CBSE CLASS X

Social Science (087)

QUESTION PAPER

AI-generated question paper

Code: 8HY8QQ **Questions: 34** **Maximum Marks: 72** **Generated: 2026-06-26 09:59**

SELECTIONS USED

Subject	Social Science
Lessons	3 Water Resources
Level of understanding	Exam-ready
Question selection	CBSE board paper, whole lesson (~80 marks across Sections A-E)
Model	claude-sonnet-4-6

Composition — Difficulty: 12 straightforward · 16 medium · 6 deep | Types: 13 MCQ · 6 Short · 5 Very short · 4 Assertion–reason · 3 Long · 3 Case-based | Sections: A 17Q/17m · B 5Q/10m · C 6Q/18m · D 3Q/15m · E 3Q/12m

Q1. straightforward exam-ready **[1]**

Which of the following is the largest consumer of freshwater?
(A) Domestic use
(B) Industrial use
(C) Irrigated agriculture
(D) Hydroelectric power generation

A Domestic use
B Industrial use
C Irrigated agriculture
D Hydroelectric power generation

◆ Water Resources

Q2. straightforward exam-ready **[1]**

[mcq] Jawaharlal Nehru proclaimed large dams as the 'temples of modern India'. Which of the following best explains the vision behind this statement?
(A) Dams would preserve ancient hydraulic traditions and revive cultural heritage
(B) Dams would promote rapid industrialisation, urban growth and agricultural development simultaneously
(C) Dams would replace all traditional water harvesting methods across India
(D) Dams would permanently resolve inter-state water disputes

A Preserve ancient hydraulic traditions
B Integrate agricultural and village economy with rapid industrialisation and urban growth
C Replace all traditional water harvesting methods
D Solve inter-state water disputes permanently

◆ Water Resources

Q3. straightforward exam-ready **[1]**

The Bhakra–Nangal project is located on which river basin?
(A) Mahanadi
(B) Narmada
(C) Sutluj–Beas
(D) Damodar

A Mahanadi
B Narmada
C Sutluj–Beas
D Damodar

◆ Water Resources

Q4. straightforward exam-ready **[1]**

[mcq] Which river is dammed by the Hirakud project, one of India's earliest post-Independence multi-purpose river valley projects?
(A) Damodar
(B) Narmada
(C) Mahanadi
(D) Krishna

A Damodar
B Narmada
C Mahanadi
D Krishna

◆ Water Resources

Q5. straightforward exam-ready **[1]**

In the semi-arid and arid regions of Rajasthan, the underground tanks used for storing drinking water are locally known as:
(A) Kuls
(B) Khadins
(C) Tankas
(D) Johads

A Kuls
B Khadins
C Tankas
D Johads

◆ Water Resources

Q6. straightforward exam-ready **[1]**

Which state was the first in India to make rooftop rainwater harvesting compulsory for all houses, with legal provisions to punish defaulters?

(A) Karnataka
(B) Rajasthan
(C) Meghalaya
(D) Tamil Nadu

A Karnataka
B Rajasthan
C Meghalaya
D Tamil Nadu

◆ Water Resources

Q7. straightforward exam-ready **[1]**

The diversion channels called 'guls' or 'kuls' used for agriculture are associated with which region?

(A) Arid plains of Rajasthan
(B) Flood plains of Bengal
(C) Western Himalayas
(D) Deccan Plateau

A Arid plains of Rajasthan
B Flood plains of Bengal
C Western Himalayas
D Deccan Plateau

◆ Water Resources

Q8. straightforward exam-ready **[1]**

[mcq] In the arid districts of Rajasthan, 'palar pani' is traditionally regarded as:

(A) The most polluted form of water, suitable only after filtering
(B) Groundwater tapped through underground tankas
(C) The purest form of natural water, collected and stored for drinking
(D) A type of canal water distributed through the Indira Gandhi Canal

A The most polluted form of water
B Suitable only for irrigation
C The purest form of natural water
D Less reliable than groundwater

◆ Water Resources

Q9. medium exam-ready **[1]**

Match the following traditional water harvesting structures with their regions and choose the correct option:
Column I (Structure) — Column II (Region)
a. Khadins — i. Bengal flood plains
b. Inundation channels — ii. Meghalaya
c. Bamboo drip irrigation — iii. Jaisalmer
d. Rooftop tankas — iv. Bikaner, Phalodi, Barmer

(A) a-iii, b-i, c-ii, d-iv
(B) a-i, b-iii, c-iv, d-ii
(C) a-ii, b-iv, c-i, d-iii
(D) a-iii, b-iv, c-ii, d-i

A a-iii, b-i, c-ii, d-iv
B a-i, b-iii, c-iv, d-ii
C a-ii, b-iv, c-i, d-iii
D a-iii, b-iv, c-ii, d-i

◆ Water Resources

Q10. medium exam-ready **[1]**

Which of the following is NOT a consequence of building large dams on rivers?
(A) Poor sediment flow and excessive sedimentation at reservoir bottom
(B) Increase in natural fertilisation of flood plains due to silt deposit
(C) Fragmentation of rivers making migration of aquatic fauna difficult
(D) Submergence of existing vegetation and soil in the reservoir

A Poor sediment flow and excessive sedimentation at reservoir bottom
B Increase in natural fertilisation of flood plains due to silt deposit
C Fragmentation of rivers making migration of aquatic fauna difficult
D Submergence of existing vegetation and soil in the reservoir

◆ Water Resources

Q11. medium exam-ready **[1]**

[mcq] The Krishna–Godavari dispute between Maharashtra and downstream states arose primarily because:
(A) Andhra Pradesh built an unauthorised dam on the Krishna river without consulting other states
(B) Maharashtra's diversion of water at Koyna for a multipurpose project reduced the downstream flow into the Krishna
(C) Karnataka refused to release water from the Almatti Dam during drought years
(D) Telangana unilaterally withdrew from a pre-existing water-sharing agreement on the Godavari

A Andhra Pradesh diverted water from the Krishna river for industrial use
B Maharashtra diverted more water at Koyna for a multipurpose project, reducing downstream flow
C Karnataka built an unauthorised dam on the Godavari river
D Telangana refused to share water from the Nagarjunakonda reservoir

◆ Water Resources

Q12. straightforward exam-ready **[1]**

By approximately what year is it predicted that nearly two billion people will live in absolute water scarcity?
(A) 2050
(B) 2030
(C) 2025
(D) 2040

A 2050
B 2030
C 2025
D 2040

◆ **Water Resources**

Q13. straightforward exam-ready **[1]**

The bamboo drip irrigation system that is about 200 years old is practised in which state?
(A) Himachal Pradesh
(B) Sikkim
(C) Meghalaya
(D) Manipur

A Himachal Pradesh
B Sikkim
C Meghalaya
D Manipur

◆ **Water Resources**

Q14. medium exam-ready **[1]**

Assertion (A): In many cities, housing societies rely on their own groundwater pumping devices to meet water needs.
Reason (R): Large and dense urban populations have increased water and energy requirements, leading to over-exploitation of groundwater.

(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.

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.

◆ **Water Resources**

Q15. medium exam-ready **[1]**

Assertion (A): The Damodar river was historically known as the 'river of sorrow' in the Damodar valley region.
Reason (R): The river frequently caused destructive floods that devastated life, property and agricultural activities in the region.

(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.

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.

♦ Water Resources

Q16. medium exam-ready **[1]**

Assertion (A): Even a region that receives high annual rainfall can suffer from water scarcity.
Reason (R): Water scarcity can arise from poor water quality due to pollution by domestic wastes, industrial effluents, pesticides and fertilisers.

(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.

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.

♦ Water Resources

Q17. medium exam-ready **[1]**

Assertion (A): The practice of rooftop rainwater harvesting has declined in western Rajasthan in recent years.
Reason (R): The availability of water through the perennial Indira Gandhi Canal has reduced dependence on traditional water storage methods in that region.

(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.

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.

♦ Water Resources

Q18. straightforward exam-ready **[2]**

[very_short_answer] Explain why water is considered a renewable resource despite being constantly consumed by human activities.

◆ Water Resources

Q19. medium exam-ready **[2]**

Why is water scarcity in India not always a result of low rainfall? Give two reasons.

◆ Water Resources

Q20. straightforward exam-ready **[2]**

[very_short_answer] Distinguish between 'khadins' and 'johads' as traditional water harvesting structures. In which type of landscape are they typically used?

◆ Water Resources

Q21. medium exam-ready **[2]**

State two ways in which multi-purpose river projects have ironically worsened the very problems they were built to solve.

◆ Water Resources

Q22. medium exam-ready **[2]**

How does irrigation through multi-purpose projects lead to the problem of salinisation of soil? Name the cropping change that contributes to this.

◆ Water Resources

Q23. medium exam-ready **[3]**

Explain three causes of water scarcity in India that are unrelated to low annual rainfall.

◆ Water Resources

Q24. medium exam-ready **[3]**

[short_answer] Explain how the traditional 'tanka' system of rooftop rainwater harvesting works in the arid regions of Rajasthan. Why was it considered an effective solution to drinking water scarcity in that region?

◆ Water Resources

Q25. medium exam-ready **[3]**

[short_answer] Using any three examples from different parts of ancient India, explain how traditional societies managed water resources effectively long before modern engineering.

◆ Water Resources

Q26. deep exam-ready **[3]**

Explain how the construction of dams affects the aquatic ecosystem and the natural fertility of surrounding agricultural land.

◆ Water Resources

Q27. medium exam-ready **[3]**

[short_answer] How can rooftop rainwater harvesting transform water availability in rain-fed rural areas? Support your answer with a suitable example from India.

◆ Water Resources

Q28. deep exam-ready **[3]**

Why does Shillong, located only 55 km from the world's highest rainfall areas, still face acute water shortage? What does this tell us about managing water resources?

◆ Water Resources

Q29. deep exam-ready **[5]**

Multi-purpose river projects were envisioned as engines of national development after Independence. Critically evaluate this claim by discussing both their intended benefits and the problems that emerged from their implementation.

◆ Water Resources

Q30. deep exam-ready **[5]**

Water scarcity is as much a human-made crisis as a natural one. Analyse this statement with reference to the role of population growth, industrialisation, urbanisation, and agricultural practices in depleting and degrading India's freshwater resources.

◆ Water Resources

Q31. medium exam-ready **[5]**

[long_answer] India has a rich tradition of community-based water harvesting. Describe any five traditional or modern rainwater harvesting methods practised in different regions of India, explaining the region, the method, and why it is ecologically or socially significant.

◆ Water Resources

Q32. medium exam-ready **[4]**

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

In semi-arid and arid Rajasthan, almost every household traditionally maintained an underground storage tank connected to the sloping roof through a pipe. The first rain of the season was deliberately left uncollected to clean the roof and pipe. Subsequent rainwater was stored in these tanks, which could be as large as a big room. In one household in Phalodi, the tank measured 6.1 metres deep, 4.27 metres long and 2.44 metres wide. This stored rainwater, called 'palar pani', was considered the purest natural water and could last until the next monsoon. However, today the practice is declining in western Rajasthan because of the availability of the Indira Gandhi Canal. Yet, in Gendathur village of Karnataka, nearly 200 households have adopted rooftop rainwater harvesting, collectively harvesting around 1,00,000 litres annually.

(i) Why was the first spell of rain not collected in the traditional Rajasthan system? (1 mark)
(ii) What does the term 'palar pani' mean and why was it valued? (1 mark)
(iii) Calculate approximately how much water a single household in Gendathur harvests annually, given that the village total from 200 households is 1,00,000 litres. (1 mark)
(iv) What does the contrast between declining harvesting in Rajasthan and its adoption in Karnataka tell us about the relationship between water availability and conservation behaviour? (1 mark)

◆ Water Resources

Q33. deep exam-ready **[4]**

Read the following and answer the questions:

After Independence, India invested heavily in multi-purpose river projects. The Bhakra–Nangal project in the Sutluj–Beas basin was used for both hydel power and irrigation. The Hirakud project on the Mahanadi was meant to integrate water conservation with flood control. The Sardar Sarovar on the Narmada was designed to serve four states — Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Rajasthan — providing irrigation to millions of hectares and ensuring water supply to drought-prone and desert areas. However, critics point out that large reservoirs submerge vegetation, disrupt fish migration, cause sedimentation, and have even triggered earthquakes and water-borne diseases. The Damodar, once nicknamed the 'river of sorrow', saw its valley project built to tame its floods — yet the dams have at times triggered floods through excessive sedimentation in the reservoir.

(i) Name two purposes served by the Bhakra–Nangal project. (1 mark)
(ii) How does sedimentation in a reservoir ironically cause the very problem the dam was built to prevent? (1 mark)
(iii) Why are large dams said to fragment rivers, and what impact does this have on aquatic life? (1 mark)
(iv) Despite its benefits, why has the Sardar Sarovar project faced opposition? Suggest one valid concern. (1 mark)

◆ **Water Resources**

Q34. deep exam-ready **[4]**

Study the following information and answer the questions:

Meghalaya, in northeast India, is home to two remarkable water management traditions. First, the bamboo drip irrigation system — about 200 years old — taps stream and spring water using bamboo pipes. Around 18–20 litres of water enters the bamboo pipe system and, after travelling over hundreds of metres, is reduced to just 20–80 drops per minute at the plant site. Second, rooftop rainwater harvesting is widely practised in Shillong, even though Cherapunjee and Mawsynram — situated just 55 km away — receive the highest rainfall in the world. Nearly every Shillong household has a rooftop harvesting structure, which contributes 15–25% of total household water needs. Meanwhile, water scarcity is a reality even in areas of high rainfall, primarily due to absence of proper storage and distribution systems.

(i) What physical principle makes the bamboo drip irrigation system work without any mechanical pumping? (1 mark)
(ii) Why does Shillong face water scarcity despite being located so close to the world's highest rainfall areas? (1 mark)
(iii) What does the reduction of 18–20 litres at entry to 20–80 drops per minute at the plant site tell us about the bamboo drip irrigation system's approach to water use? (1 mark)
(iv) How does the example of Meghalaya challenge the assumption that water scarcity is only a problem of arid or low-rainfall regions? (1 mark)

◆ **Water Resources**

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