

JADAPUR UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
BA ADMISSION TEST – 2019
Political Science (Honours)

Time: 2 Hours

Test Date: 27.06.2019

Full Marks: 100

(Answers must be written only in English or Bengali)

- 1. Write an Essay (within 800 words) on any one of the following: 40x1 = 40**
- (a) India's General Election – 2019.
 - (b) Panchayati Raj Institutions and Women Empowerment.
 - (c) Importance of social media.
 - (d) Problem of Child labour in India.

- 2. Answer any four of the following (in about 200 words each): 5x4=20**
- (a) What is positive discrimination in the context of the reservation policy of Government of India for SCs and STs?
 - (b) Briefly comment on the role of Election Commission of India.
 - (c) Differentiate between Presidential and Parliamentary form of government.
 - (d) Write a short note on social contract theory of Locke.
 - (e) Discuss the importance of Mahatma Gandhi's concept of Satyagraha.
 - (f) What is Judicial Activism in the context of the role of Judiciary in India.
 - (g) "State will wither away" – explain this view of Marxism.
 - (h) Write a short note on Uniform Civil Code in India.

- 3. Read the following passage and answer all four questions in your own words: 5x4 = 20**

Philosophy of education is a label applied to the study of the purpose, process, nature and ideals of education. It can be considered a branch of both philosophy and education. Education can be defined as the teaching and learning of specific skills, and the imparting of knowledge, judgment and wisdom, and is something broader than the societal institution of education we often speak of. Many educationalists consider it a weak and woolly field, too far removed from the practical applications of the real world to be useful. But philosophers dating back to Plato and the Ancient Greeks have given the area much thought and emphasis, and there is little doubt that their work has helped shape the practice of education over the millennia.

[Turn over

Plato is the earliest important educational thinker, and education is an essential element in "The Republic" (his most important work on philosophy and political theory, written around 360 B.C.). In it, he advocates some rather extreme methods: removing children from their mothers' care and raising them as wards of the state, and differentiating children suitable to the various castes, the highest receiving the most education, so that they could act as guardians of the city and care for the less able. He believed that education should be holistic, including facts, skills, physical discipline, music and art. Plato believed that talent and intelligence is not distributed genetically and thus is to be found in children born to all classes, although his proposed system of selective public education for an educated minority of the population does not really follow a democratic model. On the other hand, Aristotle considered human nature, habit and reason to be equally important forces to be cultivated in education, the ultimate aim of which should be to produce good and virtuous citizens. He proposed that teachers lead their students systematically, and that repetition be used as a key tool to develop good habits, unlike Socrates' emphasis on questioning his listeners to bring out their own ideas. He emphasized the balancing of the theoretical and practical aspects of subjects taught, among which he explicitly mentions reading, writing, mathematics, music, physical education, literature, history, and a wide range of sciences, as well as play, which he also considered important.

During the Medieval period, the idea of Perennialism was first formulated by St. Thomas Aquinas in his work "De Magistro". Perennialism holds that one should teach those things deemed to be of everlasting importance to all people everywhere, namely principles and reasoning, not just facts (which are apt to change over time), and that one should teach first about people, not machines or techniques. It was originally religious in nature, and it was only much later that a theory of secular perennialism developed. During the Renaissance, the French skeptic Michel de Montaigne (1533 - 1592) was one of the first to critically look at education. Unusually for his time, Montaigne was willing to question the conventional wisdom of the period, calling into question the whole edifice of the educational system, and the implicit assumption that university-educated philosophers were necessarily wiser than uneducated farm workers, for example.

Questions on Comprehensions:

1. Do you think Plato's idea about education is democratic in nature? Argue your case.

2. What is the difference between the approaches of Socrates and Aristotle?
3. Why do educationists consider philosophy a 'weak and woolly' field? Cite reasons.
4. Why did Aquinas propose a model of education which did not lay much emphasis on facts?

4. Choose the correct answers :

1x 20 = 20

1. President of India is

- a) Head of the State
- b) Head of the Government
- c) Both Head of the State and Head of the Government
- d) None of the above

2. 19th Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit held in June 2019 in

- a) Bishkek
- b) Dushanbe
- c) Baku
- d) Tashkent

3. Money Bill passed by the Lok Sabha can be held up by the Rajya Sabha for how many weeks?

- a) Two
- b) Three
- c) Four
- d) Five

4. The President of India is elected by a proportional representation system through single transferable vote. This implies that

- a) MPs and MLAs of different States have different numbers of votes
- b) Each elected MP or MLA has an equal number of votes
- c) MPs and MLAs of a State have the same number of votes
- d) All MPs and MLAs have one vote each

5. One Rupee currency note in India bears the signature of

- a) President of India
- b) Finance Minister of India
- c) Governor, Reserve Bank Of India
- d) Finance Secretary to the Government of India

6. Which of the following Lok Sabha was dissolved before the expiry of normal tenure

- a) 4th
- b) 6th
- c) 1st
- d) None of the above

[Turn over

7. Kyoto Protocol is related to

- a) Ozone depletion
- b) Hazardous waste
- c) Climate change
- d) Nuclear energy

8. Who among the following is the longest serving Chief Minister of a State in India?

- a) Pawan Kumar Chamling, Sikkim
- b) Jyoti Basu, West Bengal
- c) Gegong Apang, Arunachal Pradesh
- d) Naveen Patnaik, Odisha

9. Rakhis are associated with

- a) Hockey
- b) Badminton
- c) Cricket
- d) Shooting

10. Parliamentary supremacy is a definite feature of the political system in

- a) USA
- b) Canada
- c) Australia
- d) UK

11. The power of Supreme Court of India to decide dispute between two or more states falls under its

- a) Advisory jurisdictions
- b) Appellate jurisdictions
- c) Original jurisdictions
- d) Writ jurisdictions

12. Headquarter of UNESCO is located in

- a) New York
- b) Geneva
- c) Paris
- d) Hague

13. Who is the author of the book *The Idea of Justice*

- a) Amartya Sen
- b) John Rawls
- c) Plato
- d) Michael J Sandel

14. The "Due Process of Law" is an essential characteristic of the judicial system of

- a) UK
- b) USA
- c) France
- d) India

15. Prime Minister *Qaboos bin Said al Said* recently visited India of which country

- a) Ghana
- b) Oman
- c) Republic of Guinea
- d) United Arab Emirates

16. South Asian University, established by SAARC is located in

- a) New Delhi
- b) Dhaka
- c) Kathmandu
- d) Colombo

17. Which of the matching is not correct:

- a) Karl Marx – Germany
- b) John Rawls – USA
- c) Hobbes – England
- d) Rousseau – England

18. Who among the economist wrote the path breaking book "The General Theory of Employment, Interests and Money"?

- a) Schumpeter
- b) J. M. Keynes
- c) Malthus
- d) Ricardo

19. Nadia Murad got Nobel Peace Prize in 2018 of which country:

- a) Iraq
- b) Liberia
- c) Tunisia
- d) Yemen

20. Which of the following is not correctly matched ?

- a) Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli — Silvassa
- b) Union Territory of Lakshadweep - Lakshadweep
- c) Arunachal Pradesh- Itanagar
- d) Telengana – Hyderabad