

CBSE CLASS X
Social Science (087)**ANSWER KEY***From previous CBSE Board Exam questions***Code: NAQ4G2 Questions: 37 Maximum Marks: 61 Generated: 2026-06-15 13:05****SELECTIONS USED**

Source	Previous-year board
Subject	Social Science
Lessons	Gender, Religion and Caste
Year	2022-2026
Questions selected	37

Composition — Types: 18 MCQ · 14 Very short · 2 Long · 2 Assertion–reason · 1 Short

Q1.**[1]**

Look at the given picture carefully and choose the most appropriate option : Which of the following values is being reflected through this picture ?

- (A) Unity and integration
- (B) Equality and Justice
- (C) Multitasking and Dedication
- (D) Religions and Rituals

Previously asked in: 2026 32/1/1 Q21

♦ **Gender, Religion and Caste**

Gender equality and women's empowerment

Generated by claude-sonnet-4-6 · 2026-06-15 07:02 · grounding rag**Model Answer****(C) Multitasking and Dedication**

The picture shows a woman managing multiple household and work tasks simultaneously, reflecting the concept of multitasking and dedication — values highlighted in the chapter on gender division and sexual division of labour.

Explanation

The image depicts a woman with multiple arms holding different tools/objects, symbolising how women juggle countless responsibilities at once — domestic work, childcare, and often paid work too. The textbook (Ch. 3) discusses how women work more hours than men but their work goes unrecognised. Options A, B, and D relate to communalism/secularism topics, not this image. Examiners expect students to connect the visual directly to the gender division content.

Q2. § Overview § Gender and politics § Religion, communalism and politics

[1]

Which of the following statements represent gender equality?

- A The value of women's vote is more than that of men.
- B Restricting women to household chores.
- C Providing more rights to men.
- D Providing voting rights equally to men and women.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/3/1 Q4

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste Gender Equality and Sexual Division of Labour

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Model Answer

Answer: D — Providing voting rights equally to men and women represents gender equality, as it ensures equal political rights regardless of gender.

Explanation

Gender equality means equal rights and opportunities for both men and women. Option D correctly reflects this. Options A, B, and C either restrict women, favour one gender over another, or deny equal rights — all of which contradict the principle of equality highlighted in the chapter.

Q3. § Gender and politics

[2]

Suggest two ways to improve women's participation in sports leadership roles.

Previously asked in: 2026 32/5/1 Q24

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste Women's participation and gender equality in leadership roles

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Model Answer

Two ways to improve women's participation in sports leadership roles:

1. **Reservation of seats/positions** for women in sports governing bodies and committees, similar to the one-third reservation provided in Panchayati Raj bodies, can ensure fair representation.
1. **Removing gender discrimination in pay and opportunities** — as the Equal Remuneration Act mandates equal wages for equal work, equal resources and recognition should be provided to women in sports administration and leadership.

Source: Gender and Politics, Chapter 3

Explanation

The question is not directly addressed in the textbook, but the **source passages ground the answer** in two key ideas from Chapter 3: (1) legal reservation as a tool (used in Panchayati Raj, now Women's Reservation Act 2023) and (2) combating wage/recognition discrimination (Equal Remuneration Act). Examiners expect you to **apply these concepts** to the context given. Avoid vague answers like "awareness campaigns" — link to specific mechanisms from the chapter.

Q4. § Gender and politics § Religion, communalism and politics § Caste and politics

[1]

Which one of the following matters do NOT deal with the 'Family Laws' ?

- A Marriage
- B Adoption
- C Inheritance
- D Finance

Previously asked in: 2023 32/1/1 Q20

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste Personal and Family Laws

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Model Answer**Option D – Finance**

Family laws deal with matters such as marriage, divorce, adoption, and inheritance. Finance is not a family law matter.

Source: *Religion, communalism and politics, Chapter 3*

Explanation

The textbook explicitly defines **Family laws** as "those laws that deal with family related matters such as marriage, divorce, adoption, inheritance, etc." Finance is not mentioned anywhere as part of family law. In MCQs like this, always match the definition given in the textbook directly.

Q5. § Overview § Gender and politics § Caste and politics

[2]

"Women face discrimination in various ways in our society." Explain any two ways.

Previously asked in: 2023 32/4/1 Q24

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste Gender Discrimination against Women

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Model Answer

Women face discrimination in the following ways:

1. **Educational inequality:** The literacy rate among women is only 54% compared to 76% among men. Parents often prefer to spend resources on sons' education, causing girls to drop out despite performing well in school.
1. **Wage discrimination:** Despite the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976, women are paid less than men for the same work in almost all areas — from sports and cinema to factories and fields.

Source: *Gender and Politics*, Chapter 3

Explanation

The question asks for **two ways** — so write exactly two, clearly labelled. Common accepted points from the chapter include: literacy gap, wage gap, domestic violence, unsafe urban spaces, sex-selective abortion, and unpaid/unrecognised domestic work. Pick any two and support each with a specific detail from the text (e.g., the 54% vs 76% literacy figure). Examiners reward specific examples/data over vague statements.

Q6. § Gender and politics

[5]

Suggest any five measures to establish the gender equality of labour.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/3/1 Q32(b)

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste

Measures to Establish Gender Equality of Labour

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Model Answer

The following measures can be taken to establish gender equality of labour:

1. **Equal pay enforcement:** The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 must be strictly implemented so that women receive the same wages as men for the same work.
1. **Recognition of domestic work:** Unpaid household work done by women should be recognised and valued, as women work nearly one hour more per day than men.
1. **Educational opportunities:** Girls must be given equal access to education and higher studies, as female literacy (54%) is far below male literacy (76%).
1. **Political representation:** Reservation of seats for women in legislatures (as done in Panchayati Raj bodies) should be extended to State Assemblies and Lok Sabha, enabling women to raise labour-related issues.
1. **Ending workplace discrimination:** Women should be given equal opportunities in highly paid and valued professions, and harassment at workplace must be strictly checked.

Source: Chapter 3 – Gender, Religion and Caste

Explanation

- The question asks for **five distinct measures**, so five clear, separate points are required — no merging.
- Each point should be backed by facts from the chapter (literacy rate, Equal Remuneration Act, Panchayati Raj reservation, time-use data, etc.) to score full marks.
- Examiners expect **specific measures**, not vague statements like "respect women." Use chapter vocabulary: *sexual division of labour, feminist movements, Equal Remuneration Act, patriarchy*.
- The Women's Reservation Act 2023 (Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam) can also be mentioned under political representation for a current and relevant point.

Q7. § Overview § Gender and politics

[1]

Two statements, I and II are given below. Read both the statements and choose the correct option.

Statement I : Women are now actively contributing to various professions including roles as doctors, engineers, lawyers, managers and university teachers.

Statement II : Political expression of gender division and political mobilization helped to improve women's role in public life.

- (A) Statement I is true, but II is false.
- (B) Statement I is false, but II is true.
- (C) Statements I and II are true and II is the correct explanation of I.
- (D) Statements I and II are true, but II is not the correct explanation of I.

Previously asked in: 2024 32/5/1 Q14

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste

Gender Division and Women's Role in Public Life

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Model Answer

(D) Statements I and II are true, but II is not the correct explanation of I.

Both statements are correct. However, Statement II explains how political mobilization *helped* improve women's role in public life, while Statement I describes the *outcome/result* — women entering professions. Statement II is a cause, not a direct explanation of Statement I.

Source: *Gender and Politics, Chapter 3*

Explanation

The passage states: "Political expression of gender division and political mobilisation on this question helped to improve women's role in public life. We now find women working as scientists, doctors, engineers, lawyers, managers and college and university teachers." While II is the cause and I is the effect, examiners expect students to recognize that II does **not directly explain** I — it only partially contributes to it. The correct logical relationship here is cause-effect, not explanation, making option (D) correct.

Q8. § Gender and politics

[2]

Suggest any two measures to remove gender inequality.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/1/1 Q23

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste

Measures to Remove Gender Inequality

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Model Answer

Two measures to remove gender inequality:

1. **Education for girls** – Ensuring equal educational opportunities for girls will improve literacy rates, enhance career prospects, and reduce dependence on men.
1. **Political reservation for women** – Reserving seats for women in legislative bodies (as done in Panchayati Raj with one-third reservation) gives women political power to raise issues related to their well-being.

Source: *Gender and Politics, Chapter 3*

Explanation

The question asks for any **two** measures — examiners expect specific, named measures, not vague statements. The textbook mentions: education/literacy, equal wages (Equal Remuneration Act), political reservation in Panchayats, and the Women's Reservation Act 2023. Pick any two and briefly explain each. Avoid writing a long paragraph — two labelled points is the ideal format for a 2-mark answer.

Q9. § Gender and politics § Religion, communalism and politics

[1]

Which one of the following countries has the highest representation of women in their National Parliament ?

- (A) Russia
- (B) Australia
- (C) Sweden
- (D) India

Previously asked in: 2023 32/6/1 Q20

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste

Women's Political Representation

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Model Answer**(C) Sweden**

Sweden belongs to the Scandinavian/Nordic countries, which have the highest women's representation in national parliaments (42.3%), far above India's 11.8%.

Explanation

The textbook passage states that "in Scandinavian countries, such as Sweden, Norway and Finland, the participation of women in public life is very high," and the data table confirms Nordic countries lead at 42.3%. Russia and Australia are not highlighted; India is among the lowest. Sweden is the best-known example given in the chapter, making (C) the correct choice.

Q10. § Gender and politics

[1]

Which one of the following countries has a high level of women's participation in public life ?

- (A) Sweden
- (B) Canada
- (C) Brazil
- (D) India

Previously asked in: 2026 32/3/1 Q22

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste

Women's participation in public life

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Model Answer**(A) Sweden**

Sweden is a Scandinavian country where women's participation in public life is very high, as stated in the textbook.

Source: Gender and Politics, Chapter 3

Explanation

The textbook explicitly mentions "Scandinavian countries such as Sweden, Norway and Finland" as examples where participation of women in public life is very high. Sweden is the most commonly cited example among the options. Canada, Brazil, and India are not mentioned in this context; in fact, India is described as lagging behind in women's political representation.

Q11. § Overview § Gender and politics

[2]

Suggest any two measures to ensure participation of women in public life.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/6/1 Q24(b)

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste

Women's participation in public life and political empowerment

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Model Answer

Two measures to ensure participation of women in public life:

1. **Reservation of seats:** Making it legally binding to reserve a fair proportion of seats for women in elected bodies. For example, one-third seats are reserved for women in Panchayati Raj institutions, and the Women's Reservation Act, 2023 provides 33% reservation in Lok Sabha and State Assemblies.
1. **Political mobilisation through feminist movements:** Women's organisations should agitate and mobilise to demand equal political and legal status, improved educational and career opportunities, and greater representation in legislatures and cabinets.

Source: Gender and Politics, Chapter 3 — Women's Political Representation

Explanation

Examiners look for two **distinct, named measures** with a brief explanation of each. The textbook specifically mentions legal reservation (Panchayati Raj model, Women's Reservation Act) and feminist/women's movements as the two key solutions discussed. Avoid vague answers like "educate women" — ground your answer in what the chapter explicitly states. Each point should be one clear sentence or two.

Q12.

[2]

Suggest any two ways to promote Women's Entrepreneurship in the economy.

Previously asked in: 2026 32/4/1 Q24

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste

Promoting women's economic participation and gender equality

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Model Answer

Two ways to promote Women's Entrepreneurship:

1. **Provide financial support** – Women should be given easy access to loans, credit and microfinance at low interest rates to start and run their own businesses.
1. **Improve education and skill development** – Ensuring higher literacy rates and vocational training for women will equip them with the skills needed to become successful entrepreneurs.

Explanation

The source passages do not directly discuss entrepreneurship, so this question draws on general economic awareness linked to the chapter's themes of gender inequality — low literacy (54%), wage gaps, and undervaluation of women's work. Examiners expect practical, policy-oriented suggestions. For 2 marks, two distinct points stated clearly (one line each) are sufficient. Avoid repeating the same idea in different words.

Q13.

§ Overview

§ Gender and politics

§ Religion, communalism and politics

[1]

Which one of the following statements, best describes women empowerment ?

- (A) Encouraging men to take leadership roles.
- (B) Promoting superiority of women over men.
- (C) Ensuring equal opportunities and rights for women.
- (D) Limiting the rights of men in all spheres.

Previously asked in: 2024 32/3/1 Q11

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste

Women Empowerment

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Model Answer**(C) Ensuring equal opportunities and rights for women.****Explanation**

Women empowerment means giving women equal rights, opportunities, and power in all spheres — social, economic, and political. Options A, B, and D are either irrelevant or extreme/incorrect interpretations. The textbook defines a **feminist** as "a woman or a man who believes in equal rights and opportunities for women and men," which directly supports option C.

Q14. § Overview § Gender and politics § Religion, communalism and politics

[1]

Which of the following term refers to the belief in and advocacy for the social, political and economic equality of women ?

- (a) Patriarchy
- (b) Matriarchy
- (c) Socialist
- (d) Feminists

Previously asked in: 2024 32/1/1 Q8

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste Feminism

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Model Answer

(d) Feminists

A Feminist is a woman or man who believes in equal rights and opportunities for women and men, and advocates for their social, political and economic equality.

Explanation

The textbook explicitly defines **Feminist** as "a woman or a man who believes in equal rights and opportunities for women and men." Patriarchy means rule/dominance by men; Matriarchy means rule by women; Socialist refers to an economic ideology. Only 'Feminist' matches the advocacy for gender equality described in the question.

Q15. § Gender and politics

[1]

In which one of the following regions is the participation of women in public life the highest ?

- (a) Nordic countries
- (b) Arab states
- (c) European countries
- (d) Asian countries

Previously asked in: 2023 32/2/1 Q11

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste Women's participation in public life

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Model Answer

(a) Nordic countries

The participation of women in public life is highest in Nordic countries (e.g., Sweden, Norway, Finland), with 42.3% women in national parliaments.

Source: Gender and Politics, Chapter 3

Explanation

The textbook explicitly states that "in Scandinavian countries, such as Sweden, Norway and Finland, the participation of women in public life is very high." The data table confirms Nordic countries lead at 42.3%, far ahead of Arab States (18.6%), Europe (26.4%), and Asia (19.8%). Always cite the stat if you can recall it — it strengthens a 1-mark answer.

Q16. § Gender and politics § Religion, communalism and politics

[2]

Suggest any two ways to increase women's representation in leadership roles.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/4/1 Q22

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste

Women's representation in leadership and politics

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Model Answer

Two ways to increase women's representation in leadership roles:

1. **Reservation of seats:** Making it legally binding to reserve a fair proportion of seats for women in elected bodies. For example, one-third of seats in Panchayati Raj bodies are already reserved for women, and the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam (2023) reserves 33% seats in Lok Sabha and State Assemblies.
1. **Political mobilisation and feminist movements:** Women's organisations and activists demanding equal political rights and pressuring political parties to nominate more women candidates for elections.

Explanation

The textbook directly addresses this in the 'Women's Political Representation' section. Examiners expect you to cite the **reservation mechanism** (Panchayati Raj/Women's Reservation Act) as one point and **women's movements/political mobilisation** as the second. Naming the 2023 Act adds accuracy. Avoid vague answers like "educate women" — the question is about leadership/political representation specifically.

Q17. § Overview

[3]

Suggest three steps to enhance the literacy rate among women in India.

Previously asked in: 2023 32/2/1 Q27

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste

Women's Literacy and Gender Inequality in Education

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Model Answer

Three steps to enhance literacy rate among women in India:

1. **Encourage girls' education:** Parents should be motivated to spend equally on sons' and daughters' education and prevent girls from dropping out of school.
1. **Open more schools in rural areas:** Setting up schools closer to villages will make it easier and safer for girls to attend.
1. **Provide financial incentives:** Government scholarships, free books, uniforms, and mid-day meals will encourage families to send girls to school and continue their education.

Explanation

The textbook (Chapter 3) highlights that the literacy rate among women is only 54% compared to 76% among men, and that girls drop out because parents prefer spending on boys' education. Examiners expect practical, policy-oriented steps. You may phrase them as points; three clear, distinct steps earn full marks. Avoid repeating the same idea in different words.

Q18. § Overview § Religion, communalism and politics**[2]**

Explain any two Constitutional provisions that make India a secular nation.

Previously asked in: 2026 32/1/1 Q25

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste Secularism and Constitutional provisions

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Model Answer

Two Constitutional provisions that make India a secular state are:

1. The Constitution does not give any official status to any religion. There is no "state religion" of India, unlike Pakistan (Islam) or England (Christianity).
1. The Constitution provides all individuals and communities freedom to profess, practise and propagate any religion, and also prohibits discrimination on grounds of religion.

Source: *Democratic Politics – II, Chapter 3, "Secular State" section*

Explanation

The question is worth 2 marks — one point per mark. Examiners expect two distinct provisions clearly stated. Avoid vague answers like "India respects all religions." Use specific constitutional language: "no official religion," "freedom to profess/practise/propagate," and "prohibits discrimination." Any two correct provisions from the four listed in the textbook earn full marks.

Q19. § Overview § Gender and politics § Religion, communalism and politics**[1]**

Two statements are given below as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the appropriate option :

Assertion (A) : Women in different parts of the World organized themselves and agitated for equal rights. Reason (R) :

Women's movement aimed at equality in personal and family life as well.

- 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 the not correct explanation of (A).
C (A) is true, but (R) is false.
D (A) is false, but (R) is true.

Previously asked in: 2023 32/1/1 Q19

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste Women's movement and struggle for equal rights

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Model Answer

Option (B): Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

Assertion (A) is true — women organised and agitated for equal rights worldwide. Reason (R) is also true — more radical women's movements did aim at equality in personal and family life. However, (R) explains only one aspect of the women's movement and is not the correct or complete explanation of why women organised for equal rights in general.

Explanation

The key distinction here: (A) refers to the broad global agitation for equal rights (voting rights, political and legal status, education, career opportunities). (R) refers specifically to the more radical feminist goal of equality in personal/family life — this is a part of the movement, not its cause or explanation. Since both statements are factually correct but (R) does not explain why (A) happened, the answer is (B). Always check if the Reason is the *cause/explanation* of the Assertion, not just a related fact.

Q20. § Overview § Religion, communalism and politics

[5]

"Secularism is the very idea of Indian Constitution." Justify the statement.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/3/1 Q32(a)

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste

Indian Secular State and its features

Secularism in the Indian Constitution

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Model Answer

India is a diverse country with people following many religions. To manage this diversity and prevent communalism, the makers of our Constitution chose the model of a **secular state**. The following provisions justify that secularism is the very idea of the Indian Constitution:

1. **No official religion:** Unlike Pakistan (Islam) or England (Christianity), India gives no special status to any religion.
2. **Freedom of religion:** The Constitution gives all individuals and communities the freedom to profess, practice and propagate any religion, or not to follow any.
3. **No discrimination:** The Constitution prohibits discrimination on the grounds of religion.
4. **State intervention for equality:** The state can intervene in religious matters to ensure equality within communities — for example, it bans untouchability.
5. **Combating communalism:** Secularism forms one of the foundations of our country. Communalism threatens the very idea of India, and only a secular Constitution can counter it.

Thus, secularism is not just an ideology of some parties; it constitutes the very foundation of India.

Source: *Religion, Communalism and Politics, Chapter 3 (Secular State section)*

Explanation

- Examiners expect 4–5 constitutional provisions clearly listed, with brief explanation of each.
- Mention that India has NO official religion and contrast with Sri Lanka, Pakistan, England — this shows you have read the text.
- The closing line about secularism being a "foundation" (not just an ideology) is directly from the textbook — include it.
- Do not write lengthy introductions; go straight to the points.

Q21. § Overview § Religion, communalism and politics

[1]

Read the following statements and choose the correct term mentioned in the Indian Constitution from the given options :

- There is no official religion for the Indian State.
- There is freedom to profess, practise and propagate any religion in India.

- (A) Republic
- (B) Sovereign
- (C) Socialist
- (D) Secular

Previously asked in: 2024 32/2/1 Q8

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste

Secularism in the Indian Constitution

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Model Answer

(D) Secular

Source: Democratic Politics II, Chapter 3 (Secular State section)

Explanation

Both statements directly describe features of a **secular state** as defined in the Indian Constitution — no official religion, and freedom to profess, practise and propagate any religion. The source passage explicitly lists these as constitutional provisions that make India secular. Students must not confuse this with 'Sovereign' (independent state) or 'Socialist' (equal distribution of resources).

Q22. § Overview § Religion, communalism and politics

[1]

Read the following provisions regarding Secularism in the Indian Constitution and choose the correct option.

- I. The Indian State has not adopted any religion as its official religion.
II. The Constitution gives freedom to all the citizens to practice and propagate any religion.
III. The Constitution declares any kind of discrimination done on the basis of religion to be legal.
IV. It gives the government the right to intervene in religious matters for ensuring equality within religious communities.
- (A) Only I, II and III are correct.
(B) Only I, II and IV are correct.
(C) Only I, III and IV are correct.
(D) Only II, III and IV are correct.

Previously asked in: 2024 32/5/1 Q10

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste

Secularism in the Indian Constitution

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Model Answer**(B) Only I, II and IV are correct.**

Statement III is incorrect because the Constitution **prohibits** (not legalises) discrimination on grounds of religion.

Source: Democratic Politics II, Chapter 3 – Secular State

Explanation

The passage clearly states four constitutional provisions: (1) no official religion, (2) freedom to profess/practice/propagate any religion, (3) **prohibition** of religious discrimination, and (4) state's right to intervene for equality within communities. Statement III wrongly says discrimination is "legal" — the Constitution says the opposite. Eliminate any option containing III; only option B remains correct.

Q23. § Overview § Religion, communalism and politics

[1]

Which one of the following statements is not true ?

- (a) The Constitution prohibits discrimination on the grounds of religion.
- (b) The Constitution allows us to practice, profess and propagate any religion or not to follow any.
- (c) The Constitution of India allows the state to intervene in the matters of religion in order to ensure equality within religious communities.
- (d) As per the Constitution, religion can never be separated from politics.

Previously asked in: 2023 32/5/1 Q10

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste

Indian Secular State and its features

Secularism and Constitutional provisions

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Model Answer**(d) As per the Constitution, religion can never be separated from politics.**

This statement is **not true**. The Indian Constitution upholds secularism, which means the state does not favour any religion and keeps religion separate from politics.

Explanation

Options (a), (b), and (c) are all correct provisions of the Indian Constitution regarding secularism and religious freedom. Option (d) is false because India is a secular state — the Constitution actually ensures separation of religion from state/politics. Examiners expect students to directly identify the incorrect option and briefly justify why it is wrong.

Q24. § Overview § Religion, communalism and politics**[1]**

Read the following statements and choose the correct option :

- I. There is no official religion in India.
- II. Communities have freedom to profess and practice their religion.
- III. State helps communities by giving aid to educational institutions run by them.
- IV. India believes in theocracy.

- (A) I, II and III
- (B) I, II and IV
- (C) II, III and IV
- (D) I, III and IV

Previously asked in: 2023 32/6/1 Q19

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste Secularism and State-Religion Relationship in India

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Model Answer**(A) I, II and III**

Statements I, II, and III are correct. India has no official religion; the Constitution provides freedom to profess and practice any religion; and the state can aid educational institutions run by religious communities. Statement IV is wrong — India is a **secular** state, not a theocracy.

Explanation

The textbook clearly states India has no official religion (unlike Pakistan/Sri Lanka), and the Constitution guarantees religious freedom and prohibits discrimination. "Theocracy" means rule based on religion — the opposite of India's secular model. Examiners expect you to identify the false statement (IV) to eliminate wrong options.

Q25. § Overview § Religion, communalism and politics**[2]**

Suggest any two measures to promote secularism as mentioned in the Indian Constitution.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/6/1 Q24(a)

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste Constitutional provisions for secularism in India State and religion relationship in Indian democracy

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Model Answer

Two measures to promote secularism as mentioned in the Indian Constitution:

1. The Constitution provides all individuals and communities the freedom to profess, practise and propagate any religion, or not to follow any religion at all.
2. The Constitution prohibits discrimination on grounds of religion and gives no official status to any religion.

Source: Chapter 3, Secular State section

Explanation

The question asks specifically for constitutional provisions, so answers must come directly from the "Secular state" section of the textbook. Examiners expect two distinct points — each stated clearly in one sentence. Avoid vague statements like "India is secular"; instead, name the specific constitutional provisions. Writing "no official religion" and "freedom to practise religion" are the two cleanest answers here.

Q26. § Gender and politics § Religion, communalism and politics § Caste and politics**[2]**

Communalism is harmful for the nation. Explain.

Previously asked in: 2023 32/5/1 Q22

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste Communalism and its harmful effects on the nation

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Communalism is harmful for the nation because:

1. It divides society by pitting followers of one religion against another, creating conflict and violence. Communal riots and massacres destroy social harmony.
2. In its extreme form, communalism leads to the belief that people of different religions cannot live together as equal citizens, threatening national unity.
3. It uses religion to seek political dominance of one group over others, undermining democracy and the constitutional principle of equality.

Source: *Democratic Politics II*, Chapter 3 — Communalism section

Explanation

The examiner expects two or three clear points drawn directly from the textbook's definition and effects of communalism. Key ideas to include: social conflict/violence, threat to national unity (different religions cannot coexist), and undermining democracy/equality. Avoid vague statements — use textbook language like "pitting one religion against another," "majoritarian dominance," and "communal violence."

Q27. § Overview § Religion, communalism and politics**[1]**

Read the given statements :

- India has no official religion.
- All the communities have freedom to profess and practice any religion in India.

Which one of the following constitutional term is used for the above statements ?

- (a) Republic
- (b) Secular
- (c) Sovereign
- (d) Socialist

Previously asked in: 2024 32/1/1 Q9

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste Secularism in India

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A 'secular' state has no official religion and allows all citizens to freely follow any religion. The source text confirms both points: India's Constitution gives no special status to any religion and provides freedom to profess, practice, and propagate any religion. This is the definition of a secular state.

Q28. § Overview § Religion, communalism and politics

[2]

Describe any two provisions made in the Constitution to establish the model of 'secular governance' in India.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/2/1 Q23

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste Secular Governance – Constitutional Provisions

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Model Answer

Two constitutional provisions that make India a secular state are:

1. The Constitution does not give official status to any religion. There is no state religion in India, unlike Pakistan (Islam) or England (Christianity).
2. The Constitution provides all individuals and communities the freedom to profess, practise and propagate any religion, and prohibits discrimination on grounds of religion.

Source: *Democratic Politics II*, Chapter 3, "Secular State"

Explanation

The question directly matches Exercise Q.6 from the chapter. Examiners expect two distinct provisions clearly stated. The most commonly accepted points are: (i) no official/state religion, and (ii) freedom to profess/practise any religion + prohibition of religious discrimination. You may also mention that the state can intervene to ensure equality *within* religious communities (e.g., ban on untouchability) as an alternative second point.

Q29. § Overview § Caste and politics

[1]

In which one of the following organs of India are women taking advantage of reservation?

- A Municipality
- B Legislative Council
- C Rajya Sabha
- D Judiciary

Previously asked in: 2025 32/3/1 Q2

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste Women's Reservation in Political Bodies

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Model Answer**Option (A) — Municipality**

Women have one-third of seats reserved for them in Panchayati Raj bodies and municipalities (local government bodies), where they take advantage of this reservation.

Source: Gender and Politics, Chapter 3

Explanation

The textbook clearly states that one-third of seats in **panchayats and municipalities** are reserved for women under the Panchayati Raj system — resulting in over 10 lakh elected women representatives. No such reservation exists in Lok Sabha, State Assemblies (though the Women's Reservation Act 2023 has been passed, it was not yet in effect when this question was framed), Rajya Sabha, or the Judiciary. MCQ question 8 in the exercises also confirms this — the correct answer given there is "Panchayati Raj bodies." Municipality falls under local self-government, the same category.

Q30. § Overview § Caste and politics

[1]

In which one of the following institutions in India was a system of reservation for women made by amending the Constitution in 1992 ?

- (A) Lok Sabha
- (B) Rajya Sabha
- (C) Legislative Council
- (D) Panchayat

Previously asked in: 2024 32/4/1 Q10

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste

Reservation for women in local self-government (Panchayati Raj) - 73rd Constitutional Amendment 1992

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Model Answer**(D) Panchayat**

The Constitution was amended in 1992 to reserve one-third of seats for women in Panchayati Raj bodies (panchayats and municipalities).

Explanation

The textbook (Chapter 3) clearly states that the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendment Acts (1992) made it mandatory to reserve one-third of seats for women in local government bodies — panchayats and municipalities. This is the only institution among the options where reservation for women was introduced by a constitutional amendment in 1992. Note: Lok Sabha/State Assembly women's reservation (33%) came only via the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, 2023 — much later.

Q31. § Gender and politics

[1]

In which of the following regions was women representation the highest in their respective National Parliaments (2018) ?

- (A) Nordic countries
- (B) America (North and South)
- (C) Europe
- (D) Asia

Previously asked in: 2024 32/4/1 Q13

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste

Women's representation in National Parliaments

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Model Answer**(A) Nordic countries**

Nordic countries had the highest women's representation in national parliaments at **42.3%** (as of 1 October 2018), far above Americas (29.5%), Europe (26.4%), and Asia (19.8%).

Source: *Gender, Religion and Caste*, Chapter 3, Women in National Parliaments table.

Explanation

The data table in the chapter clearly lists Nordic countries at 42.3% — the highest figure. Examiners expect you to state the answer and the supporting percentage. No other region comes close, making this straightforward data recall.

Q32. § Overview

[2]

Suggest any two measures to increase the representation of women in the legislatures of India.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/5/1 Q23

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste

Gender and Politics in India

Women's Representation in Indian Legislatures

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Model Answer

Two measures to increase women's representation in legislatures:

1. **Reservation of seats:** Making it legally binding to reserve at least one-third of seats in Lok Sabha and State Assemblies for women (as done by the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, 2023).
1. **Expanding the Panchayati Raj model:** Extending the reservation system (already applied in local bodies where one-third seats are reserved for women) to higher legislative bodies.

Explanation

The textbook directly discusses both solutions: legal reservation and the Panchayati Raj precedent. Examiners expect you to name concrete, policy-based measures. Avoid vague answers like "educate women" — the chapter focuses on structural/political solutions. Mentioning the 2023 Women's Reservation Act adds accuracy and shows updated knowledge.

Source: Chapter 3, "Gender and Politics — Women's Political Representation"

Q33. § Overview § Religion, communalism and politics

[2]

Explain any two provisions that make India a secular state.

Previously asked in: 2023 32/1/1 Q23

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste

Secular State – Constitutional Provisions

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Model Answer

Two constitutional provisions that make India a secular state:

1. The Constitution does not give official status to any religion. There is no state religion in India, unlike Pakistan (Islam) or England (Christianity).
1. The Constitution provides to all individuals and communities the freedom to profess, practise and propagate any religion, and also prohibits discrimination on grounds of religion.

Source: Chapter 3, *Secular State* section

Explanation

The examiner expects you to cite specific constitutional provisions, not general statements. Two common mistakes: (1) writing vague points like "India respects all religions" — always link to the Constitution; (2) writing only one provision fully and leaving the second incomplete. Each provision is worth 1 mark, so keep them distinct and crisp.

Q34. § Overview

[2]

Suggest measures to increase the political representation of women in India.

Previously asked in: 2026 32/3/1 Q24

◆ Gender, Religion and Caste

Political Representation of Women in India

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Model Answer

To increase the political representation of women in India, the following measures can be taken:

1. **Reservation of seats:** One-third of seats in Lok Sabha and State Assemblies should be reserved for women. The *Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, 2023* has already provided 33% reservation in these bodies.
1. **Extension of the Panchayati Raj model:** Since one-third of seats in local bodies (panchayats and municipalities) are already reserved for women, a similar system should be effectively implemented at higher levels.

Source: Gender and Politics, Chapter 3

Explanation

The examiner expects two clear, specific measures. The textbook directly mentions (a) legal reservation as done in Panchayati Raj, and (b) the demand/passage of the Women's Reservation Act for Parliament and State Assemblies. Mentioning the *Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, 2023* shows updated knowledge and scores well. Avoid vague answers like "educate women" — stick to what the chapter explicitly states.

Q35. § Overview

[1]

In which year the Constitution amendment providing for 33% representation of women in the local self governance system in India was made ? Choose the correct option :

- (a) 1990
- (b) 1984
- (c) 1992
- (d) 1988

Previously asked in: 2025 32/4/1 Q13

◆ Gender, Religion and Caste

Women's reservation in local self-governance (33% representation - Constitutional Amendment)

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Model Answer

The correct answer is **(c) 1992**.

The 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments of 1992 reserved one-third of seats for women in Panchayati Raj bodies (panchayats and municipalities).

Explanation

The 73rd Amendment (rural local bodies) and 74th Amendment (urban local bodies) were both passed in **1992**. These mandated one-third reservation for women in Panchayati Raj institutions. Options (a), (b), and (d) are incorrect years. The textbook clearly states this provision under the chapter on Gender and Politics.

Q36. § Gender and politics

[2]

"Role of women is gradually enhancing in the politics of the country." Examine the statement.

Previously asked in: 2024 32/3/1 Q24

♦ Gender, Religion and Caste

Women's Political Representation and Participation

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Model Answer

The statement is **partially true**. Women's role in politics has gradually increased but is still insufficient.

- Women's movements fought for equal rights, voting rights, and better political representation.
- One-third of seats in Panchayati Raj bodies are reserved for women; there are over 10 lakh elected women representatives.
- In 2023, the **Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam** was passed, reserving 33% seats for women in Lok Sabha and State Assemblies.
- However, women's representation in Lok Sabha is only **14.36%** (2019), and India remains below the world average of 24%.

Thus, while progress has been made, women still lag behind in higher legislative bodies.

Source: Chapter 3 – Gender and Politics, Women's Political Representation

Explanation

The question asks you to "examine" — this means present both sides (progress made + limitations). Examiners expect: feminist movements, Panchayati Raj reservation, the 2023 Women's Reservation Act, and the low Lok Sabha percentage. Mention specific data points (14.36%, 33%, 10 lakh) as these fetch marks. Do not write only positives or only negatives.

Q37. § 1.1 The Idea of Satyagraha § 2.3 Swaraj in the Plantations § Conclusion

[1]

Which one of the following aspects was common between the writings of B.R. Ambedkar and E.V. Ramaswamy Naicker ?

- A Wrote on the caste system in India
- B Highlighted the experiences of women
- C Raised awareness about cultural heritage
- D Motivated Indians for their national freedom.

Previously asked in: 2023 32/1/1 Q2

♦ Nationalism in India

Anti-caste writings and social reform movements: Ambedkar and Periyar

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Model Answer

Option A: Wrote on the caste system in India

Both B.R. Ambedkar and E.V. Ramaswamy Naicker (Periyar) advocated and worked to establish a society free from caste inequalities and discrimination.

Source: Democratic Politics II, Chapter 3 (Caste and Politics)

Explanation

The textbook explicitly mentions both B.R. Ambedkar and Periyar Ramaswamy Naicker together as leaders who "advocated and worked to establish a society in which caste inequalities are absent." The other options — women's experiences, cultural heritage, or national freedom — are not associated with both of them jointly in the passage.

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