

**Full Marks- 10**

**1. Imagine you are a nomadic herdsman from the Tuareg tribe who has traditionally reared goats and sheep for milk and hides. Recently, you decided to move to a nearby city in Algeria due to the discovery of oil in the region. According to the changes, how would your daily economic activity most likely transform in this new urban setting?**

- (A) You would continue to move through ancient camel paths with your livestock while using trucks only to transport salt for the traditional trade.
- (B) You would spend your days weaving carpets and blankets from sheep hair to sell to foreign tourists who come to visit the high rocky surfaces.
- (C) You would focus entirely on growing Egyptian cotton and date palms because the discovery of iron and manganese has made the soil more fertile.
- (D) You would seek employment within the oil and gas operations or act as a guide for foreign tourists visiting the changing cultural landscape.

**2. In the Erode cloth market, weavers operate under the "putting-out system," where merchants provide yarn and receive finished cloth. While this system saves weavers from spending their own capital on raw materials and the effort of finding buyers, it gives merchants immense power to set very low prices for the finished product. If the weavers attempted to transition from this system to an independent model to triple their earnings, which structural barrier would be the most difficult for them to overcome?**

- (A) The inability of weavers to master the technical skills required to weave high-quality sarees and dress materials without the merchant's specific instructions.
- (B) The lack of family members available to work the necessary twelve hours a day on the looms, which is currently the only way they produce enough to survive.
- (C) The significant financial risk of borrowing ₹20,000 per loom at high interest and the lack of established market contacts to compete with powerful merchants.
- (D) The historical laws in Tamil Nadu that grant merchants exclusive rights to buy yarn from dealers and sell it to garment manufacturers across the country.

**3. Imagine you are a Subadar (Governor) of a wealthy province like Bengal in 1720. You still send formal gifts to the Mughal Emperor in Delhi, but you have stopped sending the full revenue collection. Instead, you are using that money to build a local army and hiring your own revenue farmers (ijaradars) who are loyal only to you. Which statement best explains your political strategy in this situation?**

- (A) You are consolidating regional autonomy by gaining control over the economic and military resources of your province while maintaining a symbolic, formal link to the Mughal throne.
- (B) You believe that the Mughal Emperor has become a divine figure who no longer needs earthly wealth, so you are protecting the treasury from being wasted on court luxuries.

(C) You are attempting to provoke a full-scale civil war against the Emperor to seize the throne in Delhi and establish a new dynasty that focuses exclusively on maritime trade.

(D) You are following a secret decree from the Emperor to intentionally weaken the province so that foreign invaders like the British will find no wealth worth plundering in the region.

**4. A large multinational retail chain decides to procure onions directly from a group of small farmers in a village, bypassing the local mandi (wholesale market). The retail chain uses its own temperature-controlled trucks and warehouses. Which of the following best analyzes the impact of this "shorter" market chain on the local economy?**

(A) The local traders and wholesalers in the mandi will see an increase in their business because the farmers now have more money to spend on other luxury goods in the town.

(B) The consumers in the city will always pay a much higher price because the multinational company has to recover the high costs of maintaining expensive refrigerated trucks.

(C) The farmers might get a slightly better price than the mandi, but the local small-scale traders who provided credit and transport services will lose their primary livelihood.

(D) The quality of the onions will automatically decrease because the absence of the traditional middleman means there is no one left to grade or sort the produce for the market.

**5. An architectural firm is hired to restore a medieval temple in Bengal. They notice that while the foundation and inner walls are made of sturdy brick and mortar, the roof is shaped like a "do-chala" (two-roofed) thatched hut. Upon closer inspection, they find terracotta plaques depicting scenes from the Ramayana. Based on the historical context of the 16th–18th centuries provided in the chapter, which of the following best explains why this specific design was chosen by the original builders?**

(A) The builders were trying to save money by using the cheapest possible design available to them, as they could not afford the expensive stone required for a traditional North Indian Shikara-style temple roof.

(B) The local Mughal governors forced the artisans to build temples that looked like ordinary village houses so that they would not attract the attention of invading armies looking for gold or royal treasures.

(C) The climate of Bengal was so rainy that the traditional stone architecture of the Delhi Sultanate was found to be completely ineffective, leading to a total ban on all non-thatched roofing styles in the region.

(D) Rising social groups like the Kolu and Kansari used their new economic power to build temples that combined local folk architecture with religious themes to assert their new social status and identity.

**6. Imagine you are comparing a population map of South America with a population map of India. You notice that the Ganga-Brahmaputra Basin is one of the most crowded places on Earth, while the Amazon Basin is sparsely**

**populated. When looking at the "Environmental Determinants" mentioned in your textbook, which situational factor is most responsible for this massive difference in human settlement?**

(A) The Amazon Basin is filled with dangerous wildlife and venomous insects that make it physically impossible for humans to build permanent cities or large-scale road infrastructures safely.

(B) The availability of vast, flat alluvial plains in the Ganga-Brahmaputra region provides the perfect conditions for intensive agriculture and the easy construction of transport networks.

(C) The Ganga-Brahmaputra Basin is located in a temperate zone where it never rains too much, making it much more comfortable for people to live without worrying about tropical diseases.

(D) The mountains surrounding the Amazon Basin act as a wall that prevents any moisture from entering the region, leading to a permanent water shortage for large human settlements.

**7. The Gond kingdom of Garha Katanga was highly prosperous, consisting of 70,000 villages. As the Gond Rajas began to acquire more wealth and power, they started granting land to Brahmanas. What was the most significant long-term social impact of this specific interaction between the tribal chiefs and the Brahmanas?**

(A) The tribal society, which was originally quite equal, began to fragment into unequal social classes as the Gonds sought recognition as high-caste Rajputs.

(B) The Brahmanas forced the Gond Rajas to give up their administrative power and hand over the control of the 'garhs' and 'chaurasis' to the local priests.

(C) The Gond people collectively decided to stop hunting and gathering immediately and began building large stone universities to study ancient Sanskrit texts.

(D) The Gonds and Brahmanas merged into a single new caste that refused to recognize the authority of the Mughal Empire or any other outside ruler.

**8. A merchant from Central Asia arrives at a Sufi Khanqah (hospice) in the Delhi Sultanate. He observes that the Sufi masters are not focusing on the strict literal interpretation of religious laws, but are instead teaching their disciples how to "train the heart." If the merchant asks the Sufi master why they emphasize Zikr (chanting) and Sama (music), which response would best reflect the Sufi philosophy described in the chapter?**

(A) The master would explain that music and chanting are simply tools to attract more crowds to the hospice so that the Sufi order can gain more political influence over the local ruling Sultans.

(B) The master would explain that like a person in love, a devotee must cultivate a deep emotional bond with God, using these practices to purify the heart and achieve a spiritual union.

(C) The master would state that these practices are mandatory physical exercises intended to keep the disciples healthy and alert for the long hours of manual labor required to maintain the hospice.

(D) The master would argue that since the external world is an illusion, there is no need to follow any social or moral codes, and music is the only thing that remains real in a world of shadows.

**9. In the 19th century, Rashsundari Devi had to hide her pages and learn to read in the kitchen because society believed a literate woman would bring "ill-luck" to her family. What does her struggle tell us about the nature of social change?**

(A) It suggests that individual women are responsible for their own lack of education and that society will only change once women decide to stop following traditional household rules.

(B) It shows that the family was the most supportive unit for women in the 19th century, as long as women performed their duties without questioning the existing social hierarchies.

(C) It proves that literacy was a luxury reserved for the wealthy, and Rashsundari's struggle was primarily a financial one rather than a result of gender-based discrimination or bias.

(D) It highlights that education for women was seen as a threat to the social order, and seeking knowledge was a brave act of rebellion against deeply held cultural superstitions.

**10. A news channel spends an entire week discussing the fashion choices of a film star but ignores a massive protest by thousands of workers demanding a fair minimum wage. What critical concept regarding media influence does this scenario illustrate?**

(A) This illustrates 'Censorship' because the government has likely passed a law that prevents news channels from reporting on any issues related to labor or worker rights.

(B) This illustrates 'Public Interest' because the media is following the data that shows more people are interested in entertainment than in the economic problems of workers.

(C) This illustrates 'Balanced Reporting' because the media is providing a light-hearted alternative to the usually depressing news of protests and financial struggles in the country.

(D) This illustrates 'Setting the Agenda' where the media decides which issues are important for the public to think about, thereby ignoring serious social concerns for profit.