- Regarding current perceptions with respect to consumer confidence index, we see Positive Sentiments with signs of deterioration compared to the last round.
 - Regarding one year ahead expectation with respect to consumer confidence index, we see Negative Sentiments with signs of deterioration compared to the last round.
 - A is true, B is false.
 - A is false, B is true.
 - A and B are true.
 - A and B are false.
18. Which of the following options is correct?
- Regarding current perceptions with respect to economic situation, we see Negative Sentiments with signs of deterioration compared to the last round.
 - Regarding one year ahead expectation with respect to income, we see Positive Sentiments with signs of improvement compared to the last round.
 - A is true, B is false.
 - A is false, B is true.
 - A and B are true.
 - A and B are false.
19. Which of the following options is correct?
- Regarding current perceptions with respect to employment, we see Negative Sentiments with signs of deterioration compared to the last round.
 - Regarding one year ahead expectations with respect to employment, we see Positive Sentiments with signs of deterioration compared to the last round.

- A. A is true B is false.
- B. A is false, B is true.
- C. A and B are true.
- D. A and B are false.

Read the following passages and answer questions from 20 to 35.

Passage 1

European civilization seeks to create unity by keeping differences at bay, or by destroying difference and bringing about homogeneity. On the other hand, Indian civilization does not deny differences, but, by recognizing them and demarcating the relation of each group with all the others, tries to find a place for all in society. "That the bringing together of the diverse into one, of making the stranger into one's own, is not the same as turning everything into a homogeneous mass – do we, in this country, have to shout this truth from the rooftops?" [...] The arrangement by which social unity was sought, even as differences were also recognized, is the Indian caste system. In the Swadeshi period, Tagore even claimed that had the ancient makers of the *śāstra* known of the Muslim and Christian inhabitants of the country, they would not have restricted their rules to only the Hindu castes but "would have defined the claims of all of these alien groups with the Hindu *samāj* in such a way that there would not have been frequent conflicts between them." [...] In 1911-12, when he was thoroughly disillusioned by the politics of the Swadeshi movement, Tagore was still writing, in the context of the history of caste conflicts in India: "It is not in India's nature to scatter itself among the many. India seeks unity, which is why it strives to contain diversity within the bounds of unity." [...] Later, in his *Nationalism* lectures, he says much the same thing about the caste system in India, and reminds his American audience that unlike the European conquerors of the Americas, the Aryans did not try to annihilate the non-Aryan peoples of India but instead sought to include them within society while recognizing their differences. Of course, by 1917 Tagore was far more conscious and articulate than before about the rigidity, and consequent injustices, of the caste system: "...In her caste regulations, India recognized differences, but not the mutability which is the law of life. In trying to avoid collisions she set up boundaries of immovable walls, thus giving to her numerous races the negative benefit of peace and order but not the positive opportunity of expansion and movement." [...] Yet Tagore insisted at the same time that "India tolerated difference of races from the first, and that spirit of toleration has acted all through her history. Her caste system is the outcome of this spirit of toleration." [...] He had no doubt at this time that India's ideal was "neither the colourless vagueness of cosmopolitanism, nor the fierce self-idolatry of nation-worship," [...] but social unity through recognition of the mutual differences of races and communities.

(Source: Partha Chatterjee, *The Indian Non-Nation: Imagining with Tagore*, Conference paper, The Inauguration of Politics and Politics of Inauguration, Hyderabad, 2009)

20. Indian civilization

- A. Denies differences
- B. Recognises differences
- C. Magnifies differences
- D. Catalogues differences

21. Tagore's attitude towards Swadeshi was one of

- A. Celebration
- B. Hatred

- C. Acceptance
- D. Disillusionment

22. The Aryans

- A. Oppressed the non-Aryan people
- B. Married the non-Aryan people
- C. Ignored the non-Aryan people
- D. Included the non-Aryan people

23. By 1917, Tagore was

- A. Conscious of the rigidity and injustices of the caste system
- B. Entirely wedded to the principles of the caste system
- C. Partially in favour of the caste system
- D. Rejected the caste system

Passage 2

According to Sandra Harding, traditional social science has typically asked questions about nature and social life that certain (usually privileged) men want answered (Harding, 1987:6). In her later work, Harding traces the relationship between the development of modern western science and the history of European colonial expansion. Challenging the claim to value-neutrality of modern science with respect to the questions it has asked, she argues that European voyages of discovery went hand in hand with the development of modern science and technology – Europeans who were colonizing the world needed to know about winds, tides, maps and navigation as well as botany, the construction of ships, firearms, and survival in harsh environments. Research topics were chosen, not because they were intellectually interesting, but in order to solve colonialism's everyday problems. [...]

In a different context, Harding argues that conventional western scientific progress is judged not on the merit of the questions that are asked but on how questions are answered. It is not in the origin of the scientific problem or hypothesis, but rather in the testing of hypotheses or the "logic of scientific inquiry" that we look to judge the success of science (Harding, 1987:7), a standard that is close to that articulated by Keohane. Feminists counter, however, that the questions that are asked – or, more importantly, those that are not asked – are as determinative of the adequacy of the project as any answers that we can discover. [...]

The "message that feminists are seeking to deliver" is, therefore, a more profound challenge to the discipline than Keohane implies; the questions that feminists define as important are typically not answerable within a traditional social scientific framework. Feminist questions are challenging the core assumptions of the discipline and deconstructing its central concepts; many of them are constitutive rather than causal. Feminists have sought to better understand a neglected but constitutive feature of war – why it has been primarily a male activity and what the causal and constitutive implications of this are for women's political roles given that they have been constructed as a "protected" category (Kinsella, 2003). They have investigated the continuing legitimation of war itself though appeals to traditional notions of masculinity and femininity. Working from the discovery of the gendered biases in state-centric security thinking they have redefined the meaning of (in)security to include the effects of structural inequalities of race, class and gender. Similarly, on the bases of theoretical critiques of the gendered political uses of the public/private distinction, they have rearticulated the meaning of democracy to include the participation of individuals

in all the political and economic processes that affect their daily lives (Ackerly, 2000:178-203). While not rejecting in principle the use of quantitative data, feminists have recognized how past behavioral realities have been publicly constituted in state generated indicators in biased gendered ways, using data that does not adequately reflect the reality of women's lives and the unequal structures of power within which they are situated. For this reason they have relied more on hermeneutic, historical, narrative and case study methodological orientations rather than on causal analysis of unproblematically defined empirical patterns. Importantly, feminists use gender as a socially constructed and variable category of analysis to investigate these dynamics. They have suggested that gender inequality as well as other social relations of domination and subordination have been among the fundamental building blocks on which, to varying extents, the publicly recognized features of states, their security relationships, and the global economy have been constructed and on which they continue to operate to varying degrees.

(Source: Tickner, J. Ann (2004), "What is Your Research Program? Some Feminist Answers to IR's Methodological Questions", Working Paper No. 203, *Consortium on Gender, Security, and Human Rights*)

24. Consider the following statements:

- I. Keohane inadequately assesses the challenge that feminist IR presents to the mainstream discipline.
- II. Colonialism and male privilege have been peripheral concerns in determining the course of IR as a discipline.
- III. The claim that modern science is value-neutral is sustainable.
- IV. Perpetuating social inequalities is one of the ways in which global economy operates and, in fact, is constructed.

Which of the above are correct, based on the arguments in the passage above:

- A. III and I
- B. II and III
- C. I and IV
- D. I and II

25. Which of the following measures of structural inequality, does the above passage **NOT** refer to?

- A. Race
- B. Indigeneity
- C. Class
- D. Gender

26. Which of the following statements is incorrect?

- A. Feminists are attentive to questions that they are asking as well as those that have not been asked.
- B. Feminist questions seek to challenge core assumptions of the discipline
- C. Feminist questions are often difficult to answer using traditional methodological frameworks.
- D. Feminists focus on causal rather than constitutive questions.

27. Which of the following methodological orientations is not favoured by feminists, according to the passage above?

- A. Causal Analysis
- B. Case Studies
- C. Hermeneutics
- D. Narrative Analysis

Passage 3

According to economic anthropologist Sidney Mintz (1986), sugar has been at the core of the development of the early phases of capitalism, tying slavery in Africa, the development of plantations in the Caribbean, and the consumption of sugar in Europe. Adopting a multidisciplinary lens to the study of the International Political Economy of food allows us to open the study of the making of the “international” to socio-cultural and ecological dynamics. Seeing the making of the international food regime from Africa and the Middle East enables us to link global patterns of food production and consumption with agrarian, demographic and ecological transformations elsewhere. As Mintz noted, in the beginning sugar was a luxury commodity consumed exclusively by aristocrats along with the development of other food habits such as the consumption of tea and or coffee, both goods linked to the long-distance trade circuits in tropical commodities of the British colonial empire. As sugarcane cultivation expanded thanks to the persisting super-exploitation of slave labor along with industrial strategies that cheapened the production process and therefore its final price, sugar slowly started to be consumed also by the working classes. Here, the argument of Mintz gets compelling: sugar was cheapened in order to be accessible to the working classes, whose daily work efforts dramatically exceeded their meager caloric intake. In other words, sugar, with its “cheap”, but “empty” calories (Richards, 2013), served the purpose of boosting the biological reproduction of workers providing them with the extra-caloric intake necessary to survive and be ready to work on the following day. This was so because the degree of exploitation during the Industrial Revolution was huge especially if the daily hours of work were weighed against the daily caloric intake and overall living and health conditions. In *The Wealth of the Nations*, Adam Smith maintained that during the Industrial Revolution a carpenter in London used to have an expectation of life of seven years. The cheapening of the reproduction costs of industrial working classes in Europe, and therefore their increased exploitation, was largely premised upon the super-exploitation of African slaves in the plantations of the Caribbean and Madeira Islands (see Patel & Moore, 2017), a process which triggered the insurrections led by Toussaint Louverture in Saint-Domingue in 1793–1794, and other insurrections in Cuba 1812, in the Southern plantations of the United States and Jamaica in 1820 (James, 1989). Here we see more clearly the nexus between food and the origins of capitalism, as well as the emerging forms of resistance to its emergence.

This example aptly shows that it was the combined effort of both state and capital forces paving the way for sugar toward Europe at certain costs and in certain quantities, rather than consumers’ demand or preferences. Moreover, it is important to note that throughout history, thousands of plant species have been domesticated and used in agriculture but most of them are now underutilized. Around 7,000 out of the 250,000 identified plant species have been used in agriculture throughout human history (FAO, 1997). However, the expansion of agro-industrial monocropping has resulted in only 12 plant species and five animal species giving 75% of the world’s food, and just three

plant species (rice, wheat and maize) constituting 60% of total worldwide caloric input (FAO, 1997). Crop diversity has been drastically decreasing with less genetic diversity being used within species, fewer species being cultivated and genetically homogeneous cultivars replacing cultivated varieties since the beginning of the twentieth century.

Such homogenization of crops, extended to cropping systems and products, is a very recent phenomenon considering the long history of agriculture and is part of the process that, following the Industrial Revolution, and later on the application of chemistry, transformed agriculture in an intensive industrial activity (Chable et al., 2020). Abrupt homogenization and standardization, enhanced by the advent of industrial agriculture, have dramatically decreased the diversity of food available and therefore limiting the so-called consumers' choices. An illustrative example of this process is offered by a brief history of tomato cultivation. According to Riccardo Bocci, at the beginning of the twentieth century there existed at least 5,000 varieties of tomatoes. With the expansion of the global food market, especially after the Uruguay round of the World Trade Organization in 1993, in which agricultural commodities were first integrated into the norms of international free trade, and the connected processes of supermarketization, the number of tomato varieties currently commercialized on a global scale have been reduced to less than ten, de facto, determining what kind of tomatoes people eat, rather than what their preferences are. Supermarketization consists in the expansion of the supermarket model from Global North to Global South and Eastern Europe, displacing local vendors and local diets.

(Source: Zaynab El Bernoussi, Adriana Maria Garriga Lopez, Giuliano Martiniello, Bashir Saade, eds. *International Political Economy and the Global South*. London and New York: Routledge, 2025)

28. What was a key factor for expanding the global sugar trade, according to Mintz?
 - A. Demand for luxury confectionery and baked goods amongst English aristocrats
 - B. Boosting the caloric intake of the working class in England by making sugar affordable
 - C. Increasing the labor and exploitation of slaves from Africa working in sugar plantations
 - D. Lowering the cost of sugar to enhance profits
29. What allowed sugar to become accessible to the English working classes?
 - A. Increase in exploitation of slave labor and industrial strategies
 - B. Increase in sugar cane cultivation
 - C. Reduction of sugar prices
 - D. All of the above
30. According to the author, agricultural mono-cropping has led to
 - A. A dramatic increase in plant varieties grown
 - B. Crop diversity has drastically reduced
 - C. Control of pests
 - D. Expansion of consumer choices in food products

31. What does the author mean by 'supermarketization' of food?
- A. Expansion in food varieties such as types of tomatoes
 - B. Increased profits through large scale production
 - C. Displacement of local producers
 - D. Increase in organic cultivation

Passage 4

Where Sartre and other latter-day revolutionaries explained away Soviet Terror and colluded with reinforcing the power of the state if it was a "people's state", Camus stressed 'le dialogue' as the form human sociability takes when it appears as politics. Revolutionary politics destroys the sociability, making it impossible to say that 'I rebel, therefore we exist'. That sounds altogether too moderate if what you want is storming the barricades, terrorizing the bourgeoisie, and taking over the state. That is what revolutionaries seemed to want, proclaiming themselves on the road to a true and perfect democracy by contrast to the paltry, timid form embodied in the American republic. Camus renounced the claims of politics to aspire to the absolute. Democratic politics must chasten the aspiration, not capitulate to it. For a politics without limits destroys democracy itself.

(Source: Jean Elshtain, *Democracy On Trial*, House of Anansi Press, Toronto, 2011)

32. When the passage states that revolutionary politics 'destroys the sociability', it draws on which classical tradition in political philosophy and most directly challenges which assumption shared by revolutionary doctrines?
- A. It draws on civic republicanism to challenge the liberal assumption that rights are pre-political.
 - B. It draws on Hannah Arendt's conception of the human condition to endorse the revolutionary assumption that sociability can be engineered at will.
 - C. It invokes a broadly Aristotelian tradition of political animal (zōon politikon) to challenge the revolutionary premise that authentic community comes after, not within, existing political forms.
 - D. It relies on Rawlsian contractarianism to question the revolutionary neglect of procedural fairness.
33. The passage concludes that 'a politics without limits destroys democracy itself'. Which of the following concepts is most essential to Camus' argument here, and how does it function normatively?
- A. Legitimacy: democratic governments derive authority from consent, and unlimited politics bypasses consent.
 - B. Finitude and limit (la limite): acknowledging human fallibility and the impossibility of historical knowledge, which eschews perfectionist politics.
 - C. Sovereignty: the Westphalian state requires fixed territorial limits that revolutionary politics transgresses.
 - D. Proceduralism: democracy is identified with formal rules, and any politics that breaks rules undermines the system.

34. According to the passage, the response of Sartre and latter-day revolutionaries to Soviet Terror exemplifies which of the following intellectual tendencies?
- A. Ideological exculpation — justifying atrocity by framing state power as an expression of the people's collective will
 - B. Moral universalism — applying consistent ethical standards regardless of which state committed the atrocity
 - C. Political quietism — withdrawing from judgment and refusing to take sides in revolutionary conflict
 - D. Pragmatic statism — accepting that all states inevitably resort to terror during periods of consolidation
35. The passage describes the American republic as embodying a 'paltry, timid form' of democracy. What does this characterisation reveal about the revolutionary position the passage is critiquing?
- A. Revolutionaries rejected the American republic because it was founded on slavery and therefore lacked moral legitimacy as a democratic model.
 - B. Revolutionaries were correct that the American system was timid, since its checks and balances were designed to slow rather than advance democratic participation.
 - C. Revolutionaries found the American republic too moderate because it prioritised individual rights over collective economic equality, reflecting a liberal rather than democratic tradition.
 - D. Revolutionaries dismissed actually existing democratic systems as inadequate precisely because they measured them against a perfect democracy that had never existed — and used that gap to justify unlimited political violence.

PART B

36. Rousseau's idea of freedom is:
- A. Contractarian
 - B. Romantic
 - C. Utilitarian
 - D. Republican
37. In Plato's Republic, the shaping of citizens through law and education is most closely compared to which discipline?
- A. Gymnastics
 - B. Medicine
 - C. Music
 - D. Arithmetic
38. Charles Taylor describes the standard understanding of positive liberty as:
- A. political concept
 - B. opportunity concept
 - C. exercise concept
 - D. totalitarian concept
39. In Partha Chatterjee's work on colonial nationalist thought, the moment of maneuver refers to which move?
- A. One where colonial intellectuals accept the essentialist differences between West and East
 - B. One where colonial intellectuals assert cultural independence of the East from the West
 - C. One where nationalism asserts itself by rejecting the modern in favor of indigenous cultural and moral values
 - D. All the above are true.
40. In Kautilya's Shadgunya (six strategies) framework, when can a Vijigishu or conqueror achieve progress without waging war or suing for peace, i.e., adopt āsana
- A. When neither the king nor his enemy can ruin each other's undertakings
 - B. When the king can ruin the enemy's undertakings through an impregnable fortress
 - C. When the king sees that the enemy can ruin him due to a powerful ally
 - D. When the king is anxious to secure a powerful ally
41. Among the following, which one is a dominant method in moral and political philosophy employed by John Rawls?
- A. Collective Equilibrium
 - B. Reflective Equilibrium
 - C. Contractarian Position
 - D. Original Position

42. Feminist political theory has critiqued the social contract by terming it which among the following?

- A. Sexual Contract
- B. Fraternal Contract
- C. A Civil Slave Contract
- D. All of the above.

43. Foucault's notion of 'capillary power' emphasizes which type of analysis of power relations?

- A. Deductive analysis of power
- B. Ascending analysis of power
- C. Class based analysis
- D. Caste based analysis

44. Read the following paragraph carefully and identify the scholar who makes this point.

Spatial or central-local dynamics affect national developmental patterns. The national state is not exhausted by the actions of its central rulers. It is a complex aggregation of lower-level states and local elites. The provincial states are poised between regional society and the larger state system. Depending upon their strategic capacity, they can either create an independent developmental state, subtly wresting power away from the central state, or become dependent states. Analysis of the full, multilevel complexity of the regional actors' relationship to the nation-state and the external world is necessary to explain how the nation-state system is both made and remade.

- A. Ashutosh Varshney
- B. Prerna Singh
- C. Aseema Sinha
- D. Louise Tillin

45. The terms 'assertive populism' and 'paternalist populism' are usually used with reference to the politics of which of the following states?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Uttar Pradesh
- C. Bihar
- D. West Bengal

46. Which of the following represents the 'thesis of moderation' in party politics in India?

- A. This thesis principally posits a moderate win and ability to return to power atleast for two or more election cycles.
- B. This thesis assumes that the nature of competition between parties in India are never extreme and that they remain moderate throughout.
- C. This thesis posits that an extremist party is likely to moderate its ideology and political practise by the constraints imposed by the constitution and electoral rules.
- D. This thesis posits that parties with extremist ideologies are not likely to moderate in a society like India marked by deep cleavages.

47. Which of the concepts below would fit appropriately in the blank?

Kapur and Vaishnav argue that _____ has a powerful selection effect on the pool of candidates who are able to stand for office and on the characteristics of those elected; it spawns rent-seeking, foments the manipulation of public policy and undermines voters' confidence in democratic processes.

- A. Criminality
- B. Dynasty
- C. Caste
- D. Money

48. Which of the following best explains why clientelist politics leverages 'democratic deficit'?

- A. This is because clientelist politics perpetuates the dominant role of elites/upper castes at the expense of lower castes who are reduced as consumers of welfare programmes.
- B. This is because the lower castes who are increasingly represented in policy making structures do not practise democracy.
- C. This stems from the reluctance of the elite to evolve democracy enhancing mechanism for fear of being ousted from power.
- D. This stems from a structural paralysis wherein elites and the voters tend to embark upon a mutually exclusive agenda.

49. In explaining India's economic growth since the 1980s, which of the following was given analytical precedence by Atul Kohli?

- A. The role of political leaders like Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi and PV Narasimha Rao
- B. Pro-market policies adopted by the Indian state
- C. Pro-business policies adopted by the Indian state
- D. Ideological convergence across Indian parties around the imperative of promoting economic growth

50. In the study of the relationship between caste and politics in post-independent India, the idea of 'secularisation of caste' entails which of the following?

- A. De-ritualisation of caste and the privileging of horizontal over vertical relationship
- B. De-ritualisation and the privileging of vertical over horizontal relationships
- C. The politicisation of caste and the emergence of horizontal relationships
- D. The breakdown of ritual purity and the continuing primacy of vertical relationships

51. Match the following books with authors.

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| a. The Colonial Constitution | 1. Rohit De |
| b. A People's Constitution: The Everyday Life of Law in the Indian Republic | 2. Gautam Bhatia |
| c. The Indian Constitution: Conversations with Power | 3. Madhav Khosla |
| d. India's Founding Moment – The Constitution of a Most Surprising Democracy | 4. Arghya Sengupta |

Choose the correct option

- A. a:1, b:3, c:4, d:2
- B. a:4, b:1, c:2, d:3
- C. a:4, b:3, c:2, d:1
- D. a:3, b:4, c:1, d:2

52. The states with a more powerful subnational identity are likely to institute more progressive social policies than states with a weaker subnational identity, all other things being equal.

- A. Prerna Singh
- B. Louise Tillin
- C. Pradeep Chhibber
- D. Nikita Sud

53. The origins of dependency theory can be found in this part of the world.

- A. East Europe
- B. Asia
- C. Africa
- D. Latin America

54. Samuel Huntington's classic Political Order in Changing Societies (1968) seeks to explain _____.

- A. increasing use of social media
- B. increasing role of technocrats
- C. rising political instability
- D. rising unemployment

55. Arrange the following chronologically in ascending order:

- I. Formation of the Arab League
- II. Oslo Accords
- III. Balfour Declaration
- IV. Islamic Revolution in Iran

- A. III, I, IV, II
- B. III, II, IV, I
- C. IV, III, I, II
- D. I, III, II, IV

56. Which of the following countries came under the Mandate System?
- A. Lebanon, Iran
 - B. Jordan, Saudi Arabia
 - C. Iran, Palestine
 - D. Palestine, Iraq
57. Which of the following can be broadly classified as an 'Enduring Conflict'?
- A. Russia-Ukraine
 - B. India-Pakistan
 - C. US-Mexico
 - D. Afghanistan-Pakistan
58. John J. Mearsheimer is most specifically associated with
- A. Classical realism
 - B. Neo-Classical realism
 - C. Defensive realism
 - D. Offensive realism
59. The main purpose of the BRICS is:
- A. To promote multipolarity
 - B. To promote investments in the Global North
 - C. To strengthen the dollar
 - D. To promote disarmament
60. Social welfare, resource utilization and participatory approach are associated with:
- A. Development Administration
 - B. New Public Administration
 - C. Human Relations
 - D. Ecological Approach
61. According to 'Garbage Can Model', policy outcomes often depend on:
- A. Rational decisions
 - B. Cost-benefit analysis
 - C. Fluid participation
 - D. Bureaucratic capacity
62. The idea that 'civil society, civic norms and social capital are important for good governance' is reflected in the work of
- A. Antonio Tocqueville
 - B. Niraja Gopal Jayal
 - C. Partha Chatterjee
 - D. Robert D. Putnam

63. Consider the following statements:

- A. Statement A: Organization is a cooperative system, which is consciously coordinated for achieving a purpose.
- B. Statement B: Interactions and communication networks are unnecessary for ensuring organizational effectiveness.

- A. Both Statement A and Statement B are correct.
- B. Both Statement A and Statement B are incorrect.
- C. Statement A is correct, but Statement B is incorrect.
- D. Statement A is incorrect, but Statement B is correct.

64. Consider the following statements:

- A. Statement A: Policy is goal-oriented and aims to provide a solution to a problem.
- B. Statement B: Policies aim to channel human behaviour to promote the common good.

- A. Both Statement A and Statement B are correct.
- B. Both Statement A and Statement B are incorrect.
- C. Statement A is correct, but Statement B is incorrect.
- D. Statement A is incorrect, but Statement B is correct.

65. In governance, Cost-Benefit Analysis is mainly used to:

- A. Audit the spending on the welfare schemes
- B. Compare policy alternatives economically
- C. Allocate funds to the states
- D. Compare the performances of the government departments

66. Which one of the following **does not** represent the concept of public administration as defined by Woodrow Wilson?

- A. Administration as neutral
- B. Administration as a science
- C. Administration as maximizing efficiency
- D. Administration is inseparable from politics

67. Match the following authors and concepts.

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. Paul A. Sabatier | 1. Policy Orientation |
| b. Harold D. Lasswell | 2. Bureaucracy |
| c. Max Weber | 3. Median Voter Theorem |
| d. Duncan Black | 4. Advocacy Coalition Framework |

Choose the correct option:

- A. a-2, c-1, d-4, b-3
- B. a-2, b-4, d-3, c-1
- C. a-4, b-1, c-2, d-3
- D. a-3, b-4, c-2, d-1

68. Match the following theories with approaches.

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| a. Realism | 1. Interpretive approach |
| b. Post-modernism | 2. Security approach |
| c. Marxism | 3. Technocratic approach |
| d. Functionalism | 4. Class approach |

Choose the correct option.

- A. a-4, b-3, c-1, d-2
- B. a-2, b-1, c-4, d-3
- C. a-4, b-2, c-3, d-1
- D. a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2

69. Match the following books and authors.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| a. Public Policy: Politics, Analysis and Alternatives | 1. Thomas R. Dye |
| b. Nudge: The Final Edition | 2. Deborah Stone |
| c. Policy Paradox: The Art of Political Decision Making | 3. Richard H Thaler & C. R. Sunstein |
| d. Top Down Policymaking | 4. Michael E. Kraft & S.R. Furlong |

Choose the correct option:

- A. a:3, b:4, c:2, d:1
- B. a:4, b:3, c:2, d:1
- C. a:4, b:2, c:1, d:3
- D. a:3, b:4, c:1, d:2

70. Match the following theorists with concepts.

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| a. Frantz Fanon | 1. Hybridity |
| b. Homi Bhabha | 2. Orientalism |
| c. Edward Said | 3. Coloniality of language |
| d. Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o | 4. Colonial resistance |

Choose the correct option:

- A. a-2, b-1, c-4, d-3
- B. a-4, b-1, c-2, d-3
- C. a-3, b-2, c-1, d-4
- D. a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2

Entrance Examination 2026

PhD (Political Science) F-13

ANSWER KEY (revised)

PART A			PART B	
Question No	Answer		Question No	Answer
1.	C		36.	D
2.	A		37.	A
3.	C		38.	C
4.	C		39.	C
5.	A		40.	A
6.	D		41.	B
7.	C		42.	D
8.	D		43.	B
9.	A		44.	C
10.	B		45.	A
11.	C		46.	C
12.	A		47.	D
13.	B		48.	A
14.	D		49.	C
15.	B		50.	A
16.	B		51.	B
17.	A		52.	A
18.	A		53.	D
19.	C		54.	C
20.	B		55.	A
21.	D		56.	D
22.	D		57.	B
23.	A		58.	D
24.	C		59.	A
25.	B		60.	A
26.	D		61.	C
27.	A		62.	D
28.	B		63.	C
29.	D		64.	A
30.	B		65.	B
31.	C		66.	D
32.	C		67.	C
33.	B		68.	B
34.	A		69.	B
35.	D		70.	B

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