

CBSE CLASS X
Social Science (087)

QUESTION PAPER
AI-generated question paper

Code: NNO5NE**Questions: 34****Maximum Marks: 71****Generated: 2026-06-26 10:40****SELECTIONS USED**

Subject	Social Science
Lessons	5 Print Culture and the Modern World
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 · 15 medium · 7 deep | Types: 13 MCQ · 6 Very short · 5 Short · 4 Assertion–reason · 3 Long · 3 Case-based | Sections: A 17Q/17m · B 6Q/12m · C 5Q/15m · D 3Q/15m · E 3Q/12m

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

Who brought the knowledge of woodblock printing from China to Italy, thereby helping introduce the technology to Europe?

Options:

- (A) Johann Gutenberg
- (B) Martin Luther
- (C) Marco Polo
- (D) Erasmus

- A Johann Gutenberg
- B Martin Luther
- C Marco Polo
- D Erasmus

◆ Print Culture and the Modern World**Q2.** straightforward exam-ready**[1]**

Johann Gutenberg developed the first-known printing press in Europe. In which city did he set up this press?

Options:

- (A) Rome
- (B) Mainz
- (C) Wittenberg
- (D) Strasbourg

- A Rome
- B Paris
- C Wittenberg
- D Strasbourg

◆ Print Culture and the Modern World

Q3. straightforward exam-ready

[1]

Which of the following correctly identifies the first book printed by Johann Gutenberg?

Options:

- (A) The Koran
- (B) The Bible
- (C) The Diamond Sutra
- (D) The Ramcharitmanas

- A The Koran
- B The Bible
- C The Diamond Sutra
- D The Ramcharitmanas

◆ Print Culture and the Modern World

Q4. straightforward exam-ready

[1]

Martin Luther posted his '95 Theses' in 1517 and his ideas were widely circulated through print. Which major religious upheaval in Europe did the mass circulation of Luther's printed ideas directly contribute to?

Options:

- (A) The Crusades
- (B) The Counter-Reformation
- (C) The Protestant Reformation
- (D) The Inquisition

- A The Crusades
- B The Counter-Reformation
- C The Protestant Reformation
- D The Inquisition

◆ Print Culture and the Modern World

Q5. straightforward exam-ready

[1]

The Roman Catholic Church began maintaining an Index of Prohibited Books from which year?

Options:

- (A) 1517
- (B) 1558
- (C) 1610
- (D) 1678

- A 1517
- B 1558
- C 1610
- D 1678

◆ Print Culture and the Modern World

Q6. straightforward exam-ready

[1]

The printing press first arrived in India through which group of people?

Options:

- (A) British East India Company traders
- (B) Dutch Protestant missionaries
- (C) Portuguese missionaries in Goa
- (D) French Jesuit priests in Bengal

- A British East India Company traders
- B Dutch Protestant missionaries
- C Portuguese missionaries in Goa
- D French Jesuit priests in Bengal

◆ Print Culture and the Modern World

Q7. medium exam-ready

[1]

Which of the following pairs is correctly matched?

Options:

- (A) Rashsundari Debi – Gulamgiri
- (B) Jyotiba Phule – Amar Jiban
- (C) James Augustus Hickey – Bengal Gazette
- (D) Gangadhar Bhattacharya – Kesari

- A Rashsundari Debi – Gulamgiri
- B Jyotiba Phule – Amar Jiban
- C James Augustus Hickey – Bengal Gazette
- D Gangadhar Bhattacharya – Kesari

◆ Print Culture and the Modern World

Q8. straightforward exam-ready

[1]

The Vernacular Press Act of 1878 was modelled on which country's press laws?

Options:

- (A) French Press Laws
- (B) Irish Press Laws
- (C) German Press Laws
- (D) American Press Laws

- A French Press Laws
- B Irish Press Laws
- C German Press Laws
- D American Press Laws

◆ Print Culture and the Modern World

Q9. straightforward exam-ready [1]

Which of the following technological developments in the nineteenth century made it possible to print up to six colours at a time?

Options:

- (A) The power-driven cylindrical press
- (B) The offset press
- (C) The electrically operated press
- (D) The Gutenberg screw press

- A The power-driven cylindrical press
- B The offset press
- C The electrically operated press
- D The Gutenberg screw press

◆ Print Culture and the Modern World

Q10. medium exam-ready [1]

Which of the following best describes the 'ukiyo' art form popular in late eighteenth-century Japan?

Options:

- (A) Illustrations of Buddhist scriptures for temples
- (B) Printed maps used by government officials
- (C) Depictions of ordinary human, especially urban, experiences
- (D) Woodcut portraits of emperors and shoguns

- A Illustrations of Buddhist scriptures for temples
- B Printed maps used by government officials
- C Depictions of ordinary human, especially urban, experiences
- D Woodcut portraits of emperors and shoguns

◆ Print Culture and the Modern World

Q11. straightforward exam-ready [1]

In nineteenth-century France, low-priced small books printed on poor quality paper and bound in cheap blue covers were known as:

Options:

- (A) Penny chapbooks
- (B) Bibliothèque Bleue
- (C) Shilling Series
- (D) Almanacs

- A Penny chapbooks
- B Bibliothèque Bleue
- C Shilling Series
- D Almanacs

◆ Print Culture and the Modern World

Q12. straightforward exam-ready

[1]

B.R. Ambedkar in Maharashtra and E.V. Ramaswamy Naicker (Periyar) in Madras used print primarily to address which social issue?

Options:

- (A) Women's education
- (B) Caste discrimination
- (C) Factory workers' wages
- (D) Religious conversion by missionaries

- A Women's education
- B Caste discrimination
- C Factory workers' wages
- D Religious conversion by missionaries

◆ Print Culture and the Modern World

Q13. medium exam-ready

[1]

Balgangadhar Tilak used his newspaper Kesari to openly criticise British policies and support nationalist causes. Under which legislation was he prosecuted in 1908?

Options:

- (A) The Rowlatt Act
- (B) The Vernacular Press Act
- (C) The Defence of India Act
- (D) The Sedition Act (Section 124A, IPC)

- A The Rowlatt Act
- B The Vernacular Press Act
- C The Defence of India Act
- D The Sedition Act

◆ Print Culture and the Modern World

Q14. medium exam-ready

[1]

Assertion (A): In the early years of print in Europe, luxury editions of books were still handwritten on vellum, and elites looked down on printed books.

Reason (R): Print was associated with the masses and commercial trade, while manuscripts were seen as objects of prestige, produced by skilled scribes and sometimes embellished by hand — qualities that gave them higher status among the elite.

Options:

- (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.

◆ Print Culture and the Modern World

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

Assertion (A): The colonial government under the East India Company initially directed its censorship measures against Englishmen in India rather than Indian publishers.

Reason (R): The Company feared that criticism by Englishmen in India could be used by its critics back in England to attack its trade monopoly.

Options:

- (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.

◆ Print Culture and the Modern World

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

Assertion (A): Oral culture and print culture remained entirely separate and distinct from each other after the introduction of the printing press in Europe.

Reason (R): Since literacy rates were very low in most European countries till the twentieth century, printers published popular ballads and folk tales that could be sung or recited aloud to non-readers.

Options:

- (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.

◆ Print Culture and the Modern World

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

Assertion (A): The Grimm Brothers' collection of folk tales, published in 1812, was an exact reproduction of the stories as narrated by peasants.

Reason (R): The editors removed anything considered unsuitable for children or vulgar to elites before the stories were published, thereby changing the original rural folk tales.

Options:

(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.

◆ Print Culture and the Modern World

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

Why were handwritten manuscripts in pre-colonial India not widely used in everyday life, despite India having a rich tradition of manuscript production?

◆ Print Culture and the Modern World

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

How did the Gutenberg printing press represent a significant advance over earlier woodblock printing methods in Europe?

◆ Print Culture and the Modern World

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

What were 'chapbooks' and how did they help expand the reading public in England?

◆ Print Culture and the Modern World

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

Explain the significance of Rammohun Roy's Sambad Kaumudi and the orthodox response it provoked in early nineteenth-century Bengal.

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

How did the cheap availability of religious texts like the Ramcharitmanas in printed form change the relationship between ordinary readers and religious knowledge in north India?

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Q23. deep exam-ready**[2]**

Why did publishers in the 1930s bring out cheap paperback editions of books, and what does this tell us about the relationship between economic conditions and print culture?

◆ Print Culture and the Modern World

- Q24.** medium exam-ready [3]
Explain why the production of handwritten manuscripts in Europe could not keep pace with the growing demand for books in the fifteenth century.
◆ Print Culture and the Modern World
- Q25.** medium exam-ready [3]
How did the Roman Catholic Church respond to the threat posed by the spread of printed books and the popular reading and interpretation of religious texts in the sixteenth century?
◆ Print Culture and the Modern World
- Q26.** medium exam-ready [3]
How did women in nineteenth-century India use print both as readers and writers to articulate their experiences and challenge social restrictions? Give at least two specific examples.
◆ Print Culture and the Modern World
- Q27.** medium exam-ready [3]
Describe the measures taken by the colonial government to control the vernacular press in India after 1857. Why did nationalist newspapers continue to grow despite these restrictions?
◆ Print Culture and the Modern World
- Q28.** deep exam-ready [3]
How did print help poor and working-class people in nineteenth and early twentieth-century India access knowledge, express their experiences, and organise themselves socially?
◆ Print Culture and the Modern World
- Q29.** deep exam-ready [5]
Evaluate the impact of the print revolution on European society in the period from the fifteenth to the eighteenth centuries. In your answer, discuss its effects on the spread of literacy, religious debates, and political thinking.
◆ Print Culture and the Modern World
- Q30.** deep exam-ready [5]
How did the growth of print culture in nineteenth-century India contribute to social reform, religious debate, and the emergence of nationalism? Support your answer with specific examples from different regions of India.
◆ Print Culture and the Modern World
- Q31.** deep exam-ready [5]
Trace the development of print technology from its origins in East Asia to the Gutenberg press in Europe. How did this technological journey transform the production and circulation of knowledge in European society?
◆ Print Culture and the Modern World

Q32. medium exam-ready

[4]

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

'To what corner of the world do they not fly, these swarms of new books? It may be that one here and there contributes something worth knowing, but the very multitude of them is hurtful to scholarship, because it creates a glut, and even in good things satiety is most harmful ... [printers] fill the world with books, not just trifling things (such as I write, perhaps), but stupid, ignorant, slanderous, scandalous, raving, irreligious and seditious books, and the number of them is such that even the valuable publications lose their value.'

— Erasmus, Adages (1508)

- (i) Who was Erasmus and what was his general position on the Catholic Church and the Reformation? (1 mark)
- (ii) What specific fear about the printed book does Erasmus express in this passage? (1 mark)
- (iii) Identify one group of people in sixteenth-century Europe who shared Erasmus's anxiety about the printed word, and explain why they were worried. (2 marks)

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Q33. medium exam-ready

[4]

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

'The sale of books in general has increased prodigiously within the last twenty years. The poorer sort of farmers and even the poor country people in general who before that period spent their winter evenings in relating stories of witches, ghosts, hobgoblins ... now shorten the winter night by hearing their sons and daughters read them tales, romances, etc.'

— James Lackington, London publisher, 1791

- (i) What change in the cultural habits of ordinary rural people does Lackington describe? (1 mark)
- (ii) What does this passage tell us about the relationship between oral culture and print culture in the eighteenth century? (1 mark)
- (iii) What social and technological developments during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries made this transformation in reading habits possible? Explain with two points. (2 marks)

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Q34. deep exam-ready

[4]

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

'Liberty of speech ... liberty of the press ... freedom of association. The Government of India is now seeking to crush the three powerful vehicles of expressing and cultivating public opinion. The fight for Swaraj, for Khilafat ... means a fight for this threatened freedom before all else ...'

— Mahatma Gandhi, 1922

- (i) Why does Gandhi describe the press as a 'vehicle of expressing and cultivating public opinion'? (1 mark)
- (ii) What specific measures had the colonial government used before 1922 to restrict the freedom of the press in India? Name any two. (1 mark)
- (iii) How did nationalist newspapers contribute to the freedom struggle despite facing colonial repression? Explain with reference to at least one specific example. (2 marks)

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