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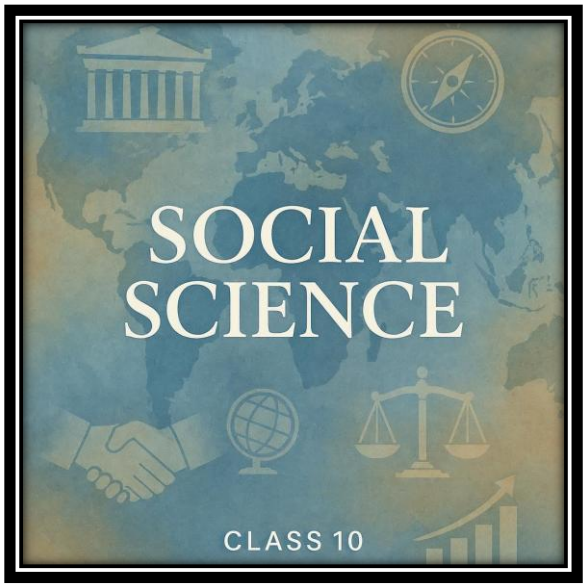
CBSE Class 10 Social Science Previous Year Question Papers (2016–2025) with Solutions



Complete Practice Guide for Board Exam 2026 | History • Geography • Political Science • Economics | Competency-Based Questions | Latest CBSE Pattern

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✨ Dedication

To every student who dares to think**,** question**, and** understand
—
because true learning begins when curiosity meets compassion.

This book is dedicated to all young minds
who look at the world not just as it is,
but as it *could be* — fairer, wiser, and more informed.

May you learn from the past,
understand the present,
and use your knowledge to shape a better tomorrow. 🌍

“History teaches us where we came from.
Geography tells us where we stand.
Civics shows us how to grow.
And Economics guides us where to go.”

Keep learning. Keep questioning. Keep growing.

— SWAN India Publication

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Copyright Page

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Complete Practice Guide for Board Exam 2026 | History • Geography • Political Science • Economics | Competency-Based Questions | Latest CBSE Pattern

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Every effort has been made to ensure that the contents of this book are accurate, updated, and in alignment with the **latest CBSE syllabus and guidelines**. However, neither the author nor the publisher shall be held responsible for any inadvertent errors or omissions.

All question papers and solutions have been developed and verified by **subject experts in History, Geography, Political Science, and Economics**, ensuring conceptual clarity, exam accuracy, and relevance.
This book is intended solely for **educational and examination preparation** purposes.

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Inspiring Education • Empowering Students

Note: This edition contains **10 years of CBSE Class 10 Social Science Solved Question Papers (2016–2025)**,
carefully arranged to help students prepare for the **Board Exam 2026**
with clarity, confidence, and conceptual understanding.

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Introduction

Social Science is not just a subject — it is the story of people, places, decisions, and progress.
It teaches us how the world came to be, how societies evolved, how governments function,
and how every action in the past shapes the future we live in today.

For every student, **CBSE Class 10 Social Science** is a journey through **History, Geography, Political Science, and Economics** — a journey that builds not just knowledge, but awareness, reasoning, and empathy.

This book — *"CBSE Class 10 Social Science Previous Year Question Papers (2016–2025) with Solutions"* — has been created to help students approach the **Board Exam 2026** with clarity and confidence.
It brings together **10 years of solved question papers**, carefully structured according to the **latest CBSE competency-based pattern**.

Each paper has been solved step-by-step, following the **official CBSE marking scheme**,
so that students understand **how to write effective answers**, **analyse question trends**,
and develop the ability to connect concepts across chapters.

The purpose of this book is not only to help you prepare for exams,
but to help you see how every topic — from revolutions to

resources, from democracy to development —
teaches a lesson about the world we share.

By practising these PYQs, you will:
✓ Identify the **most important and repeated topics**
✓ Learn the **correct structure and format** of CBSE answers
✓ Strengthen your understanding of key concepts
✓ Gain confidence in presenting analytical and conceptual responses

“Those who understand the past can shape the future.”

Remember — Social Science is not about memorization.
It’s about **connecting events**, **understanding causes**, and **thinking critically**.
Let this book be your guide to mastering both the **subject** and the **strategy** behind success.

Study consistently, reflect deeply, and learn with curiosity.
That’s how you don’t just pass — you understand.

— **SWAN India Publication**

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How to Use This Book

This book is your complete guide to mastering **Social Science** for the **CBSE Class 10 Board Exam 2026**.
It is designed to help you understand exam trends, improve presentation, and strengthen your understanding of **History, Geography, Political Science, and Economics**.
Follow these simple steps to get the best results from this book:

---

1. Study Chapter by Chapter
Before attempting the questions, revise each chapter from your NCERT textbook.
Once done, solve all the **Previous Year Questions** (PYQs) from that chapter.
This will help you understand how concepts are applied in real exam questions.

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2. Solve Year-Wise Papers in Exam Order
After finishing all chapters, start practising **Year-wise solved papers (2016–2025)** in sequence.
Try to solve each paper in one sitting — just like a real exam.
This will help you build speed, time management, and focus.

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3. Observe the Question Pattern
Notice how CBSE frames different types of questions:
objective, short answer, long answer, map-based, and case-based.

Understanding this pattern helps you attempt every question confidently.

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4. Learn Stepwise Presentation
CBSE gives marks for proper structure — point-wise, underlined keywords, and clear explanation.
Read the **stepwise solutions** in this book carefully to understand how to write high-scoring answers.

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5. Highlight Repeated & Important Topics
Mark questions that have appeared multiple times between 2016–2025.
These are **high-weightage topics** and must be revised before the final exam.

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6. Review and Analyse Your Mistakes
After solving each paper, compare your answers with the provided solutions.
Identify your weak areas — whether they're conceptual, factual, or presentation-related — and revise them.

---

7. Focus on Conceptual Clarity
Social Science is about **understanding**, not memorizing.
Revisit topics you find confusing in **History**, **Geography**, **Political Science**, or **Economics**,
and reattempt related PYQs to improve conceptual depth.

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8. Practise Map-Based Questions Separately
Map questions carry easy marks. Practise them at least 2–3 times before the exam.
Use an atlas or printed outline maps for better accuracy and confidence.

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9. Read Exam Strategy Before Final Revision
At the end of this book, you'll find **exam tips and strategy** — read them before your final practice.
They'll help you plan your paper, manage time, and avoid common mistakes in the board exam.

"Every question you solve takes you one step closer to understanding the world — and your success."

Stay consistent, revise regularly, and reflect on every topic — that's the real way to score high and truly understand Social Science.

CBSE Class 10 Social Science Year 2016

Section A – History (1 mark each)

Q1. Who was the author of the book *Hind Swaraj*?

Q2. In which year did the Non-Cooperation Movement start?

Q3. Who led the Khilafat Movement from India?

Q4. What was the main objective of the Civil Disobedience Movement?

Q5. Name one factor that led to the rise of nationalism in Europe.

Section B – Geography (2 marks each)

Q6. Define the term “resource”. Give one example.

Q7. What are the causes of land degradation in India? Write any two.

Q8. Name two major soil types found in India and one crop grown in each.

Q9. Mention any two advantages of water harvesting.

Q10. What is mixed farming? Give one example.

Section C – Political Science (2 marks each)

Q11. What is meant by “federalism”?

Q12. Write two features of Indian democracy.

Q13. Why is power sharing desirable in a democracy?

Q14. Define “secularism” as followed in India.

Q15. What is a political party? Write one function of it.

Section D – Economics (3 marks each)

Q16. Define Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Q17. Differentiate between organized and unorganized sectors.

Q18. What are the three sectors of the Indian economy? Mention one example each.

Q19. What is the main objective of the public sector in India?

Q20. Why are sustainable development and environmental protection necessary?

Section E – Long Answer Type (4 marks each)

Q21.
(a) Explain the main features of the Non-Cooperation Movement.
(b) Mention two outcomes of this movement.

Q22.
(a) Describe any four characteristics of alluvial soil.
(b) Why is it agriculturally important?

Q23.

(a) Explain how democracy helps in promoting equality.

(b) Mention two challenges faced by democracy.

Q24.

(a) Explain the importance of credit in economic development.

(b) Mention one risk associated with informal sources of credit.

Solutions – 2016

Section A – History

Q1. *Hind Swaraj* was written by Mahatma Gandhi.

Q2. 1920

Q3. Mohammad Ali and Shaukat Ali

Q4. To attain complete independence and resist unjust laws.

Q5. The spread of liberal ideas and French Revolution.

Section B – Geography

Q6. Resource: Anything useful to humans. Example: Coal.

Q7.

1. Overgrazing.
2. Deforestation.

Q8.

- Alluvial soil → Wheat
- Black soil → Cotton

Q9.

1. Recharges groundwater.
2. Reduces floods.

Q10. Mixed farming: Growing crops and rearing animals on the same farm.
Example: Punjab farms.

Section C – Political Science

Q11. Federalism is a system where power is divided between central and state governments.

Q12.

1. Free and fair elections.
2. Fundamental rights for citizens.

Q13. Power sharing reduces conflict and ensures political stability.

Q14. Secularism means no official religion; all religions treated equally.

Q15. A political party is a group with shared ideology aiming to gain power.
Function: Contest elections.

Section D – Economics

Q16. GDP is the total value of all final goods and services produced in a country during a year.

Q17.

Organized	Unorganized
Regular jobs	Irregular employment
Legal protection	No job security

Q18.

- Primary – Agriculture
- Secondary – Industry
- Tertiary – Services

Q19. To provide public welfare and infrastructure.

Q20. They ensure balance between growth and environmental protection.

Section E – Long Answer Type

Q21.
(a) Non-Cooperation Movement aimed at boycotting British goods, schools, and laws.
(b) Outcomes: Spread of nationalism; British realized Indian unity.

Q22.
(a) Alluvial soil: Rich in potash, fertile, found in Indo-Gangetic plains, supports many crops.
(b) It supports rice, wheat, sugarcane due to high fertility.

Q23.
(a) Democracy promotes equal participation and opportunity.
(b) Challenges: Corruption, illiteracy.

Q24.

(a) Credit provides funds for production and expansion.

(b) Informal sources may charge high interest rates.

✓ Moral of Paper (2016 Social Science):

"Understanding history builds awareness — geography roots it, civics empowers it, economics sustains it."

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Acknowledgment

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to everyone who contributed to the creation of this book —
"CBSE Class 10 Social Science Previous Year Question Papers (2016–2025) with Solutions."

Our sincere thanks go to the **Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)** for maintaining high academic standards and introducing a competency-based framework that encourages conceptual understanding and analytical thinking.

We also extend heartfelt appreciation to the **subject experts of History, Geography, Political Science, and Economics** who reviewed and refined the questions and solutions included in this book. Their expertise ensured that every answer reflects accuracy, clarity, and alignment with the latest CBSE marking scheme.

A special thanks to the **teachers, reviewers, and academic advisors** who shared their valuable insights, helping us make this edition more student-focused, simplified, and effective for exam preparation.

We owe our gratitude to all the **students and educators** who inspire us to improve with every publication. Their passion for learning and teaching continues to drive our mission forward.

We would also like to acknowledge the hard work of the **editorial, content, and design team of SWAN India Publication**, whose dedication, attention to detail, and commitment to quality have helped make this book a reliable companion for every learner.

Finally, we thank all those who believe in our vision —

“Inspiring Education • Empowering Students.”

Your support encourages us to create meaningful, student-friendly academic resources that turn learning into a journey of curiosity and growth.

— **SWAN India Publication**

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About SWAN India Publication

SWAN India Publication is committed to delivering **high-quality, reliable, and student-centered educational resources** for learners across India.

Our mission is to make education **simpler, sharper, and more result-oriented**, by combining clarity of concepts with practical exam strategies. Every book we publish is crafted with **careful research, expert guidance, and real exam insights**, ensuring that students not only learn but also understand deeply.

We believe that education is not just about passing exams — it is about building confidence, curiosity, and creativity in every learner.
Through our books, we strive to empower students with:

✓ clear explanations,

✓ exam-style practice, and

✓ conceptual understanding.

At **SWAN India Publication**, quality is our priority. We continuously work with experienced teachers, academic experts, and exam professionals to produce content that is **accurate, updated, and aligned with the latest CBSE guidelines**.

"Our vision is to make every student's learning journey meaningful, modern, and motivating."

With each publication, SWAN India aims to bring India's young minds closer to **knowledge, confidence, and success**.

📚 *Learn Better. Grow Smarter. Achieve More.*