

Print Culture and The Modern World

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FACTS AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

- ➔ **Printed matter Chinese tradition:** Chinese were the first to have a system of recruitment of civil service personnel through open examination. Printing remained confined to examination materials till around the 16th century. Trade information was circulated among the traders through printed materials. By 19th century mechanical printing press made its appearance in China.
- ➔ **The First Printing Press** was invented in 1430s by Johann Gutenberg. Johann Gutenberg's 'The Bible' was the most beautiful book ever printed. Germany took the lead in revolutionizing printing all over Europe.
- ➔ **Features of handwritten manuscripts:**
 - (i) They were copied on palm leaves or on handmade paper. Pages were beautifully illustrated.
 - (ii) They were pressed between wooden covers or sewn together to ensure preservation.
 - (ii) Manuscripts were available in vernacular languages. They were highly expensive and fragile. They could not be read easily as script was written in different styles. They were not widely used in everyday life.
- ➔ **Woodblock method became popular in Europe:** Production of handwritten manuscripts could not meet the ever increasing demand for books.

Copying was an expensive, laborious and time consuming business. The manuscripts were fragile, awkward to handle and could not be carried around or read easily. By the early 15th century, woodblocks started being widely used in Europe to print textiles, playing cards and religious pictures with simple, brief texts.

- ➔ **Visual culture:** In the end of 19th century a new visual culture had started. With the increasing number of printing presses visual images could be easily reproduced in multiple copies. Painters like Raja Ravi Verma produced images for mass circulation. Cheap prints and calendars were bought even by the poor to decorate the walls of their houses.
- ➔ **Print popularized the ideas of the enlightened thinkers:**
 - (i) Collectively the writings of thinkers provided a critical commentary on tradition, superstition and despotism.
 - (ii) Scholars and thinkers argued for the rule of reason rather than custom and demanded that everything to be judged through the application of reason and rationality.
 - (iii) They attacked the sacred authority of the church and the despotic power of the state thus eroding the legitimacy of a social order based on tradition.

(iv) The writings of Voltaire and Rousseau were read widely and those who read these books saw the world through new eyes, eyes that were questioning, critical and rational.

➔ **Development of reading mania in Europe:** A new form of popular literature appeared to target new readers. There were ritual calendars along with ballads and folk tales. In England penny chapbooks were carried by petty peddlers known as chapmen and sold for a penny. In France these low priced books were called Bibliotheque Bleue as they were bound in cheap blue covers. Periodical presses developed to combine information on current affairs with entertainment. The idea of scientists and scholars had now become more accessible to the common people.

➔ **Impact of print on Indian women:** Writers started writing about the lives of women and this increased the number of women readers. Women writers began to write their own autobiographies. They highlighted the condition of women, their ignorance and how they were forced to do hard domestic labour. A large section of Hindu writing was devoted to the education of women. In the early 20th century the journals written by women became very popular in which women's education, widowhood, widow remarriage were discussed.

➔ **Print culture created the conditions for the French Revolution:** The print popularized the ideas of the

enlightened thinkers who attacked the authority of the church and the despotic power of the state. The print created a new culture of dialogue and debate and the public became aware of reasoning. They recognized the need to question the existing ideas and beliefs. The literature of 1780s mocked the royalty and criticized their morality and the existing social order.

➔ **India and Print Culture:** Print culture came to India with the coming of Portuguese missionaries. Konkani was the first Indian language in which books were printed. The first Tamil book was printed in 1579 and Malayalam book in 1713. English printing in India commenced with the publication of Bengal Gazette in 1780. Printed tracts played a very significant role in the spread of social reform movement in India.

➔ **The Vernacular Press Act:**

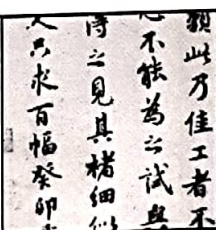
- In 1878, the Vernacular Press Act was passed by the British Government to impose restrictions on vernacular press, which was responsible for spreading nationalist ideas.
- The government started to keep a regular track of the vernacular newspapers and had extensive rights to censor reports and editorials in the vernacular press.
- When a report was judged as seditious, the newspaper was warned, and if the warning was ignored, the press was liable to be seized and the printing machinery confiscated.



Important Dates Book:

From 594 AD

Books in China were printed by rubbing paper against the ink square of woodblocks.



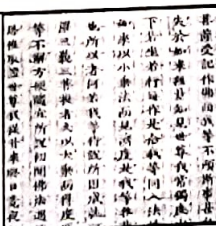
768 to 778 AD

Hand printing technology introduced in Japan.



868 AD

The first and oldest Japanese book, the Buddhist 'Diamond Sutra' was printed.



1295

Marco Polo returned to Italy and brought the knowledge of painting from China.



By 1448

Gutenberg perfected the printing press system. The first book he printed was 'The Bible'.



Between 1450 & 1550

Printing presses were set up all over Europe.



HISTORY

1517

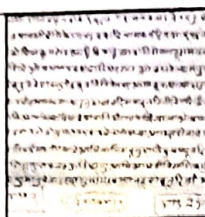
Religious reformer Martin Luther wrote 95 theses criticizing many of the practices and rituals of the Roman Catholic Church.


1579

First Tamil book was printed in Cochin.


By 1674

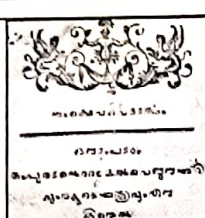
About 50 books had been printed in the Konkani and Kanara languages.


1710

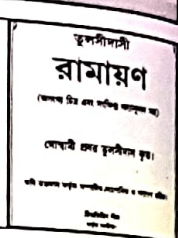
Dutch protestant missionaries had printed 32 Tamil texts.


1713

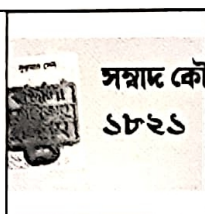
The first Malayalam book was printed.


1810

The first printed edition of *Ramcharitmanas* of Tulsidas came out from Calcutta.


From 1821

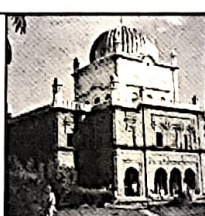
Sambad Kaumudi was published by Ram Mohan Roy.


From 1822

Jam-i-Jahan Nama and *Shamsul Akhbar* (Newspaper in Persian) were started.


1867

Deoband Seminary was founded and they published thousands of fatwas.


1870

Hindi printing began seriously.


1871

'*Gulamgiri*' was published by Jyotiba Phule.


1876

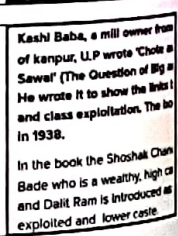
Amar Jiban, autobiography of Rashsundari Debi, was published.


1878

The Vernacular Press Act was passed.


1938

Kashibaba, a Kanpur millworker wrote and published '*Chhote aur Bade ka Sawal*'.



NCERT Exercise

HISTORY

Write in Brief

1. Give reasons for the following:

- Woodblock print only came to Europe after 1295.
- Martin Luther was in favour of print and spoke out in praise of it.
- The Roman Catholic Church began keeping an index of prohibited books from the mid-sixteenth century.
- Gandhiji said the fight for Swaraj is a fight for liberty of speech, liberty of the press and freedom of association.

- Ans. (a) Woodblock printing technology had originated in China. In 1295, a great Italian explorer, Marco Polo returned to Italy after many years of exploration in Central Asia and China. He brought back home the knowledge of woodblock printing technology which he had acquired in China. With this knowledge the Italians began producing books with woodblocks and soon this technology spread to other parts of Europe.
- (b) The religious reformer Martin Luther wrote 'Ninety-Five Theses' criticising many of the practices and rituals of the Roman Catholic Church. A printed copy of this was pasted on a Church door in Wittenberg. It challenged the Church to debate his ideas. Luther's ideas were immediately reproduced in print in vast numbers and read widely—this led to the beginning of the Protestant movement. Luther's translation of the New Testament sold 5,000 copies within a few weeks and a second edition appeared within three months. This was made possible only because of the use of woodblock printing technology. Luther was grateful and praised woodblock printing in the following way: 'Printing is the ultimate gift of God and the greatest one.' Several scholars, in fact, think that print brought about a new intellectual atmosphere and helped spread the new ideas that led to the Reformation.
- (c) Manocchio, a miller in Italy, reinterpreted the message of the Bible and formulated a view of God and creation, that enraged the Roman Catholic Church. When the Roman Church began questioning heretics (Heretic:

holder of an opinion contrary to the official doctrine of the Church) to repress heretical ideas, Manocchio was hauled up twice and ultimately executed. The Roman Church, disturbed by such effects of popular readings and the questioning of faith, imposed severe controls over publishers and booksellers and began to maintain an **Index of Prohibited Books** in 1558.

- (d) Gandhiji had tried to make people see what the fight for 'Swaraj' meant in concrete terms. He said that the fight was first and foremost for freedom of speech, freedom of writing on and publishing all matters of social and public concern. According to Gandhiji, the fight for swaraj and the fight for Khilafat was to prevent the British Government from suppressing print and threatening the freedom of Indians.

2. Write short notes to show what you know about:

- The Gutenberg Press;
- Erasmus's idea of the printed book;
- The Vernacular Press Act.

- Ans. (a) **Gutenberg Press.** A breakthrough in print technology occurred at Strasbourg, Germany where **Johann Gutenberg** developed the first known printing press in 1430s. Gutenberg developed metal types for each of the 26 characters of the Roman alphabet and devised a way of moving them around so as to compose different words of the text. This came to be known as the movable type printing machine, and it remained the basic print technology over the next 300 years. Books could now be produced much faster than was possible when each print block was prepared by carving a piece of wood by hand. **The Gutenberg press** could print 250 sheets on one side per hour. The first book printed by Gutenberg was the Bible and it took three years to print 180 copies.
- (b) **Erasmus** was a Latin scholar and a Catholic reformer who feared that printing eventually would make bad books outnumber the small number of good books (like the Bible) that were and would be written. Most of the new printed books available to the common man would be trash, scandalous, slanderous, irreligious and seditious books. He felt because of large-scale production

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of such books, even valuable publications would lose their value. Incidentally, Erasmus himself was to become the first best selling author in printing history. Although Erasmus criticised excesses of Catholicism, he kept his distance from Martin Luther, who hoped that the printing press would spread the protest against the autocracy of the Church.

(c) **The Vernacular Press Act:**

- In 1878, the Vernacular Press Act was passed by the British Government in India to impose restrictions on vernacular press, which was responsible for spreading nationalist ideas in much of India.
- The government started to keep a regular track of the vernacular newspapers published in different provinces and had extensive rights to censor reports and editorials in the vernacular press.
- When a report was judged as seditious, the newspaper was warned, and if the warning was ignored, the press was liable to be seized and the printing machinery confiscated.
- The most discriminating aspect of the law was that though it put serious restrictions on the freedom of Indian language newspapers, yet it spared the English newspapers from its purview.

3. What did the spread of print culture in 19th century India mean to:

- (a) women
- (b) the poor
- (c) reformers?

Ans. (a) **Women.** The spread of print culture opened a new world of education and books for many Indian women who had remained confined to their households and families due to the traditional Indian social set-up.

- Women's reading increased enormously in middle-class homes. Liberal husbands and fathers began educating their womenfolk at home and sent them to schools when women's schools were set up in the cities and towns after the mid-nineteenth century.
- Even girls and women took initiative to get liberated and educated. One such example is of a girl in a conservative Muslim family of North India who had learnt to read and write Urdu. Her family wanted her to read only the Arabic Quran which she did not understand. So she insisted on learning to read a language that was her own.

— Another such example was **Rashsundari Debi**, a young married girl in a very orthodox household who learnt to read in the secrecy of her kitchen. Later she wrote her autobiography *Amar Jiban* which was published in 1876.

— From 1860, a few Bengali women like **Kailashbhashini Debi** wrote books highlighting the experiences of women about how they were illiterate on the domestic front.

— **Tarabai Shinde** and **Pandita Ramabai** wrote with passionate anger about the miserable lives of upper caste Hindu women, especially widows. A woman in a Tamil novel expressed what reading meant to women: *'For various reasons, my world is small.... More than half my life's happiness has come from books.'*

— In the early twentieth century, journals, written for and sometimes edited by women, became extremely popular and discussed issues like women's education, widowhood, widow remarriage and the national movement.

— Pedlars took the Battala publications (Central Calcutta) to homes, enabling women to read them in their leisure time.

(b) **The poor.** Very cheap books were brought to markets in 19th century Madras towns and sold at crossroads, allowing poor people travelling to markets to buy them. Public libraries were set up from the early 20th century, expanding access to books. From the late 19th century, issues of caste discrimination began to be written about in many printed tracts and essays.

— **Jyotiba Phule**, the Maratha pioneer of 'low caste' protest movements, wrote about the injustices of the caste system in his *'Gulamgiri'* (1871). **B.R. Ambedkar** in Maharashtra and **E.V. Ramaswamy Naicker** in Madras, better known as **Periyar**, wrote powerfully on caste and their writings were read by people all over India.

— A mill worker at Kanpur called **Kashibaba**, wrote and published *'Chhote Aur Bade Ka Sawal'* in 1938 to show the links between caste and class exploitation. Bangalore Cotton Mill workers set up libraries to educate themselves following the example of Bombay workers.

(c) **Reformers.** The spread of print culture in the 19th century allowed the social and religious reformers to reach a wider audience.

— Arguments and debates between the reformers and the orthodoxy on practices like widow immolation, monotheism, idolatry etc. were printed in newspapers and journals. Ordinary people could participate in these debates as they were printed in the everyday spoken language of the common people.

— **Raja Rammohun Roy** published a newspaper '*Sambad Kaumudi*' in 1821 and the Hindu orthodoxy published *Samachar Chandrika* to oppose his ideas and opinions. From 1822, two Persian newspapers were published '*Jam-i-Jahan Nama*' and '*Shamsul Akhbar*'. In the same year, Gujarati newspaper Bombay *Samachar* was brought out.

— The Deoband Seminary, founded in 1867, published thousands and thousands of *fatwas* to regulate the conduct of Muslims and explain the meanings of Islamic doctrines.

— Religious texts in their printed and portable form reached a very wide circle of people, encouraged discussions, debates and controversies within and among different religions.

Discuss

1. Why did some people in the eighteenth century Europe think that print culture would bring enlightenment and end despotism?

Ans. By mid-eighteenth century, people started believing that books were a means of spreading progress and enlightenment. They believed books could change the world and liberate society from despotism and tyranny. Thinkers hoped that widespread use of books would help people to reason out and give them strength to fight despotism. The knowledge imparted in the books would help the masses to question the rights of the rulers (or divine right theory). Louise Sebastian Mercier, a novelist staunchly believed that the power of print would spread enlightenment and destroy the very basis of despotism.

2. Why did some people fear the effect of easily available printed books? Choose one example from Europe and one from India.

Ans. Some people were apprehensive of the effects of wider circulation and easily available books. It was feared that if there was no control over what was printed and read, then rebellious and irreligious thoughts might spread and the authority of 'valuable' literature would be destroyed.

An example from Europe: In 1517, the religious reformer Martin Luther (Europe) wrote '*Ninety Five Theses*' criticising many practices and rituals of the Roman Catholic Church, a printed copy of this was pasted on a Church door. Luther's writings were immediately reproduced in vast numbers and read widely. As a result, the Protestant Reformation Movement led by Martin Luther gathered strength.

An example from India: After getting educated, quite a number of women in India criticised those practices which had imprisoned women at home and had denied them their rights. A lady from Bengal, Kailashbasini Debi wrote books highlighting experiences of women—about how women were imprisoned at home, kept in ignorance, forced to do hard domestic labour and treated unjustly by the menfolk. This outburst was the result of her enlightenment through books and other printed material, which the traditional Hindus were afraid of.

3. What were the effects of the spread of print culture for poor people in nineteenth century India?

Ans. See Q. 3(b) (Write in Brief), Page H-110.

4. Explain how print culture assisted the growth of nationalism in India?

Ans. The press or print culture played a very important role in the awakening of the Indian people and spread of nationalism in India.

By the end of the 19th century, a large number of vernacular newspapers were being published. National leaders and thinkers like Gandhiji, Tilak, Tagore wrote in print and passed on ideas of the new free India to the masses.

As vernacular newspapers became assertively nationalist, the colonial government started devising ways to curtail the freedom of press. In 1878, the Vernacular Press Act was passed which empowered the government to control the vernacular press. Despite the repressive measures, nationalist newspapers grew in number and reported on colonial misrule and encouraged nationalist activities.



Hurray!! Its time to go one LEVEL up.

HISTORY



SUBJECTIVE TOPIC-1

The First Printed Books

Short Answer Type Questions (SA-I)

(Easy) (1 Mark)

1. Which method of hand-printing was developed in China? (2014)

Ans. From AD 594, books in China were printed by rubbing paper against the inked surface of wood-blocks.

2. How had hand printing technology been introduced in Japan? (2019 Series: JMS/1)

Ans. Buddhist missionaries from China introduced hand-printing technology in Japan around AD 768-770.

Short Answer Type Questions (SA-II)

(Average) (2-3 Marks)

3. How were the earlier books printed (before 15th century)?

Ans. (i) The earliest kind of print technology was developed in China, Japan and Korea. This was a system of hand printing.
 (ii) From AD 594 onwards, books in China were printed by rubbing paper against the inked surface of woodblocks.
 (iii) As both sides of the thin, porous sheet could not be printed, the traditional Chinese 'accordion book' was folded and stitched at the side.
 (iv) Superbly skilled craftsmen could duplicate, with remarkable accuracy, the beauty of calligraphy.



CALLIGRAPHY—The art of beautiful and stylised writing.

4. How had the imperial state in China been the major producer of printed material for a long time? Explain with examples.

(2019 Series: JMS/1)

Or, "The imperial state in China was the major producer of printed material." Support the statement with examples.

Ans. The Imperial State in China, was for a long time the major producer of printed material;

- (i) China possessed a huge bureaucratic system which recruited its personnel through civil service examinations. Textbooks for this

examination were printed in vast numbers under the sponsorship of the imperial state.
 (ii) The use of print was diversified and readership enhanced. Not only scholars and officials, but merchants also used print in everyday life as they collected trade information. Reading also increasingly became a leisure activity.

- (iii) Also the reading culture was accompanied by the import of new western technology and mechanical presses as western powers established their posts in China.

5. Give any three reasons favouring shift from hand printing to mechanical printing in China? (2013)

Ans. Reasons favouring shift from hand printing to mechanical printing in China:

- (i) By the 17th century, urban culture bloomed in China and the use of print diversified. It was important for a shift from hand printing to mechanical printing in China to take place. Print was no longer used just by scholar-officials. Merchants used print in their everyday life to collect trade information.
 (ii) Reading increasingly became a leisure activity. Rich women began to read and many women began publishing their poetry and plays.
 (iii) In the late 19th century as Western powers established their outposts in China, western printing techniques and mechanical presses were imported. Shanghai became the hub of the new print culture catering to Western-style schools.



SUBJECTIVE TOPIC-2

Prints Come to Europe

Short Answer Type Questions (SA-I)

(Easy) (1 Mark)

6. Which was the first book written by Gutenberg? (2012)

Or, By 1448, Gutenberg perfected the system of printing. The first book he printed was the
 (2020 Series: JBB/1)

Ans. 'The Bible' was the first book written by Gutenberg (2013)

7. Who developed the first printing press?
 Or, Who was the first printing press developed by? (2017 Delhi)

Ans. Johann Gutenberg

8. Why could not manuscripts satisfy the increasing demand of books in Europe during fourteenth century? (2018 Comptt.)

Ans. Production of handwritten manuscripts was expensive, laborious and time-consuming. In addition, manuscripts were fragile and usually big in size which could not be handled easily.

Short Answer Type Questions (SA-II) (Average) (2-3 Marks)

9. What were the new inventions that increased the circulation of printed materials? (2012)

Ans. With the growing demand for books, woodblock printing gradually became more and more popular and was widely used in Europe to print textiles, playing cards, and religious pictures with simple, brief texts.

The breakthrough in printing technology occurred when Johann Gutenberg developed the first printing press. The Olive Press provided the model for the printing press, and moulds were used for casting the metal types for the letters and alphabet. The first book Gutenberg printed was 'The Bible'. As the number of printing presses grew, book production boomed. The shift from hand printing to mechanical printing led to the print revolution.

10. Write a short note on Gutenberg Press. (2012)

Ans. Gutenberg Press. A breakthrough in print technology occurred at Strasbourg, Germany where Johann Gutenberg developed the first known printing press in 1430s. Gutenberg developed metal types for each of the 26 characters of the Roman alphabet and devised a way of moving them around so as to compose different words of the text. This came to be known as the movable type printing machine, and it remained the basic print technology over the next 300 years. Books could now be produced much faster than was possible when each print block was prepared by carving a piece of wood by hand. The Gutenberg press could print 250 sheets on one side per hour. The first book printed by Gutenberg was the Bible and it took three years to print 180 copies.

Out of some 180 original printed copies of the Gutenberg Bible, 49 still exist in library, university and museum collections. Less than half are complete, and some only consist of a single volume or even a few scattered pages.



11. How did Gutenberg personalise the printed books suiting to the tastes and requirement of others?

- Ans.
- (i) Borders were illuminated by hand with foliage and other patterns, and illustrations were painted.
 - (ii) In the books printed for the rich, space for decoration was kept blank on the printed page.
 - (iii) Each purchaser could choose the design and decide on the painting school that would do the illustrations.

Long Answer Type Questions (LA) (Difficult) (5 Marks)

12. What is a manuscript? List any four shortcomings of manuscripts. (2013)

Ans. Manuscripts were copied on palm leaves or on handmade paper. Pages were sometimes beautifully illustrated.

Shortcomings of manuscript:

- (i) Manuscripts were highly expensive and fragile and could not be carried around easily.
- (ii) They could not be read easily as the script was written in different styles.
- (iii) Production of handwritten manuscripts could not satisfy the ever-increasing demand for books.
- (iv) Copying was an expensive, laborious and time-consuming business.
- (v) Even though pre-colonial Bengal had developed an extensive network of village, primary schools, students very often did not read texts. They only learnt to write.

PRO HACK: A manuscript is a hand-written composition on paper, bark, cloth, metal, palm leaf or any other material dating back at least seventy-five years that has significant scientific, historical or aesthetic value. Lithographs and printed volumes are not manuscripts.



13. "The shift from hand printing to mechanical printing led to the print revolution in Europe." Explain the statement with examples. (2015)

Ans. Between 1450 and 1550, printing presses were set up in most countries of Europe. Printers from Germany travelled to other countries seeking work helping start new presses. As the number of printing presses grew, book production boomed. The second half of the 15th century saw 20 million copies of printed books flooding the

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markets in Europe. The number increased to 200 million copies in 16th century. This shift from hand printing to mechanical printing led to the print revolution.

Printing became a revolutionary process and became the vehicle for reaching masses of readers quickly.

- (i) The printed books at first closely resembled the written manuscripts in appearance and layout.
- (ii) The metal letters initiated the ornamental handwritten styles.
- (iii) Borders were illuminated by hand with foliage and other patterns, and illustrations were painted.
- (iv) In the books printed for the rich, space for decoration was kept blank on the printed page for the purchaser to choose the design and the painting school that would do the illustration.

14. "The new technology could not entirely displace the existing art of producing books by hand during 15th century." Support the statement.

(2015)

Or, In which three ways did the printed books at first closely resemble the written manuscripts?

(2014)

- Ans. (i) The printed books at first closely resembled the written manuscripts in appearance and layout.
- (ii) The metal letters imitated the ornamental handwritten styles.
- (iii) Borders were illuminated by hand with foliage and other patterns and illustrations were painted.
- (iv) In the books printed for the rich, space for decoration was kept blank on the printed page. Each purchaser could choose the designs and decide on the painting school that would do the illustrations.

The new technology did not entirely displace the existing art of producing books by hand.

15. Describe the progress of print in Japan.

Ans. Progress of print in Japan:

- (i) Buddhist missionaries from China introduced hand-printing technology into Japan around AD 768-770.
- (ii) The oldest Japanese book, printed in AD 868, is the Buddhist Diamond Sutra, containing six sheets of text and woodcut illustrations.
- (iii) Pictures were printed on textiles, playing cards and paper money. In medieval Japan, poets and prose writers were regularly published, and books were cheap and abundant.

- (iv) Printing of visual material led to interesting publishing practices.
- (v) In the late eighteenth century, in the flourishing urban circles at Edo (later to be known as Tokyo), illustrated collections of paintings depicted an elegant urban culture, involving artists, courtesans, and teahouse gatherings.



SUBJECTIVE TOPIC-3

The Print Revolution and Its Impact

Short Answer Type Questions (SA-II)

(Average)

(2-3 Marks)

16. Why did the Roman Catholic Church impose control over publishers and booksellers? (2018)

Ans. Menocchio, a miller in Italy, reinterpreted the message of the Bible and formulated a view of God and creation, that enraged the Roman Catholic Church. When the Roman Church began questioning heretics to repress heretical ideas, Menocchio was hauled up twice and ultimately executed. The Roman Church, disturbed by such effects of popular readings and the questioning of faith, imposed severe controls over publishers and booksellers and began to maintain an Index of Prohibited Books from 1558.



HERETIC—Holder of an opinion contrary to the official doctrine of the Church.

17. What was Protestant Reformation? (2015)

Ans. Protestant Reformation was a 16th Century movement to reform Catholic Church dominated by Rome. Martin Luther was one of the main Protestant reformers. He wrote Ninety Five Theses criticizing many practices and rituals of the Roman Catholic Church. Several traditions of anti-Catholic Christianity developed out of the movement.



THINK BACK TO 1517: Protestant Reformation is a 16th century movement to reform the Catholic Church dominated by Rome. The Reformation generally is recognized to have begun in 1517, when Martin Luther (1483-1546), a German monk and university professor, posted his ninety-five theses on the door of the castle church in Wittenberg.

- (ii) Most of the common people, particularly the illiterate, lived in a world of oral culture. Books of various kinds were read out to them. They heard sacred texts read out, ballads recited and folk tales narrated. Knowledge was passed on orally. People collectively heard a story or saw a performance.
- (iii) Printers began publishing popular ballads and folk tales which were profusely illustrated with pictures. These were then sung and recited at gatherings in villages and in taverns in towns.
- (iv) Printing created the possibility of wide circulation of ideas and introduced a new world of debate, discussion and public opinion. Those who disagreed with the established authorities, could propagate their ideas through the print medium and persuade people to think differently and move them to action.

21. Highlight any three circumstances that led to the intermingling of the hearing culture and the reading culture. (2014)

Ans. (i) With the printing press, a new reading public emerged. Printing reduced the cost of books. Access to books created a new culture of reading. Earlier reading was restricted to the elite.

- (ii) Common people lived in a world of oral culture. They heard sacred texts read out, ballads recited and folk tales narrated. Knowledge was transferred orally.
- (iii) Printers began publishing popular ballads and folk tales, illustrated with pictures. These were sung and recited at gatherings. Oral culture thus entered print and printed material was orally transmitted.
- (iv) The line that separated oral and reading cultures diminished and the hearing and reading public intermingled.

SUBJECTIVE TOPIC-4

The Reading Mania



Short Answer Type Questions (SA-I)

(1 Mark)

22. What were 'penny chapbooks'?
Ans. Penny chapbooks were pocket-sized books sold for a penny by pedlars known as chapmen.

18. Why was Martin Luther in favour of print? Explain three reasons. (2012)

Ans. Martin Luther was in favour of print and spoke out in praise of it, because:

- (i) He wrote 'Ninety-Five Theses' criticizing many of the practices and rituals of the Roman Catholic Church. His ideas were reproduced in print in vast numbers and reached a large section of people.
- (ii) According to him printing was the ultimate gift of God and the greatest one.

PRO HACK: The 95 Theses are 95 statements published in a document in Wittenberg, Germany, written by the 95 Theses detailed Luther's opinions about the teachings of the Christian Scripture.

19. How did the printers manage to attract the people, largely illiterate, towards printed books? (2012)

Ans. The rate of literacy was very low in European countries till the twentieth century:

- (i) To attract the illiterate common people towards printed books, publishers realised the wider reach of printed work whereby even those who could not read could certainly enjoy listening to books being read out.
- (ii) So printers began publishing popular ballads and folk tales. Such books would be profusely illustrated with pictures.
- (iii) These were also sung and recited at gatherings in villages and in taverns in towns.

BALLAD—A historical account or folks tale in verse, usually sung or recited.
Taverns—places where people gathered to drink alcohol, to be served food and to meet friends and exchange news.

20. 'The Print Revolution' had transformed the lives of people changing their relationship to information and knowledge.' Analyse the statement. (2018, 2018 Compit.)

Ans. (i) Before the age of print, reading was restricted to educated elite as books were not only expensive but they could not be produced in sufficient numbers. Common people lived in a world of oral culture. Printing not only made production faster, it also brought down cost of production and as a result books could reach out to a wider section of people.

Long Answer Type Questions (LA)

(5 Marks)



HISTORY

23. How were Bibliothèque Bleue different from penny chapbooks? (2015)

Ans. Penny chapbooks were carried by petty pedlars known as chapmen in England. These books were sold for a penny, so that even the poor could buy them. 'Bibliothèque Bleue', were low-priced small books printed in France. Both were low priced books printed on poor quality paper but the Bibliothèque Bleue were bound in cheap blue covers.

PRO HACK: Meaning of Bibliothèque is a library and bleue is a French word for blue colour. These small books were sold by nomadic vendors in France from the 17th until the early 19th centuries.



24. What kind of information did the periodical press and newspapers carry in the 18th century?

Ans. The periodical press and newspapers carried combined information about current affairs with entertainment. They also carried information about wars and trade as well as news of developments in other places.

25. "The printing press is the most powerful engine of progress and public opinion is the force that will sweep despotism away." Who said these words? (2013)

Ans. Louise Sebastian Mercier

Short Answer Type Questions (SA-II) (Average) (2-3 Marks)

26. How did new forms of popular literature appear in print targeting new audience in the Eighteenth century? Explain with examples. (2014)

Ans. New forms of popular literature appeared in print targeting new audiences.

Book sellers employed pedlars who roamed around villages, carrying little books for sale. There were almanacs or ritual calendars, along with ballads and folktales.

In England, penny chapbooks were carried by petty pedlars known as chapmen and sold for a penny. In France 'Bibliothèque Bleue', low priced small books printed on poor quality paper were bound in cheap blue covers. Romances and the 'histories' which were stories about the past were printed on four to six pages. Books were of various sizes, serving many different purposes and interests.

27. Why did some people in the eighteenth century Europe think that print culture would bring enlightenment and end despotism?

Ans. By mid-eighteenth century, people started believing that books were a means of spreading progress and enlightenment. They believed books could change the world and liberate society from despotism and tyranny. Thinkers hoped that widespread use of books would help people to reason out and give them strength to fight despotism. The knowledge imparted in the books would help the masses to question the rights of the rulers (or divine right theory). Louise Sebastian Mercier, a novelist staunchly believed that the power of print would spread enlightenment and destroy the very basis of despotism.

Long Answer Type Questions (LA) (Difficult) (5 Marks)

28. How far is it right to say that the print culture was responsible for the French Revolution? Explain. (2014)

Or, "Many historians argued that the conditions within which French Revolution occurred were created by the print culture." Support this statement with three suitable arguments. (2013)

Or, Examine any three effects of Print culture on the French Revolution. (2023)

Ans. Following are the arguments which are given in support of the above statement:

(i) Print popularised the ideas of enlightened thinkers like Voltaire and Rousseau, and those who read these books, started questioning everything and developed critical and rational thinking. These thinkers attacked the sacred authority of the Church and despotic power of the State.

(ii) All existing values, norms and institutions, which were never questioned earlier, were revalued through debates and discussions by the public in print.

(iii) By 1780s, there was an outpour of literature that mocked royalty and criticised their morality. The existing social order was criticised. Through cartoons and caricatures, they made people aware that while common people were going through tremendous hardships, the monarchy remained absorbed in merry-making and did not care about sufferings of common people. This ultimately led to the growth of a hostile feeling against the monarchy.

In spite of these strong arguments, no one can claim that these were the only reasons for the outbreak of the French Revolution.



SUBJECTIVE TOPIC-5

The Nineteenth Century

Short Answer Type Questions (SA-I) (Easy) (1 Mark)

29. Mention the contribution of Richard M. Hoe (New York) in print culture in the mid-19th century.

Ans. Richard M. Hoe had perfected the power-driven cylindrical press. This press was capable of printing 8,000 sheets per hour and was very useful for printing newspapers.

PRO HACK: In 1843 Richard March Hoe is most well known for his invention based on an identical invention unveiled in New York in 1832 by Josiah Warren.



Short Answer Type Questions (SA-II) (Average) (2-3 Marks)

30. Explain any five reasons for bringing in large number of new readers among children, women and workers during the late 19th century. (2014)

Ans. The five reasons are:

- (i) compulsory primary education;
- (ii) women became important as readers;
- (iii) lending libraries became instrumental for educating white collar workers, artisans and lower middle class people;
- (iv) self educated working novelist were women who defined a new type of strong woman; and
- (v) best known novelist were who defined a new type of strong woman.

31. Highlight any three innovations which have improved the printing technology from nineteenth century onwards. (2014)

Ans. Three innovations which have improved the printing technology from nineteenth century onwards:

- (i) Methods of feeding paper improved.
- (ii) The quality of printing plates became better.
- (iii) Automatic paper reels and photoelectric controls of the colour register were introduced.
- (iv) The accumulation of several individual mechanical improvements transformed the appearance of printed texts.

Long Answer Type Questions (LA) (Difficult) (5 Marks)

32. Describe any five strategies developed by the printers and publishers in the 19th century to sell their products. (2013)

Ans. Printers and publishers continuously developed new strategies to sell their products:

- (i) Serialisation of important novels in nineteenth century periodicals. This gave birth to a particular way of writing.
- (ii) In the 1920s in England, popular works were sold in cheap series, called the 'Shilling Series'.
- (iii) Publishers feared a decline in book purchases during the Great Depression in 1930s. They brought out cheap paperback editions of novels to sustain buying.
- (iv) Printers published new books.
- (v) In the 20th century, the dust cover or the book jacket was also introduced.



SUBJECTIVE TOPIC-6

India and the World of Print

Short Answer Type Questions (SA-I) (Easy) (1 Mark)

33. Who brought the first printing press to India? (2012)

Ans. Portuguese missionaries



THINK BACK TO 1556: The first printing press of India was set up in 1556 at St. Paul's College, Goa. Father Gasper Caleza spoke of a ship carrying a printing press to sail from Portugal to Abyssinia (current-day Ethiopia) to promote missionary work in Abyssinia.

Short Answer Type Questions (SA-II) (Average) (2-3 Marks)

34. What kind of books were available in India before the introduction of print culture?

Ans. Earlier, the books used to be handwritten either on palm leaves or handmade paper. India has a tradition of handwritten manuscripts in Sanskrit, Arabic, Persian as well as in various vernacular languages. Pages were sometimes beautifully illustrated. They would either be pressed between wooden covers or sewn together to ensure preservation.

35. How did print come in India? Explain with example. (2023)

- Ans. (i) The printing press first came to Goa with Portuguese missionaries in the mid-sixteenth century.
- (ii) After learning Konkani, Jesuit priests printed in the Konkani and Kanara languages.
- (iii) Catholic priests printed the first Tamil book in 1579 at Cochin and the first Malayalam book was printed by them in 1713. By 1710, Dutch Protestant missionaries had printed 32 Tamil texts, many of which were translations of older texts.
- (iv) By the end of the 18th century, a number of newspapers and journals appeared in print. Indians too, began to publish Indian newspapers.
- (v) The Bengal Gazette was the first to appear. It was brought out by Gangadhar Bhattacharya, who was close to Raja Rammohun Roy.



SUBJECTIVE TOPIC-7

Religious Reform and Public Debates

Short Answer Type Questions (SA) (Average) (2-3 Marks)

36. 'Print played a significant role in awakening sentiments of nationalism amongst the Indians.' Explain the statement with examples. (2012)

- Ans. There is no denying that print culture connected the different people and communities and stimulated among them a spirit of togetherness, oneness and nationalism. Both Indian press and literature played a vital role in the growth of nationalism in India. In the nineteenth century, a large quantity of national literature was created which brought about a great revolution in the minds of people and inspired them to fight against British imperialism. The Indian press contributed in arousing national consciousness among the people of India. Many vernacular newspapers like the 'Indian Mirror', 'Bombay Samachar', 'The Amrit Bazar Patrika', 'The Hindu', 'The Kesari' and several others had a great influence on the political life of the country. A continuous flow of articles by national leaders and thinkers like Gandhiji, Tagore, Tilak, etc. passed on ideas of a new free India to the masses and prepared them for the national struggle.

Long Answer Type Questions (LA) (Difficult) (5 Marks)

37. "Print not only stimulated the publication of conflicting opinions amongst communities, but it also connected communities and people in different parts of India." Examine the statement. (2014)

Or, Explain the significance of newspapers and journals developed from the early 18th century.

- Ans. — By the close of the eighteenth century, a number of newspapers and journals appeared in print. The first newspaper to come out was the weekly **Bengal Gazette**, brought out by Gangadhar Bhattacharya.
- Printed tracts and newspapers not only spread new ideas, but they also shaped the nature of debate. A wider public could now participate in public discussions and express their views.
- There were intense controversies between the social and religious reformers and Hindu orthodoxy over matters like widow immolation, monotheism, Brahmanical priesthood and idolatry. So that these ideas and thoughts could reach a wider audience, newspapers were printed in the spoken language of ordinary people.
- Rammohan Roy published the **Sambad Kaumudi** from 1821 and the Hindu orthodoxy commissioned the **Samachar Chandrika** to oppose his opinions. Two Persian newspapers, **Jam-i-Jahan Nama** and **Shamsul Akhbar** were also published.
- After the collapse of Muslim dynasties Ulama feared that colonial rulers would change the Muslim personal laws. To counter this they published Persian and Urdu translations of holy scriptures and printed religious newspapers and tracts.
- Newspapers and journals not only helped the publication of conflicting opinions but also connected people and communities in different parts of India. Newspapers conveyed news from one place to another, creating Pan-Indian identities.



James Augustus Hickey published the first Indian newspaper in India named **The Bengal Gazette** in 29th January 1780. People used to refer to it as Hickey's Gazette even though it was also known as **Calcutta General Advertiser**. It was a two-sheet newspaper that was printed weekly.



SUBJECTIVE TOPIC-8

New Forms of Publication

Short Answer Type Questions (SA-I) (Easy) (1 Mark)

38. Why was 'Gulamgiri' book written by Jyotiba Phule in 1871? (2020 Series: JBB/1)

Ans. Jyotiba Phule was a social activist and anti-class social reformer. He wrote 'Gulamgiri' (1871) to highlight the injustice, pain and sufferings faced by the so-called lower caste people.

Short Answer Type Questions (SA-II) (Average) (2-3 Marks)

39. What do you understand by 'visual culture' and its role in printing in India?

Or, "By the end of 19th century a new visual culture took shape in India." Explain the statement with examples.

Ans. Visual culture is the aspect of culture expressed through visual images. Many academic fields study this subject, including cultural studies, art history, critical theory, philosophy, media studies, Deaf Studies and anthropology.

Role of visual culture in printing in India:

- (i) By the end of 19th century, a new visual culture had started.
- (ii) Increasing number of printing presses helped in the production of visual images and reproduced them in multiple copies.
- (iii) Painters like Raja Ravi Varma helped in producing images for mass circulation.
- (iv) Cheap prints and calendars were easily available in markets and could be bought even by the poor to decorate the walls of their homes or workplaces. These prints helped in developing popular ideas about modernity and tradition, religion and politics and society and culture.

40. Evaluate the impact of print technology on the poor people in India. (2013, 2017 Delhi)

Or, Explain any five effects of spreading of print culture on poor people in nineteenth century India. (2012)

Ans. Very cheap books were brought to markets in 19th century Madras towns and sold at crossroads, allowing poor people travelling to markets to buy them. Public libraries were set up from the early 20th century, expanding access to books.

From the late 19th century, issues of caste discrimination began to be written about in many printed tracts and essays:

(i) Jyotiba Phule, the Maratha pioneer of 'low caste' protest movements, wrote about the injustices of the caste system in his 'Gulamgiri' (1871). B.R. Ambedkar in Maharashtra and E.V. Ramaswamy Naicker in Madras, better known as Periyar, wrote powerfully on caste and their writings were read by people all over India.

(ii) A mill worker at Kanpur called Kashibaba, wrote and published 'Chhote Aur Bade Ka Sawal' in 1930 to show the links between caste and class exploitation. Bangalore Cotton Mill workers set up libraries to educate themselves following the example of Bombay workers.

Long Answer Type Questions (LA) (Difficult) (5 Marks)

41. What did the spread of print culture mean to the women in 19th century India.

Ans. The spread of print culture opened a new world of education and books for many Indian women who had remained confined to their households and families due to the traditional Indian social set-up.

- Women's reading increased enormously in middle-class homes. Liberal husbands and fathers began educating their womenfolk at home and sent them to schools when women's schools were set up in the cities and towns after the mid-nineteenth century.
- Even girls and women took initiative to get liberated and educated. One such example is of a girl in a conservative Muslim family of North India who had learnt to read and write Urdu. Her family wanted her to read only the Arabic Quran which she did not understand. So she insisted on learning to read a language that was her own.
- Another such example was Rashsundari Debi, a young married girl in a very orthodox household who learnt to read in the secrecy of her kitchen. Later she wrote her autobiography *Amar Jiban* which was published in 1876.
- From 1860, a few Bengali women like Kailashbhashini Debi wrote books highlighting the experiences of women about how they were ill-treated on the domestic front.

HISTORY

- Tarabai Shinde and Pandita Ramabai wrote with passionate anger about the miserable lives of upper caste Hindu women, especially widows. A woman in a Tamil novel expressed what reading meant to women: 'For various reasons, my world is small.... More than half my life's happiness has come from books.'
- In the early twentieth century, journals, written for and sometimes edited by women, became extremely popular and discussed issues like women's education, widowhood, widow remarriage and the national movement.
- Pedlars took the Battala publications (Central Calcutta) to homes, enabling women to read them in their leisure time.



Swarnakumari Devi (28 August 1855–3 July 1932) was a Bengali poet, novelist, musician and social worker from the Indian subcontinent. She was the first Indian woman novelist and the first among the women writers in Bengal to gain prominence.

PRO HACK: Tarabai Shinde, born in the Berar province of Buldhana, was a women's rights activist who protested patriarchy. She wrote many books and was the first author known for feminist writing. Her first published work, *Stri Purush Tulana*, which translates to, *A Comparison between Women and Men* is considered to be one of the country's first modern feminist text.



SUBJECTIVE TOPIC-9

Print and Censorship

Short Answer Type Questions (SA-I) (Easy)

(1 Mark)

42. Why had Englishmen demanded a clamp down on the 'Vernacular Press' in the 19th century?
(2019 Series: JMS/4)
- Ans. The English Government wanted to suppress the native press because the vernacular newspapers had become assertively nationalist. They feared that if their freedom of press is not curtailed, it might encourage the masses to rise again against the colonial rule.

In 1878, the Vernacular Press Act was passed which provided the Government with extensive rights to censor reports and editorials in the vernacular press.

43. Why was the Vernacular Press Act passed in 1878?

(2020 Series: JBB/1)

Ans. In 1878, the Vernacular Press Act was passed by the British Government in India to impose restrictions on vernacular press, which was responsible for spreading nationalist ideas in much of India. By implementation of this law the government started to keep a regular track of the vernacular newspapers published in different provinces and had extensive rights to censor reports and editorials in the vernacular press.

Short Answer Type Questions (SA-II) (Average)

(2-3 Marks)

44. What made the Englishmen, under colonial rule, demand a clamp down on the 'native', after the revolt of 1857? How was it done? (2013)

Or, Why did the attitude of the colonial Government towards the freedom of the press change after the revolt of 1857? What repressive measures were adopted by them to control the freedom of press? (2013)

Ans. The English Government wanted to suppress the native press because the vernacular newspapers had become assertively nationalist. They feared that if their freedom of Press is not curtailed, it might encourage the masses to rise again against the colonial rule.

In 1878, the Vernacular Press Act was passed which provided the Government with extensive rights to censor reports and editorials in the vernacular press.

Then onwards, the government kept regular track of the vernacular newspapers published in different provinces. When a report was judged as seditious, the newspaper was warned, and if the warning was ignored, the Press could be seized and the printing machinery confiscated.

45. Write a short note on Vernacular Press Act. (2012)

Ans. In 1878, the Vernacular Press Act was passed by the British Government in India to impose restrictions on vernacular press, which was responsible for spreading nationalist ideas in much of India.

The government started to keep a regular track of the vernacular newspapers published in different provinces and had extensive rights to censor

Long Answer Type Questions (LA) (Difficult)

(5 Marks)

47. Why did the British Government pass the Vernacular Press Act in 1878? What powers did it give to the Government? (2012)

Or, Critically examine the Vernacular Press Act of 1878. (2015)

Ans. The British Government passed the Vernacular Press Act in 1878 because the Company was worried that their criticism in Indian media might be used by their critics in England to attack their trade monopoly in India.

After the Revolt of 1857, the criticism against the government grew in the Indian media. The Vernacular newspapers reported on colonial misrule and encouraged nationalist activities. So it became necessary for the administrators in India to suppress the local newspapers. It provided the government with extensive rights to censor reports and editorials in the Vernacular Press. The government had the power to warn, seize and confiscate the printing machinery of the newspaper if it was judged as seditious. The most discriminating aspect was that it put severe restrictions on the Indian language newspapers while the English ones were spared from its purview.



reports and editorials in the vernacular press. When a report was judged as seditious, the newspaper was warned, and if the warning was ignored, the press was liable to be seized and the printing machinery confiscated. The most discriminating aspect of the law was that though it put serious restrictions on the freedom of Indian language newspapers, yet it spared the English newspapers from its purview.

46. Why did the attitude of the colonial Government towards the freedom of the press change after the revolt of 1857? What repressive measures were adopted by them to control the freedom of press? (2017 Outside Delhi)

Ans. Enraged English officials clamped down the native press:

- (i) The English Government wanted to suppress the native press because the vernacular newspapers had become assertively nationalist. They feared that if their freedom of Press is not curtailed, it might encourage the masses to rise again against the colonial rule.
- (ii) In 1878, the Vernacular Press Act was passed which provided the Government with extensive rights to censor reports and editorials in the vernacular press.
- (iii) Then onwards, the government kept regular track of the vernacular newspapers published in different provinces. When a report was judged as seditious, the newspaper was warned, and if the warning was ignored, the Press could be seized and the printing machinery confiscated.



Vernacular is defined as the informal language used by a specific group of people, such as a particular region or culture. The Vernacular Press Act was passed in 1878 by Lord Lytton (1876-1880). According to this law, the editor of a vernacular newspaper had to get the content reviewed by the police before publishing.

There was strong opposition to the Act and finally Lord Ripon (1880-1884) repealed it in 1882. In 1883, Surendranath Banerjee became the first Indian journalist to be imprisoned.

The Vernacular Press Act, 1878 came to be known as the Gagging Act as it discriminated between the English and the Vernacular Press.



2024 CBSE BOARD EXAMINATION

Questions

— 2024 (Series: AB3CD/1) Set-I —

Q.34. Read the following source carefully and answer the questions that follow: 4

Printed Words

This is how Mercier describes the impact of the printed word, and the power of reading in one of his books:

'Anyone who had seen me reading would have compared me to a man dying of thirst who was gulping down some fresh, pure water... Lighting my lamp with extraordinary caution, I threw myself hungrily into the reading. An easy eloquence, effortless and animated, carried me from one page to the next without my noticing it. A clock struck off the hours in the silence of the shadows and I heard nothing. My lamp began to run out of oil and produced only a pale light, but still I read on. I could not even take out time to raise the wick for fear of interrupting my pleasure. How those new ideas rushed into my brain! How my intelligence adopted them!'

- 34.1 How does the passage reflect the immersive nature of reading of Mercier? 1
- 34.2 Why did Mercier describe himself as a virtual writer? 1
- 34.3 How did reading influence Mercier's intellectual capacity and his engagement with new concepts? Explain in any two points. 2



SCAN ME!
FOR ANSWERS

— 2024 (Series: AAB1/3) Set-I —

Q.1. Who among the following published 'Samvad Kaumudi'? 1

- (a) Rashesundari Debi (b) Tarabai Shinde
(c) Raja Rammohun Roy (d) Ram Chaddha

Q.34. Read the following source and answer the questions that follow: 4

Why Newspapers?

'Krishnaji Trimbug Ranade inhabitant of Poona intends to publish a Newspaper in the Marathi Language with a view of affording useful information on every topic of local interest. It will be open for free discussion on subjects of general utility, scientific investigation and the speculations connected with the antiquities, statistics, curiosities, history and geography of the country and of the Deccan especially... the patronage and support of all interested in the diffusion of knowledge and welfare of the people is earnestly solicited.'

Bombay Telegraph and Courier, 6 January, 1849

'The task of the native newspapers and political associations is identical to the role of the Opposition in the House of Commons in Parliament in England. That is of critically examining government policy to suggest improvements, by removing those parts that will not be to the benefit of the people, and also by ensuring speedy implementation.

These associations ought to carefully study the particular issues, gather diverse relevant information on the nation as well as on what are the possible and desirable improvements, and this will surely earn it considerable influence.'

Native Opinion, 3 April, 1870

- 34.1 Analyse the primary objective proposed by Ranade for publishing Marathi Language newspaper. 1
- 34.2 Why did the Bombay Telegraph emphasize the role of newspaper in promoting welfare of Deccan region? 1
- 34.3 What were the key responsibilities attributed to native newspapers? Mention any two. 2

Competency Based Questions

Stand Alone Multiple Choice Questions

1
mark

- Who began to publish the weekly Bengal Gazette?
(a) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
(b) Gangadhar Bhattacharya
(c) Raja Rammohan Roy
(d) Madan Mohan Malviya
- Who was James Lackington?
(a) Publisher (b) Painter
(c) Scholar (d) Reformer
- Who wrote 'My Childhood My University'?
(a) Thomas Wood (b) Maxim Gorky
(c) George Eliot (d) Jane Austen
- Which one of the following began to edit the 'Bengal Gazette' a weekly magazine?
(a) James Augustus Hickey
(b) George Eliot
(c) Jane Austen
(d) William Bolts
- Which scholar expressed a deep anxiety about printing?
(a) Martin Luther (b) Erasmus
(c) Johann Gutenberg (d) None of these
- Merchants and students in the University towns bought cheaper printed copies of books in Europe. What kind of books were bought by the aristocrats? Pick out the correct answer.
(a) Handwritten books on silk.
(b) Books made out of papyrus leaves.
(c) Handwritten books on very expensive vellum (a parchment made from the skin of animals).
(d) Books engraved on copper plates.
- Which of the following was not a reason for the limited popularity of handwritten manuscripts in Europe:
(a) Confucious Manuscripts were fragile.
(b) They were awkward to handle and could not be carried around easily.
(c) The content of manuscripts was rebellious and seditious.
(d) Copying manuscripts was expensive and time-consuming.
- Not everyone welcomed the printed book. There was widespread criticism. What could have been

the reason? Find the correct answer from the options given below:

- (a) It was feared that if there was no control over what was printed and read, then rebellious and irreligious thoughts might spread.
(b) Books will corrupt the minds of young readers.
(c) It will divide the society into intellectuals and non-intellectuals.
(d) Time will be wasted in reading books and it will hamper the work of daily life.
- Which book of Jyotiba Phule was based on the caste system?
(a) Amar Jiban (b) Istri Dharam Vichar
(c) Sacchi Kavayen (d) Gulamgiri
- Which of the following cities became the hub of the Western style-school culture printing?
(a) Berlin (b) Shanghai
(c) Paris (d) Britain
- In which of the following years, Buddhist missionaries from China introduced hand-printing technology?
(a) 758-760 AD (b) 772-774 AD
(c) 768-770 AD (d) 776-778 AD
- Which of the following books is the oldest Japanese book, printed in 868 AD containing six sheets of text and woodcut illustrations?
(a) Diamond Sutra (b) Harshcharita
(c) Brihatsutra (d) Mrichkatika
- Many historians have argued that print culture created the conditions within which French Revolution occurred. Choose the correct statement in this regard from the list given below:
(a) Print culture promoted the idea of Conservatism.
(b) It motivated the masses to protest old norms and values.
(c) Print culture created public opinion in favour of despotic power of the State.
(d) Print popularized the ideas of enlightened thinkers who attacked the despotic power of the State.
- What is calligraphy?
(a) Stylised writing (b) Poetry
(c) Textbooks (d) Flower arrangement
- 'The printing press is the most powerful engine of progress and public opinion is the force that will sweep despotism away.' Who said these words?

HISTORY

- (e) Manocchio
(b) Louise Sebastian Mercier
(c) Martin Luther
(d) Erasmus
16. Why was the Vernacular Press Act passed by the British Government in India?
(a) The Vernacular Act was passed to promote vernacular languages.
(b) The Vernacular Act was passed by the British government to put some check on vernacular newspapers which had become assertively nationalist.
(c) The Vernacular Act was passed to please the Indians who wanted to promote Indian languages.
(d) The Vernacular Act was passed to consolidate British rule in India.
17. What made Governor-General Warren Hastings persecute James Hickey who edited the Bengal Gazette?
(a) He published articles supporting Indian nationalist leaders.
(b) He published advertisements related to import and sale of slaves.
(c) Common people He published anti-religious articles.
(d) He published gossip about senior East India Company officials.
18. Which class of people normally live in the world of oral culture attain knowledge?
(a) Elite class (b) Common people
(c) Working class (d) Peasantry class
19. In which of the following countries, the rate of literacy was very low till the 20th century?
(a) European countries
(b) Asian countries
(c) American countries
(d) Australian countries
20. At which of the following places, the Grimm Brothers spent years compiling traditional folk tales gathered from peasants?
(a) France (b) England
(c) Germany (d) Spain
21. When did the leading libraries come into existence?
(a) Fifteenth century (b) Seventeenth century
(c) Sixteenth century (d) None of above
22. Which of the following authors from New York had perfected the power-driven cylindrical press?
(a) Richard M. Hoe (b) George Eliot
(c) Jane Austen (d) Martin Luther
23. Why was reading of manuscript not easy in India? Choose the appropriate reason from the following options:
(a) Manuscripts were highly cheap.
(b) Manuscripts were widely spread out.
(c) Manuscripts were written in English and Hindi.
(d) Manuscripts were fragile.
24. Which one of the following was NOT the reason for the popularity of scientific ideas among the common people in eighteenth century Europe?
(a) Printing of ideas of Issac Newton.
(b) Development of printing press.
(c) Interest of people in science and reason.
(d) Traditional aristocratic groups supported it.
25. The main theme of the book '*Chhote aur Bade ka Sawal*' written by Kashibaba, a Kanpur mill-worker, was:
(a) The life of the elite upper castes
(b) The link between caste and class exploitation
(c) Restrictions on the Vernacular Press
(d) Injustices of the caste system
26. Who among the following brought out 'Bengal Gazette' the first weekly newspaper? (2023)
(a) Bipin Chandra Pal
(b) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
(c) Gangadhar Bhattacharya
(d) Raja Rammohan Roy
27. Which one of the following aspects was common among the writings of Kailashbhashini Debi, Tarabai Shinde and Pandita Ramabai? (2023)
(a) Demanded economic equality for masses.
(b) Highlighted the experiences of women.
(c) Raised awareness about cultural heritage
(d) Motivated Indians for their national freedom.

Assertion-Reason Questions

1 mark

DIRECTION: There are two statements marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option:

- (a) Both Assertion and Reason are true and Reason is the correct explanation of Assertion.
(b) Both Assertion and Reason are true but Reason is not the correct explanation of Assertion.
(c) Assertion is true but Reason is false.
(d) Both Assertion and Reason are false.

1. Assertion. In 1517, the religious reformer Martin Luther wrote Ninety Five Theses criticising many of the practices and rituals of the Roman Catholic Church.
Reason. This led to a division within the Church and the beginning of the Protestant Reformation.

2. **Assertion.** The new reading culture was accompanied by a new technology.
Reason. From hand printing there was a gradual shift to mechanical printing.

3. **Assertion.** The production of handwritten manuscripts could not satisfy the ever-increasing demand for books.

Reason. Chinese paper reached Europe via the silk route.

4. **Assertion.** The first book that Gutenberg printed was the Bible.

Reason. About 500 copies were printed and it took two years to produce them.

5. **Assertion.** During the 17th and 18th centuries, even poor in England could buy and read books.

Reason. Penny chapbooks were carried by petty pedlars.

6. **Assertion.** As literacy and schools spread in African countries, there was a virtual reading mania.

Reason. Churches of different denominations set up schools in villages, carrying literacy to tribals.

7. **Assertion.** Children became an important category of readers.

Reason. Primary education became compulsory from the late nineteenth century.

8. **Assertion.** There was intense controversy between social and religious reformers and the Hindu orthodoxy over matters like—widow immolation, monotheism, Brahmanical priesthood and idolatry.

Reason. The Deoband Seminary founded in 1867, published thousands upon thousands off at was telling Muslim readers how to conduct themselves in everyday lives, and explaining the meaning of Islamic doctrines.

Match the Columns

1 mark

1.	Column-A	Column-B
	(a) Sambad Kaumudi	(i) Gangadhar Bhattacharya
	(b) Jam-i-Jahan Nama/Shamsul Akhbar	(ii) Rammohun Roy
	(c) Samachar Chandrika	(iii) Gujarati newspaper
	(d) Bombay Samachar	(iv) Hindu orthodoxy
	(e) Bengal Gazette	(v) Persian newspaper

2.	Column-A	Column-B
	(a) Ballad	(i) Places where people gathered to drink alcohol, eat food and to socialise.
	(b) Ulama	(ii) Beliefs which do not follow the accepted teachings of the Church.
	(c) Heretical	(iii) A historical account or folk-tale in verse, usually sung or recited.
	(d) Seditious	(iv) Legal scholars of Islam and the Sharia.
	(e) Taverns	(v) Action, speech or writing that is seen as opposing the government.

Picture Based Questions

1 mark

1.

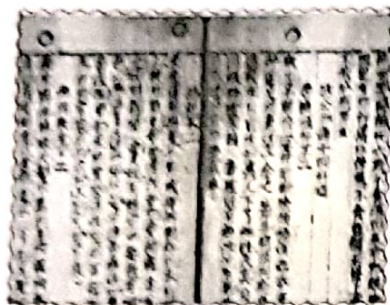


Which of the following option best signifies the given Image?

- (a) Scene of a Mughal court
- (b) Book making before the age of print
- (c) Printing workshop
- (d) Religious ceremony

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2.



Identify the given image.

- (a) Diamond Sutra (b) Jikji
(c) Manuscript (d) Woodblock print

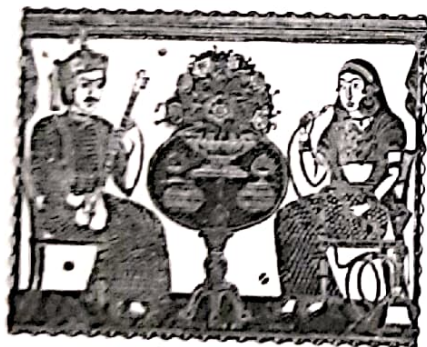
3.



Which of the following option best signifies the above image?

- (a) Iron and steel workshop
(b) Worker carving wood in a workshop
(c) Gutenberg Printing Press
(d) None of these

4.



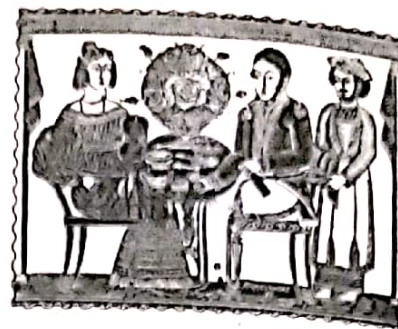
What is depicted in the given image?

- (a) Pubs during ancient time
(b) Artist's fear regarding the cultural impact of West on women
(c) Both (a) and (b)
(d) None of these

Important Fact

For answering picture based questions, Students must pay attention to each picture and its related information or its caption. Sometimes students recall the answers as soon as they see the picture.

5.



Identify the message given by the nineteenth century woodcut?

- (a) Music shown by European couple
(b) Dinner in European style
(c) Traditional family roles
(d) None of these

Case/Source Based Questions

4-5 marks

1. In 1926, Begum Rokeya Sakhawat Hossein, a noted educationist and literary figure, strongly condemned men for withholding education from women in the name of religion as she addressed the Bengal Women's Education Conference: 'The opponents of female education say that women will become unruly ... Fie! They call themselves Muslims and yet go against the basic tenet of Islam which gives Women an equal right to education. If men are not led astray once educated, why should women?'

Answer the following MCQs by choosing the most appropriate options:

- Begum Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain asserted women's
(a) Right to freedom (b) Right to education
(c) Right to speech (d) Right to vote
- Who was Begum Rokeya Hossein?
(a) A noted leader
(b) A role model
(c) A noted educationist and literary figure
(d) None of the above
- She condemned men because—
(a) They abuse the women.
(b) They were withholding education from women in the name of religion.
(c) They wanted that women should live in the boundaries of house.
(d) None of the above
- What was the impact of printed books on women in the 19th century?

- (a) Printed Book increased women's reading enormously in middle class homes.
- (b) Reading motivated many women to write novels.
- (c) Liberal husbands and fathers began educating their womenfolk at home.
- (d) All of the above

II. 'Anyone who had seen me reading would have compared me to a man dying of thirst who was gulping down some fresh, pure water ... Lighting my lamp with extraordinary caution, I threw myself hungrily into the reading. An easy eloquence, effortless and animated, carried me from one page to the next without my noticing it. A clock struck off the hours in the silence of the shadows, and I heard nothing. My lamp began to run out of oil and produced only a pale light, but still I read on. I could not even take out time to raise the wick for fear of interrupting my pleasure. How those new ideas rushed into my brain I How my intelligence adopted them?'

Answer the following questions:

5. Name the writer of this paragraph.

Or, Who wrote these words?

6. How does one find the writer when he is reading?

Or, What state is the writer in while reading?

7. Analyse the message given by the writer to the readers.

Or, What according to him is the power of reading?

III. Very cheap small books were brought to markets in nineteenth-century Madras towns and sold at crossroads, allowing poor people travelling to markets to buy them. Public libraries were set up from the early twentieth century, expanding the access to books. These libraries were located mostly in cities and towns, and at times in prosperous villages. For rich local patrons, setting up a library was a way of acquiring prestige.

Answer the following MCQs by choosing the most appropriate options:

8. wrote about the injustices of the caste system in 'Gulamgiri'?
 - (a) Raja Rammohun Roy
 - (b) Jyotiba Phule
 - (c) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
 - (d) Bankim Chandra
9. The book, 'Chote Aur Bade Ka Sawal' talked about:
 - (a) the link between caste and class exploitation.
 - (b) the injustice of the caste system.
 - (c) the restriction on the vernacular press.
 - (d) ill treatment of widow.

10. Poor people benefited from the spread of print culture because:

- (a) Availability of the books at low cost.
- (b) Doorstep delivery of books.
- (c) Books distributed among people at free cash.
- (d) All of the above

11. The poems of Kanpur mill worker, who wrote under the name of 'Sudarshan Chakra', were published in the collection called

- (a) Gulamgiri
- (b) Istri dharm vichar
- (c) Sacchi kavitayan
- (d) Amar Jiban

IV. Source 1: Religious Reform and Public Debates.

There are intense controversies between social and religious reformers and the Hindu orthodoxy over matters like widow immolation, monotheism, brahmanical priesthood and idolatry. In Bengal, as the debate developed, tracts and newspapers proliferated, circulating a variety of arguments.

Source 2: New forms of Publication. New literary forms also entered the world of reading—lyrics, short stories, essays about social and political matters. In different ways, they reinforced the new emphasis on human lives and intimate feelings, about the political and social rules that shaped such things.

Source 3: Women and Print. Since social reforms and novels had already created a great interest in women's lives and emotions, there was also an interest in what women would have to say about their own lives.

Answer the following questions:

Source 1: Religious Reform and Public Debates.

12. Evaluate how did the print shape the nature of the debate in the early 19th century in India.

Source 2: New Forms of Publication.

13. To what extent do you agree that print opened up new worlds of experience and gave a vivid sense of diversity of human lives?

Source 3: Women and Print.

14. To what extent did the print culture reflect a great interest in women's lives and emotions? Explain.

V. '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,

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slandorous, scandalous, raving, irreligious and seditious books, and the number of them is such that even the valuable publications lose their value.'

Answer the following questions:

15. Name the writer of this paragraph.
16. Why is the writer critical of printed books?

- VI. 'The task of the native newspapers and political associations is identical to the role of the Opposition in the House of Commons in Parliament in England. That is of critically examining government policy to suggest improvements, by removing those parts that will not be to the benefit of the people, and also by ensuring speedy implementation.

These associations ought to carefully study the particular issues, gather diverse relevant information on the nation as well as on what are the possible and desirable improvements, and this will surely earn it considerable influence.'

Native Opinion, 3 April 1870

Answer the following questions:

17. The task of native newspapers was compared to the role of which institution? Discuss this similarity.
18. Give two examples of vernacular newspapers of that time and discuss the effect they had on the people.

- VII. Read the given source and answer the questions that follow: (2023)

WHY NEWSPAPERS?

'Krishnaji Trimbuck Ranade inhabitant of Poona intends to publish a Newspaper in the Marathi

Language with a view of affording useful information on every topic of local interest. It will be open for free discussion on subjects of general utility, scientific investigation and the speculations connected with the antiquities, statistics, curiosities, history and geography of the country and of the Deccan especially... the patronage and support of all interested in the diffusion of knowledge and Welfare of the People is earnestly solicited.'

Bombay Telegraph and Courier, 6 January, 1849

'The task of the native newspapers and political associations is identical to the role of the Opposition in the House of Commons in Parliament in England. That is of critically examining government policy to suggest improvements, by removing those parts that will not be to the benefit of the people, and also by ensuring speedy implementation. These associations ought to carefully study the particular issues, gather diverse relevant information on the nation as well as on what are the possible and desirable improvements, and this will surely earn it considerable influence.'

Native Opinion, 3 April, 1870

19. Explain the main reason of publishing newspaper by Krishnaji?
20. How was the task of native newspaper and political association seen identical to the role of opposition?
21. Analyze the reasons of popularity of newspapers during 19th century.

Stand Alone Multiple Choice Answers

- | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (b) | 2. (a) | 3. (b) |
| 4. (a) | 5. (b) | 6. (c) |
| 7. (c) | 8. (d) | 9. (d) |
| 10. (b) | 11. (c) | 12. (a) |
| 13. (a) | 14. (a) | 15. (b) |
| 16. (b) | 17. (d) | 18. (b) |
| 19. (a) | 20. (c) | 21. (b) |
| 22. (a) | 23. (d) | 24. (d) |
| 25. (b) | 26. (c) | 27. (b) |

Assertion-Reason Answers

1. (a) Both assertion and reason are true and reason is the correct explanation of assertion.

A printed copy of the Theses was posted on a church door in Wittenberg. It challenged the Church to debate his ideas. Luther's writings were immediately reproduced in large numbers and read widely.

2. (a) Both assertion and reason are true and reason is the correct explanation of assertion.

3. (b) Both assertion and reason are true but reason is not the correct explanation of assertion.

Copying was laborious, expensive and time-consuming. Manuscripts were fragile, awkward to handle, and could not be carried around or read easily. Therefore, their circulation remained limited.

4. (c) Assertion is true but reason is false.

About 180 copies were printed and it took three years to produce them.

5. (a) Both assertion and reason are true and reason is the correct explanation of assertion.

In England, penny chapbooks were carried by petty pedlars known as chapman, which were sold for penny, so that even poor could buy them.

6. (d) Both assertion and reason are false.

As literacy and schools spread in European countries, there was a virtual reading mania. Churches of different denominations set up

schools in villages, carrying literacy to peasants and artisans.

7. (a) Both assertion and reason are true and reason is the correct explanation of assertion.

8. (b) Both assertion and reason are true but reason is not the correct explanation of assertion.

Match the Columns

1. (a) — (ii); (b) — (v); (c) — (iv); (d) — (iii); (e) — (i)
2. (a) — (iii); (b) — (iv); (c) — (ii); (d) — (v); (e) — (i)

Picture Based Answers

1. (b) 2. (b) 3. (c)
4. (b) 5. (c)

Case/Source Based Answers

- I. 1. (b) 2. (c) 3. (b) 4. (d)

- II. 5. Louise Sebastian Mercier a novelist of 18th century France.

6. While reading a book, condition of the reader (the writer) could be compared to a man dying of thirst who now was gulping down some pure fresh water. As soon as he was refreshed and his thirst quenched he again started reading. He was so engrossed that he lost track of time. Though the lamp was running out of oil, he did not get up lest his reading was disturbed. He started comprehending new ideas.

7. This passage gives a clear message that printing material is the most powerful engine of progress and knowledge. One should be lost in the world of books create and become enlightened in the process.

- III. 8. (b) 9. (a) 10. (a) 11. (c)

- IV. 12. Different groups confronted the changes happening within the colonial society in different ways and offered variety of new interpretations of the beliefs of different religions. Some criticised existing practices

and campaigned for reform, while others countered the arguments of reformers. There were intense controversies between social and religious reformers over matters like widow-immolation, monotheism, brahmanical priesthood and idolatry.

13. As more and more people could now read they wanted to see their own lives, experiences, emotions and relationships reflected in what they read.

For readers it opened up new worlds of experience, and gave a sense of diversity of human lives and intimate feeling, about the political and social rules that shaped such things.

14. (i) The spread of print culture opened a new world of education and books for many Indian women who had remained confined to their households and families due to the traditional Indian social set-up.

(ii) Women's reading increased enormously in middle-class homes. Liberal husbands and fathers began educating their womenfolk at home. Even girls and women took initiative to get liberated and educated.

- V. 15. Erasmus, a Latin scholar and Catholic reformer wrote this passage.

16. — Erasmus was critical of printed books because he felt that a large number of books were slanderous, scandalous, vulgar and meaningless.
— He felt that their number was so large that valuable books will lose their value. He feared that such books would spread rebellious and seditious thoughts and existing norms of society would be threatened.

- VI. 17. The task of native newspapers was compared to the role of the Opposition in the House of Commons in Parliament in England.

Like the opposition, native newspapers:

- Critically examine government policies to suggest improvements by removing the parts that do not benefit the people.
- Ensure speedy implementation of policies.

18. (a) Sambad Kaumudi, (b) Shamsul Akhbar.

Effects on People:

- Newspapers conveyed news from one place to another, creating pan-Indian identities.
- Vernacular newspapers reported on colonial misrule and encouraged nationalist activities.
- They spread new ideas and created awareness against social evils like widow immolation, idolatry etc.

- VII. 19. Krishnaji published a Marathi Language Newspaper with a view of affording useful information on every topic of local interest, open for free discussion on subjects of general utility, scientific investigation and history and geography of the country especially Deccan.

20. The task of native newspaper and political association was that of critically examining government policy and to suggest improvements, by removing those parts that are not beneficial to the people, and also by ensuring speedy implementation.

21. (i) The newspaper would connect communities and people in different parts of India.

(ii) Newspapers conveyed news from one place to another, creating PAN-Indian identities.

