

Presidency College
Department of Political Science
Admission Test 2009

F.M. = 100

Time : 2 Hrs.

1. Answer to all questions except Qn. No. 3 may be written in Bengali or English. Qn. No. 3 is to be answered in English only.
2. Do not write your name and/or other particulars in the Answer Script. Write these only on the attached slip.
3. No extra sheet will be provided. Please follow the word limit mentioned in the Question Paper.

1. Write an Essay on : Students and Politics (Word limit: 500).

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একটি রচনা লেখ : ছাত্র ও রাজনীতি

2. Make your observation on: In India, Coalition Government is the order of the day (250 Words).

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বিশ্বখ্যাতির উপর মন্তব্য কর : ভারতে জোট সরকারের বাস্তব

3. Read the following passages and answer the questions given below.

3x5 = 15

(a) [The aim of cultural nationalists is rather the moral regeneration of the historic community, or, in other words, the re-creation of their distinctive national civilization]. Since a civilization is a spontaneous social order, it can not be constructed like a state from above but only resuscitated from the bottom up. Typically cultural nationalists establish informal and decentralized clusters of cultural societies and journals, designed to inspire a spontaneous love of community in its different members by educating them to their common heritage of splendour and suffering. They engage in naming rituals, celebrate national cultural uniqueness and reject foreign practices, in order to identify the community to itself, embed this identity in everyday life and differentiate it against other communities.

Q. What is cultural nationalism ?

(b) The liberal conception of democracy contained in it a certain view of the relationship between state power and society. It was a view based on moderation and restraint in the use and abuse of power, its wide diffusion across various segments and interests, and its balancing through negotiated settlement of conflict and cleavages. Though in its pristine formulation (never fully realized in practice), this took the form of a competitive interplay of interests in a free market, as the liberal polity was consolidated, it was through a set of institutions that its operating culture was crystallized.

Q. What does liberal view of democracy represent ?

(c) In considering the political conquest of India by such a small country as England the first point that strikes one is as to how such a feat could be at all possible. But if one knew the Indian temperament and Indian traditions, it would not be difficult to understand. The Indian people had never any feeling against the foreigner. This mentality had been developed partly through the philosophical outlook of the people as a whole and partly through the largeness of the country which made it possible to welcome as many people as could come into the country. In the past, India had been invaded by new tribes and peoples over and over again. But though they came as foreigners they soon settled down and made India their home. The feeling of strangeness disappeared and the foreigners became a part of the body-politic.

Q. What helped the British conquer India?

4. Explain the following concepts (each in 100 words)

4x5 = 20

(a) Federalism

যুক্ত-রাষ্ট্রীয় ব্যবস্থা

(b) Regional Party

আঞ্চলিক দল

(c) Hung Parliament

অনিশ্চিত সংসদ

(d) Non-alignment

ক্রোড়-নিরপেক্ষতা

5. Comment on the following developments (each in 100 words)

3x5 = 15

(a) Reservation controversy in higher education in India

ভারতে উচ্চশিক্ষায় সংরক্ষণ বিতর্ক

(b) Recent developments in Sri Lanka

শ্রীলঙ্কায় সাম্প্রতিক ঘটনাবলী

(c) Talibanisation of Pakistan

পাকিস্তানের তালিবানিকরণ