

CUET 2026 May 21 Shift 1 Political Science

Question Paper (Memory-Based) with Solutions

Conducted by National Testing Agency (NTA)



General Instructions

- (i) The examination will be conducted in Computer-Based Test (CBT) mode.
- (ii) Each question carries +5 marks for correct answer and -1 mark for wrong answer.
- (iii) The total number of questions are 50.
- (iv) Duration of the exam is 1 hour (60 minutes).

1. Match the following operations with the countries where they took place:

Operation		Country	
(A)	Operation Desert Storm	(I)	Haiti
(B)	Operation Restore Democracy	(II)	Iraq
(C)	Operation Infinite Reach	(III)	Afghanistan
(D)	Operation Enduring Freedom	(IV)	Sudan & Afghanistan

Choose the correct answer:

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

Correct Answer: (A) A-II, B-I, C-IV, D-III

Solution:

Let us match each operation correctly.

Step 1: Operation Desert Storm

Operation Desert Storm

was launched against:

Iraq

during the Gulf War.

Thus:

$$A \rightarrow II$$

Step 2: Operation Restore Democracy

Operation Restore Democracy

was carried out in:

Haiti

to restore the elected government.

Thus:

$$B \rightarrow I$$

Step 3: Operation Infinite Reach

Operation Infinite Reach

targeted locations in:

Sudan and Afghanistan

Thus:

$$C \rightarrow IV$$

Step 4: Operation Enduring Freedom

Operation Enduring Freedom

was launched in:

Afghanistan

after the September 11 attacks.

Thus:

$$D \rightarrow III$$

Therefore, the correct matching is:

$$A - II, B - I, C - IV, D - III$$

Hence:

(A)

Quick Tip: Important operations:

Desert Storm $\rightarrow$ Iraq

Enduring Freedom $\rightarrow$ Afghanistan

2. Arrange the following events related to Indian General Elections in chronological order:

- (A) Formation of the Grand Alliance
- (B) Split in the Congress Party
- (C) Defeat of Congress in several states
- (D) "Garibi Hatao" slogan

- (A) $C \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow D$
- (B) $B \rightarrow C \rightarrow A \rightarrow D$
- (C) $C \rightarrow B \rightarrow A \rightarrow D$
- (D) $B \rightarrow A \rightarrow C \rightarrow D$

Correct Answer: (C) $C \rightarrow B \rightarrow A \rightarrow D$

Solution:

Let us arrange the events in chronological order.

Step 1: Defeat of Congress in several states

In the:

1967 General Elections

Congress suffered major setbacks and lost power in several states.

Thus:

(C)

occurred first.

Step 2: Split in the Congress Party

In:

1969

the Congress Party split into:

Congress (O) and Congress (R)

Thus:

(B)

occurred next.

Step 3: Formation of the Grand Alliance

Before the:

1971 General Elections

opposition parties formed the:

Grand Alliance

against Indira Gandhi.

Thus:

(A)

occurred after the split.

Step 4: “Garibi Hatao” slogan

Indira Gandhi gave the famous slogan:

“Garibi Hatao”

during the:

1971 election campaign

Thus:

(D)

came last.

Therefore, the correct chronological order is:

$C \rightarrow B \rightarrow A \rightarrow D$

Option analysis:

- Option (A): Incorrect order
- Option (B): Incorrect order
- Option (C): Correct
- Option (D): Incorrect order

Hence:

(C)

Quick Tip: Key sequence:

1967 → Congress defeat

1969 → Congress split

1971 → Grand Alliance and Garibi Hatao

3. The Shimla Agreement between India and Pakistan was signed in:

- (A) 1965
- (B) 1971
- (C) 1972

(D) 1974

Correct Answer: (C) 1972

Solution:

The:

Shimla Agreement

was signed between:

- Prime Minister Indira Gandhi of India
- President Zulfikar Ali Bhutto of Pakistan

after the:

1971 India-Pakistan War

The agreement was signed on:

2nd July, 1972

Its major objectives were:

- Peaceful settlement of disputes
- Respect for the Line of Control (LoC)
- Improvement of bilateral relations

Option analysis:

- Option (A): Incorrect
- Option (B): Incorrect
- Option (C): Correct
- Option (D): Incorrect

Therefore:

(C)

Quick Tip:

1971 → India-Pakistan War

1972 → Shimla Agreement

4. Which of the following states was granted statehood in 1960?

- (A) Nagaland
- (B) Maharashtra
- (C) Arunachal Pradesh
- (D) Mizoram

Correct Answer: (B) Maharashtra

Solution:

The state of:

Maharashtra

was formed on:

1st May, 1960

It was created after the bifurcation of the:

Bombay State

into:

- Maharashtra
- Gujarat

This reorganization was based mainly on:

linguistic considerations

Step 1: Analyze other options

- Nagaland became a state in:

1963

- Arunachal Pradesh became a state in:

1987

- Mizoram became a state in:

1987

Thus only Maharashtra received statehood in:

1960

Option analysis:

- Option (A): Incorrect
- Option (B): Correct
- Option (C): Incorrect
- Option (D): Incorrect

Therefore:

(B)

Quick Tip:

1960 → Formation of Maharashtra and Gujarat

5. The Tashkent Agreement was signed after which war?

- (A) Indo-Pak War of 1947–48
- (B) Indo-China War of 1962
- (C) Indo-Pak War of 1965
- (D) Kargil Conflict of 1999

Correct Answer: (C) Indo-Pak War of 1965

Solution:

The:

Tashkent Agreement

was signed between:

- Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri of India
- President Ayub Khan of Pakistan

after the:

1965 Indo-Pak War

The agreement was signed on:

10th January, 1966

in:

Tashkent

which is now in:

Uzbekistan

The agreement aimed at:

- Restoring peaceful relations
- Withdrawal of armed forces
- Settlement of disputes peacefully

Option analysis:

- Option (A): Incorrect
- Option (B): Incorrect
- Option (C): Correct
- Option (D): Incorrect

Therefore:

(C)

Quick Tip:

1965 → Indo-Pak War

1966 → Tashkent Agreement

6. Nepal became a democratic country in:

- (A) 1989
- (B) 1990
- (C) 1995
- (D) 2001

Correct Answer: (B) 1990

Solution:

Nepal became a democratic country in:

1990

after a popular mass movement known as:

Jana Andolan

The movement demanded:

- End of absolute monarchy
- Multi-party democracy
- Democratic reforms

As a result:

- The King accepted constitutional reforms

- Multi-party democratic system was introduced
- Constitutional monarchy was established

Thus:

1990

marks the beginning of democracy in Nepal.

Option analysis:

- Option (A): Incorrect
- Option (B): Correct
- Option (C): Incorrect
- Option (D): Incorrect

Therefore:

(B)

Quick Tip:

1990 → Democracy established in Nepal

after the:

Jana Andolan

7. The Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) was withdrawn from Sri Lanka in:

- (A) 1987
- (B) 1989
- (C) 1990
- (D) 1992

Correct Answer: (C) 1990

Solution:

The:

Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF)

was sent to Sri Lanka under the:

1987 Indo-Sri Lanka Accord

Its purpose was:

- To maintain peace
- To disarm militant groups
- To stabilize the situation in Sri Lanka

However, the mission became controversial and difficult.

The IPKF was finally withdrawn from Sri Lanka in:

1990

during the government of:

V.P. Singh

Option analysis:

- Option (A): Incorrect — IPKF was deployed in 1987
- Option (B): Incorrect
- Option (C): Correct
- Option (D): Incorrect

Therefore:

(C)

Quick Tip:

1987 → IPKF sent to Sri Lanka

1990 → IPKF withdrawn

8. Who were referred to as “Mujahideens” during the conflict in Kashmir in 1999?

- (A) UN Peacekeeping Troops
- (B) Pakistani intruders and militants
- (C) NATO soldiers
- (D) Afghan refugees

Correct Answer: (B) Pakistani intruders and militants

Solution:

During the:

1999 Kargil Conflict

armed infiltrators entered the Indian side of the:

Line of Control (LoC)

in Jammu and Kashmir.

These infiltrators were described as:

“Mujahideens”

They mainly included:

- Pakistani intruders
- Armed militants
- Supported personnel from Pakistan

The conflict later became known as:

Kargil War

India launched military operations to push back these intruders from occupied positions.

Option analysis:

- Option (A): Incorrect
- Option (B): Correct
- Option (C): Incorrect
- Option (D): Incorrect

Therefore:

(B)

Quick Tip:

1999 → Kargil Conflict

Mujahideens → Pakistani intruders and militants

9. In the context of Indian politics, the “Syndicate” refers to:

- (A) A coalition of opposition parties after 1977
- (B) A powerful group of Congress leaders controlling party organisation
- (C) A militant organisation in Punjab
- (D) A pressure group formed during Mandal politics

Correct Answer: (B) A powerful group of Congress leaders controlling party organisation

Solution:

In Indian politics, the term:

“Syndicate”

referred to a powerful group of senior leaders within the:

Indian National Congress

during the:

1960s

These leaders had strong control over:

- Party organisation
- Decision-making
- Selection of leadership

The Syndicate played an important role after the death of:

Jawaharlal Nehru

and later came into conflict with:

Indira Gandhi

This political struggle eventually contributed to the:

1969 split in the Congress Party

Option analysis:

- Option (A): Incorrect
- Option (B): Correct
- Option (C): Incorrect
- Option (D): Incorrect

Therefore:

(B)

Quick Tip:

Syndicate → Powerful Congress leaders' group

Associated with:

1960s Indian politics

10. Which of the following countries is NOT a member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)?

- (A) Vietnam
- (B) Thailand
- (C) Japan
- (D) Indonesia

Correct Answer: (C) Japan

Solution:

The:

Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

is a regional organization formed to promote:

- Economic cooperation
- Political stability
- Regional development

ASEAN members include countries such as:

- Indonesia
- Thailand
- Vietnam
- Malaysia
- Singapore
- Philippines

- Myanmar
- Laos
- Cambodia
- Brunei

Step 1: Analyze the options

- Vietnam is a member of ASEAN.
- Thailand is a founding member of ASEAN.
- Indonesia is also a founding member.
- Japan is not a member of ASEAN.

Therefore:

Japan is not a member of ASEAN

Option analysis:

- Option (A): Incorrect
- Option (B): Incorrect
- Option (C): Correct
- Option (D): Incorrect

Hence:

(C)

Quick Tip: ASEAN consists of:

10 Southeast Asian countries

Japan is not an ASEAN member

