Topic: Print Culture and the Modern World
Subject: Social Science (History)
Class: X

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SOCIAL SCIENCE (HISTORY)
CHAPTER 05: PRINT CULTURE AND THE MODERN WORLD
(Extra Q&A; Important PYQs)

1. **Give any three 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.

2. **Explain any five reasons for bringing in large number of new readers among children, women and workers during the late 19th century.**
    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
    (iv) lower middle-class people;
    (v)   Self-educated working novelist were women who defined a new type of strong woman; and best-known novelist were who defined a new type of strong woman.

3. **What were the new inventions that increased the circulation of printed materials?**
    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 Bible. As the number of printing press grew, book production boomed. The shift from hand printing to mechanical printing led to the print revolution.

4. **"From the late 19th century, issues of caste discrimination began to be written about in many printed tracts and essays". Support the statement by giving examples.**
    From the late 19th century, issues of caste discrimination began to be written in tracts and essays to attract the attention of the society.
    (i)   Jyotiba Phule, the Maratha pioneer of low caste, started a protest movement through his book Gulamgiri. He wrote about the injustice of the caste system.

(ii) Dr. B. R. Ambedkar in Maharashtra and EV Ramaswamy Periyar in Madras wrote powerfully how casteism was only about exploiting the lower and deprived castes.

(iii) Local protest movements also created a lot of journals and tracts.

(iv) Kashibaba wrote and published 'Chhote our Bade ko Sawal' which was a bitter attack on the deplorable conditions of lower castes and workers.

(v) Women authors also wrote several books highlighting this issue.

5. **Explain how print culture developed in India?**
   The print culture developed in India by the following means:
   (i) India had a very rich and old tradition of handwritten manuscripts in Sanskrit, Arabic, Persian as well as in various vernacular languages.
   (ii) The printing press first came to Goa with Portuguese missionaries in the mid-16th century.
   (iii) By the 1870s, besides Urdu, Marathi, Bengali, Hindi printing also began giving voice to local opinions.
   (iv) **Print in the 18th century**: By the close of 18th century, a number of newspapers and journals appeared in print. The first Indian weekly i.e. Bengal Gazette also came into picture in the late 18th century
   (v) **Print in the 19th century:** By the end of the 19th century, a visual culture started taking place. By 1870s caricatures cartoons were being published in journals and newspapers.

6. **"The new technology could not entirely displace the existing art of producing books by hand during 15th century." Support the statement.**
   (i) The printed books at first closely resembled the written manuscripts in appearance and layout. The metal letters imitated the ornamental handwritten styles.
   (ii) Borders were illuminated by hand with foliage and other patterns and illustrations were painted.
   (iii) In the books printed for the rich, space for decoration was kept blank on the printed page.
   (iv) Each purchaser could choose the designs and decide on the painting school that would do the illustrations.
   (v) The new technology did not entirely displace the existing art of producing books by hand.

7. **How did the attitude of the British government towards the Indian press changed after the revolt of the 1857?**
   After the revolt of 1857, the British attitude towards the freedom of the press changed.
   (i) Enraged Englishmen demanded suppression of the Indian press mostly because the vernacular newspapers had become assertively Nationalist, spreading the message of freedom and nationalism across the country motivating Indians to unite against the British.
   (ii) As a consequence, in 1878, the Vernacular Press Act was passed, modelled on the Irish Press Laws.

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8. **Examine the role of missionaries in growth of the press in India?**
   The role of missionaries in the growth of press in India can be studied as follows:
   (i) Portuguese missionaries brought printing press to Goa in the mid-16th century. Jesuit priests learnt Konkani and printed several tracts and books in vernacular languages.
   (ii) The Catholic priests printed the first Tamil book in 1579 at Cochin, and in 1713, the first Malayalam book was printed by them
   (iii) By 1710, Dutch Protestant missionaries had printed 32 Tamil texts, many of them were translations of older works.

9. **Print created the possibility of wide circulation of ideas and introduced a new world of debate and discussion." Analyse the statement in the context of religion in Europe.**
   Print created the possibility of wide circulation of ideas and introduced a new world of debate and discussion.
   (i) Even the dissenting authors could now publish and present their ideas. This would further lead to debates and discussions.
   (ii) Through the printed message, they could persuade people to think differently, and move them to action.
   (iii) Various ideas could be widely accessed by common man which made him consider other options as this widened his perspectives.

10. **Print culture created the conditions within which French Revolution occurred. Give any three suitable arguments to support the statement.**
    This can be asserted using the following arguments:
    (i) Print popularised the ideas of Voltaire and Rousseau who criticised tradition, superstition and despotism.
    (ii) Print created a new culture of dialogue and debate. This gave birth to new ideas of social revolution.
    (iii) A lot of literature that mocked royalty and criticised their morality was printed by the 1780s raising questions about the existing order.
    People questioned everything related to the existing order. This led to the French revolution.

11. **How had the Imperial State of China been the major producer of printed material for a long time? Explain with examples.**
    (i) The Imperial State in China printed textbooks because it possessed a huge bureaucratic system which recruited its personnel through Civil Service examinations.
    (ii) The state printed the textbooks for this examination were printed in vast numbers.
    (iii) These books were published so that students appearing for the exam can study as they couldn't afford them.

12. **What did the Grimm brothers publish and how did it contribute to bringing a change in the society?**

- The Grimm Brothers compiled traditional folk tales gathered from peasants for years in Germany. It contributed to bring awareness in the society as well as boosted personal interpretation and opinion.
- Folk tales were re-packaged by excluding the parts of gathered content that was unsuitable for children or vulgar to the elites.
- The revised collection was then published in 1812.

13. Why do some historians think that print culture created the basis for the French Revolution?

It is because:

(i) Increased outreach of enlightenment ideas printed by Voltaire and Rousseau created a different perspective among people to look at despotic rulers. They started questioning the established systems like authority of Church etc. on the basis of rationality.

(ii) Print brought a dialogue and debate culture in which all institutions, norms and values were discussed and re-evaluated.

(iii) By the 1780s, new ideology developed due to such literatures which criticized the royalty.

Abundance of such hostile sentiments among people against the despotic rulers could therefore be considered as one of the major reasons behind the French Revolution.

14. How did print bring the reading public and hearing public closer?

Print brought the reading public and hearing public closer in the following ways.

(i) Printing reduced the cost of books and multiple copies could now be produced easily. Books flooded in the market and led to the increase of reading public.

(ii) The literacy rate of Europeans was very low. Publishers reached out to people by making them listen to books being read out by a literate person. People gathered around the reader and listened.

(iii) To keep the hearing public intact, publishers published popular ballads and folktales. Oral culture thus found route into print. Printed material was orally transmitted, which blurred the line separating reading and hearing public.

15. Describe woodblock printing.

Woodblock printing was a popular form of printing before the printing press was invented.

(i) Books were printed books in China as early as 594 AD by rubbing paper against the inked surface of woodblocks.

(ii) Marco Polo brought this art to Europe, where it became very popular.

(iii) By the fifteenth century, woodblock printing was being used extensively in making textiles, cards, etc.

16. How had the Imperial State in China been the major producer of printed material for a long time? Explain with examples.

The imperial State in China was the major producer of printed material because:

(i) China had a bureaucratic system which conducted civil services examinations to recruit its personnel.

(ii) Textbooks for this examination were printed in large number, under the sponsorship of the imperial state.

(iii) From the sixteenth century, the number of candidates, who were taking examination, went up. It led to increased volume of printed material.

17. **Explain any three reasons which created a large number of new readers in the nineteenth century.**

Children, women, and workers were among the new readers in the nineteenth century.

(i) When primary education became mandatory in the late nineteenth century, children formed a significant group of readers. Textbooks for schools have to be published. In France, a children's press was established, which published both new and old fairy tales.

(ii) Women gained importance as readers and writers; penny magazines, as well as manuals instructing proper behaviour and housekeeping, were aimed at women. Women became prominent readers when novels were written in the nineteenth century. Women writers such as Jane Austen, the Bronte Sisters, and George Eliot were influential.

(iii) In the nineteenth century, lending libraries in England distributed literature to white-collar workers, artisans, and lower-middle-class individuals, serving as educational tools.