

Presidency College  
Department of Political Science  
Admission Test 2007

F.M. = 100

Time : 2 Hrs.

1. Answer to all questions except Qn. No. 3 may be given in Bengali or English. Qn. No.3 is to be answered in English only.
2. Use four separate pages : one for Qn. No.1, one for Qn. No. 2, one for Qn. No. 3, and one for Qn. Nos. 4&5.
3. Do not write your name and/or other particulars in the answer scripts. Write these only on the attached slip.

1. Write an essay on : Politics and Morality (limit : 500 words) 30

একটি বঙ্গ ভাষায় : রাজনীতি ও নীতিগততা (সংক্ষিপ্ত : ৫০০)

2. Make your observation on : India needs a bi-party system (250 words) 20

বিভিন্ন দলের উৎসাহ : ভারত দ্বি-দল ব্যবস্থা প্রয়োজন (২৫০ শব্দ)

3. Read the following passages and answer the questions given below. 4x5 = 20

(a) Freedom was born as a privilege and has remained so ever since. Freedom divides and separates. It sets the best apart from the rest. It draws its attraction from difference: its presence or absence reflects, marks and grounds the contrast between high and low, good and bad, coveted and repugnant. Originally, freedom has stood for the coexistence of two sharply distinct social conditions; to acquire freedom, to be free, meant to be lifted from one, inferior social condition to another superior condition. The two conditions differed in many respects, but one aspect of their opposition – that captured by the quality of freedom – towered high above the rest: the difference between action dependent on the will of others and action dependent on one's own will.

Q. What is Freedom ?

(b) Caste attaches to the body, not to the soul. It is the biological reproduction of human species through procreation within endogamous caste groups that ensures the permanence of ascribed marks of caste purity or pollution. It is also the physical contract of the body with defiling substances or defiled bodies that mark it with temporary conditions of pollution, which can be removed by observing the prescribed procedures of physical cleansing. The

essence of caste, we may say, requires that the labouring bodies of the impure castes be reproduced in order that they can be subordinated to the need to maintain the bodies of the pure castes in their state of purity. All the injunctions of dharma must work to this end.

Q. What is meant by caste?

(c) Why must religion be separated from politics? Several arguments can be proffered to justify separation. Consider first the argument from the value of autonomy. Religious and political institutions must on this view be separated from one another because both are very powerful institutions that command people's unqualified allegiance. If the two are identical or strongly overlap, then the resulting intermix is likely to thwart autonomy more than when they are separate. The second is an argument from equality. Separation is required to ensure a subtle and complex egalitarian system. Third, democracy requires that there be no concentration of power in any one institution or any one group. Separation is required to curb political and religious absolutism.

Q. Why should religion be separated from politics ?

(d) Tolerance requires us to accept people and permit their practices even when we strongly disapprove of them. Tolerance thus involves an attitude that is intermediate between wholehearted acceptance and unrestrained opposition. This intermediate status makes tolerance a puzzling attitude. Except where wholehearted disapproval and opposition are appropriate, as in the case of murder, it would be best if the feelings that generate conflict and disagreement could be eliminated altogether. Tolerance as an attitude requires us to hold in check certain feelings of opposition and disapproval.

Q. What is tolerance ?

4. Explain the following concepts *ସମ୍ବନ୍ଧିତ ଶବ୍ଦଗୁଡ଼ିକ ବ୍ୟାଖ୍ୟାନ କର* 3x5 = 15
- (a) Rule of Law *କାନୁନର ଅଧିକାର*
  - (b) Judicial Activism *ନିର୍ଦ୍ଦେଶମୂଳକ ନୀତି*
  - (c) Floating Voter *କମଳାଳୟ ଚାକର*
5. Comment on the following developments *ସମ୍ବନ୍ଧିତ ବିଷୟ ଉପରେ ଟିପ୍ପଣୀ ଦିଅ* 3x5 = 15
- (a) Sachar Committee *ସାଚର କମିଟି*
  - (b) Special Economic Zones (SEZ) *ବିଶେଷ ଅର୍ଥନୀତିକ ଜୋନ*
  - (c) G-8 *ଫିଟି-୮*