



Paper 2: Marking Scheme

Sample paper

1 hour 30 minutes

Section A:

Answer both the questions from this section

Question 1

[10 marks]

- (a) Analyse the consequences of the annexation of Punjab, considering key events such as the Anglo-Sikh wars, the expansion of the East India Company, and the Indian Revolt of 1857.

Key point to Cover (1 mark each):

- The Anglo-Sikh Wars resulted in the British annexation of Punjab, ending the sovereignty of the Sikh Empire and significantly expanding British control in India.
- Punjab's annexation in 1849 consolidated British rule, making it a strategic military and economic hub for the East India Company.
- The British dismantled Punjab's independent administration and integrated the region into their colonial framework, imposing new taxes and policies.
- Punjab became a key source of soldiers and resources for the British during the Indian Revolt of 1857, helping suppress uprisings in other regions.
- The annexation created resentment among local populations, contributing to long-term tensions that influenced resistance movements against British rule.

- (b) Examine the reasons for the fall of the Mughal Empire, with reference to the incompetence of Aurangzeb's successors.

Key point to Cover (1 mark each):

- After Aurangzeb's death, his successors were weak and lacked the administrative capabilities to govern effectively, which led to internal instability.
- Succession disputes among Aurangzeb's heirs caused further fragmentation, weakening the empire's central authority and leading to frequent conflicts.
- The emperors were often puppets in the hands of nobles and courtiers, undermining the governance and leading to inefficiency.
- The neglect of military and administrative reforms allowed regional powers to rise, contributing to the weakening of Mughal control over their vast territories.
- The lack of vision and poor decision-making led to the loss of loyal territories and increased revolts, further eroding the empire's power.

Question 2

[10 marks]

- (a) Discuss the social and political implications of the Hindi-Urdu controversy in highlighting the differences between Hindus and Muslims during the independence movement.

Key point to Cover (1 mark each):

- The controversy over whether to use Hindi or Urdu became a symbol of rising Hindu-Muslim tensions during the independence movement, with each group advocating for its language as a reflection of cultural and political identity.

- The Hindi-Urdu dispute was not merely a linguistic issue but was deeply entangled with religious and political concerns, leading to the strengthening of communal divisions.
- Hindus' support for Hindi and Muslims' support for Urdu led to the identification of Hindi with Hindu culture and Urdu with Muslim culture, further solidifying the divide between the two communities.
- The controversy fueled political mobilization, particularly among the Muslim community, as Urdu became a symbol of resistance against Hindu-dominated politics.
- The dispute played a role in the rise of right-wing populism and the establishment of communal identities, which would later contribute to the creation of Pakistan.

(b) Evaluate the impact of Aurangzeb's successors on the decline of the Mughal Empire in India.

Key point to Cover (1 mark each):

- After Aurangzeb's death, his successors were weak and lacked the administrative skills required to manage the vast Mughal Empire, leading to political instability.
- The succession struggles and internal conflicts, such as palace coups and power struggles, further weakened the empire's governance.
- The later Mughal emperors failed to uphold the imperial grandeur of the empire, with many of them being seen as puppet rulers, unable to control the empire effectively.
- The inability of these rulers to address the economic and military challenges faced by the empire, coupled with rampant corruption, hastened its decline.
- The weakening of central authority under these successors made the empire vulnerable to external invasions and internal rebellions, such as the rise of regional powers.

Section B:

Answer both the questions from this section

Question 1

[10 marks]

Consider the following text and answer the questions provided below.

"The Hindi-Urdu controversy played a significant role in emphasizing the social and political divide between Hindus and Muslims during the independence movement."

(a) Express your opinion on the given statement.

Key point to Cover (1 mark each):

- The Hindi-Urdu controversy was a key linguistic conflict in 19th-century India, highlighting the growing rift between Hindus and Muslims, as debates over which language to use for administration became politicized.
- It reflected the broader struggle for cultural and political identity, with Hindus associating Hindi with their heritage and Muslims promoting Urdu, which was linked to their Islamic identity.

- The controversy intensified with British colonial policies, which often stoked religious divisions to weaken unity, turning language into a tool of political mobilization for both communities.
- The dispute over Hindi and Urdu contributed to the idea of distinct national identities, particularly as the demand for a separate Muslim nation, Pakistan, grew.
- By the early 20th century, the language controversy became a significant symbol of the cultural and political separateness of the two communities, reinforcing the divide that eventually led to the partition of India in 1947.

(b) Critically analyse how the Hindi-Urdu controversy contributed to the growing tensions between Hindus and Muslims.

Key point to Cover (1 mark each):

- The Hindi-Urdu controversy deepened religious divides by associating Urdu with Muslim identity and Hindi with Hindu identity, thus politicizing language and creating cultural fault lines.
- The conflict arose from debates over which script (Devanagari for Hindi, Nasta'īq for Urdu) should be used for official purposes, fueling the perception of Urdu as a symbol of Muslim separatism.
- The controversy was used by political leaders like the All India Muslim League to solidify Muslim identity in opposition to Hindu dominance, contributing to rising separatist sentiment.
- It was viewed as a symbolic struggle over cultural and political control, with Hindus and Muslims seeing the imposition of one language over the other as a threat to their respective cultural hegemony.
- As the debate intensified, it played a role in fostering communal tensions, setting the stage for the further polarization of Indian society, which ultimately contributed to the demand for partition.

Question 2

[10 marks]

Consider the following text and With reference to coup d'état (military intervention) answer the questions provided below.

"Military coups in Pakistan have often disrupted the country's democratic process."

(a) Critically analyse the causes and consequences of Zia-ul-Haq's Islamization following his military intervention.

Key point to Cover (1 mark each):

- Zia-ul-Haq's military coup in 1977 was fueled by dissatisfaction with the political instability under Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, and he justified his takeover by promising to restore order and Islamize the country.
- Zia's Islamization policies aimed to consolidate power and gain support from religious factions by introducing Sharia law and aligning Pakistan more closely with Islamic values.

- These measures included the establishment of Sharia courts, the imposition of strict Islamic laws, and the introduction of policies that favored religious conservatives, undermining the democratic process.
- Zia's actions also led to the militarization of the state, curbing political dissent, silencing opposition voices, and increasing Pakistan's reliance on military rule at the expense of democratic governance.
- The long-term consequences included a legacy of political repression, a rise in Islamist extremism, and a weakened democratic framework, which contributed to ongoing instability and conflict in Pakistan's political system.

(b) Explain how military interventions have impacted the democratic institutions of Pakistan.

Key point to Cover (1 mark each):

- Military interventions in Pakistan have consistently disrupted the democratic process, often undermining civilian governance and replacing elected leaders with military rule.
- The military's frequent interference in political affairs has led to a weakened system of democratic checks and balances, with military regimes consolidating power and limiting the effectiveness of elected governments.
- The army's dominance in Pakistan's political landscape has contributed to the erosion of democratic norms, as military leaders often control key institutions, leaving little room for civilian oversight.
- Military rule has led to the suppression of political opposition, curbing freedoms of speech and press, which is essential for a healthy democracy, and fostering an environment of authoritarianism.
- Despite attempts to return to democracy, the army's continued influence has made it difficult to establish a stable, functioning democratic system in Pakistan, leaving the nation in a perpetual cycle of civilian-military power struggles.